

OFFICIAL



Mansfield Shire Council Meeting

Tuesday 19 May 2026 5:00 pm
Mansfield Shire Council Chamber

Notice and Agenda of meeting livestreamed via the
[Mansfield Shire Council website](#)

Our aspiration for our Shire and its community

We live, work and play in an inclusive, dynamic and prosperous place where
community spirit is strong and people are empowered to engage in issues that
affect their lives.

Councillors

Cr Steve Rabie (Mayor)
Cr James Tehan (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Mandy Treasure
Cr Bonnie Clark
Cr Tim Berenyi

Officers

Kirsten Alexander, Chief Executive Officer
Melissa Crane, General Manager Investment & Planning
Janique Snyder, Executive Manager Community Health & Wellbeing
Justin Hotton, Executive Manager Capital Works & Operations
Maya Balvonova, Executive Manager Development & Customer Service

Order of Business

1. Opening of the meeting

The Mayor, who chairs the meeting, will formally open the meeting and welcome all present.

2. Present

Where a meeting is held virtually, Councillors will confirm that they can see and hear each other.

3. Apologies

Where a Councillor is not present, their absence is noted in the Minutes of the meeting.

4. Statement of commitment

The Council affirms its commitment to ensuring its behaviour meets the standards set by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

5. Acknowledgement of Country

The Council affirms its recognition of the Taungurung people being traditional custodians of this area, and pays respect to their Elders past and present.

6. Disclosure of conflicts of interest

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, a Councillor must declare any Conflicts of Interest pursuant to sections 126 and 127 Act in any items on this Agenda.

Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to any items listed on this Agenda must declare a Conflict of Interest regarding the specific item.

7. Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting are placed before Council to confirm the accuracy and completeness of the record.

8. Representations

Council receives or presents acknowledgements to the general public. Deputations may also be heard by members of the general public who have made submission on any matter or requested to address the Council. Council may also receive petitions from residents and ratepayers on various issues. Any petitions received since the previous Council meeting are tabled at the meeting and the matter referred to the appropriate Council officer for consideration.

9. Notices of Motion

A Motion is a request (Notice of Motion) that may be made by a Councillor for an issue not listed on the Agenda to be discussed at a Council meeting and for a decision to be made.

10. Mayor's report

The Mayor provides a report on their activities.

11. Reports from council appointed representatives

Councillors appointed by Council to external committees will provide an update where relevant.

12. Public question time

Councillors will respond to questions from the community that have been received in writing, by midday on the Monday prior to the Council meeting. A form is provided on Council's website.

13. Officer reports

13.1 Council considers a report from the Chief Executive Officer on the current operations, activities and projects undertaken with each department over the past month

13.2-13.5 Officer reports are presented to the Council, where required.

14. Council resolutions report

Council reviews the outstanding actions arising from resolutions from previous Council meetings.

15. Advisory and Special Committee reports

Council considers reports from Advisory Committees that Councillors represent Council on.

16. Authorisation of sealing of documents

Any documents that are required to be endorsed by the Chief Executive Officer under delegated authority and sealed by the Council are presented to the Council.

17. Closure of meeting to members of the public

Whilst all Council meetings are open to members of the public, Council has the power under the Local Government Act 2020 to close its meeting to the general public in certain circumstances which are noted where appropriate on the Council Agenda. Where this occurs, members of the public are excluded from the meeting while the matter is being discussed.

18. Presentation of confidential reports

19. Reopen meeting to members of the public

The Mayor will reopen the meeting to members of the public.

20. Close of meeting

The Mayor will formally close the meeting and thank all present for attending.

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Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting

2. Present

The Chair will call on any Councillor/s attending the meeting virtually and ask them to confirm verbally that they can see all Councillors and hear the proceedings.

Councillor/s attending virtually will respond to their name with: "I can hear the proceedings and see all Councillors and Council officers".

The Chair will ask the Councillor/s to confirm by raising their hand that they could all hear each statement of the Councillors.

Councillors will raise their hand to acknowledge they can hear each other.

3. Apologies

The Chair will call on the CEO for any apologies.

4. Statement of commitment

The Chair will read the statement and call on each Councillor to confirm their commitment:

"As Councillors of Mansfield Shire we are committed to ensuring our behaviour meets the standards set by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct. We will, at all times, faithfully represent and uphold the trust placed in us by the community."

5. Acknowledgement of Country

The Deputy Mayor will recite Council's Acknowledgement of Country:

"Our meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the Taungurung people. We wish to acknowledge them as the traditional custodians and pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We extend that respect to all members of our community."

6. Disclosure of conflicts of interest

The Chair will call on each Councillor in turn and ask them to declare whether they have any conflicts of interest in relation to any agenda items:

- Councillor Tehan
- Councillor Treasure
- Councillor Clark
- Councillor Berenyi

7. Confirmation of minutes

Recommendation

THAT the Minutes of the Mansfield Shire Council meeting held on 21 April 2026 and 5 May 2026 be confirmed as an accurate record.

8. Representations

9. Notices of motion

Nil

10. Mayor's report

Mayor Steve Rabie will present the monthly Mayor's report to the Council as follows:

May is traditionally a quieter month in the Mansfield Shire Council area, and we are beginning to see that reflected across the Shire with visitor numbers easing after a very busy summer and autumn period.

The Jamieson Autumn Festival, which seems to grow bigger and better every year, marked the end of another successful visitor season. The vibrant 2026 festival once again showcased the wonderful community spirit of Jamieson and highlighted the natural beauty of our region during autumn.

As we farewell our warm-weather visitors, I hope our local community enjoys a well-earned breather before the snow season brings the next wave of visitors back to the High Country in June.

One of my favourite duties as Mayor is officiating Citizenship Ceremonies, and this month I had the privilege of presiding over a ceremony where 16 residents officially became Australian citizens. I understand this was the largest citizenship ceremony ever held in Mansfield, which reflects the growing diversity and multicultural nature of our community.

I congratulate each of our 16 new Australians for making the commitment to become citizens of this great nation. During my years at sea, I was fortunate to see many parts of the world, but nowhere ever compared to home. I firmly believe Australia is the greatest country on earth, and citizenship — whether granted by birth or chosen later in life — is both an incredible privilege and responsibility. I wish each of our newest citizens every success and happiness as they begin this new chapter as Australians.

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the recent opening of the Youth Art Exhibition at the Visitor Information Centre, but I have heard overwhelmingly positive feedback about the event. I am extremely proud of the young members of the Amplify Committee who planned and delivered the opening. By all accounts, they did an outstanding job.

The exhibition features the work of 10 highly talented young local artists working across a range of mediums. Mansfield Shire has long enjoyed a strong and vibrant artistic community, which forms an important part of our local identity and culture. It is encouraging to see the next generation continuing that tradition with such enthusiasm and talent.

To conclude this month's report, I would like to briefly touch on the State Government's recent budget announcement. As Council finalises its own draft budget ahead of public exhibition, the difficult balancing act of managing limited resources while trying to meet the expectations and priorities of our community is very much front of mind.

For that reason, I must say I was disappointed with the State Budget and what appears to be, once again, a lack of meaningful investment into regional Victoria. Regional Victoria is home to

around a quarter of the state's population and contributes enormously to Victoria's economy through agriculture, tourism, energy production and freight. Regional communities deserve infrastructure investment that properly reflects that contribution.

The State Government has announced a record \$1.04 billion allocation towards repairing roads and potholes across Victoria, with claims that 70 per cent of that funding will be directed to regional areas. I sincerely hope this delivers real outcomes on the ground and proves to be more than election-year rhetoric.

Despite last year's record investment of \$976 million, many roads across regional Victoria remain in poor condition, with local communities continuing to raise serious concerns about safety, maintenance and the growing cost of doing business in the bush. Council will continue to advocate strongly on behalf of our Shire and regional communities to ensure our fair share of infrastructure investment is delivered where it is needed most.

*Cr Steve Rabie
Mayor*

Recommendation

THAT COUNCIL receive the Mayor's report for the period 22 April 2026 to 12 May 2026.

11. Reports from council appointed representatives

Councillors appointed by Council to internal and external committees will provide a verbal update where relevant.

Committee	Responsible Councillor(s)
Australia Day Awards Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Cr Steve Rabie • Cr James Tehan • Cr Mandy Treasure
Goulburn Murray Climate Alliance (GMCA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr Tim Berenyi
Hume Regional Local Government Network (HRLGN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Cr Steve Rabie
Mansfield Shire Council Audit and Risk Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Cr Steve Rabie • Cr Mandy Treasure
Mansfield Shire CEO Employment Matters Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Cr Steve Rabie • Cr James Tehan • Cr Bonnie Clark
Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Cr Steve Rabie • Substitute - Deputy Mayor Cr James Tehan
North East Local Government Waste and Recovery Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr Tim Berenyi
Rural Councils Victoria (RCV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr James Tehan
Station Precinct Museum Community Asset Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Cr Steve Rabie
Taungurung-Local Government Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Cr Steve Rabie

Recommendation

THAT COUNCIL note the verbal reports provided by Councillors in relation to their representation on internal and external Committees.

12. Public question time

Council welcomes questions from the community. A question must be submitted by midday on the Monday prior to the Council meeting. The [‘ask a question’ form](#) is available from Council's website.

The Mayor will read out the question and answer at the meeting.

13. Officer reports

13.1. Chief Executive Officer's report

File Number: E103

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer, Kirsten Alexander

Introduction

The Chief Executive Officer's report allows a short briefing to be provided to the Council on the current operations, tasks and projects undertaken within each department over the past month.

The Chief Executive Officer report will provide information relation to:

- ▶ Customer Service
- ▶ Capital Works
- ▶ Statutory and Strategic Planning
- ▶ Waste Services (Landfill)
- ▶ Field Services
- ▶ Youth Services and Events
- ▶ Library
- ▶ Communications
- ▶ Digital Transformation Project

Recommendation

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's report for the period 1 April 2026 to 30 April 2026.

Support Attachments

1. CEO Monthly Report - April 2026 [13.1.1.1 - 37 pages]

13.2. Investment and Planning

13.2.1. Tourism Reference Group

File Number	E15341	Responsible Officer	Interim Senior Coordinator Economic Development, Gareth MacDonald
Purpose			

To seek Council endorsement to establish a Tourism Reference Group in response to key actions within the Sustainable Tourism Plan 2024–2028 and Destination Management Action Plan (DMAP).

Executive Summary

The Sustainable Tourism Plan 2024–2028 and the associated Destination Management Action Plan (DMAP) identify the need for strengthened industry collaboration and engagement between Council and the tourism sector. To achieve this, it is proposed that Council establish a Tourism Reference Group (TRG) within Mansfield Shire.

Key Issues

The wider industry network, through Tourism Connect, is attended by operators when they are available and doesn't require any particular commitment from participants. The use of the Tourism Reference Group (TRG) will provide a more structured way to seek information from the industry into a range of strategic matters. The TRG will draw from information operators gain at the Tourism Connect meetings and in conversations with fellow industry members to help provide Council with information that will assist in decision making.

These two complementary groups respond directly to the priorities of the plans by:

- ▶ Enhancing communication between Council and industry
- ▶ Supporting coordinated destination development
- ▶ Providing structured opportunities for industry input into strategic initiatives

Overview of Groups

1. Tourism Connect (Industry Network)

Tourism Connect is an open, inclusive network designed for the broader tourism industry and community. The purpose of this group is to provide a platform for information sharing, collaboration, and capacity building across the tourism sector. This group is informal in structure and open to all interested stakeholders, including businesses, community members, and industry partners.

The key functions of this group are:

- ▶ Host workshops, training, and industry briefings
- ▶ Facilitate networking and peer-to-peer collaboration
- ▶ Provide a forum for information and feedback on Council-led initiatives and projects
- ▶ Support delivery of key destination development projects

- ▶ Strengthen industry cohesion and social connection

2. Tourism Reference Group

The proposed Tourism Reference Group is a more structured body providing industry information to Council on tourism matters. The purpose of this group is to seek informed, sector-based information for Council on sustainable tourism development, priorities and implementation of strategic plans.

Council officers are proposing the following membership representation to include a cross-section of the tourism industry, as follows:

- ▶ 2-3 Accommodation providers
- ▶ 2 Visitor experience operators
- ▶ 2 Retail sector representatives
- ▶ 2 Caravan and holiday park operators
- ▶ 1-2 Transport providers
- ▶ 2-3 Food & Beverage operators
- ▶ 1 Delatite Chamber of Commerce representative

The Tourism Reference Group will:

- ▶ Provide strategic input and advice on implementation of the Sustainable Tourism Plan and DMAP to Council officers
- ▶ Identify emerging opportunities and challenges within the tourism sector
- ▶ Offer industry insight and engagement to help inform Council proposals and decision-making
- ▶ Liaise with Tourism North East on matters specific to Mansfield Shire
- ▶ Support alignment between industry needs and Council priorities
- ▶ Act as a conduit between the broader industry (via Tourism Connect) and Council

A copy of the proposed terms of reference is attached to this report.

Membership will be appointed through an Expression of Interest (EOI) process, which Council officers introduced at the recent Tourism Connect meeting via an in-person expression of interest with details to follow.

This group will be required to operate under Terms of Reference and in accordance with relevant Council policies. These are attached for Council endorsement.

Recommendation	
THAT COUNCIL endorse the creation of a Tourism Reference Group under the guidelines in the Terms of Reference.	
Support Attachments	
1.	Tourism Reference Group TOR [13.2.1.1 - 3 pages]
2.	sustainable-tourism-plan-2024-28 [13.2.1.2 - 32 pages]
3.	DMAP 2025 - 2028 Final [13.2.1.3 - 11 pages]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable.

Community Engagement

Membership of the Tourism Reference Group will be undertaken through an Expression of Interest process, advertised in the Business Newsletter and through Council's social media channels.

Collaboration

Council will be actively collaborating with the tourism industry in Mansfield Shire as part of this reference group. Tourism North East will also work with Council officers and the reference group.

Financial Impact

All work to create the reference group has been undertaken internally by Council Officers within existing staff resources. There will be some officer time utilised to organise and administer the group.

Legal and Risk Implications

Not Applicable

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

This Reference Group is being set up as a result of the Mansfield Shire Sustainable Tourism Plan and Destination Management Action Plan. Council also considers the strategies and actions in the Ovens Murray Regional Economic Development Strategy.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

This group will allow Council to seek input from the tourism industry and provide for opportunities and ideas to help inform Council's actions in this area, providing for innovation and improvement.

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 1: A Healthy and Connected Community

Strategic Objective 1.1 Strengthen community connection, inclusion and participation

Theme 2: Vibrant Liveability

Strategic Objective 2.2 Plan and deliver sustainable, future-ready infrastructure and land use

Strategic Objective 2.4 Strengthen and diversify the local economy and visitor appeal

Theme 3: An Effective and Efficient Council

Strategic Objective 3.1 Deepen community engagement and foster civic responsibility

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.2.2. Project CODI Carry Forward

File Number	E14130	Responsible Officer	General Manager Investment & Planning, Melissa Crane
Purpose			

This report seeks a decision of Council in relation to a carry forward project from 2024-25.

Executive Summary

In accordance with Council’s Carry Forward Projects Policy, Council may choose to carry forward unspent funds from one financial year to the next, to enable completion of a committed project.

Instances and circumstances that may give rise to a valid carry forward are outlined in the policy as follows:

- ▶ Capital and Operating Projects that have commenced prior to the end of the financial year they were originally budgeted within; and/or
- ▶ Projects for which Council has received funding and is committed (in writing) to completing; and/or
- ▶ Projects where there is a legal or contractual commitment in place which needs managing through to completion.

At the November 2025 meeting of Council, carry forward projects totalling \$437,834 in operating and \$395,280 in capital were approved. A carry forward for the CODI Project was not included in this approval but is required due to the final timing of the system rollout. Council approval to carry forward \$659,493 for the CODI Project is sought, noting that the project remains within budget.

Key Issues

The CODI (Collaborative Digital) project has replaced a number of out-of-date systems with a core ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) being Civica Altitude and some best of breed components, e.g. E-VIS Greenlight for Planning, Building, and Regulatory, and Microsoft SharePoint as the core for Records Management, in collaboration with Murrindindi Shire Council, Benalla Rural City Council and Strathbogie Shire Council.

When the budget was prepared for FY2025-26, the implementation of the ERP in all councils was proposed to be completed within the FY2024-25 financial year and the budgeted carry forward was \$166,390. However, a change was made in the timing for the ERP system go-live dates for each of the Councils in 2025 to avoid their end of financial year reporting and audit processes. This resulted in the expenditure for this system being deferred from FY2024-25 to FY2025-26. The calculation of the required carry forward amount and its presentation to Council in November 2025 was delayed due to the User Acceptance Testing, training and rollout of the ERP system which occurred in late 2025.

It is noted that the project has been funded from the following sources:

Source	Total Funding
Rural Council's Transformation Program	\$1,000,000
Business Acceleration Fund #1	\$888,000
Business Acceleration Fund #2	\$528,000
Benalla Contribution	\$563,708
Mansfield Contribution	\$573,708
Murrindindi Contribution	\$588,955
Strathbogrie Contribution	\$592,905
Animals and Infringements	\$188,100
Total Funding	\$4,923,376

The funds for the project have been received and expended over the past four financial years. Each year, unexpended funds are carried forward to the next year, until the end of the project.

In order to demonstrate the required carry forward for this financial year the following income and expenditure analysis for the project has been completed as follows:

Financial Year	Income	Expenditure	Unexpended funds at EOFY
2022-23	\$1,250,743	\$110,437	\$1,140,306
2023-24	\$637,753	\$1,252,409	\$525,650
2024-25	\$2,006,780	\$1,706,547	\$825,883
2025-26 (current)	\$728,100	\$1,457,525	\$96,458
2026-27	\$300,000	\$378,184	\$18,274
TOTAL	\$4,923,376	\$4,905,102	\$18,274 Forecast Surplus

This shows that the carry forward required for the project this financial year was \$825,883 (based on the revised rollout timing) but only \$166,390 was carried forward when the 2025-26 Budget was adopted. Overall expenditure for the project remains within the approved project budget.

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL approves an additional carry forward fund from 2024-25 to the 2025-26 Budget for the CODI project, in the amount of \$659,493.
Support Attachments
Nil

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

The CODI Project has replaced a number of out-of-date systems, which are core to Council operations. The renewal and maintenance of these systems is fundamental to financial and operational sustainability. The project has also strengthened relationships and mutual support between staff employed in similar roles across the four councils, further improving operational sustainability.

Community Engagement

Not Applicable

Collaboration

This project has been a collaboration with Murrindindi Shire Council, Strathbogie Shire Council and Benalla Rural City Council.

Financial Impact

The project has been tracking within budget, as demonstrated above, however, the additional carry forward amount of \$659,493 from 2024-25 is required due to a change in the rollout timing (Mansfield Shire was originally planned to 'go-live' in FY2024-25). The impact on the EOFY results from FY2024-25 is that the surplus of \$12,397,166, will now be \$11,737,673.

Legal and Risk Implications

Not Applicable

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Council officers have given due consideration to the *Carry Forward Project Policy* in the preparation of this paper.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Renewal of the core systems included in Project CODI has offered the opportunity for innovation and continuous improvement in council operations, with operational benefits being tracked by the project control group.

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 3: An Effective and Efficient Council

Strategic Objective 3.2 Ensure responsible and innovative resource management

Strategic Objective 3.3 Maintain strong governance, transparency and accountability

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.2.3. TNE Regional MoU

File Number	E15341	Responsible Officer	Interim Senior Coordinator Economic Development, Gareth MacDonald
Purpose			

To seek Council endorsement of the Memorandum of Understanding with Tourism North East for 2026-27 to 2028-29. This MoU will commence on 1 July 2026 and will expire on 30 June 2029, effectively covering three financial years: 2026-27, 2027-28 and 2028-29.

Executive Summary

Tourism North East is the peak regional tourism body for Victoria’s High Country and operates as a Visitor Economy Partnership (VEP) under the Victorian Government.

Mansfield Shire Council has historically maintained a strong partnership with TNE, through a Memorandum of Understanding, contributing financially to:

- ▶ Regional marketing campaigns
- ▶ Industry and product development programs
- ▶ Public relations and media engagement
- ▶ Digital platforms, including Council’s destination website
- ▶ Strategic advocacy and investment attraction

The shared MOU has been the foundation behind the High Country’s growing visitor economy, keeping the region moving in the same direction. With the current three-year agreement ending 30 June 2026, a new MOU has been provided for the next three-year term.

A copy of the draft MOU is attached to this paper.

Key Issues

The relationship with TNE delivers significant regional value, particularly in areas where Council does not have internal capacity or budget to deliver independently. Council’s investment and agreements provide access to a range of services and outcomes that would be difficult to replicate locally.

It is noted that Council currently does not have a dedicated tourism marketing budget or resourcing to replace these functions at scale. Having TNE undertake this important work allows access to the whole TNE team of people with a range of different skills that Council does not have in-house.

Council’s investment in Tourism North East also provides strong value for money through the increased reach that comes from working collaboratively with other North East Victorian shires. By being part of a larger regional partnership, Mansfield benefits from access to well-established marketing and social media channels that have a much broader audience than Council could likely achieve on its own. TNE’s “See High Country” platforms significantly expand the visibility of Mansfield’s tourism assets, events and operators, helping promote our region to more potential visitors through shared campaigns and regional branding. The See High Country Instagram account has 91.5k followers, recently overtaking the Great Ocean Road (84.8k) as

Victorias most followed region. This collaborative approach allows Council to stretch its investment further, benefiting from pooled resources and a stronger collective presence than would be possible independently.

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL endorse the Memorandum of Understanding with Tourism North East for the three year period, commencing on 1 July 2026 and expiring on 30 June 2029.
Support Attachments
1. Regional TNE Mo U 26 - 29 [13.2.3.1 - 8 pages]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

Not Applicable

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

This report was prepared by Council officers within existing resources. Council's CEO represents Mansfield Shire Council on the Board of TNE as part of the MOU. Any costs associated with TNE are accounted for in the Budget on an annual basis. For FY2026-27 the buy in is \$113,223. Estimated spend over the three-year term of the MOU is estimated to be \$340,000. This is made up of a base membership fee, which increases by CPI each year, and a range of other elements including:

- ▶ Industry and product development
- ▶ Marketing
- ▶ Digital
- ▶ Regional products
- ▶ Public Relations

Legal and Risk Implications

Not Applicable.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Not Applicable

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not Applicable

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 1: A Healthy and Connected Community

Strategic Objective 1.1 Strengthen community connection, inclusion and participation

Strategic Objective 1.3 Promote health and wellbeing across all life stages

Theme 2: Vibrant Liveability

Strategic Objective 2.4 Strengthen and diversify the local economy and visitor appeal

Theme 3: An Effective and Efficient Council

Strategic Objective 3.2 Ensure responsible and innovative resource management

Strategic Objective 3.3 Maintain strong governance, transparency and accountability

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.3. Development & Customer Service

13.3.1. Mansfield and District (MAD) Potters Lease

File Number	AG1442	Responsible Officer	Strategic Property Program Manager, Renee Archibald
Purpose			

To seek Council approval for the extension of the Mansfield and District MAD Potters Inc. (MAD Potters) lease of the Mansfield Police Stables for a ten-year term commencing 1 July 2026, with an option for one further ten-year extension. Renewal of the second term would be subject to mutual agreement between the parties and continued compliance with the lease conditions.

Executive Summary

The MAD Potters have been leasing the Mansfield Police Stables (The Clay Stables) 5 Curia Street since 1 December 2023 under a five-year lease term with a further five-year option, operating on a peppercorn rental arrangement of \$1 per annum payable upon demand.

The MAD Potters are a not-for-profit group formed in 2022 to connect potters and foster a shared space for pottery enthusiasts. Their main goals include establishing a Pottery Festival and a Community Pottery Studio accessible to Mansfield residents.

The lease of the historic Mansfield Police Stables was originally publicly advertised in 2023 through an Expression of Interest process in accordance with section 115 of the Local Government Act 2020, in alignment with Council's Community Engagement Policy. On conclusion of the Expression of Interest process, Council approved a lease of the premises to the MAD Potters for an initial term of 5 years, with the option of one further 5-year extension.

In February 2026, Council received a request from the group seeking to extend the lease to two (2) ten-year terms.

The lease extension request was submitted with the aim of providing greater long-term security and supporting the continued growth and sustainability of The Clay Stables, following the group's strong success, growing membership, and increased community engagement in Mansfield.

Key Issues

The Clay Stables plays a significant role in the annual Mansfield Pottery Festival and contributes significantly to the cultural identity of the municipality. The Mansfield and District MAD Potters have received multiple recognition and awards, including Australia Day Awards for Community Group of the Year and Community Event of the Year, as well as a Keep Australia Beautiful Award for Community Sustainability.

Membership has grown substantially, from 30 members in March 2025 to 86 active participants, and the group has secured nearly \$100,000 (ex GST) in external funding to expand tools and equipment. The facility currently operates five days a week from 11:00am to 2:00pm, with additional sessions offered in response to community demand. The heritage character of the

building continues to enhance the creative environment and contribute to the group’s popularity.

The proposed lease agreement would grant the Mansfield and District MAD Potters the right to occupy the Mansfield Police Stables for a ten-year term commencing 1 July 2026, with an option for one further ten-year extension. Renewal of the second term would be subject to mutual agreement between the parties and continued compliance with the lease conditions.

The lease agreement is proposed to continue on a peppercorn basis, with the lessee required to pay rent of \$1.00 per annum if demanded, consistent with the existing arrangement (refer Attachment 1).

The proposed lease agreement can be found in Attachment 2.

Recommendation
<p>THAT COUNCIL:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approves the proposal to enter into a ten (10) year lease with the Mansfield and District MAD Potters for the use of the Clay Stables, commencing 1 July 2026 and expiring 30 June 2036, subject to public notification of the intention to extend the lease. 2. Approves the inclusion of an option for a further term of ten (10) years subject to mutual agreement between the parties and continued compliance with the lease conditions. 3. Approves the proposal for the lease to continue on a peppercorn basis, with the lessee required to pay rent of \$1.00 per annum if demanded, consistent with the existing lease agreement. 4. Provides public notification of the intention to enter a lease agreement with Mansfield and District MAD Potters. 5. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute the lease agreement on completion of the public notification process.
Support Attachments
Nil

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

In accordance with Council’s Community Engagement Policy, it is proposed that a public notice be issued to inform the community of Council’s intention to extend the lease. Under section 115 of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act), Council must obtain a formal Council resolution before entering a lease of 10 years or more, or where the cumulative lease term (including any options) exceeds 10 years.

As required by the Act, this notice of intention to enter a lease will be provided as part of the public exhibition of the Proposed Budget 2026-27, ensuring the community has an opportunity to comment on the proposed lease extension.

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

The current lease expires on 30 November 2028. The arrangement operates as a peppercorn lease, however, no rent is collected, and the \$1 amount is not invoiced. The tenant is responsible for 100% of all outgoings associated with service usage, with these charges issued and covered directly by the tenant. Budgetary impact to Council for building improvement works is mitigated by collaborating with the MAD Potters, with the community group sourcing external funds from grants wherever possible.

Legal and Risk Implications

The lease agreement has been drafted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020. The intention to enter into a longer lease agreement with the MAD Potters will be advertised in the Mansfield Courier and on Council's website, in accordance with Section 115 of the Local Government Act 2020.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Not Applicable

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not Applicable

Alignment to Council Plan

The following strategies are relevant to this report:

Theme 1: Connected and Healthy Community

- ▶ Strategic Objective 2: Activities that promote connection and fitness of our people and visitors.
- ▶ Strategy 2.2: Create an environment where community and clubs can recreate, socialise, and contribute to the health and wellbeing of the community.

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council

- ▶ Strategic Objective 8: A consultative Council that represents and empowers its community.
- ▶ Strategy 8.1: Increase community trust in Council to make informed decisions with “no surprises.”

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.3.2. Mansfield Men's Shed - Request for Support

File Number	AG1371	Responsible Officer	Strategic Property Program Manager, Renee Archibald
Purpose			

To seek in-principle support from Council for the future allocation of a portion of the subject land at 35-37 Ailsa Street, Mansfield, to Mansfield Men’s Shed Inc., to allow the group to submit grant applications for external funding of a new shed on the land.

Council’s in principle support for the expansion of the Mansfield Men’s Shed on a portion of the Ailsa Street site would need to be contingent on the completion of the final certification of the subdivision, transfer of the land to Council ownership and completion of a community engagement process.

Executive Summary

Mansfield Men’s Shed Inc. has requested Council’s in principle support to expand its existing lease footprint to enable construction of a new shed facility. The group currently leases 17 Erril Street under a 10-year agreement (commenced 1 April 2022), with two additional 10-year options on a peppercorn rental arrangement.

The proposed expansion is linked to Council’s acquisition and subdivision of land from the Bowls Club, which is anticipated to be finalised in 6-8 weeks following certification of the subdivision plan. All infrastructure components required to effect the subdivision are now complete, and Council has already paid the first instalment to the Bowls Club.

This report seeks Council’s in-principle approval for the future allocation of a portion of the land for the construction of the shed, once the land is owned by Council. It is proposed that Council provide a formal resolution of support for the project, subject to final certification of the subdivision plan being completed, and completion of community engagement over the proposal, to enable the Men’s Shed to progress external grant applications.

Council support for the proposal is recommended in recognition of the significant community wellbeing benefits provided by the Mansfield Men’s Shed, with the proposed expansion catering for their future growth requirements.

Key Issues

Mansfield Men’s Shed is a well-established and highly valued non-profit community organization supporting approximately 80 members and delivering strong social, cultural and wellbeing outcomes.

The Mansfield Men’s Shed has requested:

- ▶ Expansion of its lease footprint to construct a new shed on the adjacent land at 35-37 Ailsa Street, once the land has transferred to Council
- ▶ A Letter of Intent to support a Building Permit application
- ▶ A Letter of Support for a grant application (closing 4 June 2026)
- ▶ Formal Council support for the project to strengthen their funding eligibility

The proposed expansion would:

- ▶ Improve storage and functionality
- ▶ Enable installation of specialised machinery
- ▶ Expand workshop and project capability
- ▶ Provide additional community gathering space
- ▶ Support long-term sustainability and growth

The requested area is shown on the aerial image below, with an approximate area of 23m by 17m, or 391 square metres.



Image 1: Proposed increase footprint on Bowls Club site

The Men's Shed also proposes to include an outdoor BBQ and seating in the new area to cater for increased participation at weekly gatherings, including Bindaree associate members. A corridor adjacent to the proposed shed would provide secure storage for timber and their trailer, which is currently stored off-site at a residential location.

The proposed area is centrally located, easily accessible, and offers sufficient space to support future growth, additional structures, and parking. Collectively, these improvements would underpin the long-term sustainability of the Men's Shed and its ability to continue supporting the Mansfield Shire community.

The Men's Shed have provided a conceptual floorplan for the proposed new shed, as shown below:

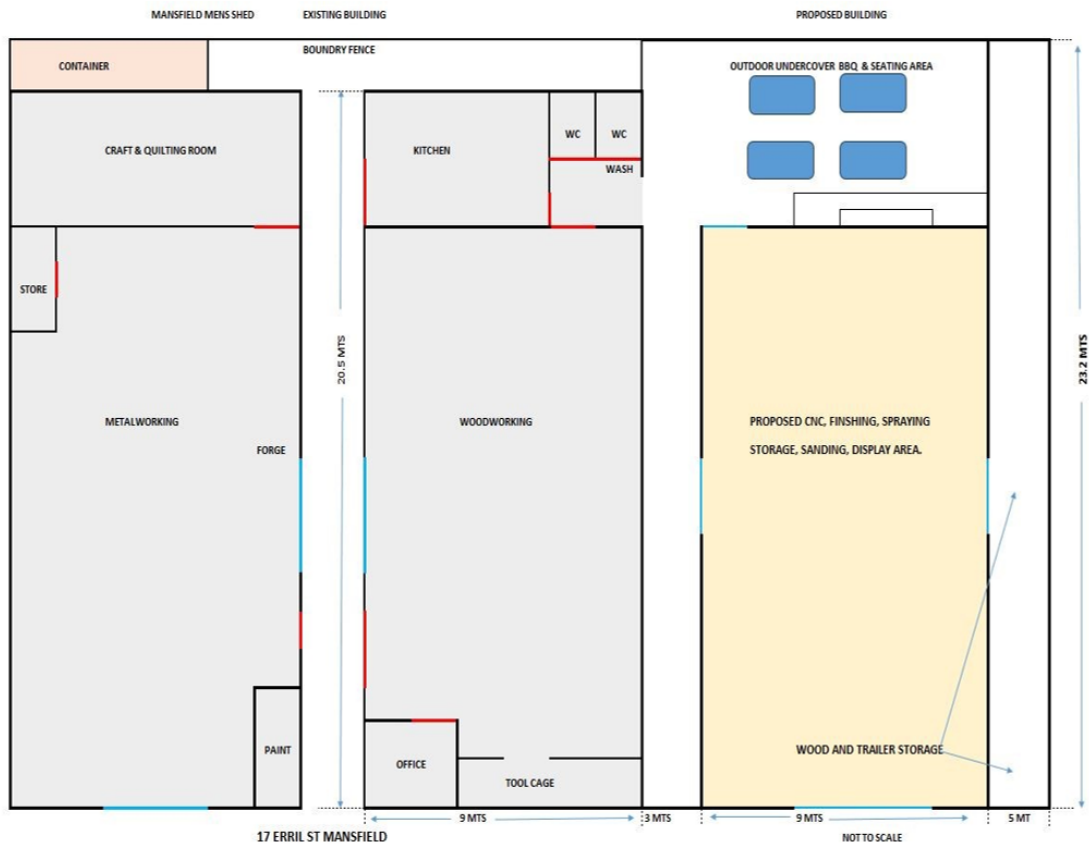


Image 2: Proposed Floorplan Concept for the added Shed

In support of the project, and to enable the Men's Shed to progress planning for the new shed, the Men's Shed have requested a Letter of Intent to accompany its Building Permit application, as well as a Letter of Support from Council for an upcoming grant application, due for submission on 4 June 2026.

This request also provides an opportunity for Council to determine its preferred approach regarding the future use of this land and to undertake some initial community engagement seeking community input on future needs for the land once transferred.

It is proposed that Council provides in-principle support for the allocation of a portion of the land to the Mansfield Men's Shed, recognising the significant community benefit of the organisation and its future growth needs and also undertakes engagement with the broader community.

This in-principle support from Council would:

- ▶ Enable the Men's Shed to access grant funding opportunities.
- ▶ Provide a formal Council resolution of support for the project, subject to final certification of the subdivision plan, transfer of land, and completion of community engagement in accordance with Council policy.

This method is consistent with Council's previous approach in supporting the Year-Round Aquatic Facility for Mansfield (YAFM), where land was formally designated to strengthen funding applications and project feasibility work.

It is acknowledged that the subject land forms part of the broader Errill Street precinct. As such, the future use and integration of the site should ultimately be considered through a comprehensive master planning process, including:

- ▶ Community engagement on future land use(s).
- ▶ Integrated planning for roads, parking, and surrounding community facilities such as the Mansfield Community Centre, Youth Centre and Library.

The provision of early in-principle and conditional project support (subject to subdivision certification, land transfer, and community engagement) would allow the Mansfield Men’s Shed to progress time-sensitive funding and planning opportunities, while not precluding broader future strategic planning for the precinct.

Recommendation

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Acknowledges the community benefits provided by the Mansfield Men’s Shed Inc., their identified future growth requirements, and need for external funding for a new shed to support their future growth.
2. Provides in-principle support for the allocation of a portion of the subject land at 35-37 Ailsa Street, Mansfield, to Mansfield Men’s Shed Inc., to enable the group to seek external funding for a new shed and associated facilities.
3. Notes that Council’s in principle support for the project relies on the final certification of the subdivision plan and transfer of the land to Council ownership.
4. Endorses in principle the proposal to enter into a lease with Mansfield Men’s Shed Inc. for the new shed footprint, under the same terms and conditions as the existing lease, subject to:
 - a. completion of subdivision certification;
 - b. mutual agreement between the parties;
 - c. continued compliance with the lease conditions; and
 - d. completion of community engagement over the proposal.
5. Approves the Mayor signing a Letter of Intent and Letter(s) of Support to enable Mansfield Men’s Shed Inc. to progress planning and to seek external funding for the new shed and associated facilities.
6. Resolves to give public notice of Council’s intention to support the expansion of the Mansfield Men’s Shed on a portion of the Ailsa Street site, once the site has transferred to Council ownership, and seeks community feedback on the future use(s) of the site in accordance with statutory requirements under the Local Government Act 2020.
7. Notes that a further report will be provided to Council on conclusion of the land transfer and community engagement process.

Support Attachments

Nil

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

The proposal supports the long-term sustainability of the Mansfield Men’s Shed Inc., a key community organisation, by enabling improved facilities and capacity for growth. Broader sustainability outcomes, including land use optimisation and integration with surrounding infrastructure, will be further considered through future precinct master planning.

Community Engagement

The proposed increase in the Men's Shed site footprint and associated request for Council's in-principle support for allocation of the land represents a change to the current land use.

Accordingly:

- ▶ Public notice will need to be undertaken in accordance with Section 115 of the Local Government Act 2020 in relation to the proposal to allocate a portion of the land to the Men's Shed once the site has transferred to Council ownership; and
- ▶ Community engagement is proposed to be undertaken in line with Council's Community Engagement Policy in relation to seeking community feedback on the future use(s) of the site as an input to a future master planning process for the broader Erril Street precinct.

Collaboration

The proposal reflects ongoing collaboration between Council and the Mansfield Men's Shed Inc., supporting a community-led initiative that delivers social, cultural and wellbeing outcomes.

Future collaboration opportunities may also arise through broader precinct planning involving neighbouring community facilities and stakeholders.

Financial Impact

The current lease expires on 31 March 2032 and has been incorporated into Council's approved budget forecasts. The lease will continue to operate as a peppercorn arrangement (\$1 per annum, not invoiced), with the tenant responsible for 100% of all outgoings associated with service usage.

The recommendation has no immediate financial impact on Council. The provision of in-principle support by Council may assist the tenant in securing external grant funding for future development.

Legal and Risk Implications

Subject to Council's in-principle support and completion of the community engagement and land transfer processes, a lease agreement will be drafted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020. Public notice will be advertised in the Mansfield Courier and on Council's website, in accordance with Section 115 of the Local Government Act 2020.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Not Applicable

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

The proposal demonstrates a proactive and enabling approach to supporting community infrastructure through partnerships, advocacy, and grant support. It also aligns with improved planning practices by recognising the need for future precinct-level strategic planning.

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 1: A Healthy and Connected Community

Strategic Objective 1.1 Strengthen community connection, inclusion and participation

Strategic Objective 1.2 Enable active lifestyles through inclusive, accessible and utilised public spaces

Theme 3: An Effective and Efficient Council

Strategic Objective 3.1 Deepen community engagement and foster civic responsibility

Strategic Objective 3.2 Ensure responsible and innovative resource management

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.3.3. Parking Infringements Refund Scheme

File Number	E14659	Responsible Officer	Executive Manager Development and Customer Services, Maya Balvonova
Purpose			

To seek Council authorisation for implementation of the Parking Infringement Refund Scheme, including the operational approach, resourcing requirements, communications and delivery.

Executive Summary

At its meeting on 17 February 2026, Council resolved to:

- *Note the legacy administrative issue relating to the application of penalty units for parking infringements; and*
- *Endorse Council officers undertaking further work to investigate and assess the feasibility of a potential parking infringement refund scheme, including legal and financial considerations.*

Subsequent investigation has identified a defined cohort of 791 affected infringements, a consistent refund methodology based on 0.3 penalty units, and the need for a structured, compliant refund process.

This report presents a proposed implementation approach for Council’s consideration.

Key Issues

Summary of Investigative Work Undertaken

Council officers have:

- ▶ confirmed that no incorrect penalties were issued after 30 June 2025;
- ▶ identified which of the 11 minor parking offences under the Road Safety (General) Regulations 2019) were enforced between 1 July 2006 and 30 June 2025;
- ▶ determined that 791 infringements were issued and paid in full during the period in which Council did not have a formal resolution to charge the 0.5 penalty rate;
- ▶ calculated the total estimated value of infringements that Council charged at that rate to be \$22,053 (ex GST)
- ▶ engaged with VicRoads to confirm access to vehicle and registration data required to identify affected motorists, with the cost estimated at \$8,621.90 (ex GST)
- ▶ estimated Council’s administrative time associated with developing and administering the proposed refund scheme; and
- ▶ received legal advice that only the amount that was overcharged needs to be refunded. Any other costs associated with the infringement still apply as an offence has occurred for the original issuance of the infringement.

Proposed Approach

Data Acquisition (VicRoads)

Council officers will engage with VicRoads (Department of Transport and Planning) to:

- ▶ obtain updated registration and contact details for affected motorists;
- ▶ confirm final data access costs (currently estimated at \$8,621.90 ex GST); and
- ▶ establish appropriate data sharing arrangements.

This work will also explore available data sources and opportunities to improve accuracy and administrative efficiency.

Internal Processes

Establish procedures, systems and controls required to administer the scheme, including:

- ▶ validation of infringement records and eligibility;
- ▶ verification of motorist details;
- ▶ integration with internal finance systems for refund processing;
- ▶ implementation of audit and record-keeping controls; and
- ▶ preparation of communications.

Commence Refund Processing

791 infringements requiring a refund have been identified. It is proposed that these be processed progressively over a 12-month period to ensure accuracy, compliance with financial controls and effective management of customer enquiries. This equates to an average processing rate of approximately 15–16 refunds per week, or 3 refunds per business day.

Monitor and Report Progress

Track delivery, expenditure, and any emerging risks with updates provided to Council and the Audit and Risk Committee as required.

Recommendation
<p>THAT COUNCIL:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishes a refund scheme for parking infringements specified in Items 1 to 11 in Column 1 of Schedule 6 of the Road Safety (General) Regulations 2019, for the period 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2025, with refunds equivalent to 0.3 penalty units per infringement; 2. Authorises Council officers to engage with VicRoads to obtain relevant data, confirm costs and seek opportunities to minimise expenditure; and 3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to take the required steps to implement the refund scheme.
Support Attachments
Nil

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

Engagement with the identified parties who received the specified infringements will occur as part of the implementation of the Scheme.

Collaboration

Collaboration has occurred with VicRoads as the state government agency.

Financial Impact

Subject to final validation of records and data acquisition, the estimated financial impact of the proposed scheme comprises:

- ▶ Refund value: Approximately \$22,053 (ex GST), based on the identified 791 infringements and a refund equivalent to 0.3 of a penalty unit per infringement.
- ▶ Data acquisition costs: Estimated at \$8,621.90 (ex GST) payable to VicRoads (Department of Transport and Planning) for access to updated vehicle registration and contact information.
- ▶ Administrative costs: Internal resourcing required to establish, administer, and monitor the scheme, including validation, processing, customer correspondence, and financial control activities. These costs will be managed within existing operational budgets where possible and will be processed over a 12-month period to mitigate service delivery pressure.

The total direct financial exposure is therefore estimated at approximately \$30,675 (ex GST), excluding internal staff time. This cost will be incurred over a 12-month implementation period, enabling staged cash flow impact and operational management.

While the scheme introduces an unplanned expenditure, it mitigates the risk of future claims, escalations, or more resource-intensive remediation actions if not addressed proactively.

Legal and Risk Implications

Legal advice confirms that the infringements remain valid; however, Council is only required to refund the overcharged component (0.3 penalty units).

Key risks include:

- ▶ Reputational Risk – Managed through transparent and proactive communication.
- ▶ Financial Risk – Managed through defined eligibility and staged implementation.
- ▶ Operational Risk – Mitigated through established procedures, controls, and resourcing.
- ▶ Compliance and Privacy Risk – Addressed through secure data sharing arrangements and legislative compliance.
- ▶ Precedent Risk – Mitigated through a clearly defined and limited scheme scope.

Overall, the scheme represents a measured and proportionate response, reducing broader legal, reputational, and governance risks.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Parking penalties are governed by the *Road Safety Act 1986* and *Road Safety (General) Regulations 2019*.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not Applicable

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 3: An Effective and Efficient Council

Strategic Objective 3.1 Deepen community engagement and foster civic responsibility

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.3.4. Community Local Law 2026–2035

File Number	E12795	Responsible Officer	Coordinator Compliance, Michael Richards
Purpose			

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement of the final draft Community Local Law 2026–2035 and accompanying Policy and Procedure Manual, following completion of the statutory review process and community engagement program.

Executive Summary

Council has completed a comprehensive review of its Community Local Law to ensure they are contemporary, clear, enforceable, and aligned with current legislation and community expectations.

The Local Law Review Project has been delivered through a structured three-stage process comprising:

- ▶ Stage 1 – Scoping and Policy Review: Review of existing provisions, identification of outdated or duplicative clauses, and confirmation of Council’s regulatory intent.
- ▶ Stage 2 – Drafting and Initial Exhibition: Preparation and public exhibition of the draft Community Local Law, supported by consultation with stakeholders and the community.
- ▶ Stage 3 – Final Exhibition and Refinement: Final review of structure, clarity, legal compliance, and operational practicality, informed by targeted feedback.

The final draft Community Local Law 2026–2035 incorporates outcomes from community engagement, internal operational input, and external legal advice. It has been prepared with due regard to this advice to minimise legal risk while effectively delivering Council’s policy objectives.

Key Issues

Final Draft Community Local Law

The final draft Community Local Law provides a modern, streamlined, and enforceable regulatory framework.

Key outcomes reflected in the final version include:

- ▶ removal of provisions that duplicate or are inconsistent with State or Commonwealth legislation;
- ▶ improved clarity and consistency of definitions and enforcement provisions; and
- ▶ refinement of regulatory controls to support practical and proportionate enforcement.

Alcohol Consumption Controls

The alcohol consumption clause has been revised to:

- ▶ clarify that unrestricted drinking in public places is not permitted;
- ▶ enable proportionate, risk-based enforcement by Authorised Officers; and

- ▶ retain Council’s ability to implement targeted alcohol-free zones where required.

The final wording has been developed in consultation with Victoria Police and supports community safety and amenity outcomes.

Policy and Procedure Manual

The Local Law is supported by a separate Policy and Procedure Manual, which provides guidance on administration, permits, exemptions, and enforcement.

Separating the Policy and Procedure Manual from the Local Law ensures operational flexibility while maintaining a clear and legally robust statutory document.

Summary

The final draft Community Local Law 2026–2035 provides a contemporary and effective framework that:

- ▶ aligns with legislative requirements;
- ▶ reflects community expectations; and
- ▶ supports consistent and practical enforcement.

Recommendation

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Adopts the Mansfield Shire Council Community Local Law 2026–2035.
2. Adopts the associated Policy and Procedure Manual.
3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to make any administrative amendments necessary to ensure legal compliance prior to publication of the documents on Council’s website.
4. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to arrange for any required public notice to be prepared and published, including in the Government Gazette and on Council’s website, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 requirements.
5. Notes that a Legal Compliance Certificate has been completed and is attached to the Community Local Law.

Support Attachments

1. Community Local Law 2026 - FINAL [13.3.4.1 - 40 pages]
2. Community Local Law - Policy and Procedure Manual - FINAL [13.3.4.2 - 62 pages]
3. Community Local Law - Legal Certification [13.3.4.3 - 2 pages]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

The Community Local Law contributes to social sustainability through improved community safety and amenity.

Community Engagement

Community engagement has been undertaken in accordance with Council’s Community Engagement Policy through three rounds of public exhibition of the draft Community Local Law and Policy and Procedure Manual, with community feedback received via Engage Mansfield

and direct email submissions, and targeted consultation with key stakeholders including Victoria Police.

Feedback received has been considered and informed the final draft presented for adoption.

Collaboration

Council has worked collaboratively with internal teams, community stakeholders, and external agencies, including Victoria Police, to ensure the Community Local Law reflects operational needs, community expectations, and best practice regulatory approaches.

Financial Impact

The Community Local Law Review is being delivered with financial support from the Victorian Government's Business Acceleration Fund (BAF), with a total allocation of \$250,000 (ex GST). This funding allowed Council to engage an officer to work on the project internally, as well as cover the costs of all legal review and community engagement for the project. The funding also supported the digitisation and modernisation of Local Laws administration and compliance processes.

Ongoing maintenance and enforcement of the updated Community Local Law will be managed within existing operational budgets. The streamlined processes and clarified regulatory provisions resulting from the review are expected to improve administrative efficiency potentially reducing staff time spent on permit processing and enforcement-related enquiries.

Legal and Risk Implications

Have been addressed through a comprehensive legal review and certification of the legal compliance of the final draft Community Local Law.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Local Government Act 2020

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

The updated Community Local Law and supporting Policy and Procedure Manual reflect a contemporary, principles-based approach to regulation. The separation of operational procedures from the statutory Local Law enables greater flexibility to respond to changing community needs, emerging issues, and legislative requirements, supporting continuous improvement in service delivery and compliance practices.

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 1: A Healthy and Connected Community

Strategic Objective 1.1 Strengthen community connection, inclusion, and participation

Theme 3: An Effective and Efficient Council

Strategic Objective 3.1 Deepen community engagement and foster civic responsibility

Strategic Objective 3.2 Ensure responsible and innovative resource management

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.4. Community Health and Wellbeing

13.4.1. Social Inclusion Action Group (SIAG) Initiatives

File Number	E12320	Responsible Officer	Project Officer Community Strengthening, Simon Donohoe
Purpose			

To provide information to Council on new initiatives proposed for funding by the Social Inclusion Action Group (SIAG).

Executive Summary

The 2025-26 SIAG budget includes unused funds carried forward from previous financial years. These funds were previously approved to be carried forward and were included in Council’s 2025-26 updated budget.

As a result, the SIAG team have been engaging community groups to seek opportunities to utilise the funds in accordance with the funding guidelines. Five new requests have been received for new initiatives and two requests received for additional funding of previously approved initiatives.

Key Issues

The Royal Commission into Victoria’s Mental Health System, released in 2021, included *Recommendation 15* focused on supporting good mental health and wellbeing in local communities. It recommended that the Victorian Government:

15.1 - establish and recurrently resource ‘community collectives’ for mental health and wellbeing in each local government area.

15.2 - support each community collective to bring together a diversity of local leaders and community members to guide and lead efforts to promote social connection and inclusion in Victorian communities.

15.3 - test and develop a range of initiatives that support community participation, inclusion, and connection.

Social Inclusion Action Groups (SIAGs) were established to support grassroots work and build on the strengths of the community to support mental health and wellbeing, with a focus on social inclusion and connection.

The Mansfield SIAG started meeting in February 2024.

SIAGs are a prevention initiative funded by the Victorian Government and developed based on the following principles:

- ▶ Community led and owned, empowering communities to identify their own needs, make decisions and develop solutions at a local level.

- ▶ Considering equity and inclusion for SIAG (Social Inclusion Action Group) membership and when making decisions about flexible funding. The SIAG needs to reflect the diversity of the community it serves.
- ▶ Applying a place-based approach.
- ▶ Informed by evidence and local knowledge.
- ▶ Operating from community development and collective impact approaches and principles, including the five conditions of collective impact.

The table below outlines the requests for five new initiatives and two requests for additional funding. All of the initiatives have been reviewed and are in line with the grant guidelines.

Community Group	Additional Funding Requests	Revised Funding
Barjarg Community Group	Funding to provide a table and chairs for the community gathering space was previously approved in the amount of \$2,000. A request has been made for an additional \$959 to support this initiative.	\$2,959
Mansfield Let's Talk	Funding to provide free community Mental Health First Aid training was previously approved in the amount of \$2,800. A request has been made for an additional \$810 to support an increased class size due to strong interest.	\$3,610
Community Group	New Initiatives	New Funding
Bonnie Doon Community Group	Funding has been approved by SIAG to support 12 local young people and two volunteers to participate in fun, educational and team building activities at the Fun Fields Water Park and attend a football game in Melbourne.	\$3,500
Mansfield Men's Shed	Funding has been approved by SIAG to support a basic first aid course, as well as a food safety and food handling course.	\$400
Goughs Bay Area Progress Association	Funding has been approved by SIAG to support a series of community events at different venues in the Goughs Bay area, with an emphasis on vulnerable and socially inactive members of the community.	\$5,000
McCormack Park Grounds Management Committee Inc	Funding has been approved by SIAG to support the purchase of equipment for McCormack Park to host monthly low-cost dinners for all community members.	\$5,000
Year Round Aquatic Facility Inc.	Funding application is being reviewed by the SIAG committee to support the establishment of a new group titled Mansfield Pool Inc. The group intends to include MASS, Men's Shed, Mansfield Swim Club and Yooralla representatives within its structure with the purpose of increasing sporting opportunities, learn to swim, rehabilitation and access for people of all abilities.	\$5,000

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL notes the new initiatives approved by the Social Inclusion Action Group (SIAG) for funding in accordance with the SIAG grant guidelines, with a total funding allocation of \$20,669.
Support Attachments
Nil

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Social Inclusion Action Groups (SIAGs) were established to support grassroots work and build on the strengths of the community to support mental health and wellbeing, with a focus on social inclusion and connection. The initiatives supported for funding were selected with the objective of creating sustainable and demonstrated improvement in social inclusion and connection in the Mansfield Shire community.

Community Engagement

Community engagement was undertaken by Council’s Community Strengthening team in collaboration with SIAG members and organisational partners. Engagement with community organisations and groups occurred through the SIAG project development processes over several months to identify potential new initiatives following the previous funding rounds.

Collaboration

SIAG operates as a collaborative advisory group comprising community members and partner organisations.

Financial Impact

All initiatives are accounted for in the 2025-26 SIAG Budget. All activities undertaken related to SIAG are to be completed within the approved grant funding. SIAG has committed \$20,669 (ex GST) from its 2025–26 updated budget allocation to support the initiatives.

Legal and Risk Implications

The Mansfield Shire SIAG was empowered by Council to make decisions on the allocation of the initiative grant funding, with funding awarded through a collaborative process based on objective criteria determined by the group. Group members assessing the applications have been provided with training and information to ensure that potential conflicts of interest are managed and declared.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Not Applicable

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not Applicable

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 1: A Healthy and Connected Community

Strategic Objective 1.1 Strengthen community connection, inclusion and participation

Strategic Objective 1.2 Enable active lifestyles through inclusive, accessible and utilised public spaces

Strategic Objective 1.3 Promote health and wellbeing across all life stages

Theme 2: Vibrant Liveability

Strategic Objective 2.3 Enhance recreation, sport and community facilities

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.5. Executive Services

13.5.1. S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987)

File Number	E2478	Responsible Officer	Coordinator Governance & Risk, Chelsea Daly
Purpose			

To seek Council endorsement of S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987)

Executive Summary

Delegations to undertake a specific duty or power in accordance with a specific section of an Act of Parliament are essential to enable Council staff to carry out professional duties, particularly in areas which involve enforcement such as Planning, Local Laws, Environmental Health, Animal Management, Parking Control and Road Management.

Council subscribes to a delegations and authorisations service produced by the legal firm Maddocks. The firm reviews all legislation that impacts local government in Victoria and distributes an updated schedule of delegations that reflects any legislative changes bi-annually. This template is used by many Victorian councils and reflects common practice within the industry. Drawing on these updates, the Instruments of Delegation are updated periodically as legislation is amended, or new legislation is introduced which impacts the operations of Council.

Key Issues

S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (*Planning and Environment Act 1987*) is used to authorise officers to enforce the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and institute proceedings on behalf of Council or represent Council. The instrument has been updated to reflect the change in title from Manager Development Services to Executive Manager Development & Customer Service.

Recommendation

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Revoke the existing Schedule 11A - Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987) previously endorsed by Council on 24 June 2025;
2. Endorse Schedule 11A - Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987) dated 19 May 2026; and
3. Approve Mayor Cr Steve Rabie to sign the endorsed instruments as listed in point 2 and Deputy Mayor Cr James Tehan to witness the signing.

Support Attachments

1. S11A. Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation - Planning and Environment Act 1987 (May 2026) [13.5.1.1 - 2 pages]
2. Tracked Changes - S11A. Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation - Planning and Environment Act 1987 [13.5.1.2 - 2 pages]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

Not Applicable

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

Council's subscription to Maddocks delegations and authorisations service is invoiced bi-annually for \$2,200 (excl. GST), this is accounted for in the operational budget. All work to update Mansfield Shire Council's delegations and authorisations is undertaken internally by Council Officers within existing staff resources.

Legal and Risk Implications

Regular reviews of delegations and authorisations ensure compliance with the relevant Acts and Regulations.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Is in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not Applicable

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council Strategic Objective 6: Council possesses in-house and outsourced capability to meet community expectations
Strategy 6.2 Building organisational capacity through its people

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

13.5.2. Friends of Venilale - Memorandum of Understanding

File Number	E7379	Responsible Officer	Manager People, Communications, & Governance, Tanya Tabone
Purpose			

To seek Council endorsement of a proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Mansfield Shire Council and Friends of Venilale (FoV).

Executive Summary

The initial Mansfield – Venilale Friendship Agreement was signed in 2004, following Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA) and Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) encouragement of friendship relationships between the then newly-established nation of Timor-Leste (East Timor) and cities, shires and councils across Australia.

The focus of Mansfield Shire’s assistance to Venilale has been on developing its economy through tourism, direct support for education and women’s handicrafts groups. This focus was agreed to by Venilale leaders and the first Mansfield delegation. It recognises the skills, knowledge and experience of the Mansfield Shire community while acknowledging that, as a small shire, Mansfield is unable to fund larger infrastructure developments. Support for health in Venilale in the form of supplying and funding medical items has been added as a fourth focus as health needs have become known.

Friends of Venilale meet monthly in Mansfield. A Mansfield Shire Council representative acts as a liaison person between the committee and Council. Friends of Venilale employs a local Friendship Liaison Officer, Education Support Officer and a Consultant/Translator to coordinate projects in Venilale. Friends of Mansfield meets regularly with the Venilale Posto Administrativo administration and village chiefs. Ties between the two towns have been consolidated and extended through a steady stream of visits each way and also enhanced by the placement of several Australian volunteers in Venilale.

The proposed MOU is for a term of four years.

Key Issues

Council recognises and supports the ongoing relationship that Friends of Venilale has developed with the sub district of Venilale.

Council has been providing an annual donation of \$3,000; it is recommended that Council continue this donation which will assist with covering expenses such as printing and other administrative tasks.

Recommendation
<p>THAT COUNCIL:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Endorse the Memorandum of Understanding between Mansfield Shire Council and Friends of Venilale for a term of four years; and 2. Approve an annual donation of \$3,000 for the term of the agreement.
Support Attachments
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DRAFT Mo U - Friends of Venilale 2026-29 [13.5.2.1 - 4 pages]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Economic: Friends of Venilale’s assistance to Venilale has been on tourism, education and support for women’s handicrafts groups.

Social: The objectives of Friends of Venilale include the fostering and development of relationships between the communities of Mansfield Shire and the sub district of Venilale.

Community Engagement

Not Applicable

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

Council has been contributing an annual donation to Friends of Venilale since 2004. The agreement proposes a continued annual donation of \$3,000 which will be allocated in Council’s annual budget.

Legal and Risk Implications

Not Applicable

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Not Applicable

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not Applicable

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 1: A Healthy and Connected Community

Strategic Objective 1.1 Strengthen community connection, inclusion and participation

Theme 3: An Effective and Efficient Council

Strategic Objective 3.3 Maintain strong governance, transparency and accountability

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.5.3. Quarterly Finance Report

File Number	E13220	Responsible Officer	Financial Controller, Michael McCormack Coordinator Financial Planning & Analysis, Joanne O'Brien
Purpose			

This report provides information on Council’s financial performance against the 2025-26 Updated Budget for the period 1 July 2025 to 31 March 2026.

Executive Summary

The financial statements and performance indicators (refer attachments) have been prepared for the period ended 31 March 2026.

Based on the information provided by responsible officers and managers, Council’s overall financial performance is in line with budget.

Each quarterly report includes financial projections for the rest of the financial year. The quarterly report is prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020 (the Act)*, *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 (the Regulations)*, Better Practice Guides and the Australian Accounting Standards.

Key Issues

Income Statement (Attachment 1)

The Income Statement measures how well Council has performed from an operating nature. It reports revenues and expenditure from the activities and functions undertaken, with the net effect being a surplus or deficit. Capital expenditure is excluded from this statement, as it is reflected in the Balance Sheet.

Attachment 1 shows that Council generated \$29.778 million in revenue and incurred \$21.768 million in expenses to 31 March 2026. This has resulted in an operating surplus of \$8.010 million to 31 March 2026, which will reduce during the remainder of this financial year. Furthermore, as of 31 March 2026 Council has recognised the liability for unspent grant funding received of a total \$9.367 million in accordance with accounting standards AASB 15 and AASB 1058.

Income

Rates and charges accounts for 80.1% of the total year to date operational income for 2025-26. Rates and charges are recognised when raised, not when the income is received. An amount of \$18.306 million has been recognised as income to 31 March 2026.

User charges account for 2.5% of the total year to date operational income to 31 March 2026 which equates to \$0.571 million.

Recurrent Operating Grants received for the year-to-date total \$2.668 million to 31 March 2026, including \$1.128 million from the Victorian Local Government Grants Commission (VLGCC) for general purpose grants and \$0.48 million for the local roads' grants. Under the Recurrent Operating Grants received as of 31 March 2026 Council has accrued a liability of \$0.574 million in accordance with accounting standards AASB 15 and AASB 1058.

Table 1: Recurrent Operating Grants

Recurrent Operating Grants	2025-26 Updated Budget ('000s)	2025-26 YTD Actuals ('000s)	2025-26 Total Forecasts ('000s)	Unspent Grant Funding (Y/N)
Fire Services Levy - Income	0	58	55	N
Financial Accounting Management - Income	3,064	1,128	3,064	N
Municipal Emergency Resourcing Program (MERP) - Income	60	46	60	Y
Local Roads Operations - Income	1,287	480	1,287	N
School Crossing Supervision - Income	42	40	40	N
Tobacco & E-Cigarette Activity - Income	16	8	16	N
Financial Counsellor Income	22	0	22	N
Integrated Family Services Income	341	226	289	Y
Mansfield FreeZa Youth Events Income	35	27	35	N
Engage! Funded Project - Income	78	8	54	Y
Victorian Seniors Festival Income	13	10	13	Y
Social Inclusion Action Group - Income	505	250	505	Y
Maternal & Child Health Income	160	66	160	Y
Supported Playgroups - Income	112	36	67	Y
Maternal & Child Health - Enhanced Income	336	125	336	Y
Dads Group Grant- Income	33	23	33	N
Mansfield Library Income (GST Free)	137	137	137	Y
Total Operational Grants - Recurrent	6,242	2,668	6,173	

Non-Recurrent Operating Grants received year to date total \$0.515 million to 31 March 2026. This includes grant income carried forward from the prior year, as indicated in the table below, which will be spent during the year on the relevant projects and services.

Under the Non-Recurrent Operating Grants received as of 31 March 2026 Council has accrued a liability of \$1.367 million in accordance with accounting standards AASB 15 and AASB 1058.

The increase in the liability is due to receiving \$750k for the Council Support Fund for the Longwood fires in January 2026.

Table 2: Non-Recurrent Operating Grants

Non-Recurrent Operating Grants	2025-26 Updated Budget ('000s)	2025-26 YTD Actuals ('000s)	2025-26 Total Forecasts ('000s)	Unspent Grant Funding (Y/N)
Fire Services Levy - Income	55	50	50	N
LNERCC - Shared Technology & Collaboration - Income	741	0	400	N
Agile Regulations for Innovation and Streamlined Efficiency (ARISE) - Income	207	22	207	Y
Resilience Benchmarking Project - Income	9	0	9	Y
Emergency Incident Support - Income	18	31	31	Y
Integrated Water Management - Income	152	8	152	Y
Goughs Bay Water-Sensitive Town Plan Feasibility Study - Income	25	12	25	Y
Ovens Murray Regional Partnership Integrated Transport Strategy Project - Income	19	0	19	Y
Improvement and promotion of recycling services- Income	0	22	26	N
Ausnet Energy Resilience Community Fund	0	9	0	N
Upper Catchment Tributaries Flood Study - Income	72	38	72	Y
Risk & Resilience Program (Mansfield Flood Study Program) - Income	0	0	51	Y
Mansfield Infrastructure Planning (Streamlining for Growth Program) - Income	84	11	84	Y
Environmental Projects	0	28	28	N
Tobacco & E-Cigarette Activity - Income	0	13	13	N
Integrated Family Services Income - Child Protection	0	0	0	Y
Youth Development Income	2	0	2	Y
Integrated Family Services Flexible Packages Income	13	2	13	Y
Primary Prevention of Family Violence - Income	2	0	2	N
L2P Funded Programme - Income	41	41	43	N
Engage! Funded Project - Income	0	5	5	N
Vic Health Local Government Partnership - Income	80	11	71	Y
Central Registration & Enrolment Scheme (CRES) - Income	0	1	7	Y
Jumpstart - Income	0	0	2	Y
Tracks & Trail Upgrade Strategy - Income	14	14	18	N
February Storm Event 2024 - Income	250	184	250	Y
Australia Day Community Event - Income	10	0	0	N
Gravel Cycling Project- Income	0	0	2	Y
Council Support Fund - Bushfire Recovery 2026	0	12	45	Y
Total Non Recurrent Operating Grants	1,793	515	1,626	

Recurrent Capital Grants received year to date total \$1.041 million to 31 March 2026 relating to the Roads to Recovery income.

Table 3: Recurrent Capital Grants

Recurrent Capital Grants	2025-26 Updated Budget ('000s)	2025-26 YTD Actuals ('000s)	2025-26 Total Forecasts ('000s)	Unspent Grant Funding (Y/N)
Roads to Recovery - Income	1,041	1,041	1,041	N
Total Capital - Recurrent	1,041	1,041	1,041	

Non-Recurrent Capital Grants received year to date total \$5.599 million to 31 March 2026. This includes grant income carried forward from the prior year, as indicated in the table below, which will be expended during the year on the relevant projects.

Council has been successful in obtaining a grant that was not budgeted for in the quarter for sealing works on Walsh’s road in the amount of \$600,000.

Under the Non-Recurrent Capital Grants received as of 31 March 2026 Council has accrued a grant liability of \$7.425 million in accordance with accounting standards AASB 15 and AASB

1058. The increase in the liability was due to receiving the second milestone instalment for the Station Precinct for \$5.0 million from the rPPP grant.

Table 4: Non-Recurrent Capital Grants

Non-Recurrent Capital Grants	2025-26 Updated Budget ('000s)	2025-26 YTD Actuals ('000s)	2025-26 Total Forecasts ('000s)	Unspent Grant Funding (Y/N)
LRCI	0	373	373	N
Safe Local Roads & Streets Program (SLRSP) - Income	969	542	1,300	Y
IMPACT Route - Income	2,582	2,087	2,582	N
Footpath Malcolm St - Income	2	2	2	N
Mansfield - Whitfield Rd/Dead Horse Lane Roundabout - Income	1,827	97	2,193	Y
Flexible Local Transport Solution Program- Income	24	0	24	Y
Motorcycle Safety Improvement - Income	135	15	135	Y
Piries Goughs Bay Rd - Stage 1 - Income	45	0	45	Y
Reseals	0	7	7	N
College Park Reserve Improvements - Income	0	14	25	Y
Howqua Inlet Boat Ramp Income	0	39	39	N
Station Precinct Dog Park (DEECA funding) - Income	0	44	71	N
Mansfield Learner Accessible Pool Scheme (LAPS) - Income	0	0	68	Y
Walsh's Road Sealing Project	0	8	600	Y
Library Van - Mansfield Library Outreach	0	0	243	Y
Station Precinct (rPPP) - Income	6,449	1,820	5,972	Y
Play Our Way Grant - Female Inclusive Rooms (FIR) Project - INCOME	0	29	213	Y
Energy Resilience Fund - Portable Generator	43	43	43	N
Lords Reserve Pavilion Upgrade 2024-25 - Income	969	480	801	Y
Total Non Recurrent Grants	13,046	5,599	14,737	

Grant Liability Report (Attachment 2)

As of 31 March 2026, Council has recognised the liability of \$9,367 million as unspent grant funding received in accordance with accounting standards AASB 15 and AASB 1058.

Expenses

Employee Costs of \$9.874 million have been incurred to 31 March 2026 and are currently \$0.081 million above YTD updated budget, which is primarily due to the impact of the emergency relief effort for the January bushfires of \$114k.

Materials and Contracts costs of \$7.342 million have been incurred to 31 March 2026 and are currently \$0.514 million below the YTD updated budget. There are several projects, including those carried forward from 2024-25, that are expected to be completed before the end of the financial year, with an increased level of expenditure including allocation of credit card payments in the last quarter.

Balance Sheet (Attachment 3)

The Balance Sheet is one of the main financial statements and reports Council's assets, liabilities, and equity at a given date, in this case 31 March 2026. Comparative figures have been provided as of 30 June 2025.

During the current financial year, Council's current assets have increased by \$5.728 million due to rates being struck in July increasing receivables by \$4.992 million.

Total current liabilities have increased by \$4.347 million since 30 June 2025. As of 31 March 2026, Council recognised the liability for unspent grant funding received of \$9.367 million in accordance with accounting standards AASB 15 and AASB 1058 with the balance increasing due to the second milestone instalment of the Station Precinct rPPP funding.

Capital Works Report (Attachment 4)

The Capital Works Finance Report measures how well Council has performed from a capital nature. The table below summarises the net position of the capital works program and Attachment 4 provides greater detail of capital expenditure.

As of 31 March 2026, under the Non-Recurrent Capital Grants received, Council has accrued a grant liability of \$8.003 million, in accordance with accounting standards AASB 15 and AASB 1058.

Materials & Contracts actual expenditure is below YTD budget due to changes in timing of projects towards completion. The net effect of variances within the Capital Finance report confirms a net positive position of \$1.852 million YTD to 31 March 2026.

Table 5: Capital Finance Report

Capital Finance Report	2025-26 Updated Budget ('000s)	2025-26 YTD Updated Budgets ('000s)	2025-26 YTD Actuals ('000s)	YTD Variance Updated Budget ('000s)	2025-26 Total Forecasts ('000s)
Capital					
Income					
Cash Operating Contributions	99	74	153	79	145
Materials & Contracts	0	0	0	0	
Capital Grants - Non-Recurrent	13,046	10,430	5,599	-4,831	13,696
Capital Grants - Recurrent	1,041	781	1,041	261	1,041
Sale of Assets	235	235	129	-106	235
Total Income	14,422	11,520	6,923	-4,597	15,117
Expenditure					
Employee Costs	1,496	1,096	1,158	-62	1,404
Materials & Contracts	20,963	15,388	8,877	6,511	19,611
Total Expenditure	22,458	16,484	10,034	6,449	21,015
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	-8,037	-4,963	-3,111	1,852	-5,898

Financial Performance Indicators (Attachment 5)

Working Capital Ratio YTD

The Working Capital Ratio (WCR) compares current assets to current liabilities and is an indicator of Council's capacity to meet its immediate debts when they fall due. A WCR of more than 1:1 (or 100%) is considered healthy.

The current WCR = 1.32 or (132%) as of 31 March 2026, is at the same level as 30 June 2025. This ratio steadily decreases throughout the year as rates debtors progressively pay rates instalments. Council is projected to go below 100% by 30 June 2026.

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the Quarterly Finance Report for the period 1 July 2025 – 31 March 2026.
Support Attachments
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Comprehensive Income Statement Mar 2026 [13.5.3.1 - 1 page] 2. Grant Liability Report Mar 2026 [13.5.3.2 - 2 pages] 3. Balance Sheet Mar 2026 [13.5.3.3 - 1 page] 4. Capital Works Program Mar 2026 [13.5.3.4 - 2 pages] 5. Performance Indicators Mar 2026 [13.5.3.5 - 1 page]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

The 2026-27 Budget engagement process facilitated opportunities for community input to and feedback on Council’s budget.

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

The financial reports attached provide the opportunity for regular monitoring of Council’s financial position to ensure compliance with budgets.

Legal and Risk Implications

Financial Risk: Regular financial reporting is part of Council’s financial strategy to ensure budgets are complied with and the short to medium term financial sustainability of Council is maintained.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

This report has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

The content of the Quarterly Report has been reviewed to ensure meaningful data is provided.

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 3 – An Effective and Efficient Council

Strategic Objective 3.3 Maintain strong governance, transparency, and accountability

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

14. Council Meeting Resolution Actions Status Register

This report presents to Council the Mansfield Shire Council Meeting Resolution Actions Status Register

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL receive and note the Mansfield Shire Council Meeting Resolution Actions Status Register as at 12 May 2026.
Support Attachments
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mansfield Shire Council Action Register as at 12 May 2026 [14.1.1 - 8 pages] 2. CONFIDENTIAL Mansfield Shire Council Action Register as at 12 May 2026 [14.1.2 - 2 pages]

15. Advisory and Special Committee reports

Nil

16. Authorisation of sealing of documents

Nil

17. Closure of meeting to members of the public

Council has the power to close its meeting to the public in certain circumstances pursuant to the provisions of Section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020. The circumstances where a meeting can be closed to the public are:

- a) the meeting is to consider confidential information; or
- b) security reasons; or
- c) it is necessary to do so to enable the meeting to proceed in an orderly manner.

The definition of confidential information is provided in Section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL close the meeting to members of the public under Section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 to consider Confidential Reports in accordance with section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 for reasons set out in section 18 below.

18. Confidential Reports

18.1. Lakins Road Industrial Estate Trunk Infrastructure Fund Application and Advancement of Project Stage 1

Confidential

This report contains confidential information pursuant to the provisions of Section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 under Section 3(a) - Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.

18.2. Potential Land Acquisition

Confidential

This report contains confidential information pursuant to the provisions of Section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 under Section 3(a) - Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.

18.3. Historic Goods Shed and Visitor Information Centre Commercial Activation EOI

Confidential

This report contains confidential information pursuant to the provisions of Section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 under Section 3(g) - private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that:(i) relates to trade secrets; or (ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage

18.4. Tender Award: Platform Toilet Refurbishment

Confidential

This report contains confidential information pursuant to the provisions of Section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 under Section 3(a) - Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.

18.5. Aquatic Facilities Working Group Pool Operation Proposal

Confidential

This report contains confidential information pursuant to the provisions of Section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 under Section 3(a) - Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.

19. Reopen meeting to members of the public

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL reopen the meeting to members of the public.

20. Close of meeting