



# MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting  
17 March 2026



## NOTICE OF MEETING

Dear Elected Members and Members of the Public,

In accordance with the provisions of Section 5.5 of the Local Government Act, you are hereby notified that the March Ordinary Council Meeting has been convened for:

**Date:** Tuesday 17 March 2026

**At:** Shire of Narembeen Council Chambers  
1 Longhurst Street, Narembeen

**Commencing:** 5.00pm

**Rebecca McCall**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

12 March 2026

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UNCONFIRMED

## 1. Official Opening and Welcome

The Presiding Person welcomed everyone and declared the meeting open at 5.01pm.

Attendees were notified that the meeting was being recorded in accordance with the Local Government (Administration) Regulation r14J.

## 2. Record of Attendance / Apologies / Leave of Absence

### Councillors:

Cr HA Cusack	President
Cr HJ Bald	Deputy President
Cr CD Bray	
Cr MJ Currie	
Cr AM Hardham	
Cr LR Smoker	
Cr SW Stirrat	

### Staff:

Ms R McCall	Chief Executive Officer
Mr B Forbes	Executive Manager Corporate Services
Ms K Conopo	Executive Governance Officer

### Member of Public:

Nil

### Apologies:

Mr K Markham	Executive Manager Infrastructure Services
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## 3. Public Question Time

Nil

## 4. Disclosure of Interest

Nil

## 5. Application for Leave of Absence

Nil

## 6. Deputations/ Petitions/ Presentations/ Submissions

Nil

## 7. Delegates' Reports

7.1 Cr Cusack

Date	Meeting/Event
19 February	Aged Care Meeting
25 February	Go Naremben AGM
26 February	Homes for the Aged AGM
27 February	Meeting with Contract Aquatic Services
1 March	Bin 2 Bin

3 March	ANZAC Day Meeting
5 March	Lachlan Hunter Catchup
5 March	ROE ROC Meeting & Dinner
9 & 10 March	Strategic Community Forums

7.2 Cr Bald

Date	Meeting/Event
19 February	Aged Care Meeting
24 February	NDHS P&C AGM
25 February	Aged Care Meeting
26 February	Homes for the Aged AGM
27 February	Meeting with Contract Aquatic Services
1 March	Bin 2 Bin
3 March	ANZAC Day Meeting
5 March	Lachlan Hunter Catchup
5 March	RoeROC Meeting & Dinner
6 March	NDHS Faction Carnival Presentation
9 & 10 March	Community Consultation Workshops 1-7
13 March	EMCS Interviews
17 March	EMCS Interview

7.3 Cr Bray

Date	Meeting/Event
5 March	Lachlan Hunter Catchup
5 March	RoeROC Dinner
9 & 10 March	Strategic Community Forums
13 March	Rural Water Council

7.4 Cr Currie

Date	Meeting/Event
25 February	Go Narembreen AGM
9 & 10 March	Strategic Community Forums
11 March	Ski Lake Working Group Meeting
12 March	LEMC Meeting

7.5 Cr Hardham

Date	Meeting/Event
5 March	Lachlan Hunter Catchup
5 March	RoeROC Dinner
9 & 10 March	Strategic Community Forums

7.6 Cr Smoker

Date	Meeting/Event
23 February	Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group – Roe Subgroup
9 & 10 March	Strategic Community Forums

7.7 Cr Stirrat

Date	Meeting/Event
5 March	RoeROC Dinner

	Water Corporation Meeting (Roe Dam)
	RoeROC Advocacy Group Meeting

## 8. Confirmation of Previous Meetings

### 8.1 Ordinary Council Meeting 17 February 2026 Attachment 8.1A

#### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority  Absolute Majority

#### Officer's Recommendation / Council Resolution – 8.1

That the minutes of the Shire of Narembreen Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 17 February 2026, as presented, be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

**MIN 8136/26**      **MOTION** - Moved Cr. Hardham      Seconded Cr. Bray

**CARRIED 7 / 0**

*For: Cr Cusack, Cr Bald, Cr Bray, Cr Currie, Cr Hardham, Cr Smoker, Cr Stirrat. Against: Nil*

## 9. Minutes of Committee Meetings to be Received

9.1 – 9.6 were moved en bloc

### 9.1 Annual Electors Meeting 10 February 2026 Attachment 9.1A

#### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority  Absolute Majority

#### Officer's Recommendation / Council Resolution – 9.1

That the minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting held on Tuesday 10 February, as presented, be received.

### 9.2 Great Eastern Country Zone Meeting 12 February 2026 Attachment 9.2A

#### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority  Absolute Majority

#### Officer's Recommendation / Council Resolution – 9.2

That the minutes of the GECZ Meeting held on Thursday 12 February, as presented, be received.

**9.3 CEACA Management Committee Meeting 16 February 2026  
Attachment 9.3A**

**Voting Requirements**

- Simple Majority  Absolute Majority

**Officer's Recommendation / Council Resolution – 9.3**

That the minutes of CEACA Management Committee Meeting held on Monday 16 February 2026, as presented, be received.

**9.4 Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting 20 February 2026  
Attachment 9.4A**

**Voting Requirements**

- Simple Majority  Absolute Majority

**Officer's Recommendation / Council Resolution – 9.4**

That the minutes of the Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting held on Friday 20 February 2026, as presented, be received.

**9.5 RoeROC Committee Meeting 5 March 2026  
Attachment 9.5A**

**Voting Requirements**

- Simple Majority  Absolute Majority

**Officer's Recommendation / Council Resolution – 9.5**

That the minutes of the RoeROC Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 5 March 2026, as presented, be received.

**9.6 Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting 12 March 2026  
Attachment 9.6A (Late Attachment)**

**Voting Requirements**

- Simple Majority  Absolute Majority

**Officer's Recommendation / Council Resolution – 9.6**

That the minutes of the LEMC Meeting held on Thursday 12 March 2026, as presented, be received.

**MIN 8137/26**

**MOTION** - Moved Cr. Stirrat

Seconded Cr. Currie

**CARRIED 7 / 0**

*For: Cr Cusack, Cr Bald, Cr Bray, Cr Currie, Cr Hardham, Cr Smoker, Cr Stirrat. Against: Nil*

## 10. Recommendations from Committee Meetings for Council Consideration

### 10.1 Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting 20 February 2026, Item 5.1 – 5.3 Attachment 9.4A

#### Voting Requirements

- Simple Majority  Absolute Majority

#### Officer's Recommendation / Council Resolution – 10.1

That Council endorse the recommendation of the Bushfire Advisory Committee that the following persons be appointed as Office Bearers for the 2025/2026 financial year.

Chairperson	Murray Dixon
Captain	Brendon Parsons
Lieutenants	Peter Cowan Michael Morrone

**MIN 8138/26**      **MOTION** - Moved Cr. Bald      Seconded Cr. Smoker

**CARRIED 7 / 0**

*For: Cr Cusack, Cr Bald, Cr Bray, Cr Currie, Cr Hardham, Cr Smoker, Cr Stirrat. Against: Nil*

### 10.2 Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting 20 February 2026, Item 6.1 – 6.3 Attachment 9.4A

#### Voting Requirements

- Simple Majority  Absolute Majority

#### Officer's Recommendation / Council Resolution – 10.2

That the Bushfire Advisory Committee recommend to Council that the following persons be appointed as Fire Control Officers for the 2026/2027 fire season:

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer	Murray Dixon
Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer	Mitchell Miolini
East Sector	Brendon Parsons
West Sector	Trevor Cole
North Sector	Mitchell Miolini
Central	Cameron Taylor
Central	Andrew Hardham
Ranger	Keith Squibb

**MIN 8139/26**      **MOTION** - Moved Cr. Stirrat      Seconded Cr. Currie

**CARRIED 7 / 0**

*For: Cr Cusack, Cr Bald, Cr Bray, Cr Currie, Cr Hardham, Cr Smoker, Cr Stirrat. Against: Nil*

**10.3 Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting 20 February 2026, Item 7**  
**Attachment 9.4A**  
**Attachment 9.4B**

**Voting Requirements**

- Simple Majority  Absolute Majority

**Officer's Recommendation / Council Resolution – 10.3**

That Council endorse the recommendation of the Bushfire Advisory Committee to accept the Fire Break Order 2026/2027.

**MIN 8140/26**      **MOTION** - Moved Cr. Bray      Seconded Cr. Bald

**CARRIED 7 / 0**

*For: Cr Cusack, Cr Bald, Cr Bray, Cr Currie, Cr Hardham, Cr Smoker, Cr Stirrat. Against: Nil*

**10.4 Local Emergency Management Committee**  
**Attachment 9.6A (Late Attachment)**

**Voting Requirements**

- Simple Majority  Absolute Majority

**Officer's Recommendation / Council Resolution – 10.5**

That Council endorse the recommendation of the LEMC to adopt the LEMC Terms of Reference 2026.

**MIN 8141/26**      **MOTION** - Moved Cr. Currie      Seconded Cr. Stirrat

**CARRIED 7 / 0**

*For: Cr Cusack, Cr Bald, Cr Bray, Cr Currie, Cr Hardham, Cr Smoker, Cr Stirrat. Against: Nil*

**11. Announcements by Presiding Member without Discussion**

Nil

**12. Matters for which the Meeting may be Closed**

Nil

## 13. Officers Reports - Office of the Chief Executive Officer

### 13.1 Electoral Reform Consultation (WALGA)

<b>Date:</b>	9 March 2026
<b>Location:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Rebecca McCall, Chief Executive Officer
<b>Author:</b>	Rebecca McCall, Chief Executive Officer
<b>File Reference</b>	GR/WALGA/FY2026/Advocacy – Electoral Reform
<b>Previous Meeting Reference</b>	Nil
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	13.1A WALGA Electoral Reform Discussion Paper 13.1B Shire of Narembeen Draft Submission

#### Purpose of Report

- Executive Decision  Legislative Requirement

#### Summary

The Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) is seeking Council-endorsed feedback from local governments to inform a sector-wide response to anticipated State Government proposals relating to local government electoral reform.

Council is requested to consider and endorse the attached submission outlining the Shire of Narembeen's position on proposed electoral reform matters, including council spill provisions, voting systems, councillor terms, and voting methods.

#### Background

WALGA has advised that the State Government is considering potential reforms to the Local Government electoral framework. As part of this process, WALGA is gathering feedback from local governments across Western Australia to develop a coordinated sector-wide response.

The anticipated reform areas may include matters such as:

- the potential introduction of full council spill provisions
- voting systems used in local government elections
- councillor term structures
- methods of voting (postal and in-person)
- processes for internal council elections.

Given the potential implications for governance and representation within rural and regional local governments, WALGA has requested that councils provide endorsed feedback to inform its advocacy on behalf of the sector.

## Comment

As a small rural local government, the Shire of Narembeen considers stability, continuity of leadership and retention of local knowledge to be critical to effective governance.

The current electoral structure, whereby councillors serve four-year terms with half of Council elected every two years, provides an appropriate balance between democratic renewal and continuity of governance.

The Shire's proposed submission to WALGA supports:

- retaining the current staggered election model (half council elections every two years)
- retaining four-year councillor terms
- retaining both postal and in-person voting options to ensure accessibility for rural electors
- retaining first-past-the-post voting for internal council elections
- recognising first-past-the-post voting as the preferred voting method for rural councils.

The submission also notes that if preferential voting remains the State's preferred voting system, the proportional representation component should be removed to maintain simplicity and transparency in the electoral process.

The attached submission reflects the governance realities of small rural councils and seeks to ensure that any reforms support stable and effective local government representation in regional communities.

## Consultation

WALGA

## Statutory Implications

The consultation relates to potential amendments to the *Local Government Act 1995 (WA)* and associated electoral regulations.

At this stage, Council is only being asked to provide feedback to WALGA to inform sector advocacy. No legislative changes have been enacted.

## Policy Implications

Nil

## Strategic Implications

### Strategic Community Plan

Strategic Priority:	4. Civic Leadership
Objective:	Well governed and efficiently managed Local Government
Strategy:	4.1 Forward planning and implementation of plans to achieve strategic priorities

### Asset Management Plan

Nil

### Long Term Financial Plan

Nil

## Risk Implications

For Narembeen, proposed WA local government electoral reforms could create risks mainly due to the Shire's small council size and limited candidate pool. Moving to full-spill elections may result in many councillors being replaced at once, reducing governance continuity and local knowledge. With only seven councillors, this could increase workloads, make it harder to recruit experienced representatives, and potentially raise election administration costs. Overall, the reforms could weaken stability and representation capacity in a small rural council.

<b>Risk Profiling Theme</b>	Business and Community Disruption
<b>Risk Category</b>	Service Interruption
<b>Consequence Description</b>	No material service interruption
<b>Consequence Rating</b>	Moderate (3)
<b>Likelihood Rating</b>	Likely (4)
<b>Risk Matrix Rating</b>	High (12)
<b>Key Controls in Place</b>	Legislation
<b>Action / Treatment</b>	Nil
<b>Risk Rating After Treatment</b>	Adequate

## Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications associated with providing feedback to WALGA.

However, future legislative changes to the electoral system could potentially have administrative or operational cost implications for local governments.

## Voting Requirements

- Simple Majority  Absolute Majority

## Officers Recommendation– Item 13.1

That Council:

1. Endorse the Shire of Narembeen's submission to WALGA regarding proposed local government electoral reforms, as attached; and
2. Authorise the submission to be provided to the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) to inform the sector-wide response to anticipated State Government electoral reform proposals.

## Council Resolution – Item 13.1

That Council:

1. Endorse the Shire of Narembeen's submission to WALGA regarding proposed local government electoral reforms, subject to the inclusion of a position supporting the continuation of non-compulsory voting; and
2. Authorise the submission to be provided to the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) to inform the sector-wide response to anticipated State Government electoral reform proposals. Subject to small amendments.

**CARRIED 7 / 0**

*For: Cr Cusack, Cr Bald, Cr Bray, Cr Currie, Cr Hardham, Cr Smoker, Cr Stirrat. Against: Nil*

Reason for Change: The recommendation has been amended to explicitly include a position supporting the continuation of non-compulsory voting. This ensures the Shire's stance on voter participation is clearly articulated in its submission to WALGA and aligns with the principle of preserving voter choice within local government elections.

UNCONFERMED

## 13.2 Renewable Energy Planning Code and Planning Regulations Amendments – Consultation (WALGA)

<b>Date:</b>	9 March 2026
<b>Location:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Rebecca McCall, Chief Executive Officer
<b>Author:</b>	Rebecca McCall, Chief Executive Officer
<b>File Reference</b>	GR/ADVOCACY/2026/Planning Framework
<b>Previous Meeting Reference</b>	Nil
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	13.2A WALGA Summary 13.2.B Renewable Energy Planning Code and Guidelines 13.2C Shire of Narembreen Draft Submission

### Purpose of Report

- Executive Decision  Legislative Requirement

### Summary

The Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) has requested feedback from member local governments to inform its advocacy position regarding the State Government's proposed Renewable Energy Planning Code, Guidelines and associated planning regulation amendments.

The draft framework, prepared by the Western Australian Planning Commission under the *Planning and Development Act 2005*, seeks to establish a consistent statewide planning framework for renewable energy infrastructure including wind farms, solar facilities and battery storage systems.

Council is requested to consider endorsing the Shire of Narembreen submission prepared for WALGA outlining concerns regarding agricultural land protection, infrastructure impacts and the importance of maintaining meaningful local government involvement in development assessment.

### Background

The Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) has released a Draft Renewable Energy Planning Code and Guidelines for public consultation as part of broader planning reforms supporting the State's transition to renewable energy.

The proposed Code introduces a statewide development assessment framework for renewable energy infrastructure including:

- Wind energy facilities
- Solar farms
- Battery energy storage systems
- Associated transmission infrastructure.

The Code establishes planning elements addressing matters such as:

- Safety
- Noise
- Shadow flicker
- Landscape impacts
- Protection of the natural environment
- Infrastructure considerations
- Decommissioning and rehabilitation

WALGA is currently preparing an advocacy position on behalf of local governments and has invited submissions from member councils to ensure regional issues and local government perspectives are represented.

Given the increasing interest in renewable energy developments within agricultural regions of Western Australia, it is important that rural local governments provide input into the development of the planning framework.

### **Comment**

The Shire of Narembeen has prepared a submission to WALGA outlining several key planning considerations relevant to agricultural local government areas.

Large-scale renewable energy developments are increasingly being proposed within productive farming landscapes across regional Western Australia. While renewable energy development presents economic opportunities, it also raises potential land use conflicts and infrastructure impacts.

The submission highlights the importance of ensuring that planning frameworks:

- Protect productive agricultural land and natural resources
- Appropriately manage land use conflicts between renewable energy infrastructure and agricultural activities
- Recognise the role of local government in planning and development assessment
- Consider impacts on local road networks and infrastructure
- Ensure community concerns and expectations are adequately represented in planning decisions.

Local governments possess detailed knowledge of local land capability, environmental characteristics, infrastructure capacity and community expectations. Maintaining meaningful local government involvement in the assessment of renewable energy proposals is therefore considered essential.

The submission provided to WALGA reflects these considerations and seeks to ensure that renewable energy development occurs in a manner that balances economic development with the long-term protection of agricultural productivity and regional communities.

Council endorsement of the submission will assist WALGA in representing regional local government interests in discussions with the State Government regarding the proposed planning reforms.

### **Consultation**

Great Eastern Country Zone  
RoeROC Council

## Statutory Implications

The proposed Renewable Energy Planning Code is being prepared under Part 3A of the *Planning and Development Act 2005* and the Planning and Development (Planning Codes) Regulations 2024. The Code, once finalised, will form part of the State's planning framework and may influence development assessment processes for renewable energy infrastructure across Western Australia.

There are no direct statutory implications arising from Council endorsing the submission.

## Policy Implications

The proposed Renewable Energy Planning Code and associated planning framework may influence the way renewable energy developments are assessed across Western Australia, including within the Shire of Narembeen.

While the endorsement of the submission does not amend any existing Shire policies, the matter relates to several broader planning policy considerations including:

- Local Planning Scheme provisions relating to land use and development within rural zones;
- State Planning Policies under the Western Australian planning framework;
- Protection of productive agricultural land and rural land use planning principles; and
- Future development of local planning policies or guidelines relating to renewable energy infrastructure.

The proposed State planning framework may reduce or modify the role of local governments in assessing renewable energy developments, depending on final legislative arrangements.

Providing feedback through WALGA ensures that local government perspectives are considered in the development of the State planning framework and supports the protection of local planning interests.

At this stage, the endorsement of the submission does not require any amendment to existing Shire policies.

## Strategic Implications

### Strategic Community Plan

Strategic Priority:	4. Civic Leadership
Objective:	Well governed and efficiently managed Local Government
Strategy:	4.1 Forward planning and implementation of plans to achieve strategic priorities

### Asset Management Plan

Renewable energy developments may have implications for local government infrastructure, particularly local road networks used for the transport of large construction components such as wind turbine blades and towers.

Council's submission highlights the importance of ensuring infrastructure impacts are appropriately assessed and managed as part of the planning framework.

No direct asset management implications arise from the endorsement of the submission.

### Long Term Financial Plan

There are no direct financial implications associated with endorsing the submission.

Future renewable energy developments may have financial implications relating to infrastructure upgrades, road maintenance or developer contributions; however these matters would be considered as part of individual development proposals.

### Risk Implications

There are concerns regarding land use compatibility, agricultural land protection and infrastructure impacts are not adequately addressed within the planning framework, there may be risks including:

- Increased land use conflicts within agricultural areas
- Infrastructure impacts on local government road networks
- Reduced community confidence in planning decision-making processes

<b>Risk Profiling Theme</b>	Business and Community Disruption
<b>Risk Category</b>	Environment
<b>Consequence Description</b>	Uncontained, irreversible impact
<b>Consequence Rating</b>	Major (4)
<b>Likelihood Rating</b>	Possible (3)
<b>Risk Matrix Rating</b>	High (12)
<b>Key Controls in Place</b>	State Planning Framework; Local Planning Framework
<b>Action / Treatment</b>	Nil
<b>Risk Rating After Treatment</b>	Inadequate

<b>Risk Profiling Theme</b>	Business and Community Disruption
<b>Risk Category</b>	Financial Impact
<b>Consequence Description</b>	Uncontained, irreversible impact
<b>Consequence Rating</b>	Major (4)
<b>Likelihood Rating</b>	Possible (3)
<b>Risk Matrix Rating</b>	High (12)
<b>Key Controls in Place</b>	State Planning Framework; Local Planning Framework
<b>Action / Treatment</b>	Nil
<b>Risk Rating After Treatment</b>	Inadequate

<b>Risk Profiling Theme</b>	Business and Community Disruption
<b>Risk Category</b>	Property
<b>Consequence Description</b>	Uncontained, irreversible impact
<b>Consequence Rating</b>	Major (4)
<b>Likelihood Rating</b>	Possible (3)
<b>Risk Matrix Rating</b>	High (12)
<b>Key Controls in Place</b>	State Planning Framework; Local Planning Framework
<b>Action / Treatment</b>	Nil
<b>Risk Rating After Treatment</b>	Inadequate

### Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications associated with providing feedback to WALGA.

## Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

## Officers Recommendation / Council Resolution – Item 13.2

That Council:

1. Endorses the Shire of Narembeen's submission regarding the proposed Renewable Energy Planning Code and associated planning regulation amendments; and
2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to provide the endorsed submission to the Western Australian Local Government Association to inform its advocacy position on behalf of local governments.

**MIN 8143/26**

**MOTION** - Moved Cr. Hardham

Seconded Cr. Bray

**CARRIED 7 / 0**

*For: Cr Cusack, Cr Bald, Cr Bray, Cr Currie, Cr Hardham, Cr Smoker, Cr Stirrat. Against: Nil*

### 13.3 Risk Dashboard – Quarterly Report – February 2026

<b>Date:</b>	10 March 2026
<b>Location:</b>	Not applicable
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Rebecca McCall, Chief Executive Officer
<b>Author:</b>	Rebecca McCall, Chief Executive Officer
<b>File Reference</b>	RISK MANAGEMENT/PLANNING/Risk Management Framework
<b>Previous Meeting Reference</b>	Nil
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	13.3A Risk Dashboard Quarterly Report – February 2026

#### Purpose of Report

- Executive Decision  Legislative Requirement

#### Summary

This item presents the Risk Dashboard – quarterly monitoring report for February 2026 to Council for consideration and receipt.

#### Background

The Risk Management Framework for the Shire of Narembeen sets out the approach to the identification, assessment, management, reporting and monitoring of risks. The objective is to ensure that all areas of the Shire adopt the outlined procedures to ensure:

- strong corporate governance;
- compliance with relevant legislation, regulations and internal policies;
- integrated Planning and Reporting requirements are met; and
- uncertainty and its effects on objectives are understood.

The Shire has adopted a ‘Three Lines of Defence’ model for the management of risk. This model ensures roles, responsibilities, and accountabilities for decision making are structured to demonstrate effective governance and assurance. By operating within the approved risk appetite and framework, the council, management, and community will have assurance that risks are managed effectively to support the delivery of the strategic, corporate, and operational plans.

The Shire qualified its risk appetite through the development of the Shire’s Risk Assessment and Acceptance Criteria.

There is a requirement to assess and manager the risk profiles on an ongoing basis to monitor risks and treatments.

#### Comment

The quarterly review of risk profiles assessed emerging risks, control effectiveness and key indicator performance. Assigned actions are reflective of current risks and control environment.

The following key controls have been included to identified risk themes:

- Inadequate Asset Sustainability Practices
  - Road Strategy
  - Transport Service Level and Road Hierarchy Plan

There is no risk themes are listed on the Risk Register as the overall control rating was 'inadequate'.

**Consultation**

Executive Manager Corporate Services

**Statutory Implications**

The *Local Government Act 1995* and Regulation 17 of the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations* is applicable.

**Policy Implications**

Risk Management Framework

**Strategic Implications**

**Strategic Community Plan**

Strategic Priority: 4. Civic Leadership  
 Objective: Well governed and efficiently managed Local Government  
 Strategy: 4.2 Compliant and resourced Local Government

**Asset Management Plan**

Nil

**Long Term Financial Plan**

Nil

**Risk Implications**

<b>Risk Profiling Theme</b>	Failure to Fulfill Statutory, Regulatory or Compliance Requirements
<b>Risk Category</b>	Compliance
<b>Consequence Description</b>	No noticeable regulatory or statutory impact
<b>Consequence Rating</b>	Insignificant (1)
<b>Likelihood Rating</b>	Rare (1)
<b>Risk Matrix Rating</b>	Low (1)
<b>Key Controls in Place</b>	Risk Management Framework
<b>Action / Treatment</b>	Nil
<b>Risk Rating After Treatment</b>	Adequate

**Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications to Council in relation to this item as the Risk Dashboard identifies and evaluates risk.

## Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

## Officers Recommendation / Council Resolution – Item 13.3

That Council receives the Risk Dashboard Quarterly Report – February 2026 as presented in Attachment 13.3A.

**MIN 8144/26**

**MOTION** - Moved Cr. Stirrat

Seconded Cr. Smoker

**CARRIED 7 / 0**

*For: Cr Cusack, Cr Bald, Cr Bray, Cr Currie, Cr Hardham, Cr Smoker, Cr Stirrat. Against: Nil*

## 14. Officers Reports - Corporate Services

### 14.1 Council Policy Review

<b>Date:</b>	10 March 2026
<b>Location:</b>	Nil
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Rebecca McCall, Chief Executive Officer
<b>Author:</b>	Kathryn Conopo, Executive Governance Officer
<b>File Reference</b>	CORPORATE MANAGEMENT\POLICY\Policy Register
<b>Previous Meeting Reference</b>	Nil
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	14.1A Policies for Review

#### Purpose of Report

- Executive Decision  Legislative Requirement

#### Summary

For Council to review the attached policy amendment(s)

#### Background

Following changes to the *Local Government Act*, some of the responsibilities within to the Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates (the Code) form part of the duties of the Local Government Inspector. The Code requires updating to reflect these changes.

#### Comment

The following policies have been reviewed by management and Council. Comments regarding the nature of any changes is provided.

Policy	Summary of Changes
Code of Conduct for Council and Committee Members and Candidates	Updated Model Code of Conduct following changes to the <i>Local Government Act</i> , specifically regarding the introduction of the Local Government Inspector and their duties.

#### Consultation

Chief Executive Officer  
Executive Manager Corporate Services  
Executive Manager Infrastructure Services  
Councillors – February 2026 Discussion Forum

#### Statutory Implications

*Local Government Act 1995*

## Section 2.7 Role of council

- (1) The council —
  - (a) governs the local government's affairs; and
  - (b) is responsible for the performance of the local government's functions.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), the council is to —
  - (a) oversee the allocation of the local government's finances and resources; and
  - (b) determine the local government's policies.

*[Section 2.7 amended: No. 17 of 2009 s. 4.]*

## Section 5.41 Functions of CEO

The CEO's functions are to —

- a) advise the council in relation to the functions of a local government under this Act and other written laws; and
- b) ensure that advice and information is available to the council so that informed decisions can be made; and
- c) cause council decisions to be implemented; and
- d) manage the day-to-day operations of the local government; and
- e) liaise with the mayor or president on the local government's affairs and the performance of the local government's functions; and
- f) speak on behalf of the local government if the mayor or president agrees; and
- g) be responsible for the employment, management supervision, direction and dismissal of other employees (subject to section 5.37(2) in relation to senior employees); and
- h) ensure that records and documents of the local government are properly kept for the purposes of this Act and any other written law; and
- i) perform any other function specified or delegated by the local government or imposed under this Act or any other written law as a function to be performed by the CEO.

## Section 5.104. Adoption of model code of conduct

- (1) Within 3 months after the day on which regulations prescribing the model code come into operation, a local government must prepare and adopt\* a code of conduct to be observed by council members, committee members and candidates that incorporates the model code.

\* Absolute majority required.

- (2) Within 3 months after the day on which regulations amending the model code come into operation, the local government must amend\* the adopted code of conduct to incorporate the amendments made to the model code.

\* Absolute majority required.

### **Policy Implications**

Council has Adopted Strategic Policy Framework which guides the format, content, nature and review date for each policy. The Strategic Policy Framework also differentiates between Council Policies, Executive Policies and Procedures/Manuals.

It is considered good corporate governance to review policies as they fall due and to consider if any new policies should be added in line with legislative changes.

## Strategic Implications

### Strategic Community Plan

Strategic Priority: 4. Civic Leadership  
Objective: Well governed and efficiently managed Local Government  
Strategy: 4.2 Compliant and resourced Local Government

### Asset Management Plan

Nil

### Long Term Financial Plan

Nil

## Risk Implications

<b>Risk Profiling Theme</b>	Failure to Fulfill Statutory, Regulatory or Compliance Requirements
<b>Risk Category</b>	Compliance
<b>Consequence Description</b>	No noticeable regulatory or statutory impact
<b>Consequence Rating</b>	Insignificant (1)
<b>Likelihood Rating</b>	Rare (1)
<b>Risk Matrix Rating</b>	Low (1)
<b>Key Controls in Place</b>	Governance Calendar, Financial Management Framework and Legislation
<b>Action / Treatment</b>	Nil
<b>Risk Rating After Treatment</b>	Adequate

## Financial Implications

Nil

## Voting Requirements

Simple Majority  Absolute Majority

## Officers Recommendation / Council Resolution – Item 14.1

That council adopt the revised Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates, as attached.

**MIN 8145/26**

**MOTION** - Moved Cr. Bald

Seconded Cr. Hardham

**CARRIED 7 / 0**

*For: Cr Cusack, Cr Bald, Cr Bray, Cr Currie, Cr Hardham, Cr Smoker, Cr Stirrat. Against: Nil*

## 14.2 Financial Statements for the month ended 28 February 2026

<b>Date:</b>	12 March 2026
<b>Location:</b>	Not applicable
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Ben Forbes, Executive Manager Corporate Services
<b>Author:</b>	Ben Forbes, Executive Manager Corporate Services
<b>File Reference</b>	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT\ACCOUNTING\End of month
<b>Previous Meeting Reference</b>	Nil
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	14.2A Shire of Narembeen - Financial statements for month ended 28 February 2026

### Purpose of Report

- Executive Decision  Legislative Requirement

### Summary

For Council to review and the financial statements for the month ended 28 February 2026.

### Background

The monthly financial reports are presented in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*.

### Comment

Council's closing funding surplus for the month ended:28 February 2026 is \$1,958,958 with cash on hand of \$8,000,078 including \$6,001,233 of restricted reserves

### Consultation

Nil

### Statutory Implications

*Local Government Act 1995, Section 6.4*

*Regulation 34(1) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* requires a local government to prepare each month a statement of financial activity.

*Regulation 34(2)* requires the statement of financial activity to report on the sources and applications of funds, as set out in the annual budget.

### Policy Implications

Nil

## Strategic Implications

### Strategic Community Plan

Strategic Priority: 4. Civic Leadership  
Objective: Well governed and efficiently managed Local Government  
Strategy: 4.2 Compliant and resourced Local Government

### Asset Management Plan

Nil

### Long Term Financial Plan

Nil

## Risk Implications

<b>Risk Profiling Theme</b>	Failure to Fulfill Statutory, Regulatory or Compliance Requirements
<b>Risk Category</b>	Compliance
<b>Consequence Description</b>	No noticeable regulatory or statutory impact
<b>Consequence Rating</b>	Insignificant (1)
<b>Likelihood Rating</b>	Rare (1)
<b>Risk Matrix Rating</b>	Low (1)
<b>Key Controls in Place</b>	Governance Calendar, Financial Management Framework and Legislation
<b>Action / Treatment</b>	Nil
<b>Risk Rating After Treatment</b>	Adequate

## Financial Implications

Nil

## Voting Requirements

Simple Majority  Absolute Majority

## Officers Recommendation / Council Resolution – Item 14.2

That Council receive the financial statements for the month ended 28 February 2026.

**MIN 8146/26**

**MOTION** - Moved Cr. Currie

Seconded Cr. Smoker

**CARRIED 7 / 0**

*For: Cr Cusack, Cr Bald, Cr Bray, Cr Currie, Cr Hardham, Cr Smoker, Cr Stirrat. Against: Nil*

### 14.3 Schedule of Accounts for the Month Ended 28 February 2026

<b>Date:</b>	10 March 2026
<b>Location:</b>	Not applicable
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Ben Forbes, Executive Manager Corporate Services
<b>Author:</b>	Ben Forbes, Executive Manager Corporate Services
<b>File Reference</b>	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT\ACCOUNTING\End of month
<b>Previous Meeting Reference</b>	Nil
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	14.3A Schedule of accounts paid – February 2026

#### Purpose of Report

- Executive Decision  Legislative Requirement

#### Summary

For Council to receive the list of payments made by the Shire of Narembeen for the month ended 28 February 2026.

#### Background

The Shire's schedule of accounts paid is to be provided to Council each month, pursuant to the requirements of Regulation 13 of *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*.

#### Comment

As per the attached schedule, total payments from Municipal funds for the month ended 28 February 2026 was \$579,932.76.

Total expenditure incurred on corporate cards for the same period was \$6,263.43, however these charges were not debited from Council's municipal funds until 3 March 2026. Accordingly, these amounts do not form part of this month's report.

#### Consultation

Nil

#### Statutory Implications

*Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*

##### Regulation 13

1. If the local government has delegated to the CEO the exercise of its power to make payments from the municipal fund or the trust fund, a list of accounts paid by the CEO is to be prepared each month showing for each account paid since the last such list was prepared;
  - a. The payee's name;
  - b. The amount of the payment;
  - c. The date of the payments; and

- d. Sufficient information to identify the transaction.
- 3. A list prepared under sub regulation (1) or (2) is to be –
  - a. Presented to the council at the next ordinary meeting of council after the list is prepared; and
  - b. Recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

**Policy Implications**

Nil

**Strategic Implications**

**Strategic Community Plan**

Strategic Priority: 4. Civic Leadership  
 Objective: Well governed and efficiently managed Local Government  
 Strategy: 4.2 Compliant and resourced Local Government

**Asset Management Plan**

Nil

**Long Term Financial Plan**

Nil

**Risk Implications**

<b>Risk Profiling Theme</b>	Failure to Fulfill Statutory, Regulatory or Compliance Requirements
<b>Risk Category</b>	Compliance
<b>Consequence Description</b>	No noticeable regulatory or statutory impact
<b>Consequence Rating</b>	Insignificant (1)
<b>Likelihood Rating</b>	Rare (1)
<b>Risk Matrix Rating</b>	Low (1)
<b>Key Controls in Place</b>	Governance Calendar, Financial Management Framework and Legislation
<b>Action / Treatment</b>	Nil
<b>Risk Rating After Treatment</b>	Adequate

**Financial Implications**

Nil

**Voting Requirements**

- Simple Majority                       Absolute Majority

**Officers Recommendation / Council Resolution – Item 14.3**

That Council receive and endorse the schedule of accounts paid for the month ended 28 February 2026, as attached.

**MIN 8147/26**

**MOTION** - Moved Cr. Bald

Seconded Cr. Stirrat

**CARRIED 7 / 0**

*For: Cr Cusack, Cr Bald, Cr Bray, Cr Currie, Cr Hardham, Cr Smoker, Cr Stirrat. Against: Nil*

**15. Officers Reports - Development and Regulatory Services**

Nil

**16. Officers Reports - Infrastructure Services**

Nil

**17. Officers Reports - Community Services**

Nil

**18. Elected Member Motions of which Previous Notice has been Given**

Nil

**19. Elected Member Motions Without Notice**

Nil

**20. New Business of an Urgent Nature Approved by the Presiding Person or Decision**

Nil

**21. Closure of Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 21 April 2026 commencing at 5.00pm

There being no further business, the chair declared the meeting closed at 5.17pm