



*Unconfirmed*

# **MINUTES**

**Ordinary Council Meeting**

**Wednesday 25 March 2026**

**Date: Wednesday 25 March 2026**

**Time: 5:30pm**

**Location: 13 McGregor Street, PORT HEDLAND WA  
6721**

**Distribution Date: 08/04/2026**

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Mayor

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## 1 Opening of Meeting

The Presiding Member is to declare the meeting open at 5:30pm.

## 2 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners and Dignitaries

The Presiding Member acknowledges the Kariyarra people as the Traditional Custodians of the land that we are meeting on and recognises their strength and resilience and pays respect to elders past, present and emerging.

## 3 Recording of Attendance

*Important note:*

*This meeting is being live-streamed and audio recorded to facilitate community participation and for minute-taking purposes, which may be released upon request to third parties. In accordance with Section 6.16 of the Town of Port Hedland Local Law on Standing Orders members of the public are not permitted to use any visual or vocal electronic device or instrument to record the proceedings of any meeting unless that person has been given permission by the Presiding Member to do so. Members of the public are also reminded that in accordance with section 6.17(4) of the Town of Port Hedland Standing Orders Local Law mobile telephones must be switched off and not used during the meeting.*

### 3.1 Attendance

*Scheduled Present:*

Commissioner Chair Jessica Shaw  
Commissioner Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge  
Commissioner Ron Yuryevich

*Scheduled for Attendance:*

Kenneth Donohoe (T/Chief Executive Officer)  
Stephen Leeson (Director Corporate Services)  
Alison Banks (Director Community Services)  
Kylie Davies (Director Regulatory Services)  
Lee Furness (Director Infrastructure Services)  
Maree Cutler-Naroba (Senior Governance Advisor)  
Rhiannon Smith (A/Governance Officer)  
Sophie Marlow (Governance Support Officer)

### 3.2 Attendance by Telephone / Instantaneous Communications

Nil

### 3.3 Apologies

Nil

### 3.4 Approved Leave of Absence

Nil

### 3.5 Disclosures of Interest

Name	Item No	Interest	Nature
Commissioner Ron Yuryevich	12.1.2	Financial	I am listed in civil written CIV2235 2025

### 4 Applications for Leave of Absence

Nil

### 5 Response to Previous Questions

#### 5.1 Response to Questions taken on notice from Elected Member at the Council Meeting held on 25 February 2026

Nil

#### 5.2 Response to Questions taken on notice from Public at the Council Meeting held on 25 February 2026

5.2.1	Tim McIntyre
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What is the current maintenance strategy for footpath/bike path cleaning? Currently multiple paths are covered in dirt and rocks, overgrown vegetation and drains are blocked which during rain events makes them unusable or having to walk onto roads or walk over mud to get around. This creates a safety risk where people can be or have been injured. This could be a simple 6 monthly clean to keep these in good condition.

The Manager Waste & Services provided the following further response:

The Town employ a full-time operator of a footpath sweeper to maintain the Towns footpath network in both Port & South Hedland including the cycleway between the two locations. With a sweeping schedule for individual assets.

- Primary footpaths/cycleways – Monthly
- Distributors footpaths – Bimonthly
- Local footpaths – Quarterly

Drainage assets are maintained by the Works & Services department with a seasonal drainage maintenance program undertaken prior to the cyclone season including culvert cleaning, batter reconstruction & vegetation management. Post rain events

works are prioritised on a needs basis to undertake rectification work of damage to the asset.

Additionally, if residents have areas that require attention works can be requested via the Snap Send Solve app.

5.2.1	Frank Cain
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**Question 1:** Asking about paperwork on freedom of information?

**Question 2:** Why is it taking so long?

**Question 3:** There's been months. The paperwork we are looking for is not here?

The Director Corporate Services provided the following further response:

Received 12 February 2026 at Civic. The application form was intended for Department of Justice, was forwarded and applicant informed by email.

Applicant followed up 13 February 2026 at Depot. Was advised the request had been forwarded and had been informed. Applicant became abusive and staff ceased the interaction. Applicant returned a few hours later and a Town of Port Hedland FOI application form was submitted. Acknowledgement email sent confirming receipt and advised the 45 days processing timeframe, with a due date of 30 March 2026.

Additionally, a hard copy of this was arranged. Applicant collected on 6 March 2026. Office of the Information Commissioner (OIC) process for managing and processing the freedom of information (FOI) request in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 1992 (WA) is being followed.

## **6 Public Time**

*Important note:*

*In accordance with section 6.7(3) of the Town of Port Hedland Local Law on Standing Orders, members of the public are required to complete a question form and place the completed form in the tray provided.*

*If the Presiding Member determines that questions and statements are out of order due to the use of an offensive or objectionable expression or are defamatory, they will not be recorded or responded to.*

### **6.1 Public Question Time**

**The Presiding Member declared Public Question Time open at 5:40pm.**

6.1.1	Frank Cain
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**Question 1:** Did you read the paperwork given to you at 25 February 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting by myself?

Commissioner Chair > Temporary Chief Executive Officer: In relations to any items that you're putting in as a record, they become a record of the organisation. Some of those particular matters that you raised in the position in the information you provide to the commissioners was of administered function and we needed to require an officer who was involved in that time to actually meet with you. I think in the discussions we subsequently had when you actually asked the question about who is leading those decisions i referred to you and discussed the issues in relations to a waste rate that have been written off by council and also explain to you that the prosecution that was undertaken by council, those figures or those amounts couldn't be written off by council and you would need to make a further expression back to the courts, the Magistrate courts.

**Question 2:** What is being done to clean up the corruption happening in the town?

Response from Commissioner Chair: The challenge we have is that we've been appointed for seven months and our term ends this weekend effectively. A very comprehensive dossier of documents and that involve very complex quite historically or very lengthy matters, it's very difficult for us in the very short time that we have left after receiving your documents and then between now and Saturday when effectively our term ends it's very difficult for us to clean up the mess as you put it that is a challenge. There are a lot of issues that have arisen in our time here that we would have loved to have had the opportunity to attend to. We've done our level best in trying to air those and to try and understand the complexities around that. Unfortunately, our time is limited and we have not had the opportunity as I say before our time ends on Saturday.

Having said that, your matters are administrative in nature largely and so the ability of councillors to sort of get right into the detailed orchestrations of the administration and address these it's very limited

Legally what councillors are in a position to do and it may be that legal remedies are a pathway that you might choose to explore. again you are very welcome to take it up with the new council, but those really detailed issues. I say the time we've had here has been extraordinarily limited. you delivered a dossier of over 130 pages to us a few weeks ago. Our term ends on Saturday and it's been extraordinarily difficult for us to do something about that. And as I say, these are administrative matters as well that it is not ordinarily the role of councillor to attend to. But I do understand your frustrations.

**Question 3:** Wants a response from CEO in regards to not showing up to court appearances in relation to Mr Cains suspected overcharging from council.

Commissioner Chair > Temporary Chief Executive Officer: I believe my statement when you first asked the question was that were taken on notice as there was fairly complex some of the information that you that you'd asked. When I did meet with you, I did advise you that our records indicated the council had written off the waste

costs, the costs associated with the court appearance and the prosecution and the issues in relation to being located and putting dwellings on council reserves. that was a matter that went through the Magistrate's Court and the Magistrate made a ruling on that and when you met with myself we actually said you would need to actually take that through a court process if you would appeal that matter further in relation to other information. My understanding is you've picked up information this afternoon in relation to the final components of a further Freedom of Information application. I hope that answers your question.

6.1.1

Renaë Coles

**Question 1:** How will the council ensure that the next Action Plan is evidence-based, cost-transparent and accountable for real outcomes-not just participation numbers?

Commissioner Chair>Temporary Chief Executive Officer> Director Community Services. Will be conducted through single evidence-based youth engagement aligned with the strategic plan working with the young people, organisations that work with young people and schools and will be framework of the plan. In relation to transparency and cost there will be a clear outline costing schedule same with any funding from organisations. Lastly, it won't be about just participation it will be about clear outcomes with a dashboard reporting this along with staff receiving training in how to appropriately develop evidence-based outcomes for the community. Will be a collaborative approach with community and organisations that are already worked with.

**Question 2:** The proposed changes increase the ARIC Independent Member fee from \$450 to \$1,215 per meeting - nearly three times higher. Is council striking the right balance between paying for strong governance and demonstrating restraint, fairness, and transparency to the community that funds it.

Commissioner Chair>Temporary Chief Executive Officer: I think probably just to add further in relation to the process the salaries and allowances tribunal which is the independent tribunal made that decision on the on the 1st of January to make to the maximum figure. Town of Port Hedland always looked at providing that maximum figure and I guess I could only support what the chair said. I think the work going forward and the amount of issues that need to be considered by ARIC is the basis of the office's recommendation to go with the maximum. Thank you chair.

**Question 3:** Are ratings rules shaped by Ministerial decisions and historic State Agreements creating an uneven playing field where ordinary ratepayers carry more of the burden than major industrial users.

Chair>Temporary Chief Executive Officer>Director Corporate Services: Thank you through the chair and again, thanks for sending it through in advance. I don't believe so. The Town's rating follows the prescribed Local Government regs and the

independent valuations that we get through from Landgate. if anything, the Town's fortunate in that the burdening upon the residential rate payers is only 15%. Whereas the mining and associated is actually as high as 76%. If anything, resident residential rating over the last six years and as well as businesses hasn't actually gone up and in fact when the windfall from the port came through back in 1819 it actually reduced back then. I don't believe its being anything unfair towards residential at all.

6.1.1	Camilo Blanco
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**Question 1:** Commissioners, can you explain the reason behind your comments at the special council meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March 2026, that suggested we should have a forensic audit into the Town of Port Hedland budget expenditure.

Response from Commissioner Chair: I'd be very happy to and thank you for the question, Mr. Blanco. The reason that made those or asked those questions of the CEO is because the organisational health check itself was not an investigation. It was a general inquiry into the overall governance and systems and frameworks of the council and as part of and it was quite intentionally not a detailed investigation. It did reveal a series of very serious systemic issues that I think personally warrant further investigation and I think as I commented on the on the night we have been asked questions in our term about whether or not a forensic audit has been conducted in the past and we haven't been able to find any record of that. But I think in order to give the council some comfort going forward, there probably is quite a bit of work ahead and essential work to ensure that the right procedures and processes and that things are as they should be. I would very strongly recommend that a future council consider that. obviously not my role after the weekend, but I do think it would be potentially a course of action that a future council could consider.

**Question 2:** Why hasn't the commissioners audit a forensic audit?

Response from Commissioner Chair: The organisational health check was presented to us last week and we have a forward improvement plan in front of us for consideration this week. It's taken an incredible amount of work on behalf of the temporary CEO to have that organisational health check executed. We can't as councillors and as someone who's been around the traps uh for many years, Mr. Blanco, you're very aware that councillors can't stick their fingers right into the operations of the administration. That's legally not possible. We have to ask questions of the CEO to do to undertake certain inquiries and report back to us. That happened last week. We got the results of that and we are now working with the temporary CEO this evening. The new CEO when he starts as well. we'll be working with the monitor who's joining us this evening to do forward steps and frankly I think it would be a good idea if a forensic audit were undertaken. One thing I would also observe is that we're in caretaker mode right now, this is it's a serious decision. And it's a big undertaking and in light of the seriousness of the issues, it is more

appropriate that the new council is fully briefed on these matters, and it decides the way forward as well.

**Question 3:** Why wouldn't the commissioners now implement a forensic audit that should be done.

Response from Commissioner Chair: Thank you for the question. as I say, we weren't obviously part of the previous council if the previous council wasn't able to form a vote or to pass a resolution requesting the CEO of the time to undertake a forensic audit. That's something that we have absolutely no control over whatsoever. the material point is that during our time here we have turned our minds to not only the well orderly functioning of council but also to the governance and appropriate functioning of the administration and we have commissioned the report from the CEO received it reviewed it. This evening, we will consider a forward implementation plan. This evening, we will be considering what could happen next and then it will be for the newly elected council working with the monitor and working with the new CEO to continue that program of work. Now you never know Mr. Blanco, you may find yourself on that council and when you receive the papers that we we've been privy to, then you'll form your own views on what the most unappropriated way forward is, as will other people who are in attendance tonight. But do not be blind to the seriousness of the matters. It is important work and it does represent a great opportunity again with the new council to chart a new way forward for the Town of Port Hedland.

6.1.1	Jillian Fisher
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**Question 1:** Will the Commissioner be recommending to the Local Government Minister, Minister Beasley, that she enact a forensic audit of the Town of Port Headland in light of the recent release of the health report? Like is that something that she can sort of pursue as through the monitor's position or how is this going to happen?

Response from Commissioner Chair: The Local Government Minister has no call on whether that happens or not. The inspector has appointed the monitor to work with the temporary CEO and the new CEO around council improvement. But the decision to take a forensic audit will be one that the council takes itself through the guidance of the monitor appointed the new CEO the temporary CEO while he's around for another four weeks I believe. It will be a decision of the new council and they should consider it very carefully I should think.

**Question 2:** My second question is at quite a number of previous annual meetings of electors which I've attended we have discussed this request for a forensic audit. we have brought this up continually saying that there obviously is issues where this council is known as dysfunctional and the Minister continues to say that in the media but when you actually look into it the residents ourselves have been trying to push for a forensic audit and now the Chair has actually agreed that that's a really good idea going forward to set up the council for the new councillor are you aware that

the members like residents at the electoral that the at the end annual meeting of electors have actually moved these motions? Are the commissioners aware of that?

Response from Commissioner Chair: Actually no. I wasn't aware of that and at this year's annual meeting there was no motion made on those grounds having said that, I think just generally on a forensic audit when we consider the forward improvement plan this evening and if you haven't had an opportunity, I would strongly encourage you to read that document. It highlights a lot of different activities that could be or should be undertaken in order to resolve many of the issues that came up in the organisational health check. what the exact scope of a forensic audit is will need to be carefully considered by the new council. defining what that is and defining what needs to be looked into will need to be something that council very carefully considers with the advice of the CEO, with the advice of the monitor. Having considered the organisational health check which will be made available to councillors after the election and the forward improvement plan if we when we consider it this evening if we if we support the office's recommendation.

**Question 3.** We do have quite a lot of my fellow candidates in the gallery tonight who are either running for mayor or councillor. I feel that I would like to actually know the commissioner's opinions and what they feel can be done with the allegedly the recent reports of the former mayor's arrest for mail tampering. what are the ramifications? Regarding the outcome of the election, how is that going to work and for the people for the council candidates and the mayoral candidates. I'm just wanting to know because how like you got up at the at the beginning of the meeting and you said, you know, go and vote and I understand that because that's obviously how democracy runs, but when you actually see allegedly of vote mail tampering and that sort of thing, how do my fellow council candidates here how do we actually trust the process and trust the outcome? Because at this point in time there doesn't seem to be much how would you say it seems to be you know crickets regarding this issue, I'd like to find out some more.

Response from Commissioner Chair: There are two elements to your question that I need to be very careful addressing. firstly, this is a matter that has been referred to the West Australian police and we understand that there are inquiries being made and investigation underway. It's not appropriate for us to comment on that. Secondly, the Town of Port Hedland has contracted the conduct of the election to the West Australian Electoral Commission. The West Australian Electoral Commission is in charge of running the election process. queries with respect to the running of the election need to be referred to the electoral commissioner.

6.1.1	Jane Gillingham
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**Question 1:** During my time as a councillor between 2020 and 2023, I did move motions with regards to our council having a forensic audit and it was without success. I do hope that this information that has been found has now made it part of your recommendation for a future forensic audit.

Response from Commissioner Chair: The point that there were no findings in the organisational health check there. It wasn't an investigation. There weren't any findings, but the general systemic issues that it raised would suggest that a forensic audit might be a good idea. It will be for a decision. It's a decision for a new council to take in light of the forward improvement plan that we will consider tonight and working with the monitor and the temporary and new CEO.

**Question 2:** On the 19th of March OCM meeting, it was refreshing to hear that a forensic audit will hopefully to be conducted for our council to move forward. Thank you for your insight and investigations into this audit. Will the forward improvement plan be one of the first items on the very first or next OCM that this can be a forward moving forward?

Response from Commissioner Chair: The forward in improvement plan is on the agenda this evening. I don't want to foreshadow any decisions that council will or won't take. The CEO at the moment is preparing in conjunction with his team an induction program for the new councillors. The new councillors will set with in conjunction with the administration. The schedule and the focus of those meetings will be for the new council and the administration to determine together. We can't foreshadow that. I'd suggest it should be pretty important order of business. they'll sell their own ship that hopeful we've steadied.

**Question 3:** The Headland Senior High School along Hamilton Road there and in between Headland Senior High School and the Spinx artists gallery opposite the blue stadium. I did ask what was happening with this land because it was land that had been put aside for a shopping centre, liquor store etc. This was something which many townspeople were not wishing to happen. It has not come to council and at any time that I've known since your positions on council. Has anything come been moved forward on that that it was originally to be a beautiful park or walk through park etc. We do know that alcohol is not allowed next to a high school. But just wanted to know did anything come of that or is that something which will come as a reply this time because nothing has come back from when I did ask that question uh quite a number of months ago.

Chair>Temporary Chief Executive Officer>Director Regulatory Services: Thank you through the chair. Good evening Mrs. Gillingham. The town has not received any further updates at this time from the developer.

6.1.1	Ash Christensen
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**Question 1:** First question is the strategy presents multiple options but does not prioritise or recommend a preferred delivery pathway. From the administration's perspective, what specific direction does this document provide to guide decision-making over the next 12 to 24 months?

Chair>Temporary Chief Executive Officer: Thank you, Chair. I'm going to just even discuss this as our executive team this week. The strategy is a strategy subject to what the commissioners resolved today. The history as we understand it goes back to 2023 where council's asked for a strategy to be put together. the particular issue is how is it then performed? What's the operational plan behind that? And then how's that going to be put into the long-term financial plan? But I think the commissioners have got to make a decision around that before it becomes an operational piece.

**The Presiding Member declared Public Question Time closed at 6:20pm.**

## 6.2 Public Statement Time

**The Presiding Member declared Public Statement Time open at 6:20pm**

6.2.1	Renae Coles
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- Global conflict and economic uncertainty are now directly affecting the Pilbara.
- Rising interest rates, fuel costs, and project delivery pressures are increasing costs for Council and the community.
- Families are facing higher living expenses, particularly in remote areas such as Port Hedland.
- There are growing concerns about impacts on the local economy, including tourism and community events.
- Recent event cancellations highlight potential risks to local businesses and activities.
- Residents are seeking reassurance about how the Town is managing costs and preparing for further pressures.
- Council is committed to responsible planning, prioritising essential services, supporting community resilience, and communicating openly.

6.2.2	Frank Cain
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- Requested information on fines enforcement on 25 October 2025.
- Advised the matter could only proceed once Council obtained court paperwork used and filed in proceedings.
- More than five months have passed and the paperwork has still not been provided.
- Waiting for FOI application documents, which are subject to a 50-day timeframe.
- The delay continues despite multiple requests for relatively simple documentation.
- The CEO's response does not resolve the issue, as the required court paperwork has not been obtained.
- The matter cannot be resolved without this documentation.

6.2.3	Reynolds
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- Representing myself at the Hedland Amateur Swimming Club.
- Achieved state-qualifying times through years of training across WA.
- Supported by local and regional swimming organisations.
- Competed at state championships since 2023 in Perth.
- Grateful for Country Championships Grant support enabling travel.
- Proud to represent Port Hedland at state level, aiming for national qualification.
- Acknowledge grant support for Blaire Wheeler.
- Thank the Town of Port Hedland Grants Department for ongoing support.

6.2.4	Naomi Park
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- Student at Hedland Senior High School and member of the Youth Advisory Council.
- Grateful to the Town of Port Hedland for the scholarship support.
- Scholarship enabled attendance at the National Maths Summer School.
- Opportunity to learn alongside like-minded students with shared academic interests.
- Experience was inspiring and motivated continued academic growth.
- Such opportunities can be limited for regional students.
- Appreciation for the Town's scholarships supporting local youth.
- Proud to represent Port Hedland through this experience.

6.2.5	Sharon Todd
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- Regarding Item 12.4.1 – Friends of the Cemetery.
- An informal community meeting was held at the cemetery on 28 February.
- Minutes from the meeting, including community recommendations, will be submitted to Council.
- Attendees are keen to maintain momentum and seek continued improvements for the cemeteries.
- Acknowledgement of the recent cemetery clean-up, which was greatly appreciated.

6.2.6	Dorothy Papertalk
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- Formerly employed as a gardener at the RSL Community Garden.
- Employment ended abruptly, causing personal and cultural distress.
- Have not returned to the garden since due to unresolved issues.
- Would like to return under the new manager but cannot at present.
- Was given a volunteer certificate, which did not reflect my paid role.
- Seeking closure, specifically:
  - A formal apology.
  - A correct certificate recognising my role as *Gardener*.

- Wish to return and contribute to the community garden again.

6.2.7	Camilo Blanco
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- Council can only act within its powers; administrative and court matters (including payments) are not Council's role.
- Election-related complaints were raised with multiple agencies, with issues referred between jurisdictions and no resolution to date.
- Ongoing investigations are acknowledged.
- The report highlights governance, leadership, and internal control weaknesses rather than council dysfunction.
- Councillors seeking accountability on serious financial issues should not be labelled as dysfunctional.
- Governance standards were strong prior to 2019, with ongoing issues emerging since 2021.

6.2.8	Ash Christensen
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- Unclear purpose of the Staff Housing Strategy.
- A strategy should guide decisions, set priorities, and direct action.
- Document restates known issues without outlining solutions.
- Eight options presented but with no preferred pathway or priorities.
- No clear measures of success, staging, or initial actions.
- The identified shortfall of 29 staff dwellings is not addressed.
- Risk the strategy leads to further planning without action.
- Council owes staff and the community clear outcomes, not another document.

**The Presiding Member declared Public Statement Time closed at 6:51pm**

### **6.3 Petitions / Deputations / Presentations / Submissions**

Nil

### **7 Questions from Members without Notice**

Nil

**8 Announcements by Presiding Member without Discussion**

The Commissioners meetings for the month of February 2026:

<b>DATE</b>	<b>MEETING DETAIL</b>	<b>ATTENDANCE</b>
04.02.2026	Port Hedland Industry Council (PHIC) Community Forum (Committee Meeting)	CMM Jessica Shaw CMM Ronald Yurevich AM T/CEO Kenneth Donohoe Orazio Santalucia (ToPH) Various additional stakeholders
11.02.2026	Commissioners and private citizen	CMM Ronald Yuryevich AM Louise Newbury Kylie Davies (ToPH) Chaz Roberts (ToPH)
12.02.2026	Fortescue Real Zero in Motion event	CMM Jessica Shaw Various additional stakeholders
18.02.2026	Port Hedland Local Emergency Management Committee (Committee Meeting)	CMM Martin Aldridge Various additional stakeholders
19.02.2026	Pilbara Country Zone (Committee Meeting)	CMM Jessica Shaw CMM Martin Aldridge CMM Ronald Yuryevich AM T/CEO Kenneth Donohoe Various additional stakeholders
24.02.2026	Moore Australia (WA) Pty Ltd (Informal Meeting)	CMM Jessica Shaw CMM Martin Aldridge CMM Ronald Yuryevich AM T/CEO Kenneth Donohoe Dale Stewart Nick Goosen Duane Cloete
24.02.2026	WA Local Government Inspectorate Office	CMM Jessica Shaw CMM Martin Aldridge

	(Informal Meeting)	CMM Ronald Yuryevich AM T/CEO Kenneth Donohoe Dale Stewart Tony Brown James McGovern
24.02.2026	Minister for Local Government (informal meeting)	CMM Jessica Shaw CMM Martin Aldridge CMM Ronald Yuryevich AM Minister Hannah Beazley Various ministerial officials
25.02.2026	Hedland Housing Steering Committee Meeting (Committee Meeting)	CMM Martin Aldridge Various additional stakeholders
25.02.2026	Commissioners and private citizen	CMM Yuryevich Frank Edwards

**9 Declarations of All Members to have given due consideration to all matters contained in the Business Paper before the Meeting**

The following Commissioners declared that they had given due consideration to all matters contained in the agenda:

**10 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting****CM202627/127 COUNCIL DECISION****MOVED: CMM Ronald Yuryevich****SECONDED: CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge****That Council confirm that the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 February 2026 are a true and correct record.*****CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*  
*Against: Nil*

*Disclaimer*

*Members of the public are cautioned against taking any action on Council decisions, on items on this evening's Agenda in which they may have an interest, until formal notification in writing by the Town has been received. Decisions made at this meeting can be revoked, pursuant to the Local Government Act 1995.*

**11 Reports of Committees**

**11.1 Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee**

<b>11.1.1</b>	<b>Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 10 March 2026</b>
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**Author:** Senior Audit, Risk & Insurance Advisor  
**Authorising Officer:** Director Corporate Services  
**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

**CM202627/128 COUNCIL DECISION**

**MOVED:** CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge      **SECONDED:** CMM Ronald Yuryevich

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**  
**That Council;**

- 1. Receives the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Insurance Committee Meeting held on 10 March 2026; and**
- 2. Request the Temporary Chief Executive Officer to prepare a more detailed Customer Service, Social Media and Stakeholder Engagement strategy with consultation of the Council and present this to the next meeting of ARIC.**

***CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*  
*Against: Nil*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to present the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee (ARIC) meeting held on March 10, 2026, for Council's consideration.

**DETAIL**

Background The Town's ARC Committee is a statutory body established under section 7.1A of the Local Government Act 1995. Its primary function is to assist the Council in fulfilling its governance and oversight obligations, specifically in the areas of financial reporting, internal controls, risk management, legislative compliance, ethical accountability, and both internal and external audits.

10 March 2026 Meeting Overview

At the meeting the following items were considered:

*12.1 2026 Annual Work Plan Review*



The ARIC noted 'NIL' identified non-compliance with Policy 2/022 Panels of Pre-Qualified Suppliers for Quarter 2 Financial Year 2025-26.

In accordance with the Panels of Pre-Qualified Suppliers Policy 2/022, Section 3, Compliance and Reporting, this report presents the ARIC with an overview of the procurement findings for non-compliance with policy 2/022 Panels of Pre-Qualified Suppliers, for the quarter 2, being 1 October to 31 December 2025.

#### *12.6 Asset Management Framework Progress Report*

The ARIC received an update regarding the notable progress made by the Asset Management Framework Project Control Group in advancing the implementation of the Town's Asset Management Framework.

#### *12.7 Enterprise Resource Planning Implementation Progress Report*

The ARIC received an update on the progress of the Town of Port Hedland's Enterprise Resource Planning Implementation Project Control Group.

#### *15.1 Confidential Item - Town Debtors.*

The ARIC received the report on Town Debt and endorsed recovery actions.

### **LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 'Significant Decision Making', this matter is considered to be of significance, because:

- Significant - The matter will have implications for the present and future social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of Port Hedland.

### **CONSULTATION**

#### *Internal*

- ARI Committee
- Temporary Chief Executive Officer
- Director Corporate Services
- Manager Governance
- Manager Financial Services
- Senior Audit, Risk and Insurance Advisor

#### *External Agencies*

- Nil

#### *Community*

- Nil

### **LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

The ARI Committee's functions, powers, and membership are governed by its Terms of Reference.

### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

### Council Plan

The following sections of the Town’s *Council Plan 2025-2035* apply in consideration of this item:

Our Leadership: We are united in our actions to connect, listen, support and advocate, thereby leveraging the potential of our people, places and resources.

4.2 Transparent and accountable governance and financial sustainability

### Access and Inclusion

The following outcomes of the Town’s *Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2026* apply in relation to this item:

Nil

## RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

<b>Risk Type</b>	Operational
<b>Risk Category</b>	Compliance
<b>Cause</b>	Not reporting to Council
<b>Effect (Consequence)</b>	Non-compliance with best practice principles
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	Council receives the minutes from the 26 November ARC Committee Meeting.
<p>There is an operational risk associated with this item caused by not reporting the activities of the ARI Committee to Council which could lead to non-compliance with best practice principles and to an extent Standing Orders Local Law 2014.</p> <p>The risk rating is medium (6) which is determined by a likelihood of possible (3) and a consequence of minor (2).</p> <p>This risk will be eliminated by reporting the minutes of the ARI Committee to the Council for their consideration.</p>	

## OPTIONS

Option 1 – Adopt officer’s recommendation

Option 2 – Amend officer’s recommendation

Option 3 – Do not adopt officer’s recommendation

## CONCLUSION

This report presents the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee meeting held on March 10, 2026, for Council’s review. The ARIC, established under section 7.1A of the Local Government Act 1995, assists Council with governance, oversight, and compliance matters.

## ATTACHMENTS

1. ARI C- Unconfirmed- Meeting- Minutes [**11.1.1.1** - 65 pages]

**12 Reports of Officers**

**12.1 Corporate Services**

<b>12.1.1</b>	<b>Statement of Financial Activity - February 2026</b>
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**Author:** Senior Financial Accountant

**Authorising Officer:** Director Corporate Services

**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item. At times, they receive payments made in accordance with employment contracts and related Town of Port Hedland policies, which are disclosed in the attachments to this report.

**CM202627/129 COUNCIL DECISION**

**MOVED:** CMM Ronald Yuryevich                      **SECONDED:** CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**  
**That Council:**

- 1. Receive the Monthly Financial Report for the period ended 28 February 2026 as shown in attachment 1;**
- 2. Receive the Accounts paid under delegated authority for the period ended 28 February 2026 as shown in attachment 2;**
- 3. Receive the Purchasing Card statements for the period ended 28 February 2026, as shown in attachment 3;**
- 4. Receive the Investment Summary Report for the period ended 28 February 2026, as shown in attachment 4;**
- 5. Receive the YTD Budget v Actual Report by Directorate for the period ended 28 February 2026, as shown in attachment 5; and**
- 6. Receive the Capital Listing report for the period ended 28 February 2026, as shown in attachment 6.; and**
- 7. Pursuant to section 6.8 Local Government Act increase Budget by \$50,000 for Local Government Inspectors Monitor expenses.**

***CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*  
*Against: Nil*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to receive the Statement of Financial Activity for the period ending 28 February 2026.

## **DETAIL**

The information provided in this report is for the period ended 28 February 2026, with financial results included in Attachment 1. The preparation of the reports has been made in compliance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*.

The Local Government Inspector has recently appointed a monitor to the Town, which covers the expenses of the appointment. A provisional increase in budget of \$50,000 is requested to effect associated payment of expenses.

The Town's financial activity reports use a materiality threshold to measure, monitor and report on financial performance and position of the Town.

As part of the 2025-2026 Budget, Council adopted the following thresholds as levels of material variances for financial reporting:

- A variance of 10% or \$50,000, whichever is greater, of the Year-to-Date budget of operational and capital expenditure requires explanation.

## **LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 'Significant Decision Making', this matter is considered to be of low significance, because:

- Exception - The proposal or decision is not of a nature or significance that requires engagement.

## **CONSULTATION**

### *Internal*

- *Management*

### *External Agencies*

- *Nil*

### *Community*

- *Nil*

## **LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

Section 6.4 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and Regulation 34 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* detail the form and manner in which a local government is to prepare its statement of financial activity.

## **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The statement of financial activity is to be supported by such information, as is considered relevant by the local government, containing:

- An explanation of the composition of the net current assets for the month, to which the statement relates, less committed assets and restricted assets.
- An explanation of each of the material variances referred to in sub-regulation (1)(d); and

- Supporting information, as is considered relevant by the local government.

Reserves:

Ensure compliance with section 6.11 of the Local Government Act 1995 when reserve accounts are utilised.

## **STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

### **Council Plan**

The following sections of the Town’s Council Plan 2025-2035 are applicable in consideration of this item:

#### Our Leadership:

We are united in our actions to connect, listen, support and advocate, thereby leveraging the potential of our people, places and resources.

4.2 Transparent and accountable governance and financial sustainability

### **Access and Inclusion**

The following outcome of the Town’s *Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2026* apply in relation to this item:

Nil

## **RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>Risk Type</b>	Operational
<b>Risk Category</b>	Financial
<b>Cause</b>	There is an operational risk associated with this item due to a reduction in income or increase in expenses throughout the 2025/26 financial year.
<b>Effect (Consequence)</b>	Could impact on the Town’s ability to meet service levels or asset renewal funding requirements.
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	The Town’s financial activity reports use a materiality threshold to measure, monitor and report on financial performance and position of the Town.
The risk rating is considered to be Medium (6) which is determined by a likelihood of Possible (3) and a consequence of Minor (2).	

## **OPTIONS**

- Option 1 – Adopt officer’s recommendation.
- Option 2 – Amend officer’s recommendation.
- Option 3 – Do not adopt officer’s recommendation.

## **CONCLUSION**

The opening funding surplus of \$5.95M presented in the Statement of Financial Activity for the period ending 28 February 2026, represents the actual balance on the audited Statement of Financial Activity 2024-2025. The net current funding position for the period ending 28 February 2026 is \$63.2M due to raising \$87.9M in General Rates in Quarter 1 of 2025-2026.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Monthly Financial Report for the period ended 28 February 2026 [**12.1.1.1** - 8 pages]
2. Accounts paid under delegated authority for the period ended 28 February 2026 [**12.1.1.2** - 70 pages]
3. Purchasing Card statements for the period ended 28 February 2026 [**12.1.1.3** - 10 pages]
4. Investment Summary Report for the period ended 28 February 2026 [**12.1.1.4** - 10 pages]
5. YTD Budget v Actual Report by Directorate for the period ended 28 February 2026 [**12.1.1.5** - 1 page]
6. Capital Listing report for the period ended 28 February 2026 [**12.1.1.6** - 7 pages]

<b>12.1.2</b>	<b>Policy and Codes of Conduct Review</b>
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**Author:** Director Corporate Services

**Authorising Officer:** Director Corporate Services

**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

**CM202627/130 COUNCIL DECISION**

**MOVED:** CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge

**SECONDED:** CMM Chair Jessica Shaw

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council;**

- 1. Adopts the revised policies;**
  - **1.08 – Legal Representation Attachment 2**
  - **4.07 – Trading in Public Places Attachment 3**
  - **6.01 – Camping other than at a Caravan Park or Camping Ground Attachment 4**
  - **6.02 – Funeral Directors – Issuing of an Annual Funeral Director’s Licence and Single Funeral Permits Attachment 5**
  - **1.19 – Honorary Freeman Attachment 6**
  - **3.02 – Senior Employees and Appointing Acting Chief Executive Officer Attachment 7**
  - **5.02 – Community Leasing Attachment 8**
- 2. Rescinds policies;**
  - **2/017 – External Grant Funding Policy**
  - **9/004 – Pre-Cyclone Green Waste Collection**
  - **13/016 – Waste Collection and Bin Replacement**
- 3. Adopts the revised Code of Conduct for Employees, Consultants, Contractors and Volunteers as per attachment 10; and**
- 4. Adopts the revised Code of Conduct for conduct for Council Members, Committee Members, Appointees and Candidates as per attachment 11.**

***CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*

*Against: Nil*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider and adopt the Town of Port Hedland (the Town) revised set of Council policies, recently reviewed in full.

**DETAIL**Policies

Council policies are developed as required to meet new legislative obligations and to address emerging local matters. Once adopted, policies are subject to periodic review to ensure they remain current, relevant, and compliant with applicable legislation.

A rolling policy review program commenced in 2024, initiated alongside the budget drafting process.

The following policy decisions were made at the 27 March 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting:

- Adopted Policy 2/005 Financial Hardship
- Adopted Policy 2/010 Council Investments

The following policy decisions were made at the 25 June 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting:

- Adopted Policy 2/004 Rating
- Adopted Policy 2/019 Reserves
- Adopted Policy 2/018 Borrowings

The following policy decisions were made at the 30 October 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting:

- Adopted Policy 2/020 Fees and Charges Waiver

The following policy decisions were made at the 27 November 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting:

- Adopted Policy 2/007 Procurement
- Adopted Policy 2/021 Credit and Purchase Card
- Adopted Policy 9/010 Asset Management
- Rescind Policy 1/016 Workplace Health and Safety
- Rescind Policy 3/024 Volunteering

As planned, the program was broadened across all departments in 2025. A risk-based approach is applied to the policy review cycle, with policies relating to higher risk matters reviewed more frequently than those assessed as lower risk.

The following policy decisions were made at the 5 March 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting:

- Adopted Policy 1/014 Execution of Documents and Affixing the Common Seal
- Adopted Policy 1/015 Live Streaming and Recording of Council Meetings
- Adopted Policy 1/017 Order of Business for Council and Committee Meetings
- Adopted Policy 1/026 Feedback, Complaints and Suggestions
- Adopted Policy 1/028 Related Party Disclosure
- Adopted Policy 1/029 Attendance at Events

- Rescind Policy 1/027 Severance Payments
- Rescind Policy 3/003 Subsidies and Allowances

The following policy decisions were made at the 28 May 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting:

- Adopted Policy 1/023 Public Interest Disclosure
- Adopted Policy 4/008 Elected Member Allowances, Facilities and Expenses

The following policy decisions were made at the 24 September 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting:

- Adopted Policy 2/004 Rating
- Adopted Policy 2/010 Council Investments
- Adopted Policy 2/019 Financial Reserves
- Adopted Policy 2/005 Financial Hardship

The following policy decisions were made at the 29 October 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting:

- Adopted Policy 2/018 Borrowings
- Rescinded Policy 8/003 Access and Inclusion

The following policy decisions were made at the 26 November 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting.

- Adopted Policy 1/001 Council Framework
- Adopted Policy 1/030 Records Management
- Adopted Policy 4/011 Electronic Meetings and Electronic Attendance Policy
- Adopted Policy 6/006 Consumption of Alcohol (previously overdue)
- Adopted Policy 15/003 Video Surveillance (previously overdue)
- Rescinded Policy 3/003 Subsidies and Allowances
- Adopted Policy 1/013 Mayoral Chain, with removal of reference to the Deputy Mayor

The following policy decisions were made at the 10 December 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting:

- Adopted Policy 2/021 Purchase and Credit Card – no changes
- Adopted Policy 6/003 Community Grants Program – no changes
- Adopted Policy 10/003 Landscaping – no changes
- Revoked Policy 4/006 Elections – Caretaker Period

The following policies remain subject review:

- 1/009 – Legal Representation
- 2/017 – External Grant Funding Policy
- 13/014 – Trading in Public Places
- 13/006 – Camping other than at a Caravan Park or Camping Ground
- 13/012 – Funeral Directors – Issuing of an Annual Funeral Director's Licence and Single Funeral Permits

- 1/020 – Honorary Freeman
- 3/007 – Senior Employees and Acting Chief Executive Officer
- 13/016 – Waste Collection and Bin Replacement
- 8/004 – Community Leasing
- 9/004 – Pre-Cyclone Green Waste Collection

These are included in **Attachment 1**.

The revised existing policies within a revised framework are included as the following:

- 1.08 – Legal Representation **Attachment 2**
- 4.07 – Trading in Public Places **Attachment 3**
- 6.01 – Camping other than at a Caravan Park or Camping Ground **Attachment 4**
- 6.02 – Funeral Directors – Issuing of an Annual Funeral Director’s Licence and Single Funeral Permits **Attachment 5**
- 1.19 – Honorary Freeman **Attachment 6**
- 3.02 – Senior Employees and Appointing Acting Chief Executive Officer **Attachment 7**
- 5.02 – Community Leasing **Attachment 8**

A summary of the policy review recommendations is included in **Attachment 9**.

The following policies are recommended to be rescinded:

- 2/017 – External Grant Funding Policy: Requires rewrite
- 9/004 – Pre-Cyclone Green Waste Collection: To become an Internal Operating Procedure (IOP)
- 13/016 – Waste Collection and Bin Replacement: To become an IOP

The following new policies drafted remain subject to Council discussions:

- 1.17 - Respectful Conduct and Engagement
- 3.05 - External Members – IT
- 4.02 - Commemorative and Civic Recognition

### Codes of Conduct

The Town’s code of conduct for Employees, Consultants, Contractors and Volunteers has been revised, without a CEO forward, being as it applies to the CEO. Plus an updated reference to the Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021 (WA). This is included as **Attachment 10**

The Town’s code of conduct for Council Members, Committee Members, Appointees and Candidates has been revised, now including application to DLGIRS appointed monitor(s) plus an updated reference to the Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021 (WA). This is included as **Attachment 11**.

### Internal Operating Procedures (IOP’s)

IOP's, which are CEO approved for administrative use and guidance, have also commenced a review project towards ensuring the Town's governance framework completeness is comprehensive.

### **LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 'Significant Decision Making', this matter is considered to be of medium significance.

### **CONSULTATION**

#### *Internal*

- Town executive
- Directorate managers and staff

#### *External Agencies*

- Atlin Consulting
- Department of Local Government Industry Regulation and Safety publications
- Western Australia Local Government Association publications
- Other Local Government policy references

#### *Community*

- Nil

### **LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

Local Government Act 1995

Section 2.7(2)(b): Council is to determine the local government's policies.

### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

There are no identifiable costs associated with the adoption of the reviewed policies.

### **STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

#### **Council Plan**

The following section of the Town's *Council Plan 2025-2035* applies in consideration of this item:

Our Leadership: We are united in our actions to connect, listen, support and advocate, thereby leveraging the potential of our people, places and resources.

4.2 Transparent and accountable governance and financial sustainability  
Governance and Procurement - Provide high standards of governance and leadership.

#### **Access and Inclusion**

The following outcome of the Town's *Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2026* applies in relation to this item:

- Outcome 4 – Quality of Service

### **RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>Risk Type</b>	Operational
<b>Risk Category</b>	Compliance
<b>Cause</b>	Out of date or non-compliant policies and / or gaps in policy framework.
<b>Effect (Consequence)</b>	Non-compliant decision making or not in line with best practice. Duplicitous and / or inconsistent policy positions.
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	Continuous review of policies following a risk-based approach.

There is an Operational risk associated with this item caused by not maintaining an effective policy framework which may lead to compliance concerns.

The risk rating is considered to be Medium (9) which is determined by a likelihood of (3) and a consequence of Moderate (3).

This risk is considered acceptable due to the following controls in place:

- An existing policy is currently in effect.
- The risk falls within the Town's acceptable tolerance range.

### **OPTIONS**

Option 1 – Adopt officer's recommendation

Option 2 – Amend officer's recommendation

Option 3 – Do not adopt officer's recommendation

### **CONCLUSION**

The proposed policy review revisions have been developed to ensure alignment with current legislation, departmental guidance and best practice standards. Ongoing regular reviews are planned to continue and revoke those where considered necessary.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Existing Policies for review March OCM 2026 [**12.1.2.1** - 53 pages]
2. 1.08 Legal Representation for Council Members & Employees Policy [**12.1.2.2** - 6 pages]
3. 4.07 Trading in Public Places Policy [**12.1.2.3** - 5 pages]
4. 6.01 Camping other than at a Caravan Park or Camping Ground Policy [**12.1.2.4** - 4 pages]
5. 6.02 Funeral Director Licence Permits Policy v 2 [**12.1.2.5** - 17 pages]
6. 1.19 Honorary Freeman Policy - V 2 [**12.1.2.6** - 4 pages]
7. 3.02 Senior Employees and Appointing Acting Chief Executive Officer Policy - V 2 [**12.1.2.7** - 3 pages]
8. 5.02 Community Leasing Policy [**12.1.2.8** - 6 pages]

9. Policy Review and Recommendations [**12.1.2.9** - 49 pages]
10. Town of Port Hedland Code of Conduct for Employees Consultants Contractor [**12.1.2.10** - 42 pages]
11. Code of Conduct for Elected Members Committee Members Appointees and Candidates - March 2026 V 2 [**12.1.2.11** - 17 pages]

<b>12.1.3</b>	<b>Ministerial Application Rating</b>
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**Author:** **Manager Financial Services**

**Authorising Officer:** **Director Corporate Services**

**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

**CM202627/131 COUNCIL DECISION**

**MOVED:** CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge

**SECONDED:** CMM Ronald Yuryevich

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- 1. Approves application to the Minister of Local Government to change the method of valuation for miscellaneous licence L45 /578 for the purpose of camp accommodation, to gross rental valuation, and;**
- 2. Approves commencement of consultation with BHP Mineral, Itochu Mineral & Energy of Australia Pty Ltd & Mitsui Iron Ore Corporation Pty Ltd to rate miscellaneous licences L45/194 and L45/190 on an unimproved valuation basis.**

***CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*

*Against: Nil*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to approve the proposed commencement of changes to the method of valuation as the basis of rating, on three miscellaneous licences.

**DETAIL**

*Background*

The Town imposes differential rating upon the characteristics of the land upon which those rates are based, at either Gross Rental Value (GRV) or Unimproved Value (UV) being:

- GRV Residential
- GRV Commercial Industrial
- GRV Mass Accommodation
- GRV Airport

- UV Pastoral & Other
- UV Mining

Rating is to be applied equitably upon properties, based solely on their characteristics of usage and not its ownership. Rating provides for the Town's infrastructure and services, which the community and district as a whole, all depend upon.

The Town has 3 properties on which it seeks approval to consult with affected parties on matters of rating. This is towards achieving consistency in the application of differential rating.

1. **L45/578 Wingina Mining Camp and Core Yard** as part of the Hemi Gold project.

This land is used for non-rural purposes (the permitted purpose under the lease is small mining operation, Wingina Camp), the appropriate method of valuation is the GRV (pursuant to s6.28 LG Act) and the appropriate rating category is GRV: Mass Accommodation.

The Town has requested indicative valuation from Valuations Services at Landgate to ensure the correct method of valuation is being used and is consistent. **Attachment 2.**

Considering this, the Town seeks approval from Council to consult with the affected parties and make formal submission application to change in method of valuation, if necessary, and rate all occupied land relevant to current

**L45/578 Wingina Mining Camp and Coreyard Camp**



legislation and Town's differential rating basis approach. The Town seeks approval from Council to apply to the Minister of Local Government to change

the method of Valuation for Miscellaneous Licence L45/578 for the purpose of camp accommodation.

2. **L45/ 194 - BHP Mineral Pty Ltd – BHP WAIO Tenure – Mitsui – Itochu Iron Pty Ltd – Mt Newman State Agreement 1964** as part of the Mooka ore car repair shop.

State agreement over this land holdings contains the clause *"the valuation of all lands... the subject of this Agreement... shall for rating purposes be deemed to be on the unimproved value thereof and no such lands shall be subject to any discriminatory rate."*

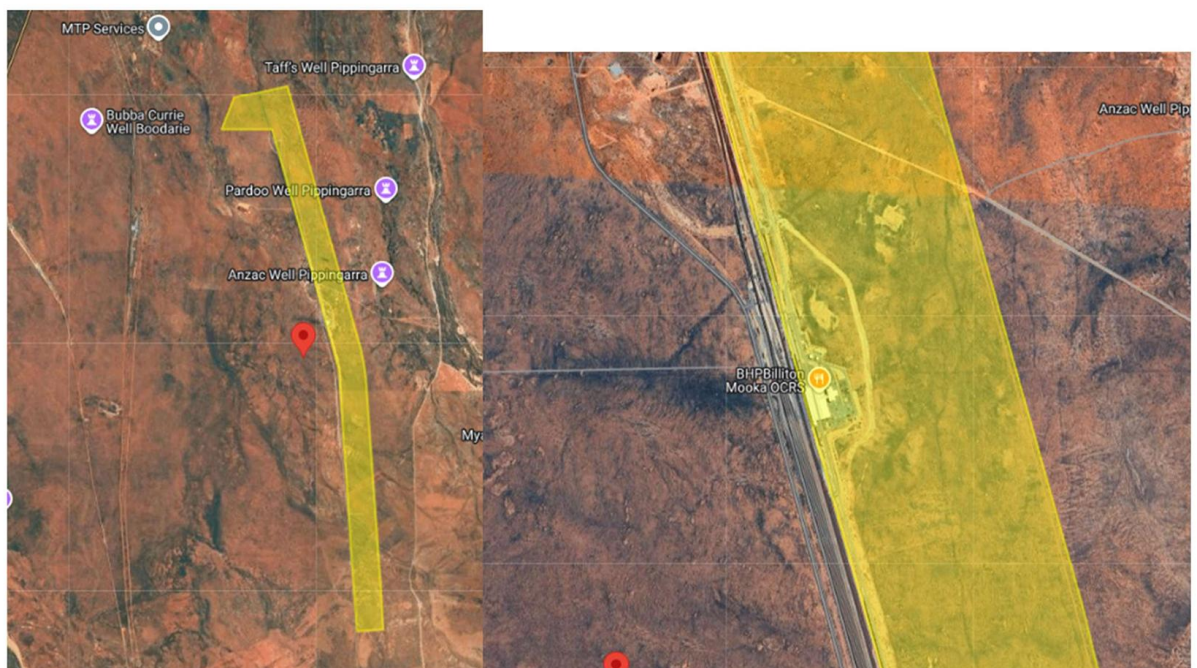
Therefore, Lease's or Licences can only be rated on unimproved value and in this instance would not require Ministerial approval to commence rating.

The Town seeks approval to commence consultation with the affected parties.

3. **L45/190 – BHP Mineral Pty Ltd - Itochu Mineral & Energy of Australia Pty Ltd & Mitsui Iron Ore Corporation Pty Ltd (Mt Goldsworthy State Agreement)** as part of the Mooka rail maintenance shed.

As above, in L45/194 Lease's or Licences can only be rated on its unimproved value only approval from Council to commence consultation with the affected parties.

**L45/ 194 and L45/190 - BHP Mineral Pty Ltd – BHP WAIO Tenure – Mitsui – Itochu Iron Pty Ltd – Mt Newman State Agreement 1964**



**ISSUES**

*Proposed Miscellaneous Licence rating.*

In 2025 the Supreme Court of Western Australia held that occupied Crown land under a miscellaneous licence is rateable land under section 6.26 of the LG Act (Shire of Mount Magnet v Atlantic Vanadium Pty Ltd [2025] WASC 274).

The *Local Government Amendment (Rating of Certain Mining Licences) Bill* is expected to be considered by the Legislative Council during 2026. The bill aims to exempt land under miscellaneous mining licenses from any double application of local government rates. The Town has reviewed its rating which may be affected by the bill's amendments finding minimal exposure. The rating of the three subject properties would not be affected.

*Method of valuation*

Miscellaneous licences are:

- governed by the Mining Act 1978;
- issued for purposes such as roads, pipelines, and other infrastructure related to mining activities;
- can coexist with other mining tenements; and
- have a term of 21 years and may be renewed, ongoing.

The Bill provides that a mining tenement, permit, drilling reservation, lease or licence that is currently rateable, will continue to be rateable and may coexist with a miscellaneous licence or small prospecting licence overlapping it, that is not rateable. The Town has sought assurances this will apply. **Attachment 3.**

The Town's major ratepayer BHP has state agreements for its Mount Newman and Mount Goldsworthy land locations, that provides that the valuation of this land is deemed to be on unimproved value only.

**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 'Significant Decision Making', this matter is considered to be of medium significance, because:

- Exception - The Council already has a sound understanding of the views and preferences of the people likely to be affected by, or interested in, the proposal or decision.

**CONSULTATION***Internal*

- Rates Consultant

*External Agencies*

- WALGA

- Department of Local Government Industry Regulation and Safety  
Departmental advice has been requested to ensure applications for a change of valuation request are still processed under delegation.

*Community*

- Nil

**LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

The *Local Government Act 1995*, Section 1.4 of the LG Act contains the definitions within the LG Act of definition of owner.

Section 6.26 LGA provides what land is rateable by a local government.

Section 6.27 LGA clarifies how rating applies where multiple interests are held in relation to the same parcel of land.

Section 6.28 LGA The Minister determines the method of valuation of land to be used by the local government as the basis for a rate.

Section 6.29 LGA provides the basis rate (UV or GRV).

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The rateability assigned by the Minister and the indicative valuation from Landgate will impact on the value of uplift in rates charges for these properties. One valuation received would equate to approximately \$30,000pa. Equity across rateable properties is the value.

**STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

**Council Plan**

The following sections of the Town’s *Council Plan 2025-2035* apply in consideration of this item:

Our Leadership: We are united in our actions to connect, listen, support and advocate, thereby leveraging the potential of our people, places and resources.

4.2 Transparent and accountable governance and financial sustainability

There are no significant identifiable environmental, social or economic impacts relating to this item.

**Access and Inclusion**

The following outcomes of the Town’s *Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2026* apply in relation to this item:

Nil

**RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>Risk Type</b>	Operational
<b>Risk Category</b>	Financial
<b>Cause</b>	The risk of financial impact occurring in the rates billing process if further action determines a refund is required.

<b>Effect (Consequence)</b>	The likelihood is considered as Unlikely (2) with the Impact assessed as being Moderate (3)
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	Treat the risk by implementing measures to improve certainty of ratability and value.
<p>There is an Operational risk associated with this item caused by raising incorrect or no rate income, leading to a financial impact.</p> <p>The risk rating is considered to be Medium (6) which is determined by a likelihood of Unlikely (2) and a consequence of Moderate (3).</p> <p>This risk will be accepted by the approval to commence consultation and/or submit an appropriate application.</p>	

**OPTIONS**

- Option 1 – Adopt officer’s recommendation
- Option 2 – Amend officer’s recommendation
- Option 3 – Do not adopt officer’s recommendation

**CONCLUSION**

The proposed commencement of changes to the method of valuation as the basis of rating, on three miscellaneous licences, seeks to ensure a consistent approach across similar property use types, for the apportionment of rates.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. L 45.578 Wingina Mining Camp and Coreyard Camp Landgate valuation [12.1.3.1 - 2 pages]
2. Miscellaneous Licence on Ministerial approved properties [12.1.3.2 - 1 page]

<b>12.1.4</b>	<b>Annual General Meeting of Electors Report</b>
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**Author:** Senior Governance Advisor

**Authorising Officer:** Director Corporate Services

**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

**CM202627/132 COUNCIL DECISION**

**MOVED:** CMM Ronald Yuryevich

**SECONDED:** CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council receives and notes the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors held on 10 February 2026.**

***CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*

*Against: Nil*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to formally receive the minutes of Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Electors held on 10 February 2026.

**DETAIL**

An AGM is to be held on a day selected by the local government but not more than 56 days after the local government accepts the annual report for the previous financial year.

At the 22 December 2026 the Council resolved the Audit Risk & Improvement Committee (ARIC) recommendation to;

1. Adopt the Audited Annual Financial Statements, Independent Auditor's Closing Report and Management Letters of Audit Findings for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.
2. Endorse that the Audited Annual Financial Statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2025 be part of the Town of Port Hedland's 2024-2025 annual financial report.

The Local Government Act 1995 requires all decisions made at an electors' meeting to be considered at the next Ordinary Council meeting or if that is not practicable at the first Ordinary Council meeting after that meeting. If a Council decision is made in response to a decision made at the electors' meeting, the reasons for the decision are to be recorded in the minutes.

At the AGM held on 10 February 2026, 0 motions were presented by Electors, therefore requiring 0 decisions on motions to be made by Council.

Item 4 Annual Report, the recommendation to accept the Town of Port Hedland Annual Report for the 2024-2025 Financial Year including the Audited Financial Report for the period ended 30 June 2025 lapsed for want of a mover.

For record keeping purposes this report is for Council to formally receive the minutes.

### **LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 'Significant Decision Making', this matter is considered to be of medium significance, because:

- Significant - The matter will have implications for the present and future social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of Port Hedland.

### **CONSULTATION**

Nil

### **LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

Policy 4/009 Significant Decision Making

Local Government Act 1995 (WA)

Section 5.27: general meeting of the electors of a district is to be held once every financial year. A general meeting is to be held on a day selected by the local government but not more than 56 days after the local government accepts the annual report for the previous financial year. The matters to be discussed at general electors' meetings are to be those prescribed.

Section 5.32: minutes of the electors' meeting be kept and made available for public inspection before the Council Meeting at which decisions made at the electors' meeting are first considered.

Section 5.33: all decisions made at electors' meetings be considered at the next available ordinary council meeting, or, if not possible at a special council meeting called for that purpose, whichever happens first. The reasons for a decision made at a council meeting in response to a decision made at an electors' meeting are to be recorded in the minutes of the council meeting.

#### ***Town of Port Hedland Standing Orders Local Law 2014***

Part 17 of the Standing Orders Local Law 2014 outlines provisions for making, revoking or changing decisions.

Part 17.2 specifies limitations on powers to revoke or change decisions where action has been taken to implement a decision

### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

### Council Plan

The following sections of the Town’s *Council Plan 2025-2035* apply in consideration of this item:

Our Leadership: We are united in our actions to connect, listen, support and advocate, thereby leveraging the potential of our people, places and resources.

#### 4.2 Transparent and accountable governance and financial sustainability

There are no significant identifiable environmental, social or economic impacts relating to this item.

### Access and Inclusion

The following outcomes of the Town’s *Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2026* apply in relation to this item:

Nil

## RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

<b>Risk Type</b>	Operational
<b>Risk Category</b>	Compliance
<b>Cause</b>	Failure to formally receive and note the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors in accordance with statutory requirements.
<b>Effect (Consequence)</b>	Non-compliance with the Local Government Act 1995 (WA) and an incomplete governance record of decisions and proceedings of the electors’ meeting.
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	Council consideration and formal receipt of the AGM minutes at the next available Ordinary Council Meeting, ensuring legislative compliance and an accurate corporate record.

There is an Operational risk associated with this item caused by not formally receiving the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors, leading to potential non-compliance with statutory requirements and gaps in the Town’s governance records.

The risk rating is considered to be Medium (9), determined by a likelihood of Possible (3) and a consequence of Moderate (3).

This risk is considered acceptable due to the following controls in place:

- The Annual General Meeting was conducted in accordance with legislative requirements.
- Minutes have been prepared and are presented for Council consideration.
- The risk falls within the Town’s acceptable tolerance range.

**OPTIONS**

- Option 1 – Adopt officer’s recommendation
- Option 2 – Amend officer’s recommendation
- Option 3 – Do not adopt officer’s recommendation

**CONCLUSION**

The AGM was conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1995 (WA). Formal receipt of the minutes ensures legislative compliance, provides an accurate record of the proceedings, and enables Council to appropriately consider matters arising from the meeting. It is therefore appropriate for Council to receive and note the minutes of the AGM held on 10 February 2026.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. 20260210 MINUTES Annual General Meeting of Electors [**12.1.4.1** - 8 pages]

<b>12.1.5</b>	<b>Update to ARIC Independent Member Meeting Fees Following SAT Determination</b>
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**Author:** Senior Audit, Risk & Insurance Advisor  
**Authorising Officer:** Director Corporate Services  
**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

**CM202627/133 COUNCIL DECISION**

**MOVED:** CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge      **SECONDED:** CMM Ronald Yuryevich

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- 1. Approve the meeting fee for Independent Members of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee at \$1,215 per meeting, effective from 1 January 2026, in accordance with Local Government Variation No. 01 of 2025 – Determination of the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal for Local Government Elected Members.**
- 2. Note that this decision replaces Council Decision CM202526/149 (Item 4) (29 October 2025 OCM) relating to Independent Member sitting fees.**

***CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*  
*Against: Nil*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider adopting updated meeting fees for Independent Members of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (the ARIC), in line with the revised minimum and maximum fee range established by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal (SAT) through Local Government Variation No. 01 of 2025.

**DETAIL**

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 29 October 2025, Council approved a sitting fee of \$450 per meeting for Independent Members of the former Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee (now the ARIC).

On 1 January 2026, the SAT released Local Government Variation No. 01 of 2025, introducing updated minimum and maximum meeting fee amounts payable to committee members under section 5.100(2)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

The new SAT determination provides a range within which local governments may set their meeting fee. The Town's current fee of \$450 remains compliant, as it falls within the revised SAT minimum–maximum band. Accordingly, there is no mandatory requirement for the Town to amend the fee.

However, Council may choose any amount within the SAT-approved range at its discretion. After reviewing the updated bands, Administration recommends that the Town adopt the maximum allowable fee of \$1,215 per meeting, effective 1 January 2026.

This recommendation considers:

- The remote location and cost of participation,
- The professional expertise required of Independent Members,
- The increasing complexity of audit, risk and improvement oversight, and
- The importance of remaining competitive to attract and retain high-caliber Independent Members,

Administration recommends that the Town adopt the upper end (maximum) of the SAT-approved range. This is a discretionary decision and not a mandatory change; however, it ensures remuneration remains fair and appropriate.

If adopted, this decision will supersede Council's previous determination from 29 October 2025.

### **LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 'Significant Decision Making', this matter is of low significance, because:

- It does not impact the Town's long-term assets, services, or strategic commitments.
- It does not create new financial commitments outside the approved operational budget.
- It relates to a discretionary adjustment within a State-set fee range, maintaining compliance regardless of the option chosen.
- Community impact is limited and indirect (committee member remuneration), with no change to service levels or community access.

### **CONSULTATION**

#### *Internal*

- Temporary Chief Executive Officer

#### *External Agencies*

- Salaries and Allowances Tribunal

#### *Community*

- Nil

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**LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

- *Local Government Act 1995*
  - Section 5.100(2)(b): Fees and allowances for committee members
- *Salaries and Allowances Act 1975*
- Local Government Variation No. 01 of 2025 – Determination of the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The updated meeting fees will be funded from the Town’s operational budget, specifically, Elected Member Allowances - General (Operational Expenditure).

No additional budget allocation is required. The change can be accommodated within existing approved FY2025-26 budget.

**STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

**Council Plan**

The following section of the Town’s *Council Plan 2025-2035* applies in consideration of this item:

Our Leadership: We are united in our actions to connect, listen, support and advocate, thereby leveraging the potential of our people, places and resources.

4.2 Transparent and accountable governance and financial sustainability

There are no significant identifiable environmental, social, or economic impacts relating to this item.

**Access and Inclusion**

The following outcome of the Town’s *Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2026* applies in relation to this item:

Nil.

**RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>Risk Type</b>	Strategic
<b>Risk Category</b>	Reputational
<b>Cause</b>	Setting the meeting fee below the maximum SAT-approved amount may be perceived as not adequately recognising the responsibilities and expectations placed on Independent ARIC Members.
<b>Effect (Consequence)</b>	Perception of undervaluation among Independent Members and reduced confidence in the Town’s commitment to supporting strong audit, risk and improvement oversight.
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	Treat

There is a strategic reputational risk associated with this item if the Town does not adopt the maximum fee within the SAT-approved range. While the Town would remain compliant, setting a fee below the maximum may still create a perception that Independent Member responsibilities particularly in a remote and scrutinised governance environment are not fully recognised.

This risk is assessed as Low (4), with a likelihood of Unlikely (2) and a consequence of Minor (2).

This risk will be mitigated by adopting the maximum fee within the SAT-approved range, ensuring clear alignment with sector standards and fair compensation for the expertise and commitment required of Independent Members.

### **OPTIONS**

Option 1 – Adopt officer’s recommendation

Option 2 – Amend officer’s recommendation

Option 3 – Do not adopt officer’s recommendation

### **CONCLUSION**

The Salaries and Allowances Tribunal has updated the prescribed fee range for committee members effective 1 January 2026, requiring the Town to revise its adopted sitting fee for Independent ARIC Members.

Approval of the updated fee ensures:

- Statutory compliance,
- Alignment with the sector, and
- Committee members are remunerated appropriately for attendance of the meeting.

This report recommends Council adopt the updated meeting fee and replace its earlier decision from 29 October 2025.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Local Government CEO and Elected Council Members Determination Variation No 1 of 2025 [**12.1.5.1** - 2 pages]
2. Council Decision CM202526-149 [**12.1.5.2** - 1 page]

## 12.2 Community Services

<b>12.2.1</b>	<b>2022-2025 Youth Development Plan Review</b>
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**Author:** **Manager of Youth & Community Development**  
**Authorising Officer:** **Director Community Services**  
**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

### CM202627/134 COUNCIL DECISION

**MOVED: CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge**

**SECONDED: CMM Ronald Yuryevich**

#### OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

#### That Council

- 1. Receive and note the Annual Progress Report on the Youth Development Plan 2022–2025 for the 2025–2026 reporting period, in accordance with the Plan’s annual reporting requirements.**
- 2. Endorse the progression to the next phase of the Town’s youth development strategic direction, noting that insights from the Youth Development Plan will guide the creation of the new Youth Action Plan as part of the broader Community Services Strategy.**

***CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*

*Against: Nil*

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present Council with the outcomes, impacts, and key achievements delivered through the Town of Port Hedland’s Youth Development Plan 2022–2025, as the Plan concludes its implementation cycle.

## DETAIL

The Youth Development Plan 2022–2025, endorsed by Council on 27 April 2022, established a bold and future-focused vision for young people in Hedland to feel included, supported, empowered, and inspired. Over its three-year implementation period, the plan operated as a strategic, flexible, and responsive framework guiding the Town’s youth development activity.

As required, the Town provides annual reporting on the implementation of the Youth Development Plan to ensure transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement. These reports track progress against the plan’s objectives, highlight key

achievements, and support informed decision-making for future youth development priorities.

Drawing on local aspirations, industry best practice, and evidence-based approaches, the plan provided a coordinated structure to strengthen youth engagement, wellbeing, opportunity, and community connection.

The plan aimed to:

- Summarise the lived realities of young people in Hedland, including demographic trends, challenges, and opportunities.
- Capture youth aspirations, ideas, and expectations to ensure meaningful, community-led outcomes.
- Provide a guiding framework to ensure service alignment and coordinated delivery across programs and partners.
- Identify strategic objectives and priority initiatives for 2022–2025.
- Define measurable community outcomes and impact indicators to support monitoring, evaluation, and annual reporting.

Importantly, the plan was intentionally designed to avoid a rigid or prescriptive approach. Its adaptable structure ensured youth development activity could respond to Hedland’s dynamic environment, evolving community expectations, and emerging opportunities.

The attached Youth Development Action Plan Progress Report reflects this annual reporting requirement and outlines the breadth of work delivered across the plan’s five priority themes: Connecting and Engaging, Learning and Earning, Activating Places and Spaces, Leading and Creating, and Collaborating and Networking.

### **Integrated Outcomes and Achievements**

Across the three-year period, and captured through the Town’s annual reporting cycle, significant outcomes were achieved that align strongly with the plan’s strategic intent:

- Youth engagement at the JD Hardie Youth & Community Hub increased by 230%, rising from 40,000 pre-plan visits to more than 132,000 in Year 3, demonstrating strong growth in participation and demand for youth services.
- Programming expanded substantially, with increases in term-based activities, school holiday programs, and evening diversionary sessions—contributing to reduced anti-social behaviour and improved positive pathways for young people.
- Mental health and wellbeing initiatives were embedded across programs through events such as Skate of Mind and partnerships with headspace and WACHS, supporting early intervention and help-seeking behaviours.
- Education, training, and employment pathways were strengthened through collaborations with North Regional TAFE and Jobs & Skills, creating traineeships, apprenticeships, and leadership development opportunities.

- Cultural inclusion and connection were enhanced through partnerships with Aboriginal organisations and the delivery of NAIDOC Week celebrations, cultural workshops, and activities that affirmed identity and belonging.
- Youth leadership initiatives—including the Hedland Rising Stars Leadership Camp and Youth Advisory Council activations—empowered young people as contributors, advocates, and community changemakers.
- Sector collaboration improved significantly through the Hedland Youth Stakeholder Action Group (HYSAG), enabling shared planning, coordinated services, and the securing of more than \$337,000 in grant funding and multi-year sponsorships.

These achievements collectively demonstrate the impact of the Youth Development Plan in strengthening youth wellbeing, participation, opportunity, and community connection, while contributing to a more coordinated and resilient youth services ecosystem across Hedland

### **LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 'Significant Decision Making', this matter is considered to be of **low significance**, as it relates to noting the completion of an endorsed plan rather than introducing new commitments

### **CONSULTATION**

#### *Internal*

- Youth Development Team collaborated with relevant business units to compile outcomes and learnings.

#### *External Agencies*

- Input was sought from youth service providers through HYSAG and stakeholder engagement processes.

#### *Community*

- Youth voice was embedded throughout the plan via co-design workshops, forums, and surveys.

### **LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

There are no statutory obligations requiring the Town to prepare or report on a Youth Development Plan. However, the Town's youth development work aligns with several key legislative and policy frameworks that guide local government functions, youth wellbeing, and community development, including:

- Local Government Act 1995 (WA)
- Children and Community Services Act 2004 (WA)
- WA Government's 'Our Priorities' and related youth-focused initiatives
- Town of Port Hedland Strategic Community Plan 2020–2030

These frameworks collectively support the Town's approach to youth development, though none impose mandatory reporting requirements for this Plan.

## **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial or resource implications associated with this report, as it relates to noting progress on an existing, Council-endorsed plan. All activities delivered under the Youth Development Plan 2022–2025 were undertaken within approved operational budgets and existing staff resources. Any future resourcing requirements arising from the development of the new Youth Action Plan will be presented to Council for consideration as part of future budgeting processes.

## **STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

### **Council Plan:**

The following sections of the Town's *Council Plan 2025-2035* apply in consideration of this item:

#### Our Community:

1.1.2 Community needs and gaps in health provision are identified and delivered.

1.1.3 Youth services and facilities are implemented with regular input from youth and providers.

1.1.4 Partnerships with stakeholders to deliver sport and recreation are enhanced.

1.1.6 Town-wide health, safety, recreation and sporting activities and services are promoted.

1.2.3 Forums and activities to give a voice to youth, people with a disability, ageing, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CaLD) people are recognised and supported.

1.3.1 The community, industry, arts and cultural organisations are engaged in identifying, planning and coordinating events and activities.

1.4.4 Community services and facilities are well promoted.

There are no significant identifiable environmental, social or economic impacts relating to this item.

### **Access and Inclusion**

The following outcome of the Town's *Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2026* apply in relation to this item:

- Outcome 1 – Events and Services

### **Council Plan:**

The following service of the Town's *Council Plan 2025-2035* apply in relation to this item:

#### Our Community:

Youth Services: Deliver youth-focused programs and initiatives in collaboration with local partners, creating safe, engaging spaces and opportunities for young people to thrive.

**RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>Risk Type</b>	Operational
<b>Risk Category</b>	Compliance
<b>Cause</b>	There are operational and strategic risks associated with this item due to community sentiment regarding the delivery of strategic initiatives and the potential for conflict in priorities across the youth sector and broader community.
<b>Effect (Consequence)</b>	Could impact the Town’s reputation and existing stakeholder relationships.
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	Noting the outcomes achieved within associated timeframes and communicating these effectively to the community.
<p>There is a reputational risk associated with this item, caused by the potential for conflicting priorities within the community. The Youth Development Plan provides the vision, framework, and practical directions required to support positive youth development outcomes and ensures that Youth Services activities remain strategically aligned.</p> <p>The risk rating is considered to be Low (1) which is determined by a likelihood of Unlikely (2) and a consequence of Insignificant (1).</p> <p>This risk will be accepted through the formal noting of the outcomes achieved within the associated timeframes and by communicating these outcomes effectively to the community.</p>	

**OPTIONS**

Option 1 – Adopt officer’s recommendation

**CONCLUSION**

The Youth Development Plan 2022–2025 has delivered strong outcomes for young people in Hedland, strengthening the Town’s leadership, partnerships, and program delivery. The achievements outlined in the Progress Report show increased youth participation, greater program diversity, improved learning and employment pathways, and deeper cultural inclusion, supported by strong collaboration and external investment.

As the plan concludes, noting these outcomes provides a clear foundation for the Town’s next phase of youth development work. Insights gained through the plan will directly inform the new Youth Action Plan, which will form part of the broader Community Services Strategy. This Strategy will bring all Community Services units under a cohesive strategic framework, ensuring each develops an aligned operational plan with clear, measurable actions.

This approach responds to the recent audit, identifying the need to streamline the number of strategies and actions within Community Services. By aligning this work with the development of the Major Strategic Plan, the Town will maximise the value of community engagement, reduce consultation fatigue, and ensure consistent priorities. This next phase will embed youth needs within a coordinated,

evidence-based structure that supports the evolving aspirations of Hedland's young people.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. 2022-2025 Town of Port Hedland-Youth Development Plan Review [**12.2.1.1** - 20 pages]
2. 2022-2025 Youth Development Plan Report [**12.2.1.2** - 13 pages]

<b>12.2.2</b>	<b>2026-2029 Town of Port Hedland Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan - Project Proposal &amp; Roadmap</b>
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**Author:** **Manager of Youth & Community Development**  
**Authorising Officer:** **Director Community Services**  
**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

**CM202627/135 COUNCIL DECISION**

**MOVED: CMM Ronald Yuryevich**                      **SECONDED: CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge**

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- 1. Endorse the Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan development framework and timelines (April–December 2026) and**
- 2. Note the draft will be submitted to Reconciliation Australia for review prior to Council consideration of adoption.**

***CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*  
*Against: Nil*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council endorsement of the Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) development framework and timelines that ensure an inclusive, Elder-led process, with the draft to be reviewed by Reconciliation Australia prior to Council consideration.

**DETAIL**

The Town adopted an Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (2016–2019) as its inaugural RAP, articulating actions across the pillars of Relationships, Respect, and Opportunities, including commitments related to employment, procurement, and cultural recognition.

In 2024, the Town developed the Ngalikuru Kuma-Marri Plan (Hedland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnership Plan 2024–2028) following extensive community consultation. However, the draft plan was not adopted by the Council.

In December 2025, the Town undertook preliminary consultation with the Commissioners to outline the direction, intent, and expectations for the development of the Reconciliation Action Plan. During this process, Commissioners emphasised the

importance of ensuring that newly elected Council members are fully informed and actively engaged in the progression of this work.

The next step seeks Council endorsement of the proposed framework that will guide how the Reconciliation Action Plan will be developed, including engagement pathways, governance structure, and key milestones. This framework reflects the direction provided by Commissioners and ensures that new Council members are positioned at the forefront of shaping and supporting the Plan as it moves into its formal development stage.

While the document itself does not hold formal status, the community's insights gathered through this process remain valuable, authentic, and place specific. To avoid duplicating effort and contributing to consultation fatigue, these insights will be used as a foundation for developing the new RAP, subject to revalidation with Kariyarra, Ngarla and Nyamal representatives and Aboriginal community stakeholders.

Taking this framework first approach, rather than drafting a RAP at this stage, ensures the plan is co-created with the right cultural partners from the outset, strengthening its legitimacy, accuracy, and likelihood of Council and community endorsement.

### **Methodology**

The Town will build the new RAP on the foundation of prior community engagement undertaken for the Ngalikuru KumaMarri Draft Plan (2024–2028). While that plan was not adopted by Council, the community's insights it captured remain authentic and relevant.

### ***External Reference Group and Co-Led Approach***

To ensure the RAP 2026–2029 is genuinely codesigned, the Town will establish an External Reference Group comprising Kariyarra, Ngarla and Nyamal representatives, local Elders, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members, and key Aboriginal controlled organisations. This group will work alongside the Internal Conciliation Working Group to guide all stages of RAP development.

This model reflects best practice in culturally grounded decision making and ensures that the direction, priorities, language and cultural integrity of the RAP are shaped directly by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with lived connection to Hedland.

To respect community contributions and reduce consultation fatigue, we will reuse those insights as a starting point and re-validate them through yarning sessions and targeted workshops. This approach recognises the 2016–2019 Innovate RAP pillars (*Relationships, Respect, Opportunities*) while updating goals, measures and timeframes for 2026–2029.

The External Reference Group will:

- provide cultural oversight and ensure the RAP reflects locally held knowledge, priorities and aspirations
- guide revalidation of insights from the Ngalikuru Kuma- Marri consultations
- advise on appropriate cultural protocols, permissions and use of artwork, stories and images

- review draft actions and measurement frameworks to ensure cultural safety and community alignment
- support pathways for ongoing relationship building beyond the life of the RAP

This blended structure with the Internal Conciliation Working Group + External Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reference Group ensures the RAP is not only operationally owned within the Town, but also cogoverned with community, reflecting a shared approach to reconciliation and strengthening place-based decision making.

### ***Alignment to an Innovate RAP***

Through this process, the Town of Port Hedland will be aiming to align with an Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). An Innovate RAP is designed for organisations that have already begun their reconciliation journey and are ready to deepen their commitments by developing structured, measurable actions across the pillars of Relationships, Respect and Opportunities. Reconciliation Australia describes the Innovate RAP as a crucial phase where organisations strengthen foundations, build internal capability and embed reconciliation actions more consistently across their operations.

Development of an Innovate RAP follows a structured, nationally recognised process facilitated by Reconciliation Australia, including registration, drafting against required templates, and multiple rounds of formal review and feedback to ensure the RAP meets national standards. This process ensures strong governance, cultural integrity and accountability, with Reconciliation Australia providing guidance to support organisations in translating intention into action.

### ***Review of Previous RAP (2016–2019)***

Before drafting the RAP 2026–2029, the Town will undertake a structured review of the Innovate RAP 2016–2019 to assess which actions were completed, which were not progressed, and what lessons can inform the next plan. This RAP remains the Town's only adopted reconciliation framework and provides an important baseline for measuring improvement. This review will support transparency, ensure continuity, and help the Town build a stronger, more deliverable RAP aligned with current community priorities.

## **ISSUES**

The *Ngalikuru KumaMarri Plan (2024–2028)* was released as a draft for consultation and was not adopted by the Council. Using content without clarifying this could imply unintended endorsement. To mitigate this, the Town will clearly state in all materials that the plan was a draft, was not adopted, and that only community insights, not the document itself, are being carried forward for revalidation.

The draft includes artwork, images, cultural stories, and other material where permissions may not transfer, given the plan was never formally adopted.

Officers will seek consent from artists, contributors and cultural knowledge holders before using any artwork, photos, maps or quotes.

Historical content within the draft is noted as contested and evolving and may not reflect the views of all Aboriginal groups. Officers will verify all historical timelines and

cultural narratives with Elders and cultural advisors to ensure accuracy, cultural safety, and shared agreement.

All these issues identified will be addressed before any content informed by the draft consultation is incorporated into the development of the new RAP, ensuring cultural safety, accuracy, and procedural transparency.

### **LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 'Significant Decision Making', this matter is considered to be of medium significance, because:

- Significant - Any issue, proposal, decision or other matter that will substantially affect a wide range of people who reside in Port Hedland.
- Significant - The matter will have implications for the present and future social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of Port Hedland.

### **CONSULTATION**

#### *Internal*

- Director Community Services
- Community Development & Engagement

#### *External Agencies*

- Reconciliation Australia (RAP development requirements)

#### *Community*

- Nil

### **LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

- S3.1 Local Government Act 1995
- Reconciliation Australia RAP Framework
- Town of Port Hedland Strategic Community Plan 2022–2032
- Council Plan 2025–2035
- Community Development Plan 2022–2027

### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The development of the Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan will be delivered primarily through existing operational budgets. A dedicated allocation of \$20,000 has been identified in the Directors budget and will support facilitation, cultural consultation, design, engagement activities, and a public launch. This funding ensures the Town can undertake a culturally informed and well-supported planning process while maintaining strong community and stakeholder engagement throughout development.

### **STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

#### **Council Plan**

The following sections of the Town’s *Council Plan 2025-2035* apply in consideration of this item:

**Environmental**

Nil

**Economic**

Supports local Aboriginal engagement opportunities and capability building.

**Social**

Promotes social cohesion, cultural recognition, and meaningful engagement with Traditional Owners.

**Access and Inclusion**

The following outcomes of the Town’s *Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2026* apply in relation to this item:

- Outcome 1 – Events and Services
- Outcome 2 – Buildings and Facilities
- Outcome 3 – Accessible Information
- Outcome 4 – Quality of Service
- Outcome 5 – Opportunities for Feedback
- Outcome 6 – Public Consultation
- Outcome 7 – Employment Opportunities
- Outcome 8 – Advocate for an Increase in Inclusion

**RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>Risk Type</b>	Operational Strategic
<b>Risk Category</b>	Reputational
<b>Cause</b>	Failure to deliver a culturally informed and timely Innovate RAP.
<b>Effect (Consequence)</b>	Reduced community trust, diminished relationships with Traditional Owners, and reputational harm to the Town.
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	Implement structured project governance, adhere to approved timelines, and ensure consistent engagement with key Aboriginal stakeholders and Reconciliation Australia.
There is an Operational and Strategic risk associated with this item caused by delays or insufficient engagement, leading to reputational impact and reduced stakeholder confidence.	

The risk rating is Low (3), determined by a likelihood of Likely (4) and a consequence of Minor (2).

This risk will be accepted and mitigated through structured project management and ongoing engagement with stakeholders.

### **OPTIONS**

Option 1 – Adopt officer’s recommendation

### **CONCLUSION**

The Innovate RAP development timelines provide a clear, achievable, and culturally respectful pathway for progressing the Town’s reconciliation commitments.

Endorsing this schedule enables a structured and accountable process that is grounded in genuine partnership with Traditional Owners, Elders, and Aboriginal stakeholders.

This approach ensures the final RAP reflects community expectations, aligns with organisational capacity, and meets Reconciliation Australia’s requirements. By establishing this foundation, the Town positions itself for deeper collaboration and stronger reconciliation outcomes in the years ahead.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Town of Port Hedland - Innovate RAP Proposal [**12.2.2.1** - 8 pages]

## 12.3 Regulatory Services

### 12.3.1 Visitor Centre Quarterly Report October – December 2025

**Author:** Coordinator Visitor Services

**Authorising Officer:** Director Regulatory Services

**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

#### CM202627/136 COUNCIL DECISION

**MOVED:** CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge

**SECONDED:** CMM Ronald Yuryevich

#### OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

**That Council:**

**Receives the quarterly report from the Port Hedland Peace Memorial Seafarers' Centre Incorporated for the management of the Port Hedland Visitor Centre for the fourth quarter, October – December 2025.**

***CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*

*Against: Nil*

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the financial and general operational report of the Port Hedland Visitor Centre, managed by Port Hedland Peace Memorial Seafarers' Centre Incorporated (Seafarers') for from October – December 2025. More specifically, this report addresses the reporting requirements outlined in clause 24.2 in the Management Agreement between Port Hedland Peace Memorial Seafarers' Centre Incorporated and the Town of Port Hedland.

#### DETAIL

The contract for the management of the Port Hedland Visitor Centre was agreed between the Town of Port Hedland and Seafarers' for the period 1 November 2024 to 31 October 2026 with three x 12-month optional extensions. These extensions will not be utilised, as Council adopted a resolution at the 29 October 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting to bring the Port Hedland Visitor Centre service in-house from 1 November 2026.

Under clause 24.2 of the agreement, Port Hedland Seafarers' Centre Inc. is to provide the Town with a quarterly report, including details of the following:

- Financial
- KPIs

- Service providers
- Business Plan
- Patronage, tour bookings and sales
- Maintenance and capital expenditure
- Any other information reasonably required by the town

Desired outcomes of the agreement with the Port Hedland Peace Memorial Seafarers' Centre incorporated are as follows:

- A friendly and professional face to face welcome to visitors with a consistently high quality, free information service to provide visitors to Port Hedland with a consistently high quality, free information service to provide visitors to Port Hedland with insights into the region and distribute information about tourist products available in the region.
- A comprehensive range of local, regional and state-wide brochures, maps and directional information both in hard copy and available electronically.
- Information and booking service for accommodation and tours.
- Information on attractions, events, retail outlets, local services, road conditions and transport options.
- High quality customer service to visitors to the Visitor Centre
- A focus on continuous improvement and service growth at the facility.
- A safe, clean and hygienic environment for staff, customers and other visitors.
- Strong, accountable financial management; and
- Clear, concise and accurate reporting on the operations of the facility. The attached quarterly report outlines the progress made by the Seafarers' in the period October – December 2025.

### **Reported performance against annual budget**

Performance against the annual budget is attached to this report as attachment 4 (confidential).

### **Reported performance against current KPIs**

Performance against current KPIs is attached to this report as attachment 3.

### **Digital media performance**

The Town manages the social media and website for the Port Hedland Visitor Centre in consultation with Centre staff. Attachment 5 provides a summary of digital engagement on Facebook and the website from June to October 2025.

### **Notable events for the reporting period**

- The total walk-in traffic for the reporting period was 4,640. This figure is reported to be understated due to no data being reported from 5 – 10

October due to maintenance work on the air conditioning units. In comparison, the same period the year prior recorded walk-in traffic of 4,234.

- Assisted with 47 telephone enquiries.
- For this quarter, the Port Hedland Visitor Centre reported 317 Seafarers' Harbour Tour bookings, with the tour capacity increased due to a new vessel launching October 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Staff attended training via the Visitor Centre Academy in Perth.
- Expansion of retail range to include local and Indigenous bush medicine products, including Bush Balms and natural bush soap and scrub bars
- Strong community engagement including twilight Christmas markets, Santa's Grotto, coordinating and the distribution of prizes for the Elf Hunt, redesigning and distribution of new resident and FIFO welcome packs.
- In November, the PHVC hosted the North West Tourism CEO Bill Tatchell and former ANW Chair Linda Wayman during their visit to town. The visit included a complimentary Seafarers Harbour Tour and Port Authority Control Tower Tour, followed by a networking luncheon with local businesses and stakeholders. This visit strengthened industry relationships and highlighted Port Hedland's tourism offerings.

### **LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 'Significant Decision Making', this matter is considered to be of low significance, because: The Port Hedland Visitor Centre has a positive impact on tourism services and programs provided by the town

### **CONSULTATION**

#### *Internal*

- Director Regulatory Service
- Manager Planning & Economic Development

#### *External Agencies*

- Nil

#### *Community*

- Nil

### **LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

Nil

### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The management fee for the Port Hedland Visitor Centre was approved by Council at the 25 September 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting (CM202425/154).

### **STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

### **Council Plan**

The following sections of the Town’s *Council Plan 2025-2035* apply in consideration of this item:

Our Community:

We honour our people and our cultural heritage – ensuring wellbeing, diversity, creativity and strong civic engagement and dialogue.

1.4 Well-utilised and valued community facilities and services

Our Economy: We build prosperity for all – enabling sustained and diversified economic and employment growth.

2.3 Marketing and promotion

Our Leadership: We are united in our actions to connect, listen, support and advocate, thereby leveraging the potential of our people, places and resources.

4.3 Effective delivery of services and infrastructure to meet community needs

### ***Environmental***

The Port Hedland Visitor Centre promotes and engages visitors and locals on the natural and environmental tourism opportunities in and around Port Hedland, such as reef walking tours and turtle observations.

### ***Economic***

The economic benefits of having a well-managed Visitor Centre include developing a positive narrative about the town and attracting visitors to the region and increasing length of stay and visitor expenditure in the community.

### ***Social***

Nil

### **Access and Inclusion**

The following outcomes of the Town’s *Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2026* apply in relation to this item:

- Outcome 2 – Buildings and Facilities
- Outcome 3 – Accessible Information
- Outcome 4 – Quality of Service

### **RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>Risk Type</b>	Operational
<b>Risk Category</b>	Reputational
<b>Cause</b>	Perception that the Town has not performed its commitment to provide visitor services to tourist and the community

<b>Effect (Consequence)</b>	Dissatisfaction among visitors and stakeholder, service disruption, and negative impact on the towns reputation and relationship with the community.
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	Council supports the officer’s recommendation.
<p>There is a/an Operational risk associated with this item caused by the perception of a lack of commitment to the provision of the visitor services, leading to dissatisfaction among visitors and other stakeholders.</p> <p>The risk rating is considered to be Low (4) which is determined by a likelihood of Unlikely (2) and a consequence of Minor (2).</p> <p>This risk will be treated by the adoption of the officer’s recommendations</p>	

**OPTIONS**

- Option 1 – Adopt officer’s recommendation
- Option 2 – Amend officer’s recommendation
- Option 3 – Do not adopt officer’s recommendation

**CONCLUSION**

This report is provided to inform Council of the operational progress made by the Seafarers’ from October – December 2025 in its role as the operator of the Port Hedland Visitor Centre.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. PHVC Oct- Dec 2025 Report [**12.3.1.1** - 14 pages]
2. PHVC Visitor Comments Oct to Dec 2025 [**12.3.1.2** - 1 page]
3. PHVC KPI Oct to Dec 2025 [**12.3.1.3** - 2 pages]
4. CONFIDENTIAL - PHVC Financials Oct to Dec 2025 and notes [**12.3.1.4** - 2 pages]
5. PHVC - Monthly Engagement Report Oct 2025 - Feb 2026 [**12.3.1.5** - 5 pages]

<b>12.3.2</b>	<b>Scheme Amendment No. 6 to LPS 7 - Short Term Rental Accommodation - Final Adoption</b>
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**Author:** Senior Strategic Planner  
**Authorising Officer:** Manager Planning & Economic Development  
**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

**CM202627/137 COUNCIL DECISION**

**MOVED:** CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge      **SECONDED:** CMM Ronald Yuryevich

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**  
**That Council:**

- 1. Adopts for final approval Scheme Amendment 6 to the Town of Port Hedland Local Planning Scheme No.7 pursuant to section 75 of the *Planning and Development Act 2005* and Regulation 50 of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015*, as detailed in Attachment 1, without modification.**
- 2. Notes the submissions received on Scheme Amendment 6 to Town of Port Hedland Local Planning Scheme No. 7, included as Attachment 2 and 3.**
- 3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer and Mayor to execute documents pursuant to Regulation 53 of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* and provide the Western Australian Planning Commission a copy of Scheme Amendment 6 and relevant documents for final approval by the Minister for Planning.**

***CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*  
*Against: Nil*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to note the submissions received during public advertising and consider supporting the proposed Scheme Amendment No. 6 to Local Planning Scheme No. 7 (LPS 7).

**DETAIL**

The purpose of Scheme Amendment No. 6 is to amend the Town’s LPS 7 to incorporate the State Government’s planning reforms for short-term rental accommodation (STRA) uses, as outlined in the *Short-Term Rental Accommodation Act 2024*, amendments to

the *Planning & Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* (Regulations) and 'Planning Bulletin 115/2024 Short-Term Rental Accommodation (STRA) – Guidance for Local Government'.

The changes introduce a consistent set of definitions for STRA to be used within all local government planning schemes in Western Australia, to ensure that STRA is treated as a specific type of land use, distinct from 'traditional accommodation' such as hotels, motels and serviced apartments.

**Attachment 1 – Scheme Amendment Report** provides a detailed explanation of the proposed amendment and its justification, consistent with the State's direction.

At its Special Council Meeting (SCM) held on 16 October 2025, Council carried resolution SCM202526/146, to initiate Scheme Amendment No. 6 of the Town's LPS7. Under the Regulations, the amendment is considered 'standard', and as such has been referred to the Minister for Planning and then advertised to the public in accordance with the *Planning and Development Act 2005*.

If supported by Council, Scheme Amendment No. 6 will be referred to the Minister for Planning for endorsement.

### **LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 'Significant Decision Making', this matter is considered to be of low significance, because advertising will be undertaken in line with the Regulations.

### **CONSULTATION**

#### *External Agencies & Government Departments*

- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
- Department of Fire and Emergency Services
- Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation
- Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
- Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
- Pilbara Development Commission
- Port Hedland Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Mainroads WA
- Horizon Power

- Telstra
- Water Corporation

Four (4) responses were received from the below public authorities:

- Department of Fire and Emergency Services
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
- Water Corporation.

The four responses received did not necessitate any amendments to the proposed draft Scheme Amendment. The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) advised that Amendments for the use classes and definitions for short term accommodation meet class 33C(2)(d) of the Regulations and therefore need not be referred to the EPA.

Clause 83A approval to advertise was received from the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage on 15 December 2025.

Details of the submissions and responses are included in **Attachment 2 - Schedule of Submissions** and **Attachment 3** contains the submissions in full.

### *Community*

In line with the LPS Regulations, community engagement included:

- Publication of a public notice in a newspaper circulating in the scheme area (the North West Telegraph).
- Display of a copy of the public notices section of the Town's website.
- Availability of copies of the amendment documentation for public inspection at the Town administration front desk and website.

The amendment was advertised for public consultation from 7 January to 23 February 2026, for a total of 47 days.

No responses were received.

### **LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

- Planning and Development Act 2005
- Short-Term Rental 2 Accommodation Act 2024
- Environmental Protection Act 1986
- Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015

- Planning Bulletin 115/2024 Short-Term Rental Accommodation (STRA) – Guidance for Local Government
- Town of Port Hedland Local Planning Scheme No. 7.

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

**Council Plan**

The following sections of the Town’s *Council Plan 2025-2035* apply in consideration of this item:

Our Economy:

We build prosperity for all – enabling sustained and diversified economic and employment growth.

2.1 Business and job growth

Our Natural and Built Environment: We treasure and protect our natural environment and provide sustainable and resilient infrastructure and built form.

3.2 Safe and fit-for-purpose built environment

There are no significant identifiable environmental, social or economic impacts relating to this item.

**Access and Inclusion**

The following outcomes of the Town’s *Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2026* apply in relation to this item:

Nil

**RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>Risk Type</b>	Strategic
<b>Risk Category</b>	Compliance
<b>Cause</b>	Not proceeding with the amendment
<b>Effect (Consequence)</b>	The Town's Local Planning Scheme No. 7 is not consistent with the State planning framework, reducing clarity for future STRA developers around the requirements for development approval.
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	Endorsing the Officer Recommendation
There is a Strategic risk associated with this item caused by not proceeding with the amendment, leading to the Town's Local Planning Scheme No. 7 not being consistent with the State planning framework, reducing clarity for future STRA developers around the requirements for development approval.	

The risk rating is considered to be Medium (8) which is determined by a likelihood of Likely (4) and a consequence of Minor (2).

This risk will be treated by the endorsing the Officer Recommendation.

### **OPTIONS**

Option 1 – Adopt officer’s recommendation

Option 2 – Amend officer’s recommendation

Option 3 – Do not adopt officer’s recommendation

### **CONCLUSION**

Scheme Amendment No. 6 is required to implement the State Government’s planning reforms for short-term rental accommodation uses. The proposed amendment is considered to be a ‘standard amendment’ under the Regulations as it is consistent with the Local Planning Strategy. It is not considered that it will have significant adverse environmental, social or economic impacts. It is recommended that Council note the submissions received and resolve to adopt Scheme Amendment No. 6.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Scheme Amendment No. 6 Report [**12.3.2.1** - 15 pages]
2. Schedule of Submissions [**12.3.2.2** - 2 pages]
3. Submissions in Full [**12.3.2.3** - 5 pages]

**12.4 Infrastructure Services**

<b>12.4.1</b>	<b>South Hedland Cemetery</b>
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**Author:** Senior Infrastructure Operations Officer  
**Authorising Officer:** Manager Infrastructure Operations  
 Director Infrastructure Services  
**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorising Officers declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

**CM202627/138 COUNCIL DECISION**

**MOVED:** CMM Ronald Yuryevich                      **SECONDED:** CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- 1. Note the current utilisation and remaining capacity at the South Hedland Cemetery.**
- 2. Note the constraints associated with the dedicated Muslim burial section (P Block).**
- 3. Endorse the commencement of planning investigations, concept development and cost estimation for the Stage 2 cemetery extension, aligned to current upgrade works and the South Hedland Cemetery Masterplan.**
- 4. Require a further report to be presented to Council including concept design, cost estimates, staging options and delivery program suitable for consideration in future capital works budgets and should be delivered as part of the Capital Works Program**
- 5. Note a further report on the possible formation of a "Friends of the Cemetery" Advisory Group.**

***CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*  
*Against: Nil*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the current utilization and capacity of the South Hedland Cemetery, clarify constraints within the dedicated Muslim burial area (P Block), and seek endorsement to commence planning for a Stage 2 cemetery extension for consideration in the 2027/28 capital budget. (Attachment 1)

**DETAIL****Current Cemetery Utilisation**

Currently the Town has a burial rate of approximately 30 per annum.

A detailed audit of cemetery plots has been undertaken using the Synergy cemetery register, supported by updated GIS mapping. Key findings include:

- Total usable plots: 2,291
- Current utilization (occupied + reserved): ~74.5% (Attachments 2 and 3))
- Plots recorded as "Unavailable" have been excluded from calculations.  
(Unavailable plots include groundwater issues, tree roots etc).

**Dedicated Muslim Burial Section (P Block)**

P Block is designated exclusively for Muslim burials. The 168 vacant plots in P Block are dedicated capacity for Muslims and cannot be included in general vacancy calculations for the cemetery. This reduces the number of plots available for the general community. The utilization of P Block is currently at 5% and there is enough capacity for the foreseeable future.

**General Capacity Outlook**

Q Block is currently operational and will provide short- to medium-term capacity. However, capacity can be consumed rapidly due to bulk family reservations. Without forward planning, the Town risks reaching a full capacity, potentially requiring reactive planning and delivery of new plots with compressed timelines.

**Stage 2 Cemetery Extension**

The South Hedland Cemetery Masterplan identifies an adjacent land area suitable for a cemetery extension. The land is Crown Land vested with the Town of Port Hedland for use as a cemetery. (Attachment 4) Early planning work is required to:

- Confirm achievable site layout
- Develop cost estimates
- Prepare staging and sequencing
- Enable delivery decisions through the 2027/28 budget process

This will help ensure capacity continuity, cultural sensitivity and coordinated asset planning.

**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 *Significant Decision Making*, this matter is of low significance as it relates to planning activities that logically flow from existing strategic direction and master planning work.

## **CONSULTATION**

### *Internal*

Director Infrastructure  
Manager Infrastructure Operations

### *External Agencies*

Nil

### *Community*

Nil at this stage. Community engagement will be undertaken as part of the concept and design phases.

## **LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

Cemeteries Act (WA) 1986

## **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

No construction funding is being sought at this time. Approval is requested for planning and design development only, which will inform the 2027/28 capital budget. A minor allocation may be required in 2026/27 to support preliminary investigations, and this will be covered in operational budgets.

## **STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

### **Council Plan:**

The following section of the Town's *Council Plan 2025-2035* applies in consideration of this item:

#### Our community:

1.1.2 Community needs and gaps in health provision are identified and delivered.

### ***Environmental***

Nil

### ***Economic***

Nil

### ***Social***

Cemetery services are sensitive and time-critical. Early planning for additional capacity ensures:

- culturally appropriate services
- minimal disruption to families
- sustained community confidence
- reduced reputational risk

The Town has been informed there is a group of community members who would like to re-establish a “Friends of the Cemetery” group. The Council could consider this as part of establishing committees and/or other advisory groups. Town staff will provide a report to a future Council meeting on the establishment of such a group.

**Access and Inclusion**

The following outcome of the Town’s *Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2026* apply in relation to this item:

- Outcome 4 – Quality of Service

**Council Plan:**

The following service of the Town’s *Council Plan 2025-2035* apply in relation to this item:

**Cemeteries:** South Hedland Cemetery; maintenance of closed Port Hedland Cemetery

**RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>Risk Type</b>	Strategic
<b>Risk Category</b>	Reputational
<b>Cause</b>	Delayed planning leading to future capacity shortage
<b>Effect (Consequence)</b>	Reduced service availability, community dissatisfaction, reputational harm.
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	Initiate planning and staging for the cemetery extension

There is a Strategic risk associated with this item caused by reputational, leading to Reduced service availability, community dissatisfaction, reputational harm. The risk rating is considered to be Low (4) which is determined by a likelihood of Possible (3) and a consequence of Minor (2). This risk will be avoided by initiating the planning and staging for the cemetery extension.

**OPTIONS**

- Option 1 – Adopt officer’s recommendation  
Supports proactive cemetery capacity planning and aligns with strategic documents.
- Option 2 – Amend officer’s recommendation

Council may choose to alter scope, timing or reporting requirements.

Option 3 – Do not adopt officer’s recommendation

This option may result in insufficient future burial capacity and increased delivery risks.

### **CONCLUSION**

The South Hedland Cemetery is nearing 75% utilization, with limitations on general-use plots due to dedicated areas such as P Block which is used for Muslim burials. To avoid a capacity shortfall and ensure culturally appropriate and uninterrupted burial services, early planning for a Stage 2 extension is essential. The officer’s recommendation enables development of concept design, staging, and cost estimates to support Council’s 2027/28 capital budget deliberations.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. SOHCL Masterplan Report Extract Extension Stage 2 [**12.4.1.1** - 5 pages]
2. South Hedland Cemetery Utilization Analysis [**12.4.1.2** - 1 page]
3. South Hedland Plot map [**12.4.1.3** - 1 page]
4. South Hedland Cemetery Reserve Status [**12.4.1.4** - 1 page]

<b>12.4.2</b>	<b>Staff Housing Strategy</b>
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**Author:** Senior Project Officer Business  
**Authorising Officer:** Director Infrastructure Services  
**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorizing Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

**CM202627/139 COUNCIL DECISION**

**MOVED:** CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge      **SECONDED:** CMM Ronald Yuryevich

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- 1. Adopts the Staff Housing Strategy as per attachment 1, as a guiding policy document pursuant to s.2.7(2) of the *Local Government Act 1995*;**
- 2. Acknowledges that any future actions arising from the Staff Housing Strategy will be presented to Council or otherwise progressed in accordance with the Town's Annual Budget processes; and**
- 3. Instructs the Chief Executive Officer to integrate the Staff Housing Strategy into the Town's Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, including future reviews of the Council Plan and Long-Term Financial Plan.**
- 4. Instructs the Chief Executive Officer to produce an Operational Plan to underpin the implementation of the Staff Housing Strategy.**

***CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*

*Against: Nil*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to present the Draft Staff Housing Strategy (the Strategy) to Council for adoption.

The Strategy responds to the Town of Port Hedland's (the Town's) confirmed shortfall of approximately 29 staff dwellings, rising to around 40 by 2035, and provides a range of evidence-based options to support attraction, retention, and operational continuity in a high-cost, constrained housing market.

**DETAIL**

*Background*

The Council has considered a number of proposals for the purchase of staff housing. The most recent proposal was for a 15 house off the plan development in Captains Way South Hedland. The Town undertook a major land transaction process which went out for public consultation. When the plan came back to Council for adoption at its April 2024 OCM the motion lapsed for want of a seconder.

**CM202425/345 COUNCIL DECISION****MOVED: Deputy Mayor Ash Christensen      SECONDED: Nil****That Council:**

- 1. Notes that the Business Plan for Major Land Transaction – Proposal for Purchase of Residential Property for use of Staff Housing has been advertised in accordance with Section 3.59 of the *Local Government Act 1995*;**
- 2. Notes that no public submissions were received during the advertising period in relation to the proposed transaction; and**
- 3. Adopts the Business Case for the Major Land Transaction – Proposal for Purchase of Residential Property for use of Staff Housing.**

***MOTION LAPSED FOR WANT OF SECONDER***

The Town considered the purchase of units at Clam Court at its May 2024 OCM. The motion was not supported by Absolute Majority.

**CM202324/282 COUNCIL DECISION****MOVED: Cr Sven Arentz      SECONDED: Cr Lorraine Butson****That Council:**

- 1. Approves the purchase of four (4) units at Clam Court, South Hedland.**
- 2. Pursuant to section 6.8 of the Local Government Act 1995 authorise the expenditure be funded from the Town of Port Hedland Housing Reserve.**
- 3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute the legal instruments within the delegations set within the report, required to realise the purchase of the said properties.**

***LOST BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY (3/3)****For: Mayor Peter Carter, Cr Sven Arentz and Cr Ambika Rebello**Against: Cr Camilo Blanco, Cr Lorraine Butson and Cr Adrian McRae*

Feedback received from the Council was that a Staff Housing Strategy should be developed to inform any future actions with regard to staff housing.

In May 2025, the Town engaged AEC Group Pty Ltd to assess staff housing needs and identify strategic responses to the Town's current and projected shortfalls. AEC consulted internal stakeholders, undertook a regional benchmarking exercise, and analysed local housing conditions, workforce patterns and demand forecasts.

Draft versions of the Strategy were then refined following a series of workshops, reviews and adjustments by both AEC and key internal stakeholders, and the final draft Strategy was presented to the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026 which confirmed support for bringing the final document to Council for adoption.

### *Strategy Findings and Options Presented*

The Strategy confirms an immediate shortfall of 29 dwellings, with demand expected to grow to approximately 40 dwellings by 2035 due to workforce expansion, ongoing recruitment requirements and eligibility settings.

The Strategy assesses eight options over a 10-year period, comparing financial, operational, and workforce outcomes. These are:

- Option 1 – Construction of new houses on Council-owned land
- Option 2 – Purchase of pre-built properties on open market
- Option 3 – Rental assistance
- Option 4 – Home ownership scheme
- Option 5 – Increased remote working
- Option 6 – Perth office placements (remote working)
- Option 7 – Long-term leasing
- Option 8 – Build-to-rent

The Strategy is not a business case for immediate action; rather, it provides a suite of approaches to be drawn from as operational requirements and budget capacity allow. It is important to note that any future decisions, including any housing acquisitions, leasing, remote working expansion or home ownership incentives, will be presented individually or integrated throughout the annual budget process for Council's approval.

The Strategy aligns with the Town's broader workforce and organizational service level objectives, as well as its ongoing commitments to support housing initiatives in the region.

### *Remote Working Considerations*

When looking at remote working options, The Town participated in a working group led by the City of Karratha that looked to understand contemporary policy settings

and effective governance practices for remote working, particularly for non-metro councils. The final Policy adopted by the City of Karratha from this working group will form the foundation for the Town's own internal procedures, ensuring a robust and well-considered framework. These procedures will specifically address and mitigate key risks associated with remote work, including performance management, staff connection and isolation, secondary employment considerations, work health and safety obligations, psychological wellbeing, industrial implications, technology requirements, and cyber security protections. This approach will enable the Town to create a balanced and sustainable remote working model that supports flexibility and addresses workforce needs while maintaining organisational accountability, productivity, and safety.

### **LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 'Significant Decision Making', this matter is of low significance, as Council already has a sound understanding of the views and preferences of the people likely to be affected by, or interested in, the proposal or decision.

### **CONSULTATION**

#### *Internal*

- Executive Leadership Team
- Director Infrastructure Services
- Director Regulatory Services
- Director Corporate Services
- Executive Manager Human Resources
- Principal Economic Development

#### *External Agencies*

- AEC Group Pty Ltd

#### *Community*

- Not required

### **LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

Section 2.7(c) of the *Local Government Act 1995* applies in relation to this item, as defining the role of Council to include strategic planning for the future of the district.

Any future financial decisions must comply with the Town's adopted policies, including:

- Procurement (2/007)
- Borrowings (2/018)
- Financial Reserves (2/019)
- Risk Management (1/022)
- Asset Management (9/010)

### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The adoption of this Strategy does not commit the Town to any expenditure.

All future expenditure resulting from this Strategy will be incorporated into the Annual Budget processes, which are subject to Council approval by absolute majority.

Each of the eight (8) options present differing financial implications over the Strategy's 10-year period, ranging between \$5.4 million to -\$26.4 million in net present values (NPVs).

The full financial profiles of each option vary significantly in both upfront and long-term cost implications. In summary:

- Construction of new dwellings requires the highest capital outlay, with estimated construction costs estimated at \$32 million over four years and an NPV of (\$20.3 million)
- Purchasing established dwellings represents the most financially efficient method, with an indicative \$19.7 million total capital cost and a lower NPV impact of (\$7.8 million)
- Rental assistance and long-term leases require no upfront capital, but result in ongoing operating commitments, plus partial Fringe Benefit Tax implications, producing NPV results of (\$11.5 million) and (\$13.9 million) respectively
- Home ownership incentives involve significant once-off contributions, future allowances and superannuation obligations, contributing to an overall NPV of (\$13.1 million)
- Remote working models offer the strongest financial benefit due to reduced regional allowance entitlements, minimized housing demand and minimal capital outlay, resulting in NPVs of \$5.4 million, and \$2.6 million respectively.

As implementation decisions are made over time, each project or action arising from the Strategy will require separate financial analysis and Council consideration.

## **STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

### **Council Plan**

The following sections of the Town's *Council Plan 2025-2035* apply in consideration of this item:

#### Our Economy:

We build prosperity for all – enabling sustained and diversified economic and employment growth.

2.4 Infrastructure for growth.

#### Our Built and Natural environment:

We treasure and protect our natural environment and provide sustainable and resilient infrastructure and built form.

3.2 Safe and fit-for-purpose built environment.

#### Our Leadership:

We are united in our actions to connect, listen, support and advocate, thereby leveraging the potential of our people, places and resources.

4.1 Global, national, state, and local presence and voice.

4.2 Transparent and accountable governance and financial sustainability.

4.3 Effective delivery of services and infrastructure to meet community needs.

### ***Environmental***

Targeted acquisition of existing dwellings avoids the environmental footprint associated with constructing new homes such as embodied carbon.

Construction of new dwellings would be undertaken on existing Town-owned land, reducing the need for additional land clearing, and would be subject to the latest energy efficient building standards. However, building new would typically involve higher material requirements to meet local climactic conditions, and increased emissions due to transportation distances.

### ***Economic***

Acquisition and construction options stimulate the local building, maintenance and trade sectors, increasing and promoting regional economic activity.

Remote working models generate savings for the Town by reducing allowances and removing the need for additional local housing, home ownership uptake contributes to local property market stability and increased household spending supports local businesses, whereas long-term leasing may inadvertently contribute to increased rental pressure in an already overpriced market.

### ***Social***

Improved staff housing access supports recruitment and retention, contributing to the continuity of essential community services. Stable accommodation promotes longer tenure, which strengthens organisational capability and improves community trust in service delivery.

Home ownership pathways encourage family relocation to the region, increasing local school participation, community involvement and participation in local clubs, volunteer groups and events.

In contrast, an increased remote workforce could lead to perceptions of diminished local presence, and if the Town increases its share of the already limited rental market, this may also increase competition for housing.

### **Access and Inclusion**

The following outcomes of the Town's *Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2026* apply in relation to this item:

- Outcome 2 – Buildings and Facilities
- Outcome 7 – Employment Opportunities

### **RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>Risk Type</b>	Operational
<b>Risk Category</b>	Service Interruption
<b>Cause</b>	Insufficient availability of staff housing to support workforce recruitment and retention, resulting in positions remaining vacant or delays in onboarding and commencement. This is made through a likelihood of Likely (4) with a consequence of Major (4) with a risk rating of High (16).
<b>Effect</b>	Reduced workforce capacity causes disruption to service delivery, operational delays, increased workload pressures on existing staff, and decreased organizational performance.
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	Implementation of a structured staff housing strategy, incorporating a mix of varying options to mitigate the immediate and long-term housing shortfall.

**OPTIONS**

- Option 1 – Adopt officer’s recommendation
- Option 2 – Amend officer’s recommendation
- Option 3 – Do not adopt officer’s recommendation

**CONCLUSION**

The proposed Staff Housing Strategy provides a clear and evidence-based framework to guide the Town’s long-term approach to addressing workforce housing constraints. The Strategy confirms an immediate shortfall of approximately 29 dwellings, escalating to around 40 dwellings by 2035, and presents a suite of options that balance cost, operational feasibility, and workforce stability. The environmental, social and economic impacts identified as a result of this Strategy demonstrate that improved access to staff housing will generate significant benefits, including continuity of essential services, reduced turnover and more stable long-term organisational performance.

The proposed Strategy is recommended for adoption as a guiding document to support the Town’s capacity to recruit, retain and accommodate a stable workforce capable of delivering consistent, high-quality services to the community.

The strategy does not provide for all staff who may require housing. The strategy is based on current staffing roles who are currently entitled to housing as part of their employment with the Town. Many of the Town’s essential workers undertaking service roles do not qualify for housing and it is recognized that the Town will struggle to retain and attract workers whose job levels are generally between Levels 2 and 5. Further work will be undertaken as part of the Work Force planning to review the Staff Housing Policy in relation to roles that are difficult to attract and retain.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Staff Housing Strategy - Final V 1.1- TOP H-2455 [**12.4.2.1** - 48 pages]

<b>12.4.3</b>	<b>Hedland Senior High School Traffic Improvements</b>
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**Author:** Director Infrastructure Services  
**Authorising Officer:** Temporary Chief Executive Officer  
**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

**CM202627/140 COUNCIL DECISION**

**MOVED:** CMM Ronald Yuryevich                      **SECONDED:** CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

- 1. That Council endorse the application to the Department of Transport State Funds for Local Government Fund for funding for the total costs of the traffic improvements required for the Hedland Senior High School pick-up and drop off area off Roberts Road.**
- 2. That Council note the concept design for traffic improvements at Hedland Senior High School on Roberts Road, South Hedland.**
- 3. That Council note the procurement of a detailed design and pre-tender estimate for submission as part of the application to the Department of Transport.**

***CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*  
*Against: Nil*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider an application to the Department of Transport – State Funds for Local Government for traffic improvements to the drop off and pick up area for the Hedland Senior High School.

**DETAIL**

In 2023, the Hedland Senior High School contacted the Town about the problems with the drop off and pick up area off Roberts Road.

The pick-up and drop-off area is the responsibility of the school (Department of Education). The Town has assisted the school by undertaking a traffic audit during school drop-off and pick-up times over a period of a week.

The problems identified included:

- cars travelling at speed along Roberts Road,

- no separation between bus, car and pedestrian traffic,
- confusion of where children should be dropped off
- poor driving behaviour by parents including driving off road after pick-up and parking in non-designated parking areas making pedestrian visibility poor.
- traffic back up on Roberts Road whilst vehicles turned into the drop-off area causing dangerous conditions
- no option for parents to wait safely prior to pick up.
- Poor visibility for pedestrian traffic (mainly school children) during peak times

The Town undertook a traffic count which logged the number and speed of vehicles on Roberts Road, which found excessive speeds along Roberts Road including vehicles travelling at over 100 km/ph during peak times. The Town subsequently placed 3 speed humps along Roberts Road to slow traffic down.

In discussion with the school, the Town provided a concept design to the school for improvements to traffic conditions for the pick-up and drop-off area. The concept design was undertaken by the Engineers of the Infrastructure Services Department in consultation with the then Deputy Principal. The Town has also assisted with advocating with elected members of Parliament for funding for the process.

The school has been unsuccessful in advocating for the work to be done and contacted the Town in February 2026 seeking assistance again for the issues associated with the pick-up and drop-off zone. The Director of Infrastructure advocated with elected officials on the need for the project and providing the concept design and preliminary cost estimate of between \$1.5 and \$2 million for the project. The Director of Infrastructure was contacted by the Department of Transport to say they would be prepared to consider an application for the project to the State Funds for Local Government. The fund is over and above other funding streams the Town gets from the Department, such as Regional Roads and Blackspot funding.

The Town would be expected to apply for the funding and deliver the project as part of its work programme.

This is an excellent outcome for the Hedland Senior High School and demonstrates the Town's commitment to road safety and safer communities and enables the Town to partner with the State Government on delivery of this vital project. The project will be funded by the Department of Transport.

### **LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 'Significant Decision Making', this matter is considered to be of low significance, because: N/A

### **CONSULTATION**

#### *Internal*

- Infrastructure Directorate Staff
- CEO

*External Agencies*

- Elected Officials
- Main Roads WA
- Department of Transport

*Community*

- Hedland Senior High School

**LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

The project is not a Town responsibility however the Council have a commitment and passion for road safety with the Council receiving a four-star rating from WALGA last year for its commitment to road safety. The Town is experienced in the delivery of roading projects and has worked with State Agencies in the past to assist with the delivery of priority projects.

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The grant will fund the costs of the infrastructure works required to undertake the project. The Town will be expected to provide resources for the project management costs associated with the delivery of the project.

**STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS****Council Plan:**

The following sections of the Town's *Council Plan 2025-2035* apply in consideration of this item:

Our Community: We honour our people and our cultural heritage – ensuring wellbeing, diversity, creativity and strong civic engagement and dialogue.

1.1 Hardy, healthy and safe people

Our Natural and Built Environment: We treasure and protect our natural environment and provide sustainable and resilient infrastructure and built form.

3.2 Safe and fit-for-purpose built environment

***Environmental***

The proposed traffic improvements will provide environmental benefits through a more structured and formalised layout of the existing pick-up and drop-off area, which is currently an unsealed dirt surface. Upgrading the area will reduce dust generation during peak school times, improving local air quality for students, staff, and nearby residents. The project also presents an opportunity to incorporate landscaping and appropriate drainage, enhancing the visual amenity of the site while minimizing erosion and runoff. These improvements will contribute to a cleaner, more orderly environment that is consistent with sustainable urban design principles.

***Economic***

From an economic perspective, the proposed works represent a proactive investment in injury prevention and risk reduction. The economic cost of traffic-related incidents, including emergency response, medical treatment, and long-term impacts on families

and the community, is significant. By addressing the identified safety risks, the project reduces the likelihood of serious incidents and their associated costs. Securing full funding through the Department of Transport minimizes the financial impact on the Town while enabling delivery of critical infrastructure, ensuring value for money and effective use of public resources.

**Social**

The traffic improvements will deliver significant social benefits by enhancing safety and accessibility for school children, parents, staff, and pedestrians. Improved traffic separation, clearer drop-off zones, and safer pedestrian movements will reduce the risk of accidents and alleviate anxiety for families using the facility. The project will also promote better driver behaviour and reduce congestion during peak periods, creating a more predictable and orderly environment. Overall, these changes will improve the daily experience of the school community and contribute positively to community wellbeing by ensuring children can arrive at and leave school safely.

**Access and Inclusion**

The following outcomes of the Town’s *Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2026* apply in relation to this item:

- Outcome 2 – Buildings and Facilities

**RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>Risk Type</b>	Strategic
<b>Risk Category</b>	Health & Safety
<b>Cause</b>	Poor traffic design and layout.
<b>Effect (Consequence)</b>	There are a number of consequences because of the poor traffic design and layout which are detailed in the report. The major consequence is eventually that there will be a serious incident at the drop-off and pick-up area.
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	Undertake the works required to make the area safe.
<p>There is a Strategic risk associated with this item caused by the poor traffic design and layout, leading to unsafe driver behaviour which could lead to injuries of children and drivers.</p> <p>The risk rating is considered to be Medium (6) which is determined by a likelihood of Possible (3) and a consequence of Moderate (3).</p> <p>This risk will be treated by the implementation of the works to improve the poor traffic design and layout.</p>	

**OPTIONS**

- Option 1 – Adopt officer’s recommendation
- Option 2 – Amend officer’s recommendation

Option 3 – Do not adopt officer’s recommendation

### **CONCLUSION**

The traffic conditions at the Hedland Senior High School drop-off and pick-up area present an ongoing and unacceptable safety risk to students, parents, and the broader community. Traffic audits and direct observations have identified excessive vehicle speeds, poor traffic separation, limited pedestrian visibility, and unsafe driver behaviour, all of which significantly increase the likelihood of a serious incident. While interim measures such as speed humps have assisted in moderating traffic speeds on Roberts Road, they do not address the underlying design deficiencies of the existing drop-off and pick-up arrangement.

Endorsing the application to the Department of Transport – State Funds for Local Government provides a timely and practical pathway to deliver a comprehensive, long-term solution to these safety concerns. The proposed improvements will enhance traffic flow, pedestrian safety, and overall site functionality while demonstrating the Town’s continued commitment to road safety and safer communities. Partnering with the State Government to deliver this project will achieve a positive outcome for Hedland Senior High School and the wider community without placing the financial burden of construction on the Town, while leveraging its experience in delivering critical infrastructure projects.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Concept Design - Rev A [**12.4.3.1** - 2 pages]

<b>12.4.4</b>	<b>Rose Nowers Childcare Carpark Upgrades - Request for Funding Variation</b>
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**Author:** Project Manager

**Authorising Officer:** Director Infrastructure Services

**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

**CM202627/141 COUNCIL DECISION**

**MOVED:** CMM Ronald Yuryevich

**SECONDED:** CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- Pursuant to section 6.8 of the Local Government Act 1995, amend the 2025/2026 Annual Budget as follows:**

<b>Account</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Amendment</b>	<b>Amended Budget</b>
30112	Transfer from Asset Management Reserve	\$12,918,790	\$275,000	\$13,193,790
10232	Rose Nowers Childcare Carpark Upgrade	(\$1,500,774)	(\$275,000)	(\$1,775,774)

***CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*

*Against: Nil*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider increasing the budget allocation for the Rose Nowers Childcare Carpark Upgrade project to \$1,750,774. (excluding GST). This would be required for potential variations to the contract under clause 36.1 GCC AS4000 – 1997. This is due to a number of latent conditions that have been identified while the project has been delivered.

**DETAIL**

Council resolved to award the Rose Nowers Childcare Carpark Upgrade tender on 25 November 2025 (decision number CM202526/168). The contract with the preferred tenderer was executed on 16<sup>th</sup> of December 2025. This tender award was \$1,500,774.

Site possession was formally granted to the contractor on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February 2026.

Since the contractor has commenced onsite, the following events have occurred which has triggered a requirement for additional funding. A reasonable expectation exist that the contractor will submit variations to contract in accordance with the executed contract due to the below:

- As part of the project scope, the lighting in the parking area was to be removed prior to construction. Initially Horizon Power agreed to let the contractor remove lighting. This was withdrawn with the contractor being instructed to apply to Horizon to have the lights removed. To this end, the contractor applied to Horizon Power and received their acknowledgement on the 14<sup>th</sup> of January 2026. This required Horizon to plan the works and appoint a contractor to demolish their assets in the worksite. On the 26<sup>th</sup> of February, Horizon appointed a sub-contractor to demolish the lights. None of this work has been executed yet and this has seen an increase in the cost of removing the lighting.
- On site possession, during the service location process, the contractor discovered a high-pressure sewer line that was not on any of the "dial before you dig" plans. This sewer line directly clashed with the new drainage line that the contractor was about to construct. This discovery required a redesign of the drainage line. This resulted in a time delay and extra costs for undertaking the redesign.
- This also resulted in the drainage crews on site having to be de-mobilised, at the cost of the Town until the design could be amended.
- With the construction of the new drainage line from the amended design, ground water was encountered from a depth of 1.1m. The intrusion of groundwater requires additional aggregate and stabilizing agents to ensure the integrity of the drainage line. Contractually, this constitutes a latent condition, enabling the contractor to claim a variation.
- Additionally, four electrical services (Not Horizon Powers assets) and an asbestos water pipe (Not Water Corp asset), were discovered during the excavation process. Again, these were not on any services plans. This required callouts to service providers. For the project this means that all electrical lines (which are live) have to be relocated. Again, these are treated as latent conditions.
- The discovery of the asbestos water pipe will need to be remedied. Again, this is a latent condition.
- A geotechnical study was not undertaken for this project. The project was replacement of an existing carpark, safety improvements and upgrading

drainage at the site. Given it was an existing asset the necessity for geotechnical reporting would not ordinarily be required. A geotechnical study would not have picked up the unmapped services. The Town is of the view that the groundwater is a result of the non-functioning soak pits on the Department of Education car park at the site. The Department of Education has asked the Town's contractor for a quote to fix this issue on their behalf, and this will be paid for by Department of Education.

The following variation requests can be anticipated:

Number	Description	Estimated Cost	Estimate time delay
001	Horizon Power	\$80,000	15 days
002	Drainage redesign	\$20,000	2 days
003	Drainage delay	\$50,000	10 days
004	Ground water - LC	\$25,000	2 days
005	Asbestos Water Pipe	\$25,000	3 days
006	Contingency	\$75,000	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$275,000</b>	

The Town believes that it is prudent to have an allocation for contingency in the event further latent conditions are identified. If no further latent conditions are become apparent, this amount will not be expended.

### **LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 'Significant Decision Making', this matter is considered to be of low significance, because:

- Exception - The proposal or decision is not of a nature or significance that requires engagement.
- Exception - There is a need for confidentiality or commercial sensitivity.

### **CONSULTATION**

#### *Internal*

- Director of Infrastructure
- Manager Infrastructure Projects and Assets
- Senior Management Accountant
- Senior Project Manager

#### *External Agencies*

- Horizon Power
- WaterCorp

#### *Community*

- Nil

## **LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

The following internal policies have been considered in relation to the preparation of this item:

- 1/014 Execution of Documents
- 1/022 Risk Management
- 2/007 Procurement
- 2/019 Financial Reserves
- 4/009 Significant Decision Making
- *Local Government Act 1995 (WA)*:
- Section 6.8: Expenditure from municipal fund not included in annual budget (relevant for budget increases)
- Section 9.49A: Execution of documents (for contracts and agreements)
- Section 9.49B: Contract formalities

## **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The budget increase is to be funded through the Asset Management Reserve, which was specifically established for the renewal of the Towns assets. The Rose Nowers Childcare Carpark is a very important infrastructure and community asset servicing both the Cassia Primary School and the Rose Nowers Childcare facility. The Carpark is of critical importance for dropping off children in the morning and picking them up in the afternoon.

The main focus of this project is the improved safety during peak hours and an increased capacity for the facility, that will also add to a safer environment for all users of the parking area.

The increase in budget to \$1,750,774 (excluding GST) is required to insure the full completion of the project to the required safety and construction standards.

If the budget is not amended the scope of the project cannot be delivered and will have serious consequences to the intended safety improvements for the carpark and for young children and their parents.

## **COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS**

The Rose Nowers Childcare Carpark Upgrade has positive community implications by improving safety, accessibility, and functionality for families, children, and staff who use the facility daily. The upgraded carpark will better support safe drop-off and pick-up movements during peak periods, reduce congestion, and improve pedestrian access between the childcare Centre and the adjoining school. Completing the project to the required standard will enhance user confidence, reduce safety risks associated with flooding and unfinished infrastructure, and support the ongoing delivery of a

well-utilised and valued community facility that plays an important role in the daily lives of local families.

## **STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

### **Council Plan**

The following sections of the Town’s *Council Plan 2025-2035* apply in consideration of this item:

Our Community: We honour our people and our cultural heritage – ensuring wellbeing, diversity, creativity and strong civic engagement and dialogue.

1.4 Well-utilised and valued community facilities and services

Our Economy: We build prosperity for all – enabling sustained and diversified economic and employment growth.

2.4 Infrastructure for growth

Our Natural and Built Environment: We treasure and protect our natural environment and provide sustainable and resilient infrastructure and built form.

3.2 Safe and fit-for-purpose built environment

3.3 Accessible, attractive and sustainable urban environment

Our Leadership: We are united in our actions to connect, listen, support and advocate, thereby leveraging the potential of our people, places and resources.

4.3 Effective delivery of services and infrastructure to meet community needs

There are no significant identifiable environmental, social or economic impacts relating to this item.

### **Access and Inclusion**

The following outcomes of the Town’s *Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2026* apply in relation to this item:

- Outcome 2 – Buildings and Facilities

## **RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>Risk Type</b>	Project
<b>Risk Category</b>	Financial Reputational
<b>Cause</b>	If Council do not support the additional funds
<b>Effect (Consequence)</b>	The project will not be completed as per the updated design and the Towns standards.  This will result in an unfinished project which will be unsafe for the children and their parents at school drop off and pick times. Drainage and footpaths will not be completed, and

	this would then see flooding at times of rainfall as well as no footpath for children to gain safe access to the childcare centre and the school.
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	Adopt the officer’s recommendation
<p>There is a Project risk associated with this item if Council does not support the increase in budget as it will, lead to &lt;an uncompleted project that will need to be completed at a later date, when new funding is available. This delayed completion of the works will come at higher cost in the future</p> <p>Also, leaving a project with such an &gt;.</p> <p>The risk rating is considered to be High (12) which is determined by a likelihood of Likely (4) and a consequence of Moderate (3).</p> <p>This risk will be treated by the officer’s recommendation.</p>	

**OPTIONS**

- Option 1 – Adopt officer’s recommendation
- Option 2 – Amend officer’s recommendation
- Option 3 – Do not adopt officer’s recommendation

**CONCLUSION**

The report seeks Council approval to increase the budget for the Rose Nowers Childcare Carpark Upgrade project from \$1,500,774 to \$1,750,774 (excluding GST) to accommodate anticipated contract variations arising from latent site conditions. The contract was awarded in December 2025, with site possession granted in February 2026. During delivery, several unforeseen issues were identified, including delays and increased costs associated with the removal of Horizon Power lighting, the discovery of an unrecorded high-pressure sewer line requiring drainage redesign, groundwater intrusion, unrecorded electrical services, and the presence of an asbestos water pipe. These matters constitute latent conditions under the contract and are expected to result in variation claims totaling approximately \$275,000.

The additional funding is proposed to be sourced from the Asset Management Reserve and is required to ensure the project can be completed safely and to the Town’s standards. The carpark is a critical community asset serving both Rose Nowers Childcare and Cassia Primary School, with the upgrade focused on improving safety, drainage, accessibility, and capacity during peak drop-off and pick-up periods. Failure to approve the budget increase would likely result in an incomplete and unsafe project, posing significant risks to children, parents, and the Town’s reputation, as well as higher costs if works are deferred. The officer recommendation is therefore to amend the 2025/26 Annual Budget to enable full delivery of the project.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

**12.5 Executive Services**

<b>12.5.1</b>	<b>BHP Events Partnership Agreement 2026 - 2028</b>
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**Author:** Senior Funding & Partnerships Officer  
**Authorising Officer:** Manager Public Affairs  
**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

**CM202627/142 COUNCIL DECISION**

**MOVED:** CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge      **SECONDED:** CMM Ronald Yuryevich

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- 1. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to execute the Events Sponsorship Agreement, as provided in Attachment 1, with BHP for a total value of \$900,000 across the 2026–27 to 2028–29 financial years.**

***CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*  
*Against: Nil*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council authorisation for the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to execute the BHP Events Partnership Agreement 2026–2028 on behalf of the Town of Port Hedland (the Town).

**DETAIL**

The Town and BHP have a longstanding partnership supporting community events, activations, and engagement programs. The most recent events partnership agreement was \$750,000 over three years and expired at the end of the 2025 events calendar year.

The Senior Funding and Partnerships Officer and the Town of Port Hedland’s Events Team have collaborated with BHP to design a renewed agreement for 2026–2028 – provided in Attachment 1.

The proposed 2026–2028 agreement strengthens the partnership between the Town and BHP through continued investment in key community events. The Events Team has confirmed that all initiatives within the proposed agreement have been

incorporated into operational planning and approved budgets for the relevant financial years.

The Agreement involves BHP contributing \$270,000 per year towards four events:

- Spinifex Spree
- Major Winter Event
- Hedland Sports Awards
- Sunset Food Markets

A further \$30,000 per year is provided to support the Matt Dann program, taking the agreement total to \$300,000 per year, for three years; \$900,000 total value.

The agreement entitles BHP to recognition as the Principal Partner for the included events and outlines the required acknowledgements and branding inclusions as part of event delivery. A communications plan has also been developed to publicly celebrate the renewed partnership, inclusive of media engagement and digital communications.

Funding provided under the agreement will be allocated to the relevant operating budgets to deliver the included events.

The Town will collaborate with BHP throughout the term of the agreement via quarterly progress meetings and provide six-monthly progress reports. These reports will outline activities undertaken, outcomes achieved using the funds, and alignment with BHP's social value pillar: Thriving, Empowered Communities.

#### [Link to Town of Port Hedland Funding and Partnerships approach](#)

The Town has sought to develop a collective impact approach to funding and partnerships with external parties. It involves collaboration to identify shared goals for social impact from projects, events and community initiatives, and negotiating a partnership agreement that matches investment to these community outcomes. This approach has been successful with a number of parties.

The current agreement under consideration is a sponsorship-style agreement focused on events. Further collaboration with BHP on a broader Collective Impact Agreement is expected in the future, contingent on the election of a new Council and completion of the Major Strategic Review.

#### [Agreement execution](#)

Execution of the agreement requires Council authority, as the agreement constitutes a significant contractual arrangement between the Town and one of its major industry stakeholders. The Events Partnership Agreement totals \$300,000 per year for three years, total value \$900,000, placing it above the CEO's delegated authority.

Under section 9.49A and 9.49B of the Local Government Act 1995, Council may authorise the CEO to sign documents and vary or discharge contracts on behalf of the Town.

Delegation 1.2.34 of the Town's Delegated Authority Register confirms that the CEO is the authorised signatory for agreements and contracts, subject to compliance with Policy 1/014 Execution of Documents and Affixing of the Common Seal.

Under Town Policy 1/014, documents such as partnership agreements may be executed by the CEO without the Common Seal, unless a statutory requirement or request from the other party necessitates its use.

### **LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 'Significant Decision Making', this matter is considered to be of high significance, because:

- Significant - Any issue, proposal, decision or other matter that will substantially affect a wide range of people who reside in Port Hedland.
- Significant - The matter will have implications for the present and future social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of Port Hedland.

### **CONSULTATION**

#### *Internal*

- CEO
- Director Community Services
- Senior Events Officer
- Manager Events, Arts and Culture
- Town of Port Hedland Governance
- Finance Officer
- Senior Management Accountant

#### *External Agencies*

- BHP Corporate Affairs and Community Team

#### *Community*

- Nil

### **LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

- Local Government Act 1995 – s.9.49A (Execution of Documents) and s.9.49B (Contract Formalities)
- Town of Port Hedland Policy 1/014 Execution of Documents and Affixing of the Common Seal

- Town of Port Hedland Register of Delegated Authority – Delegation 1.2.34 Execute Documents and Contract Formalities

## **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

There are no new financial implications arising from the execution of this agreement. All activities and commitments under the proposed partnership have been incorporated into the approved operational budgets managed by the Events Team.

This report therefore confirms that authorising the CEO to execute the agreement has no impact on the Town's adopted budget.

## **STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

### **Council Plan**

The following sections of the Town's *Council Plan 2025-2035* apply in consideration of this item:

- The proposal aligns with the Council Plan 2025–2035, particularly **Theme 1: Our Community**, supporting outcomes 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4, including the four-year priorities relating to events and facilities activation and engaged young people.
- It also aligns with **Theme 2: Our Economy**, strengthening partnerships with major industry stakeholders and supporting marketing of Hedland as a place to live, visit and invest.
- Further, the partnership contributes to **Theme 4: Our Leadership**, which emphasises advocacy, partnerships, and accountable governance.

### **Environmental**

There are no adverse environmental impacts identified as a result of executing this Agreement.

### **Economic**

There are no adverse economic impacts identified. The Agreement supports existing operational commitments and does not require additional budget allocation.

### **Social**

No negative social impacts have been identified. The Agreement is expected to generate positive social outcomes through continued support for community events and activations.

There are no significant negative identifiable environmental, social or economic impacts relating to this item.

### **Access and Inclusion**

The following outcome of the Town's *Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2026* apply in relation to this item:

- Outcome 1 – Events and Services

**RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>Risk Type</b>	Strategic
<b>Risk Category</b>	Reputational
<b>Cause</b>	Failure to execute agreement
<b>Effect (Consequence)</b>	Substantiated, localised impact on key stakeholder trust
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	Adopt Officer’s recommendation
<p>There is a Strategic risk associated with this item caused by failure to execute the agreement, leading to substantiated, localised impact on key stakeholder trust.</p> <p>The risk rating is considered to be High (10) which is determined by a likelihood of Almost certain (5) and a consequence of Minor (2).</p> <p>This risk will be accepted by the adopting the Officer’s recommendation to authorise the CEO to execute the agreement.</p>	

**OPTIONS**

Option 1 – Adopt officer’s recommendation

Option 2 – Do not adopt officer’s recommendation

Not adopting the recommendation would delay execution of the Agreement, potentially impacting event planning timelines and partnership relations.

**CONCLUSION**

The BHP Events Partnership Agreement 2026–2028 represents the continuation of a valued and long-standing relationship between the Town and BHP supporting the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of the Hedland community. Authorising the CEO to execute the Agreement will ensure the seamless delivery of high-quality, inclusive community events that foster belonging, activation of public spaces, and positive community connections.

This approach aligns with the Town’s governance framework and supports the strategic priorities outlined in the Council Plan, particularly in strengthening partnerships, enriching community life, and enhancing Hedland as a vibrant place to live, work and visit.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1 – BHP Iron Ore and Town of Port Hedland Social Investment Project Contract (Events Partnership Agreement) 2026-2028.

<b>12.5.2</b>	<b>Certification of compliance with the Towns adopted model standard for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination</b>
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**Author:** Principal HR Specialist  
**Authorising Officer:** Temporary Chief Executive Officer  
**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

**CM202627/143 COUNCIL DECISION**

**MOVED:** CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge      **SECONDED:** CMM Ronald Yuryevich  
**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- 1. Certify in accordance with regulation 18FB Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 that the appointment of Chief Executive Officer was in accordance with the Town of Port Hedland Model Standards for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination.**
- 2. Request the Temporary CEO to submit a copy of this resolution to the Local Government Inspector within 14 days.**

***CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*  
*Against: Nil*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the Council’s certification requirements, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, that the recruitment process for the appointment of a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) was conducted in accordance with the adopted Model Standards for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination.

**DETAIL**

Regulation 18FB(3) of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 provides that a local government must certify, by an absolute majority resolution, that the process that was followed in relation to the recruitment of the Chief Executive Officer, was carried out in accordance with the local government’s adopted Standards for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination.

Council adopted the model standards for CEO Recruitment, Performance & Termination at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 October 2024 (Council Decision CM202425/187).

Council endorsed the establishment of the CEO Recruitment & Selection Committee and adopted its Terms of Reference at the Special Council Meeting on 12 December 2024 (CM202426/221 Council Decision).

The recruitment process was undertaken between 12 December 2024 and 9 February 2025 on which date the contract of employment was executed and common seal applied by Jessica Shaw, Chair of Commissions, Kenneth Donohoe, Temporary CEO, and appointed Dale Stewart as CEO.

Division 2 of the Town of Port Hedland Model Standards for CEO Recruitment, Performance, and Termination provides the standards for Recruitment of CEOs. Each of the clauses under this division that provides a requirement from the Standards are listed below, with a brief outline of those requirements and what the Town did to satisfy the requirements of that clause.

#### **Clause 5 – Determination of selection criteria and approval of job description form**

*The local government must identify the necessary selection criteria for its CEO role and, by an absolute-majority council resolution, approve a job description that sets out the CEO's duties, responsibilities, and those selection criteria.*

At the Special Council Meeting on 12 December 2024 Council adopted the Position Description for the CEO position along with the selection criteria contained in section 10 of the Position description (council decision CM202425/219).

#### **Clause 6 – Advertising Requirements**

*The local government must ensure it complies with section 5.36(4) of the Act and the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 regulation 18A.*

McArthur Consulting Pty Ltd was engagement to manage the recruitment process for the CEO position and confirmed that the position was advertised in accordance with the legislative requirements. The position was initially advertised from 13 December 2025 – 27 January 2025, and then again from 30 October 2025 – 14 November 2025.

#### **Clause 7 – Job description form to be made available by local government**

*The local government is to provide a copy of the job description form to anyone who requests it by either referring to the web address listed in the advertisement or by emailing or posting a copy to the person if unable to access the website.*

Whenever requested, a job description form was provided.

#### **Clause 8 – Establishment of selection panel for employment of CEO**

*The local government must form a CEO selection panel made up of a council-determined number of councilors and at least one independent member to run the recruitment and selection process.*

At the Special Council Meeting on 12 December 2024 Council endorsed the establishment of a CEO Recruitment & Selection Committee (CM202426/221 Council Decision).

At the Special Council Meeting on 12 December 2024 Council endorsed the CEO Recruitment & Selection Committee Terms of Reference which specified that the Committee was to be made up of three elected members and one independent person (CM202426/211 Council Decision).

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 29 October 2025 Council appointed Commissioners Jessica Shaw, Martin Aldridge, and Ronald Yuryevich to the CEO Recruitment and Selection Committee (CM202526/145 Council decision). Council also appointed Terry Hill AM as the Independent Person to the CEO Recruitment and Selection Committee (CM202526/146 Council Decision).

At the Special Council Meeting on 22 December 2025 Council appointed Commissioner Jessica Shaw to the position of Presiding Member of the CEO Recruitment and Selection Committee under section 5.12(1) Local Government Act 1995, and appointed Commissioner Martin Aldridge to the position of Deputy Presiding Member of the CEO Recruitment and Selection Committee under section 5.12(2) Local Government Act 1995 (SCM202526/153 substantive council decision).

### **Clause 9 – Recommendation by selection panel**

*1 – Each applicant's knowledge, experience, qualifications and skills must be assessed against the selection criteria by or on behalf of the selection panel. Following the assessment, the selection panel must provide to the local government a summary of the selection panel's assessment of each applicant and, the selection panel's recommendation as to which applicant or applicants are suitable to be employed in the position of CEO.*

McArthur Consulting Pty Ltd assessed each applicant's knowledge, experience, qualifications and skills and provided a candidate matrix summary report to the CEO Recruitment and Selection Committee on 17 November 2025. The CEO Recruitment and Selection Committee conducted further shortlisting and interviews between 17 November 2025 and 10 December 2025. Following this, the CEO Recruitment and Selection Committee met on 20 January 2025 to confirm which applicants were suitable to be employed in the position of CEO. Council was provided with all documents including a confidential report prepared by McArthur Consulting Pty Ltd, and the assessment and recommendation from the CEO Recruitment and Selection Committee at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 28 January 2026 (CM202627/112 Council Decision).

*2 - The selection panel must act in an impartial and transparent manner, and in accordance with the principles set out in section 5.40 of the Act.*

The CEO Recruitment and Selection Committee conducted its activities in the appropriate manner as required under the Model Standards for CEO Recruitment, Performance, and Termination, and section 5.4 of the Local Government Act 1995.

*3 - The selection panel must not recommend an applicant to the local government under subclause unless the selection panel has:*

- (c) assessed the applicant as having demonstrated that the applicant's knowledge, experience, qualifications and skills meet the selection criteria;*
- (c) verified any academic, or other tertiary level, qualifications the applicant claims to hold;*
- (c) whether by contacting referees provided by the applicant or making any other inquiries the selection panel considers appropriate, verified the applicant's character, work history, skills, performance and any other claims made by the applicant.*

The recommendation to Council was only made once the CEO Recruitment and Selection Committee and McArthur Consulting Pty Ltd had satisfactorily completed the required assessments and verifications including, but not limited to; assessing the candidate's ability to demonstrate that their knowledge, experience, qualifications and skills met the selection criteria, verifying their academic, or other tertiary level, qualifications and contacting referees to verify their character, work history, skills, performance and any other claims made by the candidate.

#### **Clause 10 – Recommendation by selection panel**

*This clause applies if the local government accepts a recommendation by the selection panel under clause 9(3)(a) that a new recruitment and selection process for the position of CEO be carried out in accordance with these standards.*

This clause is not applicable to this recruitment process, as the CEO Recruitment and Selection Committee identified and recommended a suitable candidate for the CEO position.

#### **Clause 11 – Offer of employment in position of CEO**

*Before making an applicant an offer of employment in the position of CEO, the local government must, by resolution of an absolute majority of the council, approve the making of the offer of employment to the applicant; and the proposed terms of the contract of employment to be entered into by the local government and the applicant.*

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 January 2026 Council endorsed by absolute majority the Chief Executive Officer Recruitment and Selection Committee recommendation to enter into negotiations with Applicant A (Dale Stewart) for the Position of Chief Executive Officer and endorsed the terms of the proposed employment contract (CM202627/114 Council Decision).

**Clause 12 – Variations to proposed terms of contract of employment**

*This clause applies when an applicant offered the CEO position negotiates an employment contract that differs from the terms previously approved by the local government, and before finalising such a negotiated contract, the council must approve its terms by an absolute-majority resolution.*

This clause does not apply to this recruitment process, as the terms of the contract that was executed with the preferred applicant did not differ from the terms approved by the Council at its Ordinary Meeting on 28 January 2026 (CM202627/114 Council Decision).

**Clause 13 - Recruitment to be undertaken on expiry of certain CEO contracts**

*Where the incumbent CEO will have held the position of CEO for a period of 10 or more consecutive years and the same time period has elapsed since a recruitment an selection process for the position was carried out, and the CEO has notified the local government that they wish to have their contract renewed upon its expiry, then before the expiry of the contract, the local government must carry out a recruitment process in accordance with these standards.*

This clause does not apply to this recruitment process, as the process commenced due to the departure of the previous substantive Chief Executive Officer, Carl Askew.

**Clause 14 – Confidentiality of information**

*The local government must ensure that information provided to, or obtained by, the local government in the course of a recruitment and selection process for the position of CEO is not disclosed, or made use of, except for the purpose of, or in connection with, that recruitment and selection process.*

No breach of confidentiality occurred during the recruitment process.

**Certification Process**

If council adopts the Officers recommendation to certify compliance with the Town of Port Hedland Model Standards for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination for its completed CEO recruitment process, the Temporary CEO will write to the Local Government Inspector, Tony Brown, and provide a copy of the resolution.

**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 'Significant Decision Making', this matter is considered to be of medium significance.

**CONSULTATION***External Agencies*

- Council appointed Natalie Lincolne, Senior Associate Consultant, Price Consulting as the suitably qualified facilitator to assist Council to run meeting

workshops to support the CEO Recruitment Process including preparation of the Model Standards.

- Council Appointed McArthur Consulting Pty Ltd as the outsourced executive recruitment and selection consultancy to facilitate the recruitment process.

## **LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

### **Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 (Western Australia)**

#### **18FB.Certification of compliance with adopted standards for CEO recruitment (Act s. 5.39B(7))**

(1) In this regulation —

***adopted standards*** means —

- (a) the standards adopted by a local government under section 5.39B; or
- (b) if the local government has not adopted standards under that section, the standards taken under section 5.39B(5) to be the local government's adopted standards.

(2) This regulation applies if —

- (a) a local government employs a person in the position of CEO of the local government; and
- (b) the local government's adopted standards in relation to the recruitment of CEOs apply to the employment.

(3) As soon as practicable after the person is employed in the position of CEO, the local government must, by resolution\*, certify that the person was employed in accordance with the local government's adopted standards in relation to the recruitment of CEOs.

\* Absolute majority required.

(4) The local government must give a copy of the resolution to the inspector within 14 days after the resolution is passed by the local government.

*[Regulation 18FB inserted: SL 2021/14 r. 6; amended: SL 2025/208 r. 14.]*

### **Local Government Act 1995 (Western Australia)**

#### **5.40 Principles affecting employment by local governments**

The following principles apply to a local government in respect of its employees

- (a) employees are to be selected and promoted in accordance with the principles of merit and equity; and
- (b) no power with regard to matters affecting employees is to be exercised on the basis of nepotism or patronage; and
- (c) employees are to be treated fairly and consistently; and
- (d) there is to be no unlawful discrimination against employees or persons seeking employment by a local government on a ground referred to in the Equal Opportunity Act 1984 or on any other ground; and
- (e) employees are to be provided with safe and healthy working conditions in accordance with the Work Health and Safety Act 2020; and

- (f) such other principles, not inconsistent with this Division, as may be prescribed.
- (g)
- (h) [Section 5.40 amended: No. 36 of 2020 s. 364.]
  - Policy - 3/004 CEO Recruitment and Selection, Performance Review and Termination
  - Model Standard for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination
  - CEO Recruitment & Selection Committee Terms of Reference

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Pursuant to the Local Government Act and Local Government Administration Regulations the Council is to appoint a Chief Executive Officer.

**STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

**Council Plan**

Nil

***Environmental***

*Nil*

***Economic***

*Nil*

***Social***

*Nil*

**Access and Inclusion**

Nil

**RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>Risk Type</b>	Operational Strategic
<b>Risk Category</b>	Compliance Reputational
<b>Cause</b>	Completion of CEO Recruitment Process in line with the Town of Port Hedland Model Standard for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination.
<b>Effect (Consequence)</b>	If the Town did not follow the adopted Standards for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination, the process may be challenged and cause negative outcomes to the Town, as well as exposing it to reputational risk.
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	Adopting the officers recommendation

There is an Operational Strategic risk associated with this item caused by the completion of CEO Recruitment Process in line with the Town of Port Hedland Model Standard for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination, leading to exposed reputational risk, and potential break of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 if the Model Standard for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination were not followed.

The risk rating is considered to be Low (1) which is determined by a likelihood of Unlikely (2) and a consequence of Moderate (3).

This risk will be accepted by certifying that the recruitment process was condition in line with the requirements set out in the Model Standards.

### **OPTIONS**

Option 1 – Adopt officer’s recommendation

Option 2 – Amend officer’s recommendation

Option 3 – Do not adopt officer’s recommendation

### **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion this report is for Council to Certify that the conditions of section 18FB of the Local Government Administration Regulations 1996 have been met and to request the Temporary CEO notify the Inspector.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

**13 New Business of an Urgent Nature (Late Items)**

*Commissioner Chair Shaw left the meeting at 7:26pm and returned at 7:27pm.*

<b>13.1</b>	<b>ToPH Forward Improvement Plan</b>
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**Author:** Temporary Chief Executive Officer  
**Authorising Officer:** Temporary Chief Executive Officer  
**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

**CM202627/144 COUNCIL DECISION**

**MOVED:** CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge      **SECONDED:** CMM Ronald Yuryevich  
**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- 1. Adopts the Forward Improvement Plan as presented.**
- 2. Acknowledges the role of the Chief Executive Officer to operationally prepare a remediation plan to address the items detailed within the Forward Improvement Plan.**
- 3. Instructs the Chief Executive Officer to report reviews of those items identified in the Forward Improvement Plan to Audit Risk and Improvement Committee and Council, as detailed in the Forward Improvement Plan on a regular basis.**
- 4. Recommends to the newly elected Council that completion of the Forward Improvement Plan be one of the Key Performance Indicators for the substantive Chief Executive Officer.**

***CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*  
*Against: Nil*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider and adopt a Forward Improvement Plan for the Town of Port Hedland. This Plan has been propagated from the Health Check undertaken by Moore Australia (WA) Pty Ltd for the Temporary Chief Executive Officer.

This report and its attachment are not identified as a confidential document for the purpose of this report.

**DETAIL**

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of March 2026, the Council considered an item 8.1.2 ToPH Health Check report (SCM202627/105) prepared by the Temporary Chief Executive Officer. This document was an internal view of operations and systems and identified several improvements that the organisation could consider.

Council subsequently resolved;

**Item 8.1.2 – Alternate Motion (SCM 202627/106)**

That Council:

1. Notes the Organisational Health Check Report (the report) undertaken by the Temporary Chief Executive Officer;
2. Notes the draft CEO Action and Assurance Roadmap developed in response to the findings and recommendations of the report;
3. Refers the report and the CEO Action and Assurance Roadmap to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee for its consideration; and
4. Directs the Temporary Chief Executive Officer to develop a Remediation Plan to be considered for adoption by Council at its April Ordinary Council Meeting, including recommendations as to how Council and the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee be informed of progress toward the plan.

This report now seeks Council's consideration of a Forward Improvement Plan (the Plan) and details a roadmap for the Chief Executive Officer to manage the items identified in the Plan.

The Temporary Chief Executive Officer is cognisant that a significant volume of work is attached but also asks Council to note that there are timeframes applicable that should with appropriate resourcing support the Chief Executive Officer to achieve these functions through a series of development phases as detailed within the report.

This business paper is to be read in conjunction with the attached report.

There are a few matters that remain important for the Town to consider ensuring that the Plan is considered seriously and not foregone by other operational needs. These are listed for consideration;

- 1) Composition of the Steering Group
- 2) Adoption of the Plan as a Key Result Area for the Chief Executive Officer.
- 3) Reporting achievement or progress to the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee. (ARIC)

**Composition of the Steering Group.**

The Plan details a process where the Chief Executive Officer is to be Chair of the Steering Group supported by officers and specialists to consider the Plan and prioritize the performance measures identified. The Plan by its very nature is mainly of an

operational nature. Dependent on the issues being addressed, involvement in administrative practices via Codes of Conduct or administrative laws applicable from time to time may not be applicable. This convention should not however prohibit oversight of the works undertaken where applicable. The Plan thus identifies reports to ARIC or the Council and the timeframes to achieve this.

The author is conscious of the workload of the Chief Executive Officer, which should also be looking outside the business as well as managing the business itself.

The recommendation was made in the Health Check agenda report for the Chief Executive Officer to work with Council and consider an additional resource to support the Chief Executive Officer through an organisational realignment, and this person would be a key member of the Steering Group. In the interim, a sum of funds was allocated to the Office of the Chief Executive Officer in the mid-year budget review to support the establishment of mechanisms to get the Plan underway.

### **Adoption of the Plan as a Key Result Area for the Chief Executive Officer.**

The author is conscious that there have been several reviews undertaken over several years, and yet some trends continue to remain of a similar nature and have caused frustration with Council.

This report recommends that the Plan be a specific Key Result Area for achievement with developed Key Performance Indicators for the Chief Executive Officer, and thus Directors, Managers and officers. Further, a reinvigorated performance appraisal system is enhanced clearly managing these risks and functions and reported to Council as part of the annual performance review of the Chief Executive Officer.

### **Reporting achievement or progress to the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC)**

It appears clear that a level of frustration has existed for clear reporting mechanisms for Council oversight. The role of Council is explicit and identified in the Local Government Act section 2.7 as identified in the legislative provisions of this report. Fundamentally, the Council governs the affairs of the local government and oversees the finance and resource allocation of the local government. This body is responsible for the functions of the local government. This must also recognise the responsibility of the CEO in accordance with statutory obligations under the Local Government Act and supported Regulations and other obligations at law.

The Plan therefore identifies a series of improvements in relation to reporting mechanisms to ARIC and therefore Council. These include but are not limited to a need to *refresh* or *review* provisions as contained in the Plan. It is important that an open and transparent approach is taken with Council within the spirit of which the Plan details a need for improvement in reporting and transparency and thus the penultimate reporting to the community.

### **LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 'Significant Decision Making', this matter is considered to be of high significance, because:

- Significant - A decision that will significantly affect the capacity of the Council to carry out any activity identified in the strategic plan.

## **CONSULTATION**

Internal

Commissioners

*External Agencies*

Local Government Monitor

*Community*

The Forward Improvement Plan also seeks to consider community expectations as identified in the Community Perceptions Survey.

## **LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

### 2.7. Role of council

(1) The council governs the local government's affairs and, as the local government's governing body, is responsible for the performance of the local government's functions.

(2) The council's governing role includes the following —

- (a) overseeing the allocation of the local government's finances and resources;
- (b) determining the local government's policies;
- (c) planning strategically for the future of the district;
- (d) determining the services and facilities to be provided by the local government in the district;
- (e) selecting the CEO and reviewing the CEO's performance;
- (f) providing strategic direction to the CEO.

### 5.41. Role of CEO

(1) The CEO, as the local government's chief executive officer, is responsible for managing the local government's administration and operations.

(2) The CEO's executive role includes the following —

- (a) causing council decisions to be implemented;
- (b) managing the provision of services and facilities that the council has determined the local government is to provide in the district;
- (c) determining procedures and systems for —
  - (i) implementing the local government's policies as determined by the council; and

- (ii) otherwise managing the local government’s administration and operations;
- (d) being responsible for the employment, management, supervision, direction and dismissal of other employees
- (subject to section 5.37(2) in relation to senior employees);
- (e) ensuring that records and documents of the local government are properly kept for the purposes of this Act and any other written law.
- (3) The CEO is the council’s principal advisor and, as such, does the following —
  - (a) advises, and procures advice for, the council in relation to the local government’s affairs and the performance of the local government’s functions;
  - (b) ensures that the council has the information and advice it needs to make informed and timely decisions.
- (4) The CEO —
  - (a) liaises with the mayor or president on the local government’s affairs and the performance of the local government’s functions; and
  - (b) speaks on behalf of the local government if the mayor or president agrees.
- (5) The CEO performs any other function specified or delegated by the local government or imposed under this Act or another written law as a function to be performed by the CEO.

[Section 5.41 inserted: No. 47 of 2024 s. 50.]

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Recommendations have been made within the Plan that independently address additional resources to support the Chief Executive Officer. Some of these provisions should be considered during budget deliberations so that savings can be made in some areas of the business to fund these considerations. An allocation of up to \$300,000 has been made in the mid-year review to assist the Chief Executive Officer to strategically resource the recommendations and undertake these functions with the newly elected Council to the end of this financial year.

**STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

**Council Plan**

Not applicable

***Environmental***

Nil

***Economic***

Nil

***Social***

Nil

**Access and Inclusion**

The following outcomes of the Town’s *Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2026* apply in relation to this item:

Nil

**RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>Risk Type</b>	Operational
<b>Risk Category</b>	Financial Compliance Reputational
<b>Cause</b>	Identified, systemic weaknesses in governance, leadership oversight, internal controls, procurement practices, contract management, asset management, workforce governance and enterprise systems, as outlined in the Forward Improvement Plan.
<b>Effect (Consequence)</b>	Failure to address the identified issues may result in continued financial inefficiencies, non-compliance with legislative and regulatory obligations, ineffective service delivery, increased exposure to audit findings, and ongoing reputational damage to the Town.
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	Treat / Transfer through the development and implementation of a Chief Executive Officer Remediation Roadmap, strengthened governance oversight, and engagement of independent assurance and advisory support.
<p>There is an Operational risk associated with this item caused by systemic governance, leadership, and control weaknesses identified through the Forward Improvement Plan, leading to financial inefficiencies, compliance risks, reduced organisational effectiveness, and potential reputational harm to the Town.</p> <p>The risk rating is considered to be High (10), which is determined by a likelihood of Possible (3) and a consequence of Major (4).</p> <p>This risk will be treated and partially transferred/shared through the development and implementation of a Chief Executive Officer Remediation Roadmap, strengthened executive and Council oversight, and the use of independent external advisors and assurance mechanisms.</p>	

**OPTIONS**

- Option 1 – Adopt officer’s recommendation
- Option 2 – Amend officer’s recommendation
- Option 3 – Do not adopt officer’s recommendation

**CONCLUSION**

This report details a Forward Improvement Plan for Council. The preparation of which is predominantly formed from a Health Check review undertaken by Moore Australia (WA) Pty Ltd under instruction of the Temporary Chief Executive Officer.

The Plan identifies a roadmap going forward that clearly sets out a timeframe and reporting mechanism that is to be undertaken by the Chief Executive Officer with key components to be reported to ARIC and Council.

The report seeks to clearly identify that some core functions need review or renovation, and this remediation to be undertaken in consultation with ARIC and the Council, providing a clear remediation roadmap for the Chief Executive Officer.

It should be noted that the report details areas of improvement and its scope was intended as such in the review cycle. It does not recognise the exceptional work undertaken by some staff that are very committed to learning and change and have the Town's wellbeing at heart.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Forward Improvement Plan

**13.2 Convening of a Special Council Meeting 2 April 2026**

**Author:** Senior Governance Advisor

**Authorising Officer:** Director Corporate Services

**Disclosure of Interest:** The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

**CM202627/145 COUNCIL DECISION**

**MOVED:** CMM Ronald Yuryevich

**SECONDED:** CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- 1. Authorise the Temporary Chief Executive Officer to convene a Special Council Meeting on 2 April 2026 at 6:00pm; for the purpose of;**
  - a. Filling the office of Deputy Mayor; and**
  - b. Appointing three (3) Councillors to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC).**
- 2. Request the Temporary Chief Executive Officer to advertise changes in meeting details.**

***CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*

*Against: Nil*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider convening a Special Council Meeting (SCM) scheduled for 2 April 2026. A clerical error in the meeting schedule of November 2025 has been identified where the Council resolved to hold an Ordinary Council Meeting (OCM) on 2 April 2026. This should have been a SCM as is the normal operating process of the Town.

**DETAIL**

An OCM is currently scheduled for 2 April 2026 per Council’s resolution with a further OCM to be held on 29 April 2026. The 2 April 2025 meeting is intended to be the first meeting of the newly elected Council following the declaration of office and is required for the purpose of filling the office of Deputy Mayor in accordance with section 2.15 of the *Local Government Act 1995*. It is noted that in 2021 and 2023 the Council held a Special Council Meeting to elect the Deputy Mayor, following the elections.

Council can determine its meeting arrangements and may cancel a scheduled Ordinary Council Meeting and convene a Special Council Meeting to ensure that Council business can be considered. This approach provides clarity, transparency, and procedural certainty, aligning with established practice for meetings held for a specific statutory purpose.

The TCEO will give notice of the cancellation of the OCM, and the calling of the SCM at the ToPH website as required by Regulation 12 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, and by other means, as appropriate to ensure the public and stakeholders are aware of this important event.

The SCM agenda will also seek to appoint three Council Members to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC). Noting expressions of interest for the Independent members has been completed with suitable and available nominees being reported to the 29 April 2025 OCM.

### **LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

In accordance with Policy 4/009 'Significant Decision Making', this matter is considered to be of low significance, because it relates to procedural meeting arrangements and does not involve a policy decision, financial commitment or strategic change.

### **CONSULTATION**

#### *Internal*

Temporary Chief Executive Officer

#### *External Agencies*

Nil

#### *Community*

Nil

### **LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

#### *Local Government Act 1995*

#### 2.15. Filling office of deputy mayor or deputy president

The deputy mayor or deputy president is to be elected by the council under Schedule 2.3, Division 2.

[Section 2.15 amended: No. 49 of 2004 s. 18]

#### 5.4. Calling council meetings

An ordinary or a special meeting of a council is to be held —

(a) if called for by either —

- (i) the mayor or president; or
  - (ii) at least 1/3 of the councillors,
- in a notice to the CEO setting out the date and purpose of the proposed meeting; or
- (b) if so decided by the council.

*Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*

12. Publication of meeting details (Act s. 5.25(1)(g))

(1) In this regulation —

meeting details, for a meeting, means the date and time when, and the place where, the meeting is to be held.

(2) The CEO must publish on the local government's official website the meeting details for the following meetings before the beginning of the year in which the meetings are to be held —

(a) ordinary council meetings;

(b) committee meetings.

(3) Any change to the meeting details for a meeting referred to in subregulation (2) must be published on the local government's official website as soon as practicable after the change is made.

(4) If a special meeting of the council is to be held, the CEO must publish the meeting details for the meeting, and the purpose of the meeting, on the local government's official website as soon as practicable.

[Regulation 12 inserted: SL 2020/213 r. 18; amended: SL 2025/208 r. 6.]

ToPH Standing Orders Local Law 2014

Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of Reference

Town of Port Hedland Council Meetings and Forum Policy

## **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

### **Council Plan**

The following sections of the Town's *Council Plan 2025-2035* apply in consideration of this item:

Our Leadership: We are united in our actions to connect, listen, support and advocate, thereby leveraging the potential of our people, places and resources.

4.2 Transparent and accountable governance and financial sustainability

**Environmental**

Nil

**Economic**

Nil

**Social**

Nil

There are no significant identifiable environmental, social or economic impacts relating to this item.

**Access and Inclusion**

The following outcomes of the Town’s *Access and Inclusion Plan 2023-2026* apply in relation to this item:

Nil

**RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>Risk Type</b>	Operational
<b>Risk Category</b>	Compliance
<b>Cause</b>	Meeting arrangements are not correctly aligned with the statutory and governance requirements for the first meeting of a newly elected Council, including the filling of the office of Deputy Mayor and the appointment of Councillors to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee
<b>Effect (Consequence)</b>	Procedural non-compliance, delays in establishing key governance roles and committees, potential challenge to the validity of decisions made, and reputational impact arising from inconsistent governance practice.
<b>Risk Treatment</b>	Convene a Special Council Meeting for a single, defined purpose, enabling Council to undertake required statutory and governance establishment actions in a procedurally sound manner.
There is an Operational risk associated with this item caused by misalignment of meeting type with the statutory and governance requirements applicable to the first meeting of a newly elected Council, which may lead to compliance and governance concerns if not addressed.	

The risk rating is considered to be Medium (9), which is determined by a likelihood of Possible (3) and a consequence of Moderate (3).

This risk is considered acceptable due to the following controls in place:

- The Special Council Meeting is limited to clearly defined establishment matters, including the filling of the office of Deputy Mayor and appointment of Councillors to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.
- The approach aligns with established practice following local government elections.
- The risk falls within the Town's acceptable tolerance range.

### **OPTIONS**

Option 1 – Adopt officer's recommendation

Option 2 – Amend officer's recommendation

Option 3 – Do not adopt officer's recommendation

### **CONCLUSION**

Convening a Special Council Meeting provides a clear, transparent and procedurally sound approach. The Council is authorising the Temporary Chief Executive Officer to convene a meeting for a specific purpose. This enables Council to undertake key establishment matters for the newly elected Council, including the filling of the office of Deputy Mayor and the appointment of Councillors to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee. This approach aligns with established governance practice following local government elections and ensures these matters are dealt with in a timely and compliant manner.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

**14 Motions of Which Previous Notice has been given**

Nil

**15 Matters for Which Meeting May be Closed (Confidential Matters)**

Nil

Received two items of new business of an urgent nature, being 13.1 ToPH Forward Improvement Plan and 13.2 Convening of a Special Council Meeting 2 April 2026.

**CM202627/146 SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS****MOVED: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw****SECONDED: CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge****SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS FOR CLOSING REFLECTIONS**

**Being the last Ordinary Council Meeting presided by Commissioners I move to suspend standing orders so to make closing remarks, may I have a seconder.**

***CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)***

*For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich*

*Against: Nil*

*The following closing statements of the Commissioner Chair Jessica Shaw, Commissioner Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and Commissioner Ronald Yuryevich was heard before item 16 Closure. Please listen to the full statements [Here](#)*

Commissioner Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge closing statement:

I believe that in our seven months as commissioners we have acted decisively and in the best interests of the Town. Key milestones include adopting the 2025–26 budget, strengthening project governance, supporting organisational health reform, recruiting a permanent CEO, advancing major projects, and setting a stronger strategic direction. None of this would have been possible without the professionalism and dedication of the administration and staff, whose service to this community deserves sincere thanks.

I also thank my fellow commissioners for the respectful, robust engagement that has guided our decisions. Most importantly, I thank the community of Hedland. You are aspirational, resilient, and deeply committed to this place. It has been a privilege to serve, and I wish the incoming council every success as they lead Hedland into the future. Thank you, Chair.

Commissioner Ronald Yuruevich closing statement:

I accepted this appointment to help steady the boat, and I believe that is what we have done. We restored stability, strengthened leadership, and leave the Town in a better position than when we arrived. This was only possible due to the professionalism and resilience of the CEO, executive team, and staff, who supported us through challenging decisions and sustained momentum throughout our tenure. I thank the community of Port Hedland for your directness, engagement, and encouragement. It has been a privilege to serve a town with such energy and potential. I also thank the Minister for the opportunity and my fellow commissioners for the experience and collaboration.

There is still significant work ahead for the incoming council and mayor, and I wish them every success as they take on that responsibility. Port Hedland is a place of opportunity and now is a time for change and progress. Thank you.

Commissioner Chair Jessica Shaw closing statement:

I accepted this appointment because of the national and local significance of Port Hedland. Over our tenure, our focus has been clear: to steady the ship, restore normal and respectful council processes, and support the administration to strengthen governance, capability, and decision-making.

We have adopted the budget and council plan, recruited a permanent CEO, reviewed governance and project frameworks, cleared legacy policy issues, and initiated a major strategic review that must meaningfully involve the community. The organisational health check has highlighted systemic issues that will require sustained effort, but it also provides a clear pathway for improvement.

None of this would have been possible without the professionalism, commitment, and honesty of the staff, the leadership of the temporary CEO, and the support teams who worked under demanding circumstances. I thank them sincerely, along with my fellow commissioners, for their collaboration and service.

Ultimately, Port Hedland is a resilient, ambitious, and diverse community that deserves a local government capable of meeting its aspirations. I wish the incoming council every success as they take on that responsibility. It has been a privilege to serve the people of Port Hedland. Thank you.

**CM202627/146 SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS****MOVED: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw****SECONDED: CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge****I call that standing orders be reinstated.*****CARRIED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY (3/0)****For: CMM Chair Jessica Shaw, CMM Deputy Chair Martin Aldridge and CMM Ronald Yuryevich**Against: Nil*

## **16 Closure**

### **16.1 Date of Next Meeting**

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Wednesday 29 April 2026 commencing at 5:30pm.

### **16.2 Closure**

There being no further business, the Presiding Member declared the meeting closed.