



MINUTES

**Special Council Meeting
Wednesday, 30 July 2025**

**MINUTES OF WINTON SHIRE COUNCIL
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE WINTON SHIRE COUNCIL BOARD ROOM
ON WEDNESDAY, 30 JULY 2025 AT 4:00 PM**

PRESENT: Cr Cathy White (Mayor), Cr Tina Elliott (Deputy Mayor), Cr Frank Standfast, Cr Jacob Mutton, Cr Adrian Lenton, Cr Julie Dorries

IN ATTENDANCE: Louise Knol (Chief Executive Officer), Shannon Van Bael (Executive Manager Community Services), Ryan Francis (Director of Works), Kirby Reents (Minutes Secretary).

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor recited the Acknowledgement of Country.

2 APOLOGIES

NIL

3 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Cr White invited Councillors to declare any relevant "Interest" to respective items.

NIL

4 MAYOR'S REPORT TO COUNCIL

Mayor's Budget Message 2025–2026

As Mayor of Winton Shire Council, I am pleased to present the 2025–2026 Annual Budget – one that continues to be guided by our strong commitment to the financial sustainability, liveability, and long-term future of our community. I extend my sincere thanks to my fellow councillors, the CEO, and staff for their time, effort, and valuable contributions in delivering the 2025-2026 Budget.

We recognise the ongoing cost-of-living pressures faced by residents, businesses, and primary producers alike. Council has taken a cautious and considered approach to ensure that essential services are maintained while minimising additional imposts on the community. This budget has been framed around the principles of responsible financial management, community support, and long-term infrastructure investment.

A Community-Focused, Financially Responsible Budget

We understand that every dollar counts. For the 2025–2026 financial year, Council has adopted a modest 3% increase to rates, fees, and charges, which aligns with national inflation trends. We have retained one of Queensland's most generous incentives – a 15% early payment discount, which applies not only to rates but also to service charges, easing pressure for those who can pay promptly.

Pensioner concessions will also be retained, acknowledging and supporting some of our most vulnerable residents.

Revenue and Funding Snapshot

While rates are an important income stream, they account for just 21% of our total annual revenue. Council remains heavily reliant on operational and capital grants from both the Queensland and Australian

Governments. We are grateful for their continued support and will keep advocating strongly for Winton's needs.

- Total operational grant funding: \$12.2 million or 57% of operating income
- Total capital works budget: \$25.83 million
- Total asset value: \$300.1 million
- Total Operating Revenue \$21.36 million
- Total operating expenses \$24.24 million
- Depreciation expense: \$6.4 million
- Capital grant and other income \$21.88 million
- Insurance premium (including workers' compensation): \$803,000

Investing in Our Future

General Capital Program

Council's 2025–2026 capital program targets essential infrastructure that supports economic growth, community wellbeing, and service reliability.

A snapshot of our capital projects include:

- Stage 2 of the Winton Industrial Estate (\$2 million, co-funded with the Queensland Government's Works for Queensland Fund)
- Water Infrastructure upgrades – \$550,000
- Plant Replacement Program – \$1.36 million
- Diamantina Gardens upgrades, including hot water systems – \$160,000
- ICT Systems and Infrastructure – \$230,000
- Tourism Signage Enhancements – \$60,000
- Solar pump for Opalton Bush Park water supply – \$10,000
- Multipurpose shed for community groups – \$750,000

Roads, Water and Sewerage

Council continues the vital work of maintaining and improving our shire's roads, water, and sewerage networks. Key projects and priorities include:

- Flood recovery works, including from the March 2025 flood event
- Staged sealing of the Jundah Rd
- Maintenance of shire roads and town streets
- Grid repairs and rural signage upgrades
- Improved flood monitoring through additional gauges
- Ongoing delivery of RMPC contracts with the Department of Transport and Main Roads
- Continued improvements to drinking water infrastructure

Supporting Our Community

In many regional and remote areas like ours, Council is not only responsible for delivering core local government services – we also step in as the provider of last resort for essential community services such as aged care, childcare, and housing. It's a role we take seriously, because these services matter deeply to the people of Winton.

Winton Shire Council continues to invest in programs and facilities that support liveability, inclusion, and wellbeing – from early childhood to aged care, and everything in between.

Aged, Child and Community Care and Community Services

Council continues to fill the gap in services for the very young to the elderly—supporting dignity and independence through:

- Little Swaggies Childcare
- Independent living at Diamantina Gardens
- Home and community-based aged care: CHSP, NDIS, Home Care, and 60s & Better
- Youth engagement and support through the new Youth Centre and youth housing support
- Winton Neighbourhood Centre services – offering a range of local services and support

- Civic and community services – including funeral services, community grants, Centrelink Agency, and key civic events such as Australia Day, ANZAC Day, and Citizenship Ceremonies.

Directly Supporting Primary Producers

Winton Shire Council continues to strongly support the rural sector, which is the backbone of our economy:

- \$280,000 committed to wild dog control – a direct investment not commonly matched by other local governments
- Support for feral pig management
- Ongoing management of Town Commons and Stock Routes
- Pest and weed management

Community Infrastructure

We maintain and improve the spaces that support connection, reflection, recreation, and celebration:

- Winton Showgrounds and Recreation Grounds
- Winton Swimming Pool
- Parks, gardens, cemetery and reserves
- Shire Hall, gym, and sporting facilities
- Town footpaths to improve accessibility

Economic Development, Tourism and Events

Council is driving economic growth and visitor engagement through:

- Implementation of the Economic Development Strategy (EDS)
- Operations of the Waltzing Matilda Centre and ongoing collaboration with the Winton Historical Society through the Qantilda Museum
- Destination marketing and area promotion in partnership with stakeholders
- Winton Saleyards
- Lark Quarry operations
- Sponsorship and support for signature events including Outback Festival, Opera in the Outback, and Vision Splendid Film Festival
- Maintenance of regional aerodromes
- Council has retained our Rates Incentive Policy with the specific purpose to promote economic development by offering rate concessions to individuals/businesses who invest in residential or commercial construction within the shire.

Arts, Culture and Heritage

We continue to celebrate and support the creative spirit of Winton through:

- Winton Library, supported by the State Library of Queensland
- Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) – \$27,500 from Arts Queensland
- Outback Regional Gallery and the John Villiers Outback Art Prize with funding secured for another three years from 2026
- Maintenance of iconic cultural sites

Workforce and Safety

Our people are our greatest asset. We're investing in local employment through our Grow Our Own approach.

In Closing

We will continue to advocate strongly for Winton at every opportunity – ensuring our voice is heard and our needs recognised for priority issues including:

- Vergemont for the protection of access for opal mining leases
- The Outback Way
- Jessamine Place Aged Care Facility
- Disaster recovery funding arrangements for small businesses and primary producers

- A new approach to Childcare funding for remote and regional areas
- Progressing a flood levy and recreation lake

This budget reflects Council's steadfast commitment to community service, infrastructure renewal, and economic opportunity; all while managing our finances responsibly. We are proud to deliver a wide range of services to our residents, businesses, and visitors whilst being mindful that we are the provider of last resort with services such as aged and childcare. We are deeply grateful for the trust you place in us to do so.

On behalf of all Councillors and staff, thank you.

Cr Cathy White

Mayor, Winton Shire Council

MOTION – MAYORS BUDGET SPEECH

RESOLUTION 2025/34

Moved: Cr Cathy White

Seconded: Cr Tina Elliott

That the Mayor's Budget Speech be received.

CARRIED 6-0

5 DECISIONAL REPORTS

5.1 REVENUE POLICY 2025-2026

SUMMARY

The purpose of this policy is to provide Council with a strategic policy framework that encompasses the principles used by Council in generating revenue in the 2025-2026 financial year. The Revenue Policy must be updated and adopted as part of the 2025-26 budgetary process in accordance with s169 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

RESOLUTION 2025/35

Moved: Cr Tina Elliott

Seconded: Cr Jacob Mutton

1. That Council adopts the Revenue Policy for the 2025-2026 financial year as tabled, in accordance with section 169(2)(c) and section 193 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

CARRIED 6-0

5.2 PROCUREMENT POLICY

SUMMARY

In accordance with s198 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, a Council is required to prepare an adopt a procurement policy and review the policy annually.

RESOLUTION 2025/36

Moved: Cr Adrian Lenton

Seconded: Cr Jacob Mutton

1. That Council adopt the Procurement Policy as tabled in accordance with s198 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* which requires a local government to adopt a policy about procurement and review its procurement policy annually.

CARRIED 6-0

5.3 DEBT POLICY 2025-2026

SUMMARY

Each year, in accordance with s192 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council is required to prepare a Debt Policy which outlines the extent of proposed borrowing for the budget year, and nine years beyond the budget year.

The Debt Policy details Council's process for responsible financial management in relation to debt and funding of infrastructure capital projects. Council is committed to ensuring the level of Council indebtedness is within acceptable limits to Council, its ratepayers and interested external parties.

RESOLUTION 2025/37

Moved: Cr Adrian Lenton

Seconded: Cr Tina Elliott

1. That Council adopts the Debt Policy as tabled for the year 2025-2026 in accordance with Section 192 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

CARRIED 6-0

5.4 INVESTMENT POLICY 2025-2026

SUMMARY

Section 104 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and Section 191 of *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires a local government to prepare and adopt an investment policy.

The purpose of this policy is to provide Council with a contemporary investment guideline based on an assessment of risk within the legislative framework of the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982* (SBFAA).

RESOLUTION 2025/38

Moved: Cr Adrian Lenton

Seconded: Cr Jacob Mutton

1. That Council, in accordance with the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982* and Section 191 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, adopts the Investment Policy as tabled for the year 2025-2026.

CARRIED 6-0

5.5 RATES CONCESSION POLICY

SUMMARY

The purpose of this Winton Shire Council (Council) Rates Concession Policy is to provide detail of Council's Rates Concession incentive in order to encourage economic development within the shire.

The rate remission incentive encourages persons to invest within the Winton Shire, through the construction of either a residential and/or commercial building/s, the undertaking of major renovation/s of an existing building/s or the purchase of a dwelling as a first home owner.

RESOLUTION 2025/39

Moved: Cr Tina Elliott

Seconded: Cr Adrian Lenton

1. That Council adopts the Rates Concession Policy as tabled.

CARRIED 6-0

5.6 2025 - 2026 FEES AND CHARGES SCHEDULE (REVISED)

SUMMARY

Council is asked to consider the adoption of the Revised 2025-2026 Schedule of Fees and Charges which includes cost recovery fees and charges.

The fees and charges schedule was reviewed and amended as part of Council's 2025-2026 budget deliberation process and was adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting of 17 July 2025 (Resolution Number 2025/09).

Since the Fees and Charges were adopted on 17 July 2025, minor errors and inconsistencies have been found and these have been amended in the revised Fees and Charges tabled with this report.

RESOLUTION 2025/40

Moved: Cr Adrian Lenton

Seconded: Cr Tina Elliott

1. That Council adopt the revised 2025-2026 Schedule of Fees and Charges as tabled.

CARRIED 6-0

5.7 CHANGES IN RATES AND CHARGES 2025-2026

SUMMARY

The budget must include the total value of the change, expressed as a percentage, in the rates and utility charges levied for the financial year compared with the rates and utility charges levied in the previous budget. For calculating the rates and utility charges levied for a financial year, any discounts and rebates must be excluded.

RESOLUTION 2025/41

Moved: Cr Jacob Mutton

Seconded: Cr Frank Standfast

1. That, in accordance with Section 169 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, Council adopt the total value of the change, expressed as a percentage, in the rates and utility charges levied for the financial year compared with the rates and utility charges levied in the previous budget. For the financial year 2025-2026 the change is 3%.

CARRIED 6-0

5.8 PENSIONER REBATE (SUBSIDY) 2025-2026

SUMMARY

The Queensland Government offers a 20% subsidy capped at \$200 per annum for rates and charges (excluding State Emergency and Management Levy).

In accordance with section 119 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* Council will offer a rebate of rates and charges to pensioners who hold a Queensland pensioner concession card or a Department of Veteran Affairs "repatriation card" with full entitlements, for land owned and permanently occupied by the pensioner.

RESOLUTION 2025/42

Moved: Cr Julie Dorries

Seconded: Cr Tina Elliott

1. That, in accordance with Section 119 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council resolves to provide assistance to qualifying Age Pensioners, having a Commonwealth Government Concession Card or a Department of Veteran Affairs "repatriation card" with full entitlements; be granted a remission of up to \$322.00 per annum of general rates levied for the 2025-2026 financial year (excluding special rates and charges and rural and state fire levies and charges), under the same criteria as the State Government Pensioner Remission Scheme.

CARRIED 6-0

5.9 RATING EXEMPTIONS AND REBATES 2025-2026

SUMMARY

The *Local Government Act 2009* s93 provides for land on which rates may be levied and land that is exempted from rates. S73 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* provides for categories of land that are exempted from rating.

RESOLUTION 2025/43

Moved: Cr Adrian Lenton

Seconded: Cr Julie Dorries

That Council resolves that:

1. Pursuant to the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council does not levy general rates on land owned by Community and Benevolent organisations within Winton Local Government Area where the activities of the association or institution are primarily related to -
 - Religious purposes (less than 20 hectares)
 - Education
 - Health
 - Community services
 - Facilities for aged people
 - Facilities for people with a disability
 - Recreation or sporting purposes
 - Hospitals
 - Accommodation for the protection of children
 - Accommodation for students

- Accommodation for services aimed at improving labour market participation; and
2. Council may, at its discretion, allow concessions or remissions if it is of the opinion that some unusual or serious circumstances exist which may prevent payment within the appointed time or otherwise delay the payment of rates and charges as they fall due; and that applications for concession or remission should be able to demonstrate unusual or severe difficulty rather than the usual frustration and trial to which everyone is subjected to from time to time.

CARRIED 6-0**5.10 GENERAL RATES 2025-2026****SUMMARY**

Rates and Charges need to be set as part of the Budgetary process for the 2025-26 budget.

Council has five rating categories for Winton Shire Council based on an assessment of land use, quality, and productivity.

RESOLUTION 2025/44

Moved: Cr Adrian Lenton

Seconded: Cr Tina Elliott

1. That Council sets the following differential rating categories, minimum general rates and cents in dollar for the financial year 2025-2026 as follows –

Category	Differential Category	Differential Rate	
No.	Description	Cents in \$	Minimum \$
1	Winton	1.609	752.00
2	Middleton/Corfield	12.051	752.00
3	Rural/Eastern	0.496	752.00
5	Mining Leases	5.356	300.00
6	Rural/Western	0.428	752.00

CARRIED 6-0**5.11 INTEREST ON RATES 2025-2026****SUMMARY**

All rates and charges remaining outstanding after the due date will be deemed to be overdue rates and will thereafter bear interest at the rate of 12.12% per annum, for the 2025-2026 financial year with an effective date of 1 July 2025. Interest compounds daily in accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, calculated on the balance of overdue rates and charges.

RESOLUTION 2025/45

Moved: Cr Tina Elliott

Seconded: Cr Adrian Lenton

1. That, in accordance with Section 133 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council resolves that;
 - (1) Overdue rates will bear interest at the rate of 12.12 % per annum from the date that the rate becomes overdue; and
 - (2) That the amount of interest will be calculated on daily rests, applying the interest as compound interest.

CARRIED 6-0

5.12 SEWERAGE AND GARBAGE COLLECTION CHARGES 2025-2026

SUMMARY

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* s94 Council will make and levy utility charges for the financial year beginning 1 July 2025 based on an equitable distribution of the burden on those who utilise, or stand to benefit from the provision of the utility services.

Winton Shire Council will levy sewerage rates on all land within the reticulated sewerage area of the township of Winton.

Winton Shire Council levies garbage collection charges to recover the full cost of garbage collection within the shire including the management of Winton Landfill. The costs recovered include employee costs, plant hire, materials and services, corporate overheads, depreciation where applicable and provision for rehabilitation of the tip.

RESOLUTION 2025/46

Moved: Cr Adrian Lenton

Seconded: Cr Jacob Mutton

That

1. The following Sewerage Charges be set for the 2025-2026 financial year

First Pedestal	\$630.00
Second pedestal in a private dwelling	Nil
Second and subsequent pedestals – Commercial	\$476.00
Vacant Land	\$676.00

2. The following Garbage Collection Charges be set for the 2025-2026 financial year
 - (i) \$466 per annum for one collection of one bin for residential consumers once per week; and
 - (ii) \$466 per annum for one collection consisting of a maximum of 5 bins by the number of pickups per week for commercial consumers.

CARRIED 6-0

5.13 2025-2026 WATER SUPPLY CHARGES**SUMMARY**

Council sets Water Supply Charges as part of the 2025-2026 budget process.

RESOLUTION 2025/47

Moved: Cr Adrian Lenton

Seconded: Cr Jacob Mutton

1. That, subject to any express provision to the contrary, Council will charge all land connected to its water supply, or capable of connection to the supply, a two-part tariff for the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026; comprised of a graduated single tier access charge for land connected to Council's water supply, or capable of connection to the supply; and a multi-tiered consumption charge for residential and non-residential users as follows:

SCHEDULE OF ALLOCATED UNITS 2025-2026							
The Schedule of Allocated Units		Units	KL Allow	\$ 46.00	\$ 164.00	Total Water Rates	\$ After Discount
				Infrastructure Charge before Discount	Allowable Usage Charge		
Vacant Land	Unit	6	1,500	\$ 276.00	\$ 984.00	\$ 1,260.00	\$ 1,071.00
Commercial	Unit	6	1,500	\$ 276.00	\$ 984.00	\$ 1,260.00	\$ 1,071.00
Residential	Unit	6	1,500	\$ 276.00	\$ 984.00	\$ 1,260.00	\$ 1,071.00
Rural Residential	Unit	6	1,500	\$ 276.00	\$ 984.00	\$ 1,260.00	\$ 1,071.00
Rural	Unit	6	1,500	\$ 276.00	\$ 984.00	\$ 1,260.00	\$ 1,071.00
Rural under Water Access Agreement	Unit	12	3,000	\$ 552.00	\$ 1,968.00	\$ 2,520.00	\$ 2,142.00
Commercial on more than one allotment	Unit plus 1 unit per allotment	5	1,250	\$ 230.00	\$ 820.00	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 892.50
Nursery	Unit	12	3,000	\$ 552.00	\$ 1,968.00	\$ 2,520.00	\$ 2,142.00
Extra Residence or Extra Industry	Unit	6	1,500	\$ 276.00	\$ 984.00	\$ 1,260.00	\$ 1,071.00
Golf Club	Unit	20	5,000	\$ 920.00	\$ 3,280.00	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 3,570.00
Convent School	Unit	30	7,500	\$ 1,380.00	\$ 4,920.00	\$ 6,300.00	\$ 5,355.00
Hotel	10 Units per Ha + 0.5 Units per Room	Min 12	3,000	\$ 552.00	\$ 1,968.00	\$ 2,520.00	\$ 2,142.00
		Max 24	6,000	\$ 1,104.00	\$ 3,936.00	\$ 5,040.00	\$ 4,284.00
Motel (Major) 25 Units or more + Restaurant	0.5 Unit per Room (incl. Caretaker Residence) + 20 Units per Ha + 5 Units for Restaurant	Min 8	2,000	\$ 368.00	\$ 1,312.00	\$ 1,680.00	\$ 1,428.00
		Max 40	10,000	\$ 1,840.00	\$ 6,560.00	\$ 8,400.00	\$ 7,140.00
Motel (Standard) 24 Units or less, no Restaurant	0.5 Unit per Room (incl. Caretaker Residence) + per Ha	Min 8	2,000	\$ 368.00	\$ 1,312.00	\$ 1,680.00	\$ 1,428.00
		Max 40	10,000	\$ 1,840.00	\$ 6,560.00	\$ 8,400.00	\$ 7,140.00
Swimming Pool (Council)	Unit	36	9,000	\$ 1,856.00	\$ 5,904.00	\$ 7,560.00	\$ 6,426.00
Waltzing Matilda Centre	Unit	6	1,500	\$ 276.00	\$ 984.00	\$ 1,260.00	\$ 1,071.00
Australian Age of Dinosaurs	Unit	20	5,000	\$ 818.00	\$ 2,944.80	\$ 3,762.80	\$ 3,198.38
Council Workshop	Unit	6	1,500	\$ 276.00	\$ 984.00	\$ 1,260.00	\$ 1,071.00
Hospital	Unit	90	22,500	\$ 4,140.00	\$14,760.00	\$18,900.00	\$16,065.00
Caravan Park	20 Units per Ha + 0.5 Unit per Cabin + 0.25 Unit per Caravan Site	Min 13	3,250	\$ 598.00	\$ 2,132.00	\$ 2,730.00	\$ 2,320.50
		Max 68	17,000	\$ 3,128.00	\$11,152.00	\$14,280.00	\$12,138.00
State School	Unit	102	25,500	\$ 4,892.00	\$16,728.00	\$21,420.00	\$18,207.00
Residents can apply to increase their unit allocation of water to 9 units subject to written request and subsequent approval.							
All water used in excess of this allowance to be charged at 65 cents per kilolitre.							

CARRIED 6-0

5.14 DISCOUNT ON RATES 2025-2026**SUMMARY**

In accordance with s130 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* Council provides for a discount on gross Council rates and charges, excluding any charge specifically excluded from discount entitlement, provided payment of the full amount outstanding, including any overdue rates and interest to the date of payment, less any discount entitlement is paid by the due date on original notice of levy.

RESOLUTION 2025/48

Moved: Cr Tina Elliott

Seconded: Cr Adrian Lenton

1. That Council allows, fifteen per cent (15%), by way of a discount on rates and charges levied by Council, (excluding interest, fire levy and excess water charges) for the 2025-26 financial year when all rates and charges are paid by the due date.

CARRIED 6-0

5.15 ESTIMATED FINANCIAL POSITION FOR 30 JUNE 2025**SUMMARY**

Council is required to adopt the estimated financial position and operations as part of the 2025-2026 budget process.

RESOLUTION 2025/49

Moved: Cr Adrian Lenton

Seconded: Cr Tina Elliott

1. That pursuant to Section 205 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the Statement of Estimated Financial Position for the previous financial year to 30 June 2025 be received and its contents noted.

CARRIED 6-0

5.16 REVENUE STATEMENT 2025-2026**SUMMARY**

The Winton Shire Council 2025-2026 Revenue Statement has been developed in accordance with section 172 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* -

- to provide an explanatory statement outlining and explaining the revenue raising measures adopted in the budget; and,
- to comply in all respects with legislative requirements.

RESOLUTION 2025/50

Moved: Cr Adrian Lenton

Seconded: Cr Julie Dorries

1. That Council adopts the Revenue Statement for the 2025-2026 financial year as tabled, in accordance with Sections 169 (2) and 172 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

CARRIED 6-0

5.17 BUDGET FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2025-2026 TO 2027-2028

SUMMARY

Each financial year Council is required to adopt the Budget Financial Statements 2025-26 and the following two years as part of the budget process in accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

RESOLUTION 2025/51

Moved: Cr Tina Elliott

Seconded: Cr Adrian Lenton

1. That Council, in accordance with Section 169 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, adopt the Budget Financial Statements for the 2025-2026 financial year and the following two financial years as tabled.

CARRIED 6-0

5.18 10 YEAR FINANCIAL FORECAST

SUMMARY

In accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council is required to adopt the long-term financial forecast as part of the 2025-2026 budget process

RESOLUTION 2025/52

Moved: Cr Adrian Lenton

Seconded: Cr Tina Elliott

1. That Council adopt the 2025-2035 long term financial forecast as tabled in accordance with Section 169 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*

CARRIED 6-0

5.19 FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY RATIOS 2025-2026 BUDGET

SUMMARY

Council is required to adopt the financial sustainability ratios as part of the 2025-26 budget process in accordance with the *Local Government Regulations 2012*.

RESOLUTION 2025/53

Moved: Cr Tina Elliott
Seconded: Cr Adrian Lenton

1. That Council, in accordance with Section 169 (4), (5) and (6) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, adopts the measures of financial sustainability as tabled.

CARRIED 6-0

5.20 CODE OF COMPETITIVE CONDUCT 2025-2026

SUMMARY

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* Council is required to decide each financial year, by resolution, whether or not to apply the code of competitive conduct to a business activity prescribed under a regulation.

RESOLUTION 2025/54

Moved: Cr Adrian Lenton
Seconded: Cr Jacob Mutton

1. That Council resolves not to apply the code of competitive conduct in accordance with Section 47(7) of the *Local Government Act 2009* as Council does not carry out prescribed activities as defined in this section of the Act (being building certifying activity and roads activity).

CARRIED 6-0

5.21 BUDGET PACK 2025-2026

SUMMARY

The *Local Government Act 2009* provides for Financial Management Systems which include the preparation of an annual budget including revenue statement (Section 104). The Budget Pack 2025-2026 is presented for noting only with all necessary policies, fees and charges, statements and documents that comprise the budget are presented separately for adoption by Council.

RESOLUTION 2025/55

Moved: Cr Adrian Lenton
Seconded: Cr Tina Elliott

1. That Council receive and note the Budget Pack 2025–2026, which provides information related to the budget, including financial reporting, policies, rates, fees and charges prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* and the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (noting that the Final Budget Pack 2025-2026 published post the Special Budget Meeting of 30 July 2025 will include the Mayor's Message and Budget Highlights).

CARRIED 6-0

5.22 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER PROBATION REVIEW**SUMMARY**

The Chief Executive Officer was appointed by Resolution Number 25.02.02 at the Special Meeting of Council on 5 February 2025.

The contract of employment provides for a probationary period being the first four (4) months of employment.

RESOLUTION 2025/56

Moved: Cr Tina Elliott

Seconded: Cr Jacob Mutton

1. In accordance with the Employment Agreement between Council and Mrs Louise Knol (Chief Executive Officer), Council affirms the contract of employment between Mrs Louise Knol, and the Council, following the successful completion of the performance review for the four-month probationary period, in accordance with the terms of the Employment Agreement. Council notes that Mrs Knol commenced employment on 5 April 2025.

CARRIED 6-0

4 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Ordinary Meeting 14 August 2025

The Meeting closed at 4:30pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Meeting of the Winton Shire Council held on 14 August 2025.

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CHAIRPERSON