



**GLADSTONE**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

**GENERAL MEETING NOTICE  
AND AGENDA**

**TO BE HELD AT THE  
QUEENSLAND COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (QCWA) HALL  
36 GENTLE ANNIE ROAD, AMBROSE**

**On Tuesday 16 June 2026**

**Commencing at 10.00am**

**Leisa Dowling  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

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**G/1. MAYORAL STATEMENT OF CURRENT ISSUES**

## **G/2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **G/2.1. CONFIRMATION OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FOR 2 JUNE 2026**

**Responsible Officer:** Chief Executive Officer

**Prepared By:** Executive Secretary

**Council Meeting Date:** 16 June 2026

**File Ref:** CM7.2

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#### **Purpose:**

Confirmation of the minutes of the General Meeting held on 2 June 2026.

#### **Officer's Recommendation:**

That the minutes of the General Meeting of Council held on 2 June 2026 be confirmed.

#### **Attachments:**

1. Minutes of the General Meeting of Council held on 2 June 2026.

**G/3. DEPUTATIONS**

## **G/4. OFFICERS' REPORTS**

### **G/4.1. ADOPTION OF THE 2026 - 2031 CORPORATE PLAN**

**Responsible Officer:** General Manager People and Strategy

**Prepared By:** Manager Strategy and Improvement

**Council Meeting Date:** 16 June 2026

**File Ref:** CM7.2

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#### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to present Council's 5-year Corporate Plan 'Our Vision 2026-2031' for endorsement.

#### **Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council adopt Our Vision 2026-2031 provided as Attachment 1 to the Officer's Report as Council's 5-year Corporate Plan pursuant to section 165(2) of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

#### **Summary:**

'Our Vision 2026–2031' presents Council's strategic direction for the next five years and reflects the ambitions, priorities and signals of success heard from Councillors, employees and the community throughout an extensive engagement and planning process.

The Plan represents a shared commitment to delivering reliable core services, planning responsibly for the future, strengthening trust and accountability, and supporting the long-term success of the region. It establishes a clear and practical direction for Council, balancing ambition with financial sustainability, and provides a strong foundation for future decision-making, operational planning, resource allocation and performance reporting.

#### **Link to Corporate Plan:**

Accountable Council - We are providing good stewardship built on a foundation of trust.  
Connecting Communities - We work with you and for you, supporting the success of our communities.  
Delivering Value - We work efficiently to deliver value for your rates.  
Our People - We look after our people, so they look after you.  
Resilient Economy - We play our part in supporting the success of our region.

#### **Background:**

The development of 'Our Vision 2026–2031' has been an important opportunity for Council to reflect on where the region is today, the challenges and opportunities ahead, and the role Council plays in supporting thriving communities now and into the future.

The Plan has been shaped through a significant program of engagement and collaboration involving Councillors, the Executive Leadership Team, Senior Leadership Team and employees across the organisation, alongside feedback and insights gathered from the community.

Throughout this process, consistent themes emerged around the importance of delivering reliable core services, maintaining community trust, planning responsibly for growth, strengthening organisational capability, and ensuring value for ratepayers.

‘Our Vision 2026–2031’ provides the strategic foundations that will guide Council’s long-term direction and inform future operational planning, budgeting, service planning and performance reporting. It establishes a clear line of sight between the community’s expectations, Council’s priorities and the work undertaken across the organisation each day.

Our Vision 2026–2031 reflects what we consistently hear from our people and our community – a desire for Council to deliver the basics well, be reliable and consistent, explain decisions clearly, stay focused on priorities and communicate in plain language.

In setting this direction, Council has balanced community aspirations with the realities and responsibilities of local government. This includes recognising the need to balance ambition with financial sustainability, make deliberate choices about where effort and investment is focused, manage risk responsibly and be transparent about trade-offs and decisions.

The Plan reflects four clear ambitions – to create a better everyday for the community, support responsible economic growth, be practical environmental stewards, and strengthen trust and confidence in Council as an organisation.

Importantly, during development, Councillors identified the need for the Plan to clearly define what success looks like. The inclusion of measures, targets and success indicators will support transparency, accountability and ongoing conversations with the community about Council’s performance and progress over the life of the Plan.

### **Risk Management Summary:**

The primary risks associated with not adopting a contemporary Corporate Plan include reduced strategic alignment across the organisation, diminished ability to clearly communicate Council’s direction and priorities, and potential impacts to decision-making, accountability and long-term planning. There is also reputational and governance risk where Council is unable to demonstrate a clear and contemporary strategic direction aligned to community expectations and legislative requirements.

Endorsement of ‘Our Vision 2026–2031’ will reduce these risks by providing a clear and consistent framework to guide Council’s planning, prioritisation, resource allocation and performance monitoring over the next five years. The Plan also strengthens organisational alignment and supports improved transparency and accountability for the delivery of outcomes.

The risks associated with adopting the Plan are considered manageable and within Council’s risk appetite. Ongoing implementation, monitoring and reporting processes will support the effective management of any emerging strategic, financial, service delivery or organisational risks over the life of the Plan.

### **Options and Opportunity Analysis:**

#### **Option 1 – Endorse ‘Our Vision 2026–2031’ as Council’s Corporate Plan (Recommended)**

This option provides Council with an updated strategic foundation that clearly articulates Council’s long-term direction, priorities and desired outcomes for the region and organisation over the next five years.

Endorsement of the Plan will:

- establish a shared direction for Councillors, employees and the community
- support alignment between strategy, operational planning and resource allocation
- strengthen accountability and performance monitoring
- provide greater clarity around Council's priorities and intended outcomes
- support improved organisational focus and decision-making.

This option positions Council to proactively respond to future challenges and opportunities while maintaining a clear focus on community outcomes and responsible stewardship.

**Option 2 – Do not endorse the Corporate Plan**

This option would result in Council continuing without an updated strategic plan aligned to current community expectations, organisational priorities and future challenges.

This would create uncertainty regarding Council's long-term direction, reduce organisational alignment, and impact Council's ability to effectively prioritise resources and demonstrate accountability for outcomes. It would also present governance and reputational risks associated with not maintaining a contemporary Corporate Plan.

**Stakeholder Engagement:**

The development of 'Our Vision 2026–2031' has been informed through engagement with a broad range of stakeholders including Councillors, the Executive Leadership Team, Senior Leadership Team, employees and the community.

Engagement activities included strategic workshops, planning sessions, leadership discussions and opportunities for employee input throughout the development process. These conversations helped identify the priorities, challenges and opportunities most important to the Region and organisation over the next five years.

The detailed process has supported clarity in understanding, organisational ownership of the Vision, and has reinforced the connection between Council's strategic direction and day-to-day service delivery.

Further engagement will occur during implementation of the Plan through operational planning, business planning, performance reporting and ongoing communication with employees, Councillors and the community.

**Legal and Regulatory Implications:**

The Plan has been developed in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2009 and associated legislative obligations relating to Council's long-term strategic planning responsibilities.

Endorsement of the Plan supports Council's Integrated Planning Framework by setting a clear strategic direction to guide future planning, decision-making and reporting activities.

There are no identified legal considerations associated with the endorsement of the Plan.

**Financial and Resource Implications:**

The Plan itself does not create an immediate financial commitment outside of existing budget provisions associated with strategic planning activities.

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The priorities and outcomes identified within the Plan will inform future operational planning, service planning, workforce planning and annual budget development processes over the life of the Plan. Delivery of initiatives and priorities identified within the Plan will be considered through future budget deliberations and resource allocation processes.

The Plan also provides an opportunity to improve organisational focus, prioritisation and alignment of resources toward agreed strategic outcomes.

### **Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:**

1 July 2026, following formal adoption and publication of 'Our Vision 2026–2031'.

### **Attachments:**

1. Our Vision 2026-2031 – Gladstone Regional Council Corporate Plan

**G/4.2. EAST END BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS) - COMMUNITY BENEFIT AGREEMENT**

**Responsible Officer:** General Manager People and Strategy

**Prepared By:** Strategic Project Specialist

**Council Meeting Date:** 16 June 2026

**File Ref:** ED2.2

**Purpose:**

That Council considers entering into a Community Benefit Agreement for the East End Battery Energy Storage System proposed for development at 475 Mount Alma Road, East End.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to finalise and execute a Community Benefit Agreement for the East End Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).

**Summary:**

A Community Benefit Agreement (CBA) for the East End Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (the Project) has been negotiated and Council’s consideration to enter this agreement is sought. The community benefits offered are considered to meet Council’s *Renewable Energy – Community Benefits Sharing Policy* and is recommended for endorsement. A summary of these benefits and its alignment to policy is outlined below:

Council Policy – Key Benefit Requirements	Benefits Offered	Policy Met	Comments
\$150 MWh annual contribution	\$150 / MWh	Yes	
Annual 5% Operating Contribution	5%	Yes	
Proponent to fund and administer a Community Benefit Sharing Program	\$50 / MWh	Yes	Over the operational life of the facility.
Added Benefits:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of Community Benefit Sharing Program prior and during construction period.</li> <li>• Commitment to local content across workforce employment and training.</li> <li>• Firefighting Training</li> <li>• Investment towards local housing initiative.</li> </ul>		

**Link to Corporate Plan:**

- Connecting Communities - We work with you and for you, supporting the success of our communities.
- Resilient Economy - We play our part in supporting the success of our region.

**Background:**

The *Planning (Battery Storage Facilities) and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2025* came into effect in December 2025. Under the new regulations, proponents of standalone BESS projects with a capacity of 50 megawatt or more must complete a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and negotiate a CBA with Council before a Development Application (DA) can be made.

Council’s role is no longer to receive and determine the DA outcome for renewable energy projects. Council is instead, representing the community interests by negotiating appropriate community benefits and mitigation measures to address the project’s social impacts.

Applications for BESS projects are now lodged and assessed by the Queensland Government’s State Assessment and Referral Agency (SARA) and is responsible for deciding whether the project is approved. These changes bring largescale battery projects into line with the regulatory assessment framework applied to wind and solar farm developments.

Social Impact Findings

TotalEnergies H<sub>2</sub> (the Proponent) completed the SIA in May 2026. Nine social impacts were identified following consideration of matters raised by stakeholders, the potential impacts noted in technical studies and the overall project characteristics. The social impacts are described in detail under table 8-2 (pp. 112 – 124) of the attached SIA Report.

In summary, the SIA identified that most social impacts were deemed minor or negligible with no residual impacts of major significance once the management measures and enhancement strategies are applied. Detailed management measures are outlined in the Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) developed for the project and forms part of the SIA Report (Refer table 9-1, pp. 127 – 132).

Should this project proceed to construction and operate, the adverse social impact profile is considered minimal and expected to deliver positive economic outcomes and workforce opportunities.

Community Benefit Negotiation

A CBA has been negotiated and includes benefits aligned with Council’s Renewable Energy – Community Benefits Sharing Policy, specifically:

- Annual payment of \$150/MWh, without conditions.
- Operating contribution of 5% towards Council’s operating cost.
- Proponent to fund and administer a Community Benefit Sharing Program.

Complementing the policy requirements above, below is a summary of the community benefit commitments proposed. Full details of the Community Benefits Sharing Program are described in Schedule 2 of the draft CBA attached.

Pre and During Construction	Period of Commercial Operation
<p><b>Local Participation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host 2 x local business forums</li> </ul> <p><b>Local Employment/Training</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5% labour hours by apprentices or learning workers; and</li> <li>• 30% labour hours by local workers</li> </ul> <p><b>Fire Fighting Training</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local RFS firefighting/suppression training</li> </ul> <p><b>Goodwill Grant/Sponsorships – Social Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$20,000 pa Shelter Collective/Roseberry House</li> </ul>	<p>Deliver a Community Benefits Sharing Program at \$50/MWh pa.</p> <p><b>Funding split across three Priorities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30% Local Education Partnerships/Upskilling Programs</li> <li>• 40% on Emergency/Social Services Initiatives</li> <li>• 30% on Community Grants/Sponsorships</li> </ul> <p><b>Local Employment/Training</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4% labour hours by apprentices or learning workers; and</li> <li>• 50% labour hours by local workers</li> </ul>

Overall, the community benefits are well aligned and complementary to Council's policy. With no significant social impacts identified for the project, the community benefits are considered appropriate to counterbalance the social impacts and create opportunities for long-term benefits to the Gladstone Region.

### **Risk Management Summary:**

Council has a measured appetite for risks that may impact its reputation or relationship with the community. To mitigate such risk, emphasis has been placed on the Proponent to demonstrate meaningful engagement and transparency. This includes a focus on opportunities for community to influence project development and the social impact management measures proposed. This is well illustrated in the SIA Report completed for the project.

Under the planning laws, a CBA must be executed with Council before a development application can be lodged with the SARA. This may create perceptions in community that Council has endorsed the project to proceed or that community benefits are guaranteed.

To manage this risk, Council supports the community by making available information on how to inform and influence the assessment outcome through the public notification period. Under the assessment of SARA, the public notification period is a fixed window of time during which any member of the community can review and comment on the proposed renewable energy development.

Council's Risk Management Policy affirms a commitment to good governance and meeting legislated and regulatory requirements. The CBA negotiated includes safeguards to protect Council's strategic interests and provides a framework to deliver the objectives of Council's *Renewable Energy – Community Benefits Sharing Policy* over the life of the project.

### **Options and Opportunity Analysis:**

#### **Option 1 – Endorse the CBA Offered (Officer's Recommendation).**

The proposed CBA aligns with *Council's Renewable Energy – Community Benefits Sharing Policy*. Given no major residual social impacts have been identified, the community benefits offered are considered appropriate to counterbalance the impacts of the project. Details of the Community Benefits Sharing Program are outlined in Schedule 2 of the draft CBA attached.

#### **Option 2 – Refer back to Officers for further negotiation.**

If Council considers the proposed benefits do not meet policy expectations, the CBA can be referred to officers to further negotiate. A revised CBA can be tabled at a future meeting.

#### **Option 3 – Decline the CBA and proceed no further with negotiation.**

Council may opt to decline the CBA and cease negotiation. This is likely to lead to the Proponent seeking approval under section 106ZE(1)(b) of the Planning Act to waive the requirement for a CBA. If granted, the project could proceed without obligation to mitigate social impacts or share benefits with the Council and the community over the life of the project. This option is not recommended.

### **Stakeholder Engagement:**

The Proponent undertook SIA-specific engagement during March 2026 in addition to previous community and stakeholder engagements completed since 2024. Community consultation was undertaken in accordance with the State's prescribed *Social Impact Assessment Guidelines July 2025*.

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The primary social study area for this project captures the immediate localities of East End, Bracewell, and Mount Larcom. Calliope and Gladstone form part of the secondary study area and identified as the most likely urban centres to support the project through the provision of goods and services, employment, and accommodation of the non-local workforce.

63 interactions across a broad range of stakeholder groups were undertaken providing a thorough representative sample of the host communities. A summary of the stakeholders engaged is outlined in detail under table 7-1 (p: 91) of the SIA Report.

Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) across relevant Council departments were engaged as part of the SIA scoping, review of social impact findings and have informed the community benefits negotiated. There is no mandatory requirement on Council to put CBAs on public exhibition prior to executing the agreement.

### **Legal and Regulatory Implications:**

A CBA is a legally binding agreement between Council and the Proponent that sets out agreed community benefits, contingent on specified development and operational milestones being achieved. Council is required to make this CBA publicly available, report on the expenditure of monetary contributions received and disclose relevant CBA information in its annual financial statements.

### **Financial and Resource Implications:**

Pursuant to s106ZM of the Planning Act 2016, Council will recover its costs for participating in the SIA and CBA process as prescribed in Council's 2025/2026 adopted fees and charges.

Over the life of the CBA, council will commit resources to administer, monitor and report on its regulatory obligations. The annual 5% operating contribution will support compensation for Council costs. Agreement conditions include annual indexation to adjust for inflation, ensuring the value of monetary contributions remains consistent over time. This protects Council's long-term sustainability and financial performance to deliver intended legacy outcomes.

### **Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:**

Should Council adopt the recommendation of this report, Officers will conclude negotiation and proceed to execute the CBA by July 2026.

### **Attachments:**

1. East End BESS – Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Report.
2. East End BESS – Draft Community Benefit Agreement.

### **G/4.3. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31 MAY 2026**

**Responsible Officer:** General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

**Prepared By:** Management Accounting Specialist

**Council Meeting Date:** 16 June 2026

**File Ref:** FM15.1

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#### **Purpose:**

This report seeks Council adoption of the Monthly Financial Statements for the year 2025-26 to date, for the period ended 31 May 2026.

#### **Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council receive the Monthly Financial Report for the period ended 31 May 2026 provided in accordance with s204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

#### **Summary:**

This report provides Council with the Monthly Financial Statements as at 31 May 2026 indicating Council's performance against its budget for 2025-26. The final forecast position for the year has been determined. Significant variances against forecast have been highlighted with commentary provided.

#### **Link to Corporate Plan:**

Accountable Council - We are providing good stewardship built on a foundation of trust.

#### **Risk Management Summary:**

While it is a legislative requirement to provide a monthly financial report to Council, the provision of a monthly report assists Council to manage its financial, regulatory and reputational risk. Financial reporting supports accountability within Council and long-term sustainability.

Council's risk appetite provides that Council will tolerate:

- Minor budget variations to natural account and cost centres within overall budget parameters.
- Calculated financial risks to deliver infrastructure, improve service delivery, or promote ecological sustainability.
- Minor losses, or capital outlays, attributable to new processes or innovation to improve services to meet community needs.

#### Emerging Risks

Council's Business Continuity Team has been activated to monitor volatility in global markets, the impacts to Council and develop mitigations in the event of an extended conflict and market volatility. The team has met initially, and a report will be presented to Council on the mitigating steps taken and also continue to further quantify impacts to date. To date \$242k of variation requests have been received and approved.

**Background:**

Section 204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 requires local governments to prepare a financial report stating the progress that has been made in relation to the local government's budget. The financial report must be presented to Council at a General Meeting on a monthly basis.

Actuals are reported against the adopted budget and Q3 Forecast.

Below is the summary of the major movements between the budget and the quarter 3 forecasted position, presented to Council during the recent budget workshops

Budget Position	\$1.5m Surplus	
Larger than expected GAWB Dividend	+\$5.6m	
Increased prepayment of Financial Assistance Grant 80% compared to 50%	+\$3.6m	
Increased interest revenue due to improved investing conditions	+\$2.0m	
Increased fees & charges revenue (largely offsets increased waste disposal costs below) *	+\$1.8m	
Anticipated Disaster Recovery Funding following March 2026 rain event. Associated costs contributing to increases below	+\$0.8m	
WIP Write Offs (non-cash expense) – costs previously capitalised that have not resulted in a new asset	-\$2.0m	
Overtime – primarily in operations (water, sewer, roads), though minor increases are present in other areas. \$50k disaster recovery	-\$0.9m	
Other employee benefits – impacts of lower-than-expected vacancy rate, new positions, increasing leave provisions	-\$2.2m	
Equipment – external plant hire, primarily sewerage and roads. \$150k disaster recovery	-\$1.5m	
Legal Fees – increased legal activity throughout 2025-26, primarily relating to development	-\$0.8m	
Materials – uplift in cost of materials primarily in roads and parks. \$650k disaster recovery	-\$1.4m	
Waste disposal (largely offsets increased waste disposal revenue above) *	-\$1.7m	
Bulk water purchases – placeholder amount not updated following final pricing decision	-\$2.3m	
Depreciation – uplift based on results from prior year revaluation, and expected capitalisations	-\$1.1m	
Other movements – in revenue & expenditure	\$0.1m	
<b>Current Forecast Position</b>	<b>\$1.5m Surplus</b>	

## GLADSTONE REGIONAL COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA - 16 JUNE 2026

Financial and Operating Statement Overview as at 31 May 2026:

The attached monthly financial and operating statements outline Council's financial position as at 31 May 2026. Commentary provided below is in comparison to the Q3 forecasted position.

### Overall Position

As of 31 May 2026, 91.78% of the financial year has passed. Accounts are therefore expected to fall within the range of 81% to 101% (+/- 10%) of the budget year to date (YTD). As at 31 May the YTD operating result is -\$18.3m unfavourable, with significant revenue expected in June.

### Money we receive (revenue)

- \$234.0m in operating revenue has been collected so far (83.53% of forecast).
- Interest rates continue to remain high with a positive impact on our interest revenue.
- The prepayment of Financial Assistance Grant forecast has been revised to 80% compared to the budgeted 50%. This is expected to be received in June.

### Money we spend (expenditure)

- \$252.3m has been spent operationally so far (90.56% of forecast).

### Financial Health

- Cash balances remain healthy at \$148.7m (down from \$162.2m last month), of which \$79.0m is invested in term deposits.

### Capital Works & Projects

- \$75.4m has been invested in capital projects (71.69% of the budget and 77.93% forecast).

The high-level YTD summary above is supported by detailed analysis and variance explanations in the sections that follow.

## Detailed Analysis

### Recurrent Revenue

Recurrent revenue is tracking consistently with forecast, with timing differences across water consumption and grants explaining the current actuals position.

#### **What's happening**

- Total recurrent revenue of \$252.3m (90.56%) aligns with the expected year-to-date profile.
- Water consumption revenue is 46.54% with the July-December readings, generating \$15.0m. The January – June 2026 cycle read will be completed in July and accrued into June.

### Interest & Investment Income – Key Upside Driver

Interest revenue remains a key positive contributor to Council's financial position.

#### **What's happening**

- \$7.8m recognised year to date (95.34% of forecast). This is driven by:
  - Higher average cash balances; and
  - Favourable interest rate conditions.
- Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC) interest returns of 5.04% in May, with term deposits yielding up to 5.25%.

### **Grants & Contributions – Milestone-Based Timing**

Grant revenue timing reflects project delivery milestones rather than funding risk.

#### **Recurrent grants**

- Financial Assistance Grant allocation of \$10.4m for 2025-26 confirmed.
  - A \$5.2m prepayment was received in June 2025 and recognised in the prior year.
  - Remaining funding is being received quarterly through 2025-26.
  - The forecast also includes an anticipated advance payment of 80% for 2026-27, expected in June 2026.
- Other operating state and federal grants (\$2.6m YTD, 52.93% of forecast) are recognised as milestones are achieved.

#### **Capital Revenue**

Capital revenue (state and federal grant funding and developer contributions) is at \$19.8m YTD (89.38% of forecast). Note: where funding has been received but milestones not yet met, amounts are recorded as contract liabilities on the Statement of Financial Position, not revenue.

Capital grants revenue budgeted and recognised for significant projects is detailed below, along with the corresponding expenses for these funded projects. Included in the table is the year-to-date (YTD) revenue as a percentage of the anticipated whole-of-life (WOL) funding.

A formal variation request for the Red Rover Road Bridge project is currently being pursued (highlighted red below).

The Round Hill Reservoir project is no longer considered at risk of not meeting its funding milestones.

GLADSTONE REGIONAL COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA - 16 JUNE 2026

Project	Revenue Budget	WOL Funding	Revenue YTD Actual	Expense YTD Actual	% WOL Funding
<b>State Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>					
Backup power generator GECC	\$0.60m	\$0.64m	\$0.19m	\$0.28m	29.41%
Granite Creek Bridge - Lowmead Road	\$2.85m	\$6.70m	\$1.24m	\$2.33m	18.49%
Deepwater National Park Fire Trail Stage 1	\$2.00m	\$2.00m	\$0.08m	\$0.08m	3.76%
Stage 2 - GWWTP Inlet Distribution Structure Replacement	\$5.62m	\$8.77m	\$4.95m	\$6.99m	56.51%
Lake Awoonga Water Main Renewal - Auckland Street	\$1.32m	\$1.42m	\$1.31m	\$2.38m	91.87%
Round Hill 2 Reservoir	\$4.12m	\$4.26m	\$1.43m	\$3.39m	33.55%
REPA 2025	-	\$17.54m	\$0.23m	\$0.28m	1.51%
Other State Government Funding	\$0.80m	\$2.18m	\$0.92m	\$5.25m	42.39%
<b>TOTAL State Government Funding</b>	<b>\$17.70m</b>	<b>\$41.3m</b>	<b>\$10.35m</b>	<b>\$20.98m</b>	
<b>Federal Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>					
Boyne Tannum Aquatic Centre	\$4.04m	\$15.00m	\$0.75m	\$1.45m	4.79%
Harbour Arbour	\$0.25m	\$5.33m	\$0.55m	\$1.26m	8.83%
Agnes Water Skate Park	\$0.88m	\$0.97m	\$0.64m	\$1.75m	52.20%
Red Rover Road Bridge, Gladstone	\$1.39m	\$1.54m	\$0.04m	\$0.06m	2.61%
Tableland Road, Calliope - Pavement Rehabilitation	\$1.17m	\$1.00m	\$0.27m	\$0.67m	26.87%
Other Federal Government Funding	\$1.49m	\$1.33m	\$0.77m	\$1.34m	37.67%
<b>TOTAL Federal Government Funding</b>	<b>\$9.22m</b>	<b>\$25.18</b>	<b>\$3.02m</b>	<b>\$6.54m</b>	
<b>TOTAL State and Federal Funding</b>	<b>\$26.93m</b>	<b>\$66.52m</b>	<b>\$12.32m</b>	<b>\$27.52m</b>	

**Recurrent expenditure – Tracking with Service Delivery**

Expenditure trends remain consistent with operational activity and service delivery at this stage of the year.

Key drivers are:

- Employee benefits (92.02%) are consistent with year-to-date forecast. The YTD average vacancy rate is 5.0%.
- Consultant expenditure (84.50%) remains slightly below forecast, reflecting timing of planned engagements.
- Contractor expenditure (90.20%) tracking in line with forecast, concentrated in the core service areas.
- Equipment (97.32% of forecast) and motor vehicle expenses (94.87% of forecast) elevated early due to external hire. Hire of external equipment has increased for water services to cover breakdown of plant equipment. Tracking in line with the Q3 forecasted position.
- Legal expenses (100.38%) of revised forecast reflects activity levels.
- Finance costs (115.49%) A timing difference in loan payments arises, as Council's loan repayments are made monthly, while repayments from Gladstone Airport Corporation (GAC) to Council occur quarterly, creating a temporary variance in the year-to-date actuals compared to the forecast.

**Statement of Financial Position**

	Current Value	Budget	Variance (Actual to Budget)	Forecast (Q3)	Variance (Actual to Forecast)	<i>Liabilities have been presented both including and excluding unearned rates revenue. The two will converge and be the same by June 2026, as all rates revenue is recognised on the profit and loss.</i>
Year-to-date Assets	\$3.1b	\$3.2b	-1.85%	\$3.2b	-3.27%	
Year-to-date Liabilities	\$194.3m	\$183.4m	5.93%	\$206.2m	-5.78%	
Year-to-date Liabilities (excl. unearned rates revenue)	\$177.6m	\$183.4m	-3.14%	\$206.2m	-13.85%	

*ge and be the same by June 2026, as all rates revenue is recognised on the profit and loss.*

The budget for assets and liabilities reflects the expected positions at 30 June 2026. Significant balance sheet movement is still expected to occur throughout the year:

- Cash to increase as rates are paid.
- Receivables to decrease as rates are paid.
- Cash to decrease as expenses are incurred and loan repayments are made.
- Property, plant and equipment balance to move based on in-year capital additions and disposals.
- Unearned rates revenue to decrease as recognised on the profit and loss statement each month.
- Borrowings to decrease as loan repayments are made.

**Capital Expenditure**

The current forecast of capital expenditure for 2025-26 is \$96.7m with actual spend of \$75.4m (77.93% of forecast.)

When compared to the same time in the prior year:

	Actual YTD	Forecast Total Spend	Final Total spend	June Spend & Accruals
<b>May 2025 Monthly Report</b>	\$85.8m	\$105.5m	\$108.0m	\$22.2m
<b>May 2026 Monthly Report (current)</b>	\$75.4m	\$96.7m	TBC	TBC

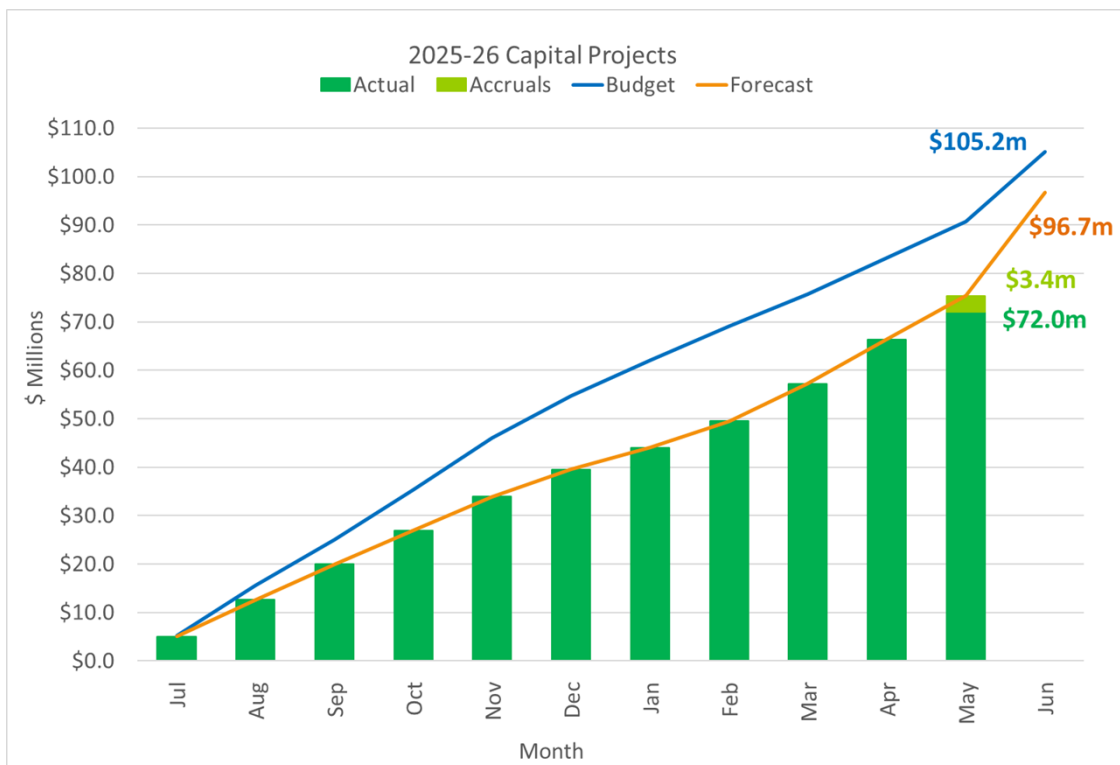
When using the prior year for comparison, it is not unreasonable to expect a further \$21.3m of capital expenses to be recognised in June 2026

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Capital expenditure for groups with significant capital budgets is summarised in the table below:

Group	YTD Actual	Budget	Actual as % of Budget	Forecast	Actual as % of Forecast
Roads	\$24.9m	\$26.2m	94.69%	\$26.4m	94.17%
Sewerage	\$20.6m	\$26.5m	77.69%	\$21.0m	98.06%
Delivery Support and Performance	\$2.2m	\$6.0m	36.00%	\$6.5m	33.23%
Property Assets	\$0.0m	\$0.4m	0.00%	\$0.0m	0.00%
Asset Governance	\$0.0m	\$5.0m	0.00%	\$6.0m	0.00%
Waste	\$3.8m	\$2.6m	148.07%	\$5.2m	73.40%
Parks	\$3.7m	\$5.6m	65.57%	\$4.4m	83.37%
Community & Lifestyle	\$0.3m	\$0.4m	65.38%	\$0.3m	86.35%
Water	\$14.0m	\$19.8m	70.87%	\$14.2m	98.60%
Strategic Projects	\$2.8m	\$10.9m	25.59%	\$10.8m	25.66%
Other	\$3.2m	\$1.7m	184.90%	\$1.9m	171.79%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$75.4m</b>	<b>\$105.2m</b>	<b>71.69%</b>	<b>\$96.7m</b>	<b>77.93%</b>

Accrual estimates of \$3.4m have been included in the actuals to account for major claims relating to capital work undertaken in May.



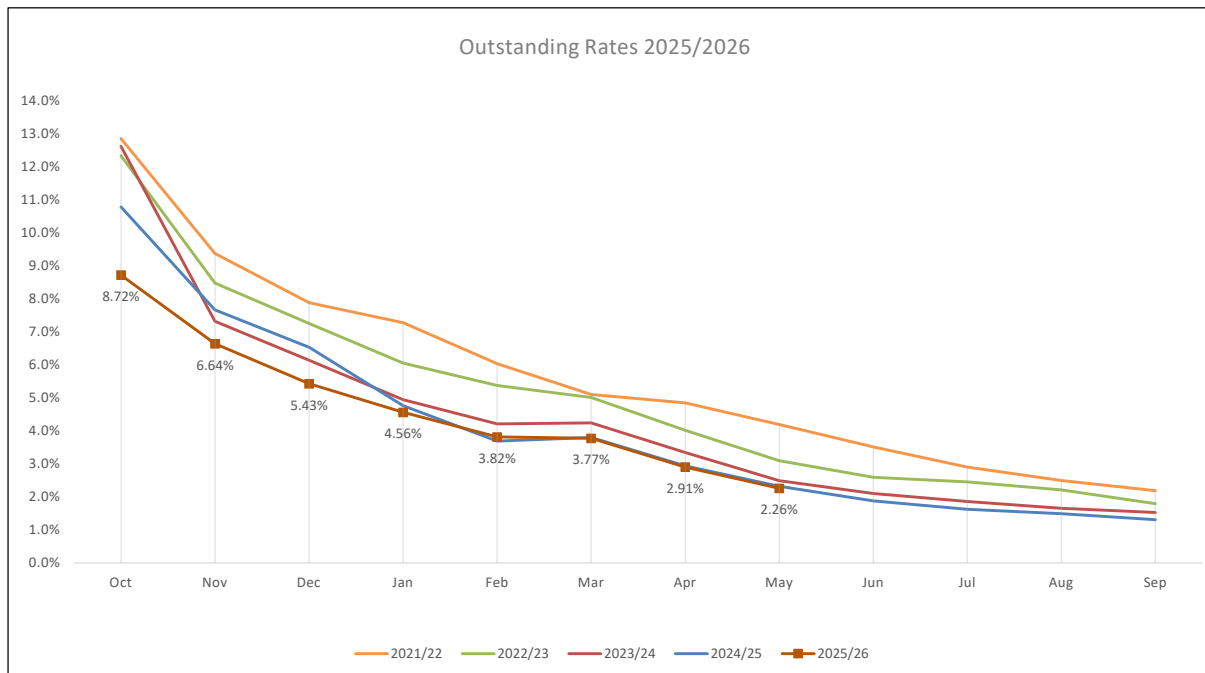
**Outstanding Rates**

Outstanding rates, as a percentage of gross rates levied (2025/2026), and collectible, is at 2.26% at the end of May 2026, compared to 2.32% for the same period last year. Current outstanding rates for 2025/2026 is \$5.4m of which 10.77% is commercial / industrial and 89.23% is residential assessments.

These figures include \$1.3m of rates that are currently being repaid under an authorised payment plan, for which there were 28 commercial/industrial assessments and 1,281 residential assessments.

The outstanding rates balance can be attributed as follows:

Rating period	Outstanding Balance
Current year 2025/26	\$5,574,175.56
Current year charges not yet due – Supplementary	-\$1,114,251.43
2024/25	\$776,455.63
2023/24	\$138,085.41
2022/23	\$8,967.76
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,350,432.93</b>



**Sustainability Ratios**

Sustainability ratios are prepared and reported on a quarterly basis. The next update will be included in the June report

**Stakeholder Engagement:**

This report seeks specialist input from relevant internal sources.

**Legal and Regulatory Implications:**

Council is required to receive an update at least monthly relative to its financial position, Section 204 Local Government Regulation 2012.

**Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:**

N/A

**Attachments:**

1. Monthly Financial Statements for the period ending 31 May 2026
2. Operating Statements for the period ending 31 May 2026

## G/4.4. COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM - 2026/27 THEMES

**Responsible Officer:** General Manager Community and Lifestyle

**Prepared By:** Manager Community Partnerships

**Council Meeting Date:** 16 June 2026

**File Ref:** CM7.2

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### **Purpose:**

To consider the themes to be applied to the Micro Grants Fund and the Connected Communities Fund under the Community Investment Policy and Program in 2026/2027.

### **Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council, in respect of the Community Investment Policy and Program, adopt the following themes for the Micro Grants Fund and Connected Communities Fund for the 2026/27 financial year:

- **Theme: Connected & Inclusive Communities**  
*Corporate Plan alignment: Community – A Better Everyday*
  - **Description:** Fund activities that strengthen social connection and belonging, support inclusion, accessibility and participation, build community pride and identity, support volunteerism and community leadership, create safe, welcoming community experiences, reduce isolation and improve wellbeing.
  - **Example of initiatives:** neighbourhood events, inclusion initiatives, youth engagement, seniors' connection programs, multicultural activities, community-led activation projects, volunteer development.
  
- **Theme: Local Leadership & Community Capacity**  
*Corporate Plan alignment: Community + Trust & Confidence*
  - **Description:** Fund activities that strengthen community organisations, build local capability and leadership, improve governance and sustainability of groups, support collaborative partnerships, and increase community participation in local issues.
  - **Example of initiatives:** committee training, governance capability, community leadership programs, partnership projects, shared resource initiatives, mentoring and skills development, development application fee reimbursement.
  
- **Theme: Sustainable & Well-Cared-For Places**  
*Corporate Plan alignment: Environment – Practical Stewardship*
  - **Description:** Fund activities that improve local environmental outcomes, support practical sustainability initiatives, reduce waste, enhance public amenity, encourage stewardship of natural places, improve resilience and preparedness.
  - **Example of initiatives:** revegetation, waste reduction initiatives, recycling/reuse projects, clean-up activities, resilience preparedness, habitat restoration.
  
- **Theme: Community Trust, Participation & Transparency**  
*Corporate Plan alignment: Trust & Confidence*
  - **Description:** Fund activities that improve civic participation, increase understanding of local issues, support respectful dialogue, strengthen community voice, improve access to information and participation.
  - **Example of initiatives:** civic participation projects, deliberative engagement pilots, community education initiatives, accessibility and information inclusion projects.

**Summary:**

Officers seek adoption of the themes to be applied to the Micro Grants Fund and the Connected Communities Fund under the Community Investment Program, in accordance with the Community Investment Program Policy.

**Link to Corporate Plan:**

Accountable Council - We are providing good stewardship built on a foundation of trust.  
Resilient Economy - We play our part in supporting the success of our region.

**Background:**

Council's Community Investment Policy requires applications to the Connected Communities and Micro Grant Funds to align to one of the pre-determined 'themes' that have been endorsed by council. During 2025/26, these themes were aligned to the Priority Action Areas of Council's Community Development Strategy. These were:

1. Capacity - To foster community led collaboration and partnerships that help communities develop their own solutions to local areas of need, generally strengthening and building the skills, knowledge, and capacity of community members and groups which can then be applied and shared.
2. Place - To foster the development of accessible, fulfilling, and engaging places and spaces to provide safe and accessible social infrastructure that meets the community's diverse needs.
3. Connect - To foster community led initiatives and projects that strengthen relationships, community connection, civic participation, and understanding across all sectors of the community.
4. Wellbeing - To foster healthy, safe, and supported communities through the delivery of community led partnerships, programs, activities, and resources that promote healthy lifestyles, positive wellbeing, and safe communities.
5. Planning - To foster and support the development of programs, plans, and strategies that strengthen the community's ability to deliver well-planned and sustainable organisations, facilities, and activities across the region.

A review of the themes has been undertaken with changes proposed to align with the adoption of the new Corporate Plan.

**Risk Management Summary:**

Under Council's Risk Management Policy, the primary risks associated with the Micro Grants and Connected Communities funding themes relate to reputational, financial, and regulatory/compliance obligations.

Reputational risk is the most significant, as funding decisions may be subject to community scrutiny and stakeholder expectations regarding fairness, transparency, and alignment with community priorities. Council maintains a 'measured' appetite for reputational risk and seeks to ensure funding programs are administered consistently and equitably to protect Council's image.

Financial risks have an 'open' risk appetite within Council. Officers manage the approved Community Investment Program budget throughout the financial year. Funding allocations are managed within approved budget provisions, with established assessment, approval, and acquittal processes supporting appropriate use of public funds.

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Council has a 'measured' appetite for regulatory and compliance risk. The Micro Grants and Connected Communities programs are managed in accordance with Council's Community Investment Policy, Community Investment Program Guidelines and associated Procedures and Guidelines reducing the risk of non-compliance and supporting accountable decision-making.

### **Stakeholder Engagement:**

As part of the review of the Community Investment Policy, funding stream principles, outcomes, and eligibility criteria have been the subject of Councillor discussions.

### **Legal and Regulatory Implications:**

Pursuant to section 194 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council may give a grant to a community organisation if it is, amongst other things, satisfied that the grant will be used for a purpose that is in the public interest. The adoption of themes for some funds seeks to define what that public purpose is.

### **Financial and Resource Implications:**

Funding and in-kind contribution are administered under the Community Investment Policy (and Program) in accordance with annual budget allocations. The adoption of themes seeks to facilitate an equitable distribution of the limited funding that is available under the Community Investment Program having regard to the competitive nature of accessing funding under the program.

### **Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:**

It is anticipated that the 2026/27 Community Investment Program will commence opening rounds from 7 July 2026, with assessments scheduled to start after council endorsement of budget 2026/27.

### **Attachments:**

Nil

**G/5. COUNCILLORS REPORT**

**G/6. URGENT BUSINESS**

**G/7. NOTICE OF MOTION**

**G/8. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**