

# MINUTES

## Special Council Meeting

Tuesday 24 June 2025



**Minutes of the City of Mount Gambier Special Council Meeting held at:**

**Time:** 6:00 pm

**Date:** Tuesday 24 June 2025

**Location:** City Hall

Cave Gardens/Thugi, Mount Gambier

**PRESENT:** Mayor Lynette Martin (OAM)  
Cr Max Bruins  
Cr Paul Jenner  
Cr Mark Lovett  
Cr Josh Lynagh  
Cr Sonya Meziniec  
Cr Frank Morello  
Cr Jason Virgo

<b>OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Chief Executive Officer	- Mrs S Philpott
	General Manager City Infrastructure	- Ms B Cernovskis
	General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services	- Mrs J Fetherstonhaugh
	General Manager People, Place and Liveability	- Mr C White
	Manager Financial Services	- Ms K Rolton
	Manager Development Services	- T Tzioutziouklaris
	Manager Operation Infrastructure	- K Manarangi
	Manager of Performance and Capability	- T McPherson
	Revenue Co-ordinator	- J Scheidl
	Media and Communications Coordinator	- Ms S McLean
	Executive Administrator	- Miss T Chant
	Executive Administrator	- Mrs S Spears

## 1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

**WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE BOANDIK PEOPLES AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND WHERE WE MEET TODAY. WE RESPECT THEIR SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND AND RECOGNISE THE DEEP FEELINGS OF ATTACHMENT OUR FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES HAVE WITH THE LAND.**

## 2 APOLOGIES

Nil

## 3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

## 4 COUNCIL REPORTS

### 4.1 ADOPTION OF 2025/2026 ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN, BUDGET AND RATING POLICIES

Pursuant to Section 75 of the Local Government Act 1999, Cr Max Bruins disclosed a general conflict of interest in Item 4.1 Adoption of 2025/2026 Annual Business Plan, Budget and Rating Policy.

In accordance with Section 75B Cr Max Bruins informed the meeting:



Nature of Interest:

My partner is a volunteer board member of Substance Misuse Limestone Coast, a NGO who has requested funds as part of the budget public consultation process.

Intention to Participate:

My conflict is general only, represents such a small portion of overall budget and there is no personal gain. I will participate in debate and vote but will not move or second the item.

Reason for Participating:

No personal gain and my interests are aligned with that of the broader community.

In accordance with Section 75B of the Local Government Act 1999 Cr Max Bruins remained in the meeting for Item 4.1.

Having participated in the meeting for item 4.1 Cr Max Bruins voted in favour of the motion.

**RESOLUTION SCM 2025/3**

Moved: Cr Paul Jenner

Seconded: Cr Jason Virgo

1. That Council report titled 'Adoption of 2025/2026 Annual Business Plan, Budget and Rating Policies' as presented on Tuesday 24 June 2025 be noted.
2. That Council, having considered the public submissions at the Special Council meeting on 17 June 2025 and the feedback provided at the Audit and Risk Committee on 4 June 2025, adopts the 2025/2026 Annual Business Plan and Budget which includes R105 Rating Policy and R155 Rate Rebate Policy as attached to this report.
3. Pursuant to section 123(7) of the Local Government Act 1999 and regulation 7 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011, that having considered the Budget in conjunction with Annual Business Plan, determine the Budget to be consistent with, the Council's adopted Annual Business Plan per recommendation 2 above.
4. That Council adopts the Budget for the year ending 30 June 2026, as detailed in the attachments to this report which comprise:
  - a) The budgeted financial statements including budgeted Uniform Presentation of Finances.
  - b) Statement within the Annual Business Plan and Budget that the projected operating income is sufficient to meet projected operating expenses as a result of a forecast balanced budget for 2025/2026.
  - c) Estimates with respect to the council's operating surplus ratio, net financial liabilities ratio and asset renewal funding ratio as presented in the Annual Business Plan and Budget.

5. That Council notes the advice received from the Essential Services Commission of South Australia (ESCOSA) and confirms that it has fulfilled all legislative and regulatory obligations under the Local Government Act 1999 and the ESCOSA advisory scheme, and confirms that:
  - a) The advice has been published in both the draft and adopted versions of the 2025/2026 Annual Business Plan in accordance with Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1999;
  - b) Council's response to the advice, where applicable, has also been published as required; and
  - c) These documents will continue to be published annually until the commencement of the next advice cycle, in compliance with the requirements of the ESCOSA advisory scheme.
6. That Council, having acknowledged the verbal submissions received at the Special Council Meeting held on 17 June 2025, and in relation to the 2025/2026 Annual Business Plan and Budget, resolves to:
  - a) Commit to and allocate an amount of \$20,000 from the Grants and Sponsorships Program to Substance Misuse Limestone Coast as a contribution towards funding support for the Limestone Coast Alcohol and Other Drugs Regional Summit 2025 and associated training.
  - b) Commit to and allocate an amount of \$25,000 from the Strategic Capacity Fund to support initiatives aimed at improving the safety and amenity of Frew Park, with the objective of reducing antisocial behaviour.
  - c) That the budgetary alterations arising from these matters be actioned as part of Budget Review 1 for the 2025/2026 financial year.
  - d) Council notes that these budgetary commitments do not alter the overall budget position but utilises funding already contained within the budget in the named program funds.
7. That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer or Delegate to make any necessary changes to the 2025/2026 Annual Business Plan and Budget document arising from this meeting, together with any editorial amendments and finalisation of the document's formatting and graphic design that do not materially alter the integrity of the document.

**CARRIED**

#### **4.2 ADOPTION OF VALUATIONS AND RATES DECLARATION YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2026**

##### **RESOLUTION SCM 2025/4**

Moved: Cr Frank Morello

Seconded: Cr Max Bruins

1. That Council report titled 'Adoption of Valuations and Rates Declaration year ending 30 June 2026' as presented on Tuesday 24 June 2025 be noted.
2. That, pursuant to section 167(1) and (2) of the Local Government Act 1999 Council adopts, for rating purposes for the 2025/2026 financial year, the Valuer General's valuations of the





capital values applicable to land within the area of the Council, totalling \$7,358,665,200 and that the date of adoption of the valuations is 24 June 2025.

3. That pursuant to sections 152 (1)(c), 153 (1)(b) and 156 (1)(a) of the Local Government Act 1999 and in order to raise rates in the amount of \$26,801,034 the Council declares that differential general rates will apply and will vary according to the use of the land and declares the differential general rates for rateable land within the Council area for the 2025/2026 financial year as follows:
  - a) 0.182106 of a cent per dollar of assessed capital value on rateable land of land use category (a) 'Residential', category (g) 'Primary Production' and category (i) 'Other'; and
  - b) 0.491686 of a cent per dollar of assessed capital value on rateable land of land use category (b) 'Commercial-Shop', category (c) 'Commercial Office', category (d) 'Commercial-Other', category (e) 'Industry-Light', category (f) 'Industry Other' and category (h) 'Vacant Land' use.
4. That pursuant to section 152 (1)(c)(ii) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Council imposes in respect of the 2025/2026 financial year a fixed charge on rateable land within the Council area in the sum of \$683.90.
5. That pursuant to section 155(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1999 the Council imposes a Waste Service Charge of \$344.00 for the 2025/2026 financial year on all land to which it provides or makes available the prescribed waste service of bin collection, treatment and disposal in order to raise the amount of \$4,973,208.
6. That in exercise of the powers contained in section 69 of the Landscape South Australia Act 2019 and section 154 of the Local Government Act 1999, in order to reimburse to the Council the amount contributed to the Limestone Coast Landscape Board, being \$1,497,501, differential separate rates based on a fixed charge of an amount that depends upon the use of the land on all rateable land in the Council's area and in the area of the said Board for the 2025/2026 financial year are declared as follows:
  - a) \$95.70 per assessment on rateable land of category (a) 'Residential', category (h) 'Vacant Land' and category (i) 'Other';
  - b) \$142.20 per assessment on rateable land of category (b) 'Commercial-Shop', category (c) 'Commercial-Office' and category (d) 'Commercial-Other';
  - c) \$228.00 per assessment on rateable land of category (e) 'Industry-Light' and category (f) 'Industry-Other';
  - d) \$419.00 per assessment on rateable land of category (g) 'Primary Production'.
7. That pursuant to section 153 (3) of the Local Government Act 1999 and for the financial year ending 30 June 2026 but subject to the criteria set out in the Annual Business Plan 2025/2026 being met, the Council fixes a maximum increase to the general rate of 15% over the amount of the general rate liability for the 2024/2025 financial year in respect of any rateable land that constitutes the principal place of residence of a principal ratepayer and determines that any amount in excess of the 15% be remitted.



8. That pursuant to section 181(2) of the Local Government Act 1999 the Council declares that quarterly payment of rates and charges in respect of the 2025/2026 financial year be payable on or before:

- Friday 5 September 2025
- Friday 5 December 2025
- Friday 6 March 2026
- Friday 5 June 2026

**CARRIED**

#### **4.3 ADOPTION OF LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN (LTFP) 2026-2035**

##### **RESOLUTION SCM 2025/5**

Moved: Cr Paul Jenner

Seconded: Cr Josh Lynagh

1. That Council report titled 'Adoption of Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) 2026-2035' as presented on Tuesday 24 June 2025 be noted.
2. That Council note the Audit and Risk Committee feedback, verbal and written submissions received from members of the public considered at the Special Council meeting held on 17 June 2025 as part of the broader Draft 2025/2026 Annual Business Plan and Budget and Draft Long Term Financial Plan Consultation.
3. That Council adopt the Long Term Financial Plan 2026-2035 as attached to this Report.
4. That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer or Delegate to make any necessary changes to the Long Term Financial Plan 2026-2035 document arising from this meeting, together with any editorial amendments and finalisation of the document's formatting and graphic design that do not materially alter the integrity of the document.

**CARRIED**

#### **5 MEETING CLOSE**

**The meeting closed at 6:24 pm.**

**The minutes of this meeting confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 15 July 2025.**

.....  
**MAYOR**

**TABLED DOCUMENT**



Tabled Document 6.1

Substance Misuse  
Limestone Coast

Budget for Activities





**Substance  
Misuse**  
Limestone  
Coast Inc.

Global Problems, Local Solutions

80 Commercial Street East  
Mount Gambier SA 5290  
  
Telephone 0429 342 175  
Email [sophiebourchier@smlc.com.au](mailto:sophiebourchier@smlc.com.au)  
Website [www.smlc.org.au](http://www.smlc.org.au)

20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

### Budget - Limestone Coast AOD Regional Summit November 2025

Items			In Kind	Notes
Keynote Speakers – Consultant Fees Times 3	Consultant fees for 2 days each. Rex flights play a part in this.	\$12,000		Flights in and out of Mt Gambier are inconsistent & often cancelled. Plan for speakers to stay for 2 nights – reduce risks.
Accommodation & Travel for 3 Speakers	Flights ex Adelaide, Sydney, Melbourne  Accommodation & Meals (offering 2 nights due to fog, flights cancelled etc)	\$4,836  \$1,200 \$450		
Promotion materials		\$3,000		
MC for the day		\$400		
Catering	Expecting approx. 95 people	\$2,850		
Venue Hire		\$300		
Administrative Supplies & Slido for data collection		\$650		
SMLC, Project Manager, Admin Support & Volunteer Board – design, planning, deliver Summit.			\$16,192	
Communications 20 hours		\$3,200		
Total		\$27,886	\$19,392	





**Substance  
Misuse**  
Limestone  
Coast Inc.

Global Problems, Local Solutions

80 Commercial Street East  
Mount Gambier SA 5290  
  
Telephone 0429 342 175  
Email [sophiebourchier@smlc.com.au](mailto:sophiebourchier@smlc.com.au)  
Website [www.smlc.org.au](http://www.smlc.org.au)

## Budgets – Evidence-Based Training for AOD Professionals

Items	Notes	Cost	In Kind	Notes
Borderline Personality Disorder SA – 1 Day training	2 x Trainers 1 X Lived Experience			
Trainer Fees	For 3	\$2,800		
Travel	Flights ex ADL – have been up to \$690 rtn REX	\$2,070		
Accommodation Meals		\$600 \$225		
Catering	40 participants & 25 p/h	\$1,000		
Try Booking & Admin		\$100		
SMLC Project Manager & Admin – 30 hours			\$2,670	Includes evaluation process.
SMLC Comms 4 hours			\$640	
Total		\$6,795	\$3,310	



**Substance  
Misuse**  
Limestone  
Coast Inc.

Global Problems, Local Solutions

80 Commercial Street East  
Mount Gambier SA 5290  
  
Telephone 0429 342 175  
Email [sophiebourchier@smlc.com.au](mailto:sophiebourchier@smlc.com.au)  
Website [www.smlc.org.au](http://www.smlc.org.au)

Items	Notes	Cost	In Kind	Notes
Motivational Interviewing	2 X Trainers			
Trainer Fees	Specialists cost >	\$4,000		
Travel ex ADL or MELB		\$1,380		
Accommodation & Meals		\$825		
Catering	40 Participants	\$1,000		
Try Booking & Admin		\$100		
SMLC PM & Admin – 30 hours			\$2,670	Includes evaluation process
SMLC Comms – 4 hours			\$640	
Total		\$7,305	\$3,310	