



Confirmed Minutes Ordinary Council Meeting 21 April 2026



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LANGUAGE AND BEHAVIOUR

Council is committed to the “Lift the Tone” Campaign and will challenge the normalisation of abuse against Elected Members, Council Officers and uphold exemplary standards of public and political debate in all it does.

All persons attending the meeting are to be respectful of, and considerate towards, Elected Members, Council Officers and other persons attending the meeting.

Language and conduct at the meeting that could be perceived as offensive, defamatory or threatening to Elected Members, Council Officers or any person attending the meeting, or listening to the recording, will not be accepted.



FLINDERS COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING – AGENDA

1 Attendance

Venue	Flinders Arts and Entertainment Centre
Commencing	1.00pm - 2.53pm

Elected Members

Position	Name	Attendance
Mayor	Rachel Summers	Yes
Councillor	Garry Blenkhorn	Yes
Councillor	Carol Cox	Yes
Councillor	Ken Stockton	Yes

Apologies

Councillor	Aaron Burke	Apology
Deputy Mayor	Vanessa Grace	Apology
Councillor	Chris Rhodes	Apology

Staff and Consultants

Officer Name	Position	Item Attendance
Warren Groves	General Manager	1.00pm - 2.53pm
Jade Boyes	Corporate Services Manager	1.00pm - 2.53pm
Sammi Gowthorp	Community Engagement Manager	1.00pm - 2.53pm
Jacci Smith	Development Services Manager	1.00pm - 2.53pm
Oliver Ward	Works and Services Manager	1.00pm - 2.53pm
Sue Mythen	Executive Officer (Minute Taker)	1.00pm - 2.53pm

RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

All persons in attendance were advised that in accordance with Section 8, *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*:

- a video recording was being made of the meeting;
- all persons attending the meeting were to be respectful of, and considerate towards, other persons attending the meeting; and
- language and conduct at the meeting that could be perceived as offensive, defamatory or threatening to a person attending the meeting, or listening to the recording, were not acceptable.

2 Acknowledgement of Country

The Mayor began by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land on which we met today, the palawa people of the Trawulwai Nation. She recognised their connection to the land, waters and culture of this island, and paid respects to Elders past, and present.



3 Confirmation of Minutes

3.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting 25 March 2026

Annexures Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes from the Ordinary and Closed Council Meetings held on 25 March 2026 be confirmed.

DECISION

68.04.2026 Moved: Cr Ken Stockton Seconded: Cr Garry Blenkhorn

That the Minutes from the Ordinary and Closed Council Meetings held on 25 March 2026 be confirmed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

4 Public Question Time

Question 1: Mayor Rachel Summers asked the following question on behalf of Alison Hizzard
After recently driving around the Island I was wondering if there is any option/incentive for farmers to sell off their unused farm houses?

Many people are looking for affordable housing and it just seems such a waste to see these houses rot away. It may even make moving to the Island more attractive for young families too.

I know this might not be the first time this subject has been broached but if there is some way to make this work it would be a positive for both farmers and help the community.

I realise it's hard with the planning scheme and zoning etc, but if there was some sort of solution, how good would it be.

Thanks for listening.

Mayor's Response: The Question was taken on notice.

5 Response to Public Questions

Meeting Date: 25 March 2026

Question 1: Wendy Jubb Stoney

What Preparation has Council made in the event of fuel running out, to ensure food and transport on Flinders Island.

Question 1: Mayor's Response

Council understands the community's concern regarding fuel availability and the flow of essential goods such as food and transport services.

At present, there are no disruptions to fuel supply to Flinders Island, with regular deliveries continuing through established supply chains. However, Council is actively preparing for the possibility of supply constraints.



Locally, Council has:

- Reviewed current fuel availability, usage rates, and critical thresholds across Council operations
- Identified essential services that must be prioritised in the event of a shortage, including emergency response, waste management, and critical infrastructure
- Begun planning for reduced fuel usage, including adjustments to works programs and operational activities

Council is also working closely with key partners, including TasPorts, fuel suppliers, and the Tasmanian Government, to ensure early warning of any supply disruptions and to advocate for continued supply to Bass Strait islands.

In the event of a significant disruption:

- Fuel use would be prioritised for essential services and emergency response
- Non-essential activities may be scaled back to conserve available supply
- Community messaging would be provided early to support responsible fuel use and avoid panic buying

In terms of food supply, Flinders Island's regular freight services remain operational, and Council is maintaining communication with freight providers and suppliers. While most food is transported via normal shipping channels, Council is working with the State Government to ensure contingency arrangements are considered should disruptions occur.

Council also recognises the importance of local resilience and encourages the community to:

- Avoid panic buying
- Use fuel conservatively where possible
- Maintain reasonable household supplies of essential goods

Council will continue to monitor the situation closely and provide timely updates to the community as needed.

Question 2: Zeer Parry

I would like to help achieve greater number of houses on Flinders in any way.

Question 2: Mayor's Response

Thank you very much.

The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Zeer Parry had a meeting the following week to discuss further information about ways in which community members can support in this area.

RECOMMENDATION

That the responses to the public questions from the 25 March 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting be noted.

DECISION

69.04.2026 Moved: Cr Garry Blenkhorn Seconded: Cr Carol Cox
That the responses to the public questions from the 25 March 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting be noted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton



6 Councillors' Questions on Notice

6.1 Councillors' Questions on Notice

Nil

7 Councillors' Questions Without Notice

Nil

8 Responses to Councillors' Questions Without Notice

8.1 Responses to Councillors' Questions Without Notice from 25 March 2026

Nil

9 Late Agenda Items

Nil

10 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

Nil

11 Conflicts of Interest

Nil

12 Workshops and Information Forums

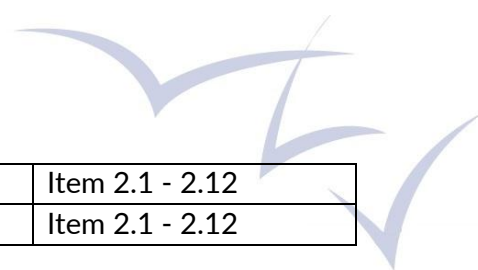
Action For Information
File Reference COU/0205 Workshops and Information Forums

Council Workshop – 15 April 2026

Council held a workshop on the following subjects:

- Item 2.1 2026-27 Rates and Draft Budget
- Item 2.2 Aged Care (The New Act)
- Item 2.3 Cape Barren Island Project Proposals – *Deferred to May*
- Item 2.4 Vet Facility Fit Out
- Item 2.6 Community Grants and Gunn Bequests
- Item 2.7 Waste Fees Policy
- Item 2.8 2026-27 Fees and Charges
- Item 2.9 Rationale for Waiver of Fees and Charges Review – *Deferred to May*
- Item 2.10 Election Commitment - Unlock Land for Housing on Flinders Island
- Item 2.11 Code for Tenders and Contracts Review – *Deferred to May*
- Item 2.12 General Manager's Update

Councillors	In Attendance
Mayor Rachel Summers	Item 2.1 - 2.12
Deputy Mayor Vanessa Grace	Item 2.1 - 2.7
Councillor Garry Blenkhorn	Item 2.1 - 2.12
Councillor Aaron Burke	Apology
Councillor Carol Cox	Item 2.1 - 2.12



Councillor Chris Rhodes	Item 2.1 - 2.12
Councillor Ken Stockton	Item 2.1 - 2.12

Staff and Consultants		In Attendance
Officer Name	Position	Item Attendance
Warren Groves	General Manager	Item 2.1 - 2.12
Jade Boyes	Corporate Services Manager	Item 2.1 - 2.12
Sammi Gowthorp	Community Engagement Manager	Item 2.1 - 2.2, 2.6 - 2.12
Jacci Smith	Development Services Manager	Item 2.1 - 2.12
Oliver Ward	Works and Services Manager	Item 2.1 - 2.12
Sue Mythen	Executive Officer (Note Taker)	Item 2.1 - 2.12
Marissa Walters	Contract Accountant	Item 2.1 (Via Teams)
Rosemary Amos	Aged Care (The New Act)	Item 2.2
Colleen Stewart	Clinical Lead, Scottsdale Veterinary Services	Item 2.4
Stacey Taylor	Administrator, Scottsdale Veterinary Services	Item 2.4

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council Workshop held on 15 April 2026 be noted.

DECISION

70.04.2026 Moved: Cr Ken Stockton Seconded: Cr Carol Cox
That the Council Workshop held on 15 April 2026 be noted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

13 Publications and Reports Tabled For Information

Nil

14 Mayor's Report

14.1 Mayor's Report For 21 April 2026

Action	For Information
Councillor	Mayor Rachel Summers
File Reference	COU/0600 Mayor's Report
Annexures	Nil

Appointments

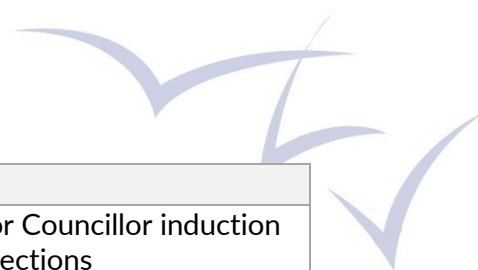
Date	Description
17/03/2026	Telstra Connectivity Session
18/03/2026	Baptcare Early Childhood and Local Area representatives meeting
19/03/2026	Community Member- Interview opportunity
24/03/2026	Royal Flying Doctors Service (RFDS) Chief Executive Officer Meeting
24/03/2026	KPMG Meeting - RFDS review
25/03/2026	Council Meeting
30/03/2026	Productivity Commission regional airfares inquiry meeting
30/03/2026	Community session - Productivity Commission re: Regional airfare enquiry
31/03/2026	Furneaux Aviation Special Committee Meeting
31/03/2026	Community Member - Housing discussion
01/04/2026	Members Representative Group (MRG) Board Meeting - Northern Tasmania Development Corporation (NTDC)
08/04/2026	Premier Jeremy Rockliff meeting and site visits
09/04/2026	Local Government Association Tasmania (LGAT) – Mayors Workshop
09/04/2026	Early Childhood Education Local Enabling Group Meeting
10/04/2026	LGAT General Meeting
14/04/2026	Flinders Island Business Inc (FIBI) Regular meeting
14/04/2026	Meeting with Bradley Joseph, Lord Howe Island – Waste/Airport
14/04/2026	Flinders Island Show Society Community Meeting
15/04/2026	Council Workshop

Correspondence In

Date	From	Subject
16/03/2026	Shane Power General Manager George Town Council	Passing of Cr Heather Barwick
17/03/2026	Jenna Cairney Chief Executive Officer Master Builders Tasmania	Strengthening Council and Industry Outcomes
18/03/2026	Senator Bridget McKenzie Shadow Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Shadow Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories Leader of The Nationals in the Senate Senator for Victoria	Aviation Inquiry



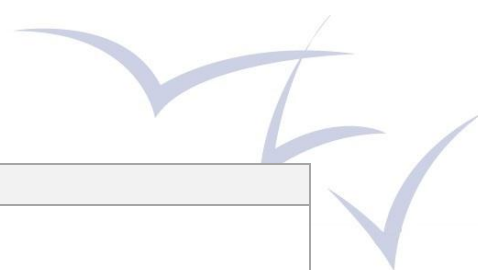
Date	From	Subject
19/03/2026	The Hon Kerry Vincent MLC Minister for Housing and Planning Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Minister for Local Government Member for Prosser	State Government Position on Councillor allowance and numbers reforms
20/03/2026	Australian Council of Local Government (ACLG) Secretariat	Australian Council of Local Government (ACLG) 2026: Registration Invitation
20/03/2026	John Brown General Manager Break O'Day Council	Response – Mayor Mick Tucker from Minister Ogilvie – Silage and Agricultural plastics
20/03/2026	Ed Beswick Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	Potential Advocacy Opportunity – Please reach out to Janie Finlay MP
20/03/2026	Libby Chaplin Chief Executive Officer Battery Stewardship Council	Urgent request for support for national battery stewardship
23/03/2026	Julie Andersson Program Manager COTA Tas	Important: World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) 2026
24/03/2026	Shoshana Wall NTDC	Chair Performance Review and Renewal
25/03/2026	Sarah Ebbelaar Regional Engagement Manager Telstra	Flinders Council Meeting and Actions 17 th March 2026 workshop draft
25/03/2026	Joanna Lang Paintings Conservator	Conservation of the Emata War Memorial
26/03/2026	Ellie Piesse Local Government Advisor Office of the Hon Kerry Vincent MLC	Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Bill 2026
26/03/2026	Louise O'Leary Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT)	LGAT General Meeting 10 April 2026
27/03/2026	Marion Schoen Pathways to Politics for Women - Tasmania	Pathways to Politics for Women - Applications for 2026 Tasmanian Program - now open
30/03/2026	Jazmin Wheatley Project Officer Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre	Wybalenna NAIDOC Flag Raising 2026
30/03/2026	Mark Shearn Leading Seaman Musician Royal Australian Navy (RAN) Band Tasmania	RAN Band Tasmania
31/03/2026	Shoshana Wall Company Secretary NTDC	AA – NTDC Chair renewal written statement
31/03/2026	Charles Headlam Office of the Premier, Hon Jeremy Rockliff MP Premier of Tasmania	April - Premier Meeting - Flinders Council



Date	From	Subject
01/04/2026	Fiona McAllister Registered Psychologist and General Manager Steople	Planning for Councillor induction after the elections
02/04/2026	Consumer, Building and Occupational Services (CBOS)	Consultation Open: Discussion Paper – Modernising Tasmania’s Residential Tenancy Act 1997
02/04/2026	Sarah Ebbelaar, Regional Engagement Manager, Telstra	Progress of Actions from Connectivity Meeting
07/04/2026	Roman Badov, Head of Flying Operations	Elite Airways Flinders Island Flight Operations
08/04/2026	Jane Waller Media Advisor to Professor George Razay MP	Dementia Walking Day
08/04/2026	Steve Martin OAM National Director – Childrens Book Council of Australia	Children’s Literacy
08/04/2026	Joanna Lang Paintings Conservator	Maintenance of the Anchor
08/04/2026	Lina Goodman, Chief Executive Officer Tyre Stewardship	Illegal tyre dumping is costing Councils millions – share your story
08/04/2026	Roman Badov, Head of Flying Operations	Re: Elite Airways Flinders Island Flight Operation
09/04/2026	Anita Rank Advisor Office of the Senator the Hon Bridget McKenzie	Aviation Consumer Protection Level Bill 2026
09/04/2026	Lori Jack Scouts Tasmania	Scouts Tasmania - 2025 Annual General Meeting and Awards Presentation
10/04/2026	Maureen Riddle	Reply
10/04/2026	Stephen Jones iPrimus	Royal Society of St George Tasmanian Branch
10/04/2026	Marcus Blackie General Manager King Island Council	ABC National Radio this morning
13/04/2026	Denise Hooke President Flinders Island Show Society Incorporated	Flinders Island Show survey results April 2026
13/04/2026	Madeline Copcutt Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania (ReCFIT)	Public consultation open - Renewable Energy Community Benefit Scheme Discussion Paper

Correspondence Out

Date	To	Subject
17/03/2026	Dr Emma Banyer Principal Research Officer	Response: Senate aviation inquiry - Written questions from Senator Lambie



Date	To	Subject
	Senate Standing Committees on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee Office Department of the Senate	
18/03/2026	Nikki Jones	2026 Tasmanian Youth Parliament
26/03/2026	The Hon Madeline Ogilvie MP Minister for the Environment; Innovation, Science, and the Digital Economy; Community and Multicultural Affairs; Arts and Heritage	Support for Urgent Action on Battery Action
01/04/2026	Dr. Vic Epstein	Council Meeting Decision Golf Club Community Grant
07/04/2026	Maureen Riddle	Urgent Request for Expansion of Aged-Care Infrastructure on Flinders Island
08/04/2026	Wendy Jubb-Stoney	Response to Public Question
10/04/2026	Maxine Roughley and Toni Wood Flinders Island Aboriginal Association Incorporated	Welcome to Country
14/04/2026	Jazmin Wheatley Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre	Wybalenna NAIDOC Flag Raising 2026

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayor's report for 21 April 2026 be received.

DECISION

71.04.2026 Moved: Cr Carol Cox Seconded: Cr Garry Blenkhorn

That the Mayor's report for 21 April 2026 be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

15 Development Services

15.1 Development Application Report March 2026

Action	For Information
Officer	Jacci Smith - Development Services Manager
File Reference	PLN/0105 Development
Annexures	21.04.2026 March 2026 DA Report to Council (1) [15.1.1 - 1 page]

Introduction

This report provides Councillors with an overview of the applications for the current period as per motion 249.09.2015, passed at the 24 September 2015 Council Meeting.

Permitted applications are assessed under section 58 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (the Act) and are not advertised. If applications classified as Permitted meet all development and use standards within the *Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Flinders*, they must be granted a permit, with or without conditions.

Discretionary applications are assessed under section 57 of the Act and are exhibited for a 14-day period. During this period, representations may be received from the public. If a representation is received, that application is tabled at a meeting of Council where Councillors will consider the matter whilst acting as the Planning Authority. Where there are not any representations received, or the application is permitted, authorisation is delegated to the General Manager for completion of the matter.

Under the *Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Flinders*, Use and Development may be deemed as Exempt or No Permit Required (NPR). These applications will also be reported to Council on a monthly basis. As per Councillor's request, matters of Minor Amendment or extensions to planning permits will also be reported.

Previous Council Consideration

Some items may have been considered at meetings of Council while the remainder have been approved under delegation by the General Manager.

Officer's Report

Refer to Annexure 1 to this item, Development Applications Report - March 2026.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Planning Department Application Report – March 2026 be received.

DECISION

72.04.2026 Moved: Cr Carol Cox Seconded: Cr Ken Stockton

That the Planning Department Application Report – March 2026 be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton



16 Works and Services

16.1 Works and Services Update March 2026

Action	For Information
Officer	Oliver Ward - Works and Services Manager
File Reference	WOR/3000 Infrastructure
Annexures	1. Works Services Managers Report 2026-03 [16.1.1 - 4 pages]

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with an update of monthly activities undertaken by the Works and Services department.

Officers Report

This report is provided on a monthly basis at the request of Council, please see Annexure 1 to this item.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Works and Services Manager's Report – March 2026 be received and accepted by Council.

DECISION

73.04.2026 Moved: Cr Ken Stockton Seconded: Cr Garry Blenkhorn

That the Works and Services Manager's Report – March 2026 be received and accepted by Council.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

DECISION:

74.04.2026 Moved: Cr Ken Stockton Seconded: Cr Garry Blenkhorn

That Cr Cox be elected temporary chair.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

At 1.16pm Mayor Rachel Summers passed the Chair to Cr Carol Cox.

17 Notices of Motions

17.1 Notice of Motion - Support Mayor's Attendance at Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly, Canberra 23–26 June 2026

Action	For Decision
Councillor	Mayor Rachel Summers
Officer	Warren Groves - General Manager
File Reference	FIN/0701 Budget
Annexures	Nil

Notice Of Motion

That Council:

- Endorses the Mayor's attendance at the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly to be held in Canberra from 23–26 June 2026;
- Approves Council funding of 50% of associated registration, travel and accommodation costs, with the Mayor contributing the remaining 50%; and
- Requests the Mayor provides a report to Council following attendance, outlining key outcomes, advocacy opportunities, and relevance to Flinders Council.

Councillor's Report

The Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly (NGA) is the peak national forum for local government, bringing together councils from across Australia to engage directly with Federal Ministers, policymakers, and sector leaders.

The 2026 program includes key sessions highly relevant to our Council, including:

- Financial sustainability of councils;
- Securing funding and grant opportunities;
- Regional health and disaster management challenges;
- National productivity and local road infrastructure; and
- Renewable transition and regional impacts.

For a remote and resource-constrained council such as Flinders, participation in the NGA provides a critical opportunity to:

- Advocate directly to Federal decision-makers on priority issues including airport infrastructure, freight disadvantage, and service delivery challenges;
- Strengthen relationships with key stakeholders, including other rural and remote councils facing similar constraints;
- Gain insight into national policy directions and funding programs that may directly impact Council operations and long-term planning; and
- Contribute to national debates on motions that influence the future direction of local government.

Attendance will support Council's ongoing advocacy efforts and ensure Flinders Council remains informed, connected, and positioned to leverage emerging funding and policy opportunities.

The follow outlines the estimated budget:

Accommodation:	approximately \$1,200
Conference fees:	approximately \$1,350
Flights:	approximately \$1,100
Total estimated cost:	\$3,650
Cost to Council (50%):	approximately \$1,825

Previous Council Consideration

236.08.2025 27 August 2025

Previous Council Discussion

08 May 2024	Council Workshop
12 June 2024	Council Workshop
26 June 2024	Council Workshop
12 March 2025	Council Workshop
10 September 2025	Council Workshop
12 November 2025	Council Workshop

Officer's Report

The Mayor's willingness to personally contribute 50% of travel and attendance costs demonstrates a commitment to responsible use of Council resources whilst recognising the strategic value of representing our Community at the NGA.

Statutory Requirement

Local Government Act 1993

Strategic Alignment

ACCESSIBILITY/INFRASTRUCTURE

2.6 A modern and equitable freight system that supports affordability and access for island communities

2.6.1 Advocate for an updated freight equalisation scheme that includes both air and sea freight across all industries

ECONOMY/BUSINESS

3.1 Ongoing opportunities across all business sectors to future-proof the critical needs of the islands.

3.1.3 Advocate federal and state governments for improved availability of critical services and industries on the islands to benefit the Community and economy

GOOD GOVERNANCE

4.1 An organisation that provides good governance, effective leadership and high-quality services, within our means

4.1.1 Council meets its statutory obligations to manage risk, achieve financial sustainability and model good governance.

Budget and Financial Implications

Estimated cost to Council: \$1,825.00. The budget is currently on track, and a variation will not be required to accommodate this request.

Risk/Liability

Council has limited resources, this is an opportunity to advocate directly with the funding bodies and to influence the criteria for our unique circumstances.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

MOTION

75.04.2026 Moved: Cr Rachel Summers Seconded: Cr Garry Blenkhorn

That Council:

- Endorses the Mayor's attendance at the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly to be held in Canberra from 23–26 June 2026;
- Approves Council funding of 50% of associated registration, travel and accommodation costs, with the Mayor contributing the remaining 50%; and
- Requests the Mayor provide a report to Council following attendance, outlining key outcomes, advocacy opportunities, and relevance to Flinders Council.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

17.2 Notice of Motion - Councillor Numbers Reform: Community Consultation

Action	For Decision
Councillor	Mayor Rachel Summers
Officer	Warren Groves - General Manager
File Reference	COU/0204 Councillors
Annexures	Nil

Notice Of Motion

That Council:

1. Resolves to undertake community consultation to seek feedback on whether the Flinders community supports or opposes a reduction in councillor numbers; and
2. A report be presented to Council following consultation, summarising community feedback and outlining options for Council's consideration.

Councillor's Report

The Tasmanian Government has released its final reform position on councillor numbers and allowances, following sector consultation and public submissions.

Under the proposed reforms, all councils will retain either seven or nine elected members, unless a council formally requests to reduce to five councillors through a prescribed statutory pathway. Flinders Council is one of a small number of councils identified as eligible to make such a request.

The State Government has acknowledged concern across the sector regarding a reduction to five elected members and has therefore determined that no council will be required to adopt this model without an explicit request supported by a Council resolution. The Minister has also confirmed that any such change would be implemented through a formal process and would take effect from a future election cycle.

Importantly, the reforms introduce a structured and ongoing framework for determining councillor numbers, incorporating factors such as population, number of rateable properties, and total length of council roads, to better reflect representational demand. For Flinders Council, this includes consideration of a dispersed population and a substantial road network relative to its size.

Given the significance of any potential change to elected representation, and noting that:

- The option to reduce councillor numbers is voluntary, not mandated
- The decision must be initiated by Council and supported through a formal resolution
- Any change may directly impact representation, governance capacity, and community access to elected members,
- It is appropriate that Council seeks community input prior to forming a position.

I propose that consultation be undertaken through a structured and accessible approach to maximise participation and ensure a representative cross-section of community views is captured, including:

- In-person community sessions in Whitemark, Lady Barron, and Emita
- An online survey available via Council's website with hard copy surveys available at key community locations
- Promotion through Island News, E-Newsletter, Council's website, and social media
- The opportunity for written submissions via email or post

Undertaking early consultation will ensure:

- The community is informed and engaged in decisions that directly affect local representation
- Council's position is guided by community sentiment rather than assumption
- Any future decision is transparent and evidence-based.

Officer Report

This motion does not seek to determine a preferred model, but rather to ensure that community views are transparently sought, collated and clearly understood before further suitably informed consideration of the matter is undertaken.

Previous Council Consideration

237.08.2023	01 August 2023
288.10.2025	29 October 2025

Previous Council Discussion

15 February 2023	Council Workshop
22 February 2023	Council Workshop
26 April 2023	Council Workshop
24 May 2023	Council Workshop
31 May 2023	Council Workshop
12 July 2023	Council Workshop
26 July 2023	Council Workshop
08 October 2025	Council Workshop

Statutory Requirement

Local Government (General) Regulations 2025
Local Government (Meeting Procedure) Regulations 2025

Strategic Alignment

GOOD GOVERNANCE

4.1 An organisation that provides good governance, effective leadership and high-quality services, within our means

4.1.1 Council meets its statutory obligations to manage risk, achieve financial sustainability and model good governance.

4.1.2 Improve communication channels between Council and Community to foster greater community participation and outcomes.

Budget and Financial Implications

Nil

Risk/Liability

Change to Councillor numbers may impact representation, governance capacity, and community access to elected members.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

MOTION

76.04.2026 Moved: Cr Rachel Summers Seconded: Cr Ken Stockton

That Council:

- 1. Resolves to undertake community consultation to seek feedback on whether the Flinders community supports or opposes a reduction in councillor numbers; and**
- 2. A report be presented to Council following consultation, summarising community feedback and outlining options for Council's consideration.**

DECISION

77.04.2026 Moved: Cr Ken Stockton Seconded Cr Garry Blenkhorn

That item 17.2 be deferred until further clarification has been received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

At 1.23pm Cr Carol Cox passed the Chair back to Mayor Rachel Summers.

Prior to closure of the meeting, at 2.44pm Council resumed to reconsider item 17.2 following the checking of information relating to this item.

At 2.45pm Mayor Rachel Summers passed the Chair to Cr Carol Cox.

MOTION

93.04.2026 Moved: Cr Rachel Summers Seconded: Cr Ken Stockton

That Council:

- 1. Resolves to undertake community consultation to seek feedback on whether the Flinders community supports or opposes a reduction in councillor numbers; and**
- 2. A report be presented to Council following consultation, summarising community feedback and outlining options for Council's consideration.**

AMENDMENT

94.04.2026 Moved: Cr Garry Blenkhorn Seconded: Cr Carol Cox

That Council:

- 1. Resolves to undertake community consultation to seek feedback on whether the Flinders community supports or opposes a reduction in councillor numbers; and**
- 2. A report be presented to Council following consultation, summarising community feedback and outlining options for Council's consideration.**
- 3. Given the impending election in September 2026, that the consultation be held over until the new Council and Council communicates to the public that the legislation has changed.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

SUBSTANTIVE (93.04.2026)

Moved: Cr Garry Blenkhorn Seconded: Cr Carol Cox

That Council:

- 1. Resolves to undertake community consultation to seek feedback on whether the Flinders community supports or opposes a reduction in councillor numbers; and**
- 2. A report be presented to Council following consultation, summarising community feedback and outlining options for Council's consideration.**
- 3. Given the impending election in September 2026, that the consultation be held over until the new Council and Council communicates to the public that the legislation has changed.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

At 2.53pm Cr Carol Cox passed the chair back to Mayor Rachel Summers.

18 Finance

18.1 Quarterly Financial Report - January to March 2026

Action	For Information
Officer	Cloud 9 Consulting – Contract Consultant
File Reference	FIN/0100 Quarterly Finance Report
Annexures	1. Council reports with Capex 31 March 2026 v 3 [18.1.1 - 13 pages]

Introduction

On a quarterly basis, Council is presented with a Financial Report.

This report, and the attached Quarterly Financial Report (Annexure 1, to this item) include high level operational reports and commentary for Council's information.

Previous Council Consideration

Not applicable.

Officer's Report

Annexure 1 to this item, with overview provides a summary of income and expenditure for the Council at the period ending 31 March 2026.

The report includes Profit and Loss, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement, Capital Works, and Department reports. Where there are variances greater than 10% and \$50,000, commentary is provided by way of notes.

By way of overall commentary based on the figures presented, Operating Income is up 6% on budget estimates. This is primarily due to unspent grant funds carried forward from the prior year and freight subsidies for waste management.

Operating Expenditure is up 2% at this stage, this is primarily due to higher costs in waste management and building maintenance.

Overall, the operating net profit/(loss) is slightly better than budget, with a favourable variance of \$226,547 (22%) below the forecast loss.

Council have made progress on the Capital Works program to 31 March 2026 particularly in relation to Safe Harbour, Waste projects, Plant replacements, and the Road Re-sheeting program. Currently 57% of the Capital Works budget has been spent.

Council's cash position remains strong, with a balance at 31 March 2026 of \$11.1 million, including term deposits.

This report is for information only.

Statutory Requirement

Local Government Act 1993

Strategic Alignment

Not Applicable for this report

**Budget and Financial Implications**

Budget affects all areas in Council's Annual Plan with the budget implications identified.

Risk/Liability

Nil

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Quarterly Financial Report – 31 March 2026.

DECISION

78.04.2026 Moved: Cr Carol Cox Seconded: Cr Garry Blenkhorn

That Council receives and notes the Quarterly Financial Report – 31 March 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton



19 Governance

19.1 Airport Operations Report

Action	For Information
Officer	Richard Harley - Airport Operations Coordinator
File Reference	AER/1500
Annexures	1. Airport Operations Report - March 2026 [19.1.1 - 2 pages]

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with an update of monthly activities undertaken by the Airport Operations Officers.

Officers Report

This report is provided on a monthly basis. Please see Annexure 1 to this item.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Airport Operations Coordinators Report – March 2026 be received and accepted by Council and a copy of the report at Annexure 1 to this item be shared with the Furneaux Group Aviation Special Committee members.

DECISION

79.04.2026 Moved: Cr Carol Cox Seconded: Cr Ken Stockton.

That the Airport Operations Coordinators Report – March 2026 be received and accepted by Council and a copy of the report at Annexure 1 to this item and the airport financial report as presented at this meeting at annexure item 18.1.1. be shared with the Furneaux Group Aviation Special Committee members.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

19.2 Quarterly Grants Report January - March 2026



Action	For Noting
Officer	Warren Groves - General Manager
File Reference	COU/0601
Annexures	1. Q 3 2025-2026 Grants Report [19.2.1 - 5 pages]

Introduction

This report provides Councillors with an overview of grants received by Council and the progress towards grant acquittal, along with those grants that have been applied for and awaiting a result.

Previous Council Consideration

Provided as quarterly reports.

Previous Council Discussion

3 May 2022 Council Workshop

Officer's Report

At the 3 May 2022 Council Workshop, Councillors requested a quarterly report on grants. Please read Annexure 1 to this item, Quarterly Grants Report January to March 2026.

Statutory Requirement

There are no Statutory Requirements.

Strategic Alignment

GOOD GOVERNANCE

4.1 An organisation that provides good governance, effective leadership and high-quality services, within our means

4.1.1 Council meets its statutory obligations to manage risk, achieve financial sustainability and model good governance.

Budget and Financial Implications

As with all capital projects there will be long term financial implications which will need to be incorporated into Council's long term financial and asset management plans.

Risk/Liability

Nil

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Quarterly Grants Report January to March 2026, be received.

DECISION

80.04.2026 Moved: Cr Carol Cox Seconded: Cr Garry Blenkhorn
That the Quarterly Grants Report January to March 2026, be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

19.3 Quarterly Report Against the Annual Plan January to March 2026

Action	For Information
Officer	Warren Groves - General Manager
File Reference	COU/0600
Annexures	1. 2025-26 Quarterly Report against Annual Plan [19.3.1 - 7 pages]

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with progress updates on the various Annual Plan actions undertaken by the whole of Council for the third quarter of the 2025 – 2026 financial year.

Previous Council Consideration

Provided as quarterly reports.

Officer's Report

Please read Annexure 1 to this item, Quarterly Report January to March 2026.

Statutory Requirement

There are no Statutory Requirements.

Strategic Alignment

Not Applicable for this report

Budget and Financial Implications

Nil

Risk/Liability

Nil

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Quarterly Report Against the Annual Plan January to March 2026 be received and accepted by Council.

DECISION

81.04.2026 Moved: Cr Carol Cox Seconded: Cr Garry Blenkhorn

That Council suspends the operation of Regulation 26 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025, in accordance with Regulation 26 (9).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

DECISION

82.04.2026 Moved: Cr Garry Blenkhorn Seconded: Cr Ken Stockton

That the Quarterly Report Against the Annual Plan January to March 2026 be received and accepted by Council.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

19.4 Use of the Flinders Council Common Seal January to March 2026

Action	For Information
Officer	Warren Groves - General Manager
File Reference	GOV/1000 Common Seal Register
Annexures	1. 2025 2026 Q3 Common Seal Register [19.4.1 - 1 page]

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with an update on the use of the Flinders Council Common Seal, as per the council motion 216.09.2016 passed at the 22 September 2016 Council Meeting.

Previous Council Consideration

Considered quarterly.

Officer's Report

The use of the Flinders Council Common Seal binds the Council to act in accordance with the provisions of the document to which it is attached, and it is important that Councillors know the details of those documents so that they are aware of commitments to which the Council has become obligated.

The Flinders Council Common Seal Register was created on 26 September 2016 and is available to Councillors on request at any time. A report on the use of the Flinders Council Common Seal will be included in Council Meeting Agendas on a quarterly basis.

Annexure 1 to this item details the use of the Flinders Council Common Seal from January to March 2026.

Statutory Requirement

Local Government Act 1993

Strategic Alignment

Not Applicable for this report

Budget and Financial Implications

Nil

Risk/Liability

Corporate: Minimum risk.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report on the use of the Flinders Council Common Seal from January to March 2026 be received.

DECISION

83.04.2026 Moved: Cr Ken Stockton Seconded: Cr Carol Cox

That the report on the use of the Flinders Council Common Seal from January to March 2026 be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

19.5 Continuous Improvement Quarterly Report January to March 2026



Action	For Information
Officer	Warren Groves - General Manager
File Reference	GOV/1004 Continuous Improvement
Annexures	1. Q 3 2025-2026 Continuous Improvement Register [19.5.1 - 1 page]

Introduction

This register identifies the functional improvements and efficiencies that Council has developed and is documented as part of an organisational continuous improvement program.

Previous Council Consideration

The report is presented on a quarterly basis.

Officer's Report

Continuous improvement is essential within an organisation, and this has been ongoing within Council for many years. A continuous improvement program was formally developed in 2022. Continuous improvement activities are documented in a register which is brought to Council on a quarterly basis.

Please read Annexure 1 to this item – Continuous Improvement Register for the period of January to March 2026.

Statutory Requirement

There are no Statutory Requirements.

Strategic Alignment

GOOD GOVERNANCE

4.1 An organisation that provides good governance, effective leadership and high-quality services, within our means

Budget and Financial Implications

Nil

Risk/Liability

Nil

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Continuous Improvement Quarterly Report January to March 2026 be noted.

DECISION

84.04.2026 Moved: Cr Garry Blenkhorn Seconded: Cr Ken Stockton

That the Continuous Improvement Quarterly Report January to March 2026 be noted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

19.6 Quarterly Service Request Report January to March 2026



Action	For Noting
Officer	Warren Groves - General Manager
File Reference	RMS/0200 Service Requests
Annexures	1. Service Requests Qtr 3 2526 [19.6.1 - 4 pages]

Introduction

This register identifies the service requests received, recommended actions and resolutions actioned by staff for the period ending 31 March 2026.

Previous Council Consideration

The report is presented on a quarterly basis.

Officer's Report

Please read Annexure 1 to this item - Service Request Register January to March 2026 Report.

Statutory Requirement

There are no Statutory Requirements.

Strategic Alignment

ACCESSIBILITY/INFRASTRUCTURE

2.1 Quality public infrastructure, roads and footpaths

2.1.1 Maintain a network of safe roads and pedestrian pathways that recognises the changing needs of the Community.

2.1.2 Create townships that are attractive and welcoming through improvements to community infrastructure.

GOOD GOVERNANCE

4.1 An organisation that provides good governance, effective leadership and high-quality services, within our means

4.1.2 Improve communication channels between Council and Community to foster greater community participation and outcomes.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Service Request Register January to March 2026 Report be noted.

DECISION

85.04.2026 Moved: Cr Carol Cox Seconded: Cr Ken Stockton

That the Service Request Register January to March 2026 Report be noted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

19.7 Quarterly Accident and Incident Report January to March 2026

Action	For Information
Officer	Warren Groves - General Manager
File Reference	RSM/0100 Accident / Incident Reports
Annexures	1. CONFIDENTIAL - Q 3 2025-2026 Accident & Incident Report [19.7.1 - 2 pages]

Introduction

The Accident and Incident Report was previously reviewed by Council quarterly as part of the Quarterly Financial Reports and discussed at Workshops. The Report will be presented to Council separately for consideration quarterly at Council Meetings as from August 2021.

Previous Council Consideration

Provided as quarterly reports to Council as from August 2021.

Officer's Report

Please read Annexure 1 to this item, Accident and Incident Quarterly Report January to March 2026. **This report is for the information of Elected Members** only as it contains confidential personnel information.

Statutory Requirement

There are no Statutory Requirements.

Strategic Alignment

GOOD GOVERNANCE

4.2 Skilled, committed and professional employees in a supportive environment

4.2.1 Maintain a framework for staff performance management, training and safety.

Budget and Financial Implications

Nil

Risk/Liability

Nil

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Accident and Incident Quarterly Report January to March 2026 be noted.

DECISION

86.04.2026 Moved: Cr Ken Stockton Seconded: Cr Carol Cox

That the Accident and Incident Quarterly Report January to March 2026 be noted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

19.8 Risk Management Quarterly Report January to March 2026

Action	For Information
Officer	Warren Groves - General Manager
File Reference	RMS/0600
Annexures	1. 2026-01-03 Risk register - review MASTE R- Report workings [19.8.1 - 3 pages]

Introduction

Flinders Council operates within the framework of Local Government defined by the Local Government Act 1993 and provides service, compliance and regulatory functions to the Community.

As part of this regulatory function, Flinders Council developed a Risk Management Framework that consists of an integrated suite of documents that demonstrates a commitment to Risk Management best practice.

Previous Council Consideration

120.06.2022	14 June 2022
154.05.2023	24 May 2023
131.05.2023	24 May 2023
194.06.2023	28 June 2023

Previous Council Discussion

26 April 2023	Council Workshop
31 May 2023	Council Workshop
12 July 2023	Council Workshop
13 September 2023	Council Workshop
24 January 2024	Council Workshop

Officer's Report

The Risk Management Framework (The Framework) was adopted at the 26 June 2023 Council Meeting and comprises of the following documents:

Section 1. Introduction;
Section 2. Risk Appetite Statement;
Section 3. Risk Management Policy
Section 4. Risk Management Framework Guidelines;
Section 5. Forms, including Council's Risk Register;
Section 6. Business Continuity Plan;
Section 7. Work Health and Safety Policy; and
Section 8. Municipal Emergency Management Plan.

The Risk Register, included at section 5 of The Framework, has been compiled using historical risk identification, with collaboration through Councillor input, and Management Team contributions and linked to Council's risk appetite statement.

Included in The Framework are reporting parameters that require a quarterly Risk Management Report to be presented to Council.

One new risk was identified this period increasing the total risks identified to 97:



1. **Supply chain disruptions** as a result of delays or failure relating to the supply of fuel to power plant and equipment and impair staffs' ability to travel to/from work. Stock levels are being monitored closely and Council is liaising with stakeholders in the supply chain, local and national governments.

Councils Business Continuity Plan is currently under review to incorporate risk mitigation strategies and incorporate the Rapid Decision Card – Fuel Emergency (AIIMS-Aligned) tool that includes trigger level, immediate actions, priority allocation, supply chain constraints and reorder timing guide.

A Risk Management Report for the quarter ending 31 March 2026 is presented at Annexure 1 to this item for Council information.

Statutory Requirement

AS/NZS ISO 31000 Risk Management

Local Government Act 1993

Work Health and Safety Act 2012

Work Health and Safety (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 2012

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012

Work Health and Safety (Transitional) Regulations 2012

Strategic Alignment

GOOD GOVERNANCE

4.1 An organisation that provides good governance, effective leadership and high-quality services, within our means

4.1.1 Council meets its statutory obligations to manage risk, achieve financial sustainability and model good governance.

Budget and Financial Implications

Nil

Risk/Liability

Nil

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Risk Management Quarterly report for the period ending 31 March 2026 at Annexure 1 to this item.

DECISION

87.04.2026 Moved: Cr Carol Cox Seconded: Cr Ken Stockton

That Council receives and notes the Risk Management Quarterly report for the period ending 31 March 2026 at Annexure 1 to this item.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton



19.9 Community Grants and Gunn Bequests 2026

Action	For Decision
Officer	Sammi Gowthorp - Community Engagement Manager Warren Groves - General Manager
File Reference	FIN/0905 Community Grants
Annexures	Nil

Introduction

Community led projects are a big part of what makes the Furneaux Islands strong, connected and unique.

The Community Grants and Gunn Bequest Programs support not-for-profit organisations, community groups and individuals to turn ideas into action and help fund projects and initiatives that benefit the wider Furneaux Islands community.

This report outlines the proposed 2026–27 funding round.

Previous Council Consideration

Community Grants are decided annually by Council.

Previous Council Discussion

Community Grants are decided annually by Council.

15 April 2026 Council Workshop

Officer's Report

The 2026–27 Community Grants and Gunn Bequest funding round is scheduled to open in late April 2026, with applications invited through to early June 2026.

Council's Community Grants Program and Gunn Bequest are advertised annually in the lead up to the new financial year and are considered by Council prior to finalisation of the budget.

Following the rebrand in 2022 and the introduction of an online application process, the program has continued in a consistent format from 2023 to 2025. Promotion across Island News, social media, posters, e-newsletter and Council's website has supported strong community awareness and participation.

Based on this continued uptake, it is proposed that Council allocate \$12,000 to the Community Grants Program for 2026–27, with individual applications capped at \$3,000, and \$2,437 allocated to the Gunn Bequest.

The Community Grants Program is available to not-for-profit organisations, community groups and individuals. It aims to:

- support community led responses to local needs
- strengthen connection, participation and belonging
- build local capacity across the Furneaux Islands



Applications will be assessed against the following principles:

- alignment with Council's strategic priorities
- a clear purpose and achievable project plan
- demonstrated community benefit without duplication of existing services
- accessibility to residents within the Municipality
- appropriate supporting documentation, including quotes where relevant
- consideration of project risks

Council retains discretion in allocating funds, including the option to provide partial funding where appropriate. While applications are capped at \$3,000, Council may vary this amount where a greater community benefit can be demonstrated.

The Gunn Bequest will continue to support sporting activities within the Municipality. Applications must be submitted through a recognised club or sporting body and relate to activities affiliated with a state or national sporting association.

Funding under both programs will not be provided for:

- retrospective expenses
- fundraising for future projects

Statutory Requirement

Local Government Act 1993

Strategic Alignment

LIVEABILITY

1.2 A harmonious and healthy community actively engaged in employment, recreation, volunteering, arts and culture

1.2.1 Provide recreational facilities and assist community groups to encourage an active and healthy lifestyle.

Budget and Financial Implications

Minimal

Risk/Liability

Nil

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- agrees to move forward with the Community Grants and Gunn Bequest programs and allocates \$12,000 in the 2026/2027 financial year for the Community Grants Program, with applications capped at \$3,000 and \$2,437 for the Gunn Bequest program;
- Notes that a community grant of \$3,000 has been pre-committed per decision 60.03.2026; and
- has discretion to award funds higher or lower than the capped value should the greater benefit to the community be realised in doing so.

DECISION

88.04.2026 Moved: Cr Carol Cox Seconded: Cr Garry Blenkhorn

That Council:

- agrees to move forward with the Community Grants and Gunn Bequest programs and allocates \$12,000 in the 2026/2027 financial year for the Community Grants Program, with applications capped at \$3,000 and \$2,437 for the Gunn Bequest program;
- Notes that a community grant of \$3,000 has been pre-committed per decision 60.03.2026; and
- has discretion to award funds higher or lower than the capped value should the greater benefit to the community be realised in doing so.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

19.10 Grant Deed - Unlock Land for Housing on Flinders Island



Action	For Decision
Officer	Sammi Gowthorp - Community Engagement Manager Warren Groves - General Manager
File Reference	CDV/0702, GOV/0500
Annexures	1. E C 24-159 Project Plan - Housing Project [19.10.1 - 3 pages] 2. CONFIDENTIAL - 2025.06.13 - C S 130 E D 24-159 Deed-600 K Housing Strategy [19.10.2 - 34 pages]

Introduction

In March 2024 the Tasmanian Liberal Party announced election commitments under a re-elected majority Liberal Government's '2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future.'

Flinders Council secured \$600,000 in State Government funding to support housing and community infrastructure priorities. While an indicative allocation of funds was included in the original Project Plan submitted to the State, a final endorsed breakdown has not yet been determined by Council.

This report seeks Council's approval of the proposed allocation of funds to enable delivery of these priorities.

Previous Council Consideration

28 May 2025 Housing Study Adopted

Previous Council Discussion

14 May 2025	Council Workshop
12 November 2025	Council Workshop
10 December 2025	Council Workshop
07 January 2026	Council Workshop
11 February 2026	Council Workshop (Asset site visit)
11 March 2026	Council Workshop
15 April 2026	Council Workshop

Officer's Report

Flinders Island continues to face a critical shortage of available housing, impacting the Island's ability to attract and retain essential workers and support local industry.

Limited housing supply has contributed to workforce instability and places ongoing pressure on service delivery, population sustainability, and long-term community wellbeing.

Addressing housing availability is a clear priority for Council. This initiative aligns with the Priority Project to *develop long term residential accommodation for rental and purchase* and sits within the "Liveability" focus area of the Strategic Plan.

It also supports delivery of the following Annual Plan actions:

- **AP-2:** Increase the supply of affordable accommodation
- **AP-3:** Unlock Council-owned land for housing
- **AP-19:** Secure community recreational facilities, including a long-term site for the Whitemark Gym



In accordance with the 2024 election commitment funding criteria, Council officers submitted a grant application on 19 March 2025 and developed a Project Plan (Annexure 1) after the 14 May 2025 workshop.

The Project Plan included an indicative allocation of funding as follows:

Category	Estimated Cost (AUD)
Housing Strategy Development (consultant, data, mapping)	\$100,000
Community Gym	\$100,000
Early Works – Site Prep/Infrastructure (e.g. roads, power, water)	\$400,000
TOTAL	\$600,000

These allocations now require formal endorsement by Council to proceed.

Statutory Requirement

Local Government Act 1993

Strategic Alignment

LIVEABILITY

1.1 A viable population that enables the necessary services and activities required for the Community to prosper

1.1.1 Encourage and support an increased supply of housing for long-term residential rental and purchase.

1.2 A harmonious and healthy community actively engaged in employment, recreation, volunteering, arts and culture

1.2.1 Provide recreational facilities and assist community groups to encourage an active and healthy lifestyle.

Budget and Financial Implications

Grant funding of \$600,000 (excluding GST) has been provided in accordance with Grant funding deed EC24-159.

Risk/Liability

Nil

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- Allocates the \$600,000 from the 2024 Election Commitment – Unlock Land for Housing on Flinders Island as presented in the funding application process and attached at annexure 1 to this item, funding to the following categories:
 - Housing Strategy Development (Consultant, data, mapping) \$100,000
 - Community Gym \$100,000
 - Early works – site preparation/infrastructure \$400,000

DECISION

89.04.2026 Moved: Cr Carol Cox Seconded: Cr Garry Blenkhorn

That Council:

- Allocates the \$600,000 from the 2024 Election Commitment – Unlock Land for Housing on Flinders Island as presented in the funding application process and attached at annexure 1 to this item, funding to the following categories:
 - Housing Strategy Development (Consultant, data, mapping) \$100,000
 - Community Gym \$100,000
 - Early works – site preparation/infrastructure (roads, power, water – Council owned land) \$400,000

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

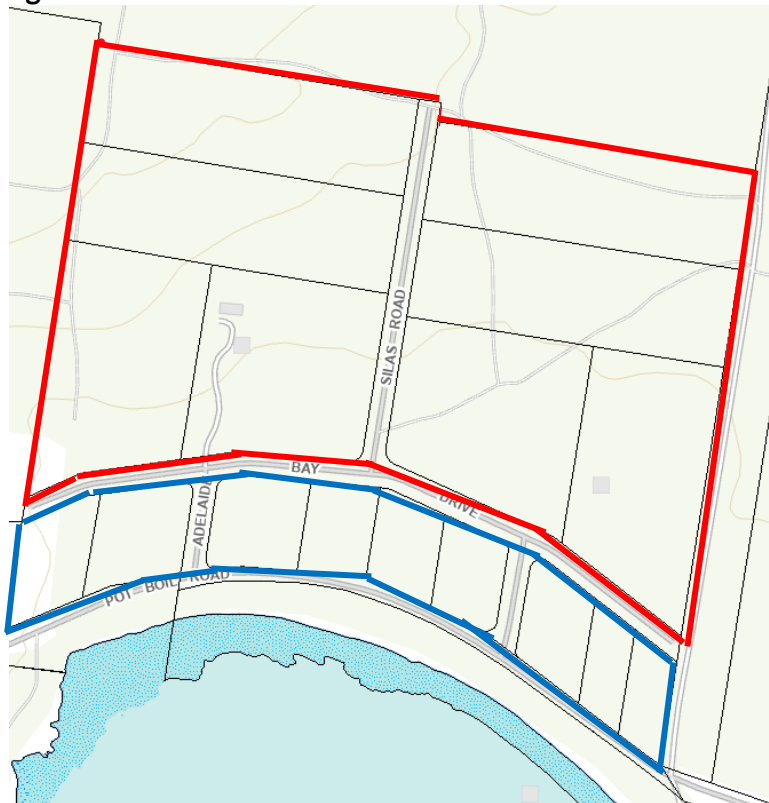
19.11 Council to Manage Additional Road Asset - Adelaide Bay Drive and Silas Road

Action	For Decision
Officer	Jacci Smith - Development Services Manager
File Reference	ROA/0210
Annexures	Nil

Introduction

Council's records indicate that a subdivision was applied for in, or about, 1961 which created the eight large lots, as shown with red border in Figure 1.

Figure 1



Source: theLIST - topographical map

Prior to that, original land grant titles provided for the smaller lots as shown in Figure 1 with blue boarder.

It is unclear if the roadway was created by the land grant or by the subdivision for larger lots, but it remained in the ownership of the landowner as at 2001.

As lots were sold, legal access to the lots became ambiguous as the road did not form a legal frontage maintained under *Local Government Highways Act* - currently dated 1982.

In 2021 Council moved motion 252.12.2021 to accept the land as a local highway under s6 of the Act.

Previous Council Consideration

252.12.2021 14 December 2021

Previous Council Discussion

30 November 2021 Council Workshop

Officer's Report

The land was accepted as a road for the purpose of Council's asset register in 2021. As land started to come to market, the pressure to provide a road surface grew – resulting in Council budgeting to undertake the works. Part of the formalisation of the road is to have it officially named.

After consultation with local residents, Council, in collaboration with Placenames Tasmania (formally Nomenclature Board of Tasmania) have been able to allocate two road names to the roadway title.

The curved section wrapping around the smaller titles, as shown in blue in Figure 1, including the access ways that link to Pot Boil Road may be known as Adelaide Bay Drive, while the straight portion heading North/South to be known as Silas Road.

Under the standard DA process, for naming of subdivision roads usually ends with Placenames Tasmania as the final step, after consultation with the developer. As this is not the usual, case the road names have been reserved and appear on the LIST prior to Council adopting them. Placenames Tasmania are aware that Council are yet to adopt the names and a request to remove them may be made should Council resolve not to adopt them.

Statutory Requirement

Local Government (Highways) Act 1982

The statute for the management of the road would be contained within the above Act but there is no statutory requirement to have a road status changed.

Strategic Alignment

LIVEABILITY

1.1 A viable population that enables the necessary services and activities required for the Community to prosper

1.1.1 Encourage and support an increased supply of housing for long-term residential rental and purchase.

ACCESSIBILITY/INFRASTRUCTURE

2.1 Quality public infrastructure, roads and footpaths

2.1.1 Maintain a network of safe roads and pedestrian pathways that recognises the changing needs of the Community.

Budget and Financial Implications

The cost to upgrade the road has been budgeted or is addressed in budget discussion from Council's Works Department.

Risk/Liability

Road responsibilities are laid out in s21 of the *Local Government (Highways) Act 1982*, which states Councils Road liability - low.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.



RECOMMENDATION

That Council agrees to adopt the names of Adelaide Bay Drive and Silas Road as denoted within this report and shown in figure 1 of this report.

DECISION

90.04.2026 Moved: Cr Ken Stockton Seconded: Cr Garry Blenkhorn

That Council agrees to adopt the names of Adelaide Bay Drive and Silas Road as denoted within this report and shown in figure 1 of this report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton



19.12 Resolution Report - April 2026

Action	For Information
Officer	Warren Groves - General Manager
File Reference	GOV/0300 Councillor Resolution Reports
Annexures	1. 2026-04- Council Resolution Report [19.12.1 - 5 pages]

Introduction

The Councillor Resolution Report identifies resolutions passed by elected members and the actions taken to implement the decisions.

Officer's Report

This Report is presented on a monthly basis. Please read Annexure 1 to this item Resolution Report – April 2026.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Councillor Resolution Report – April 2026 be noted.

DECISION

91.04.2026 Moved: Cr Garry Blenkhorn Seconded: Cr Ken Stockton
That the Councillor Resolution Report – April 2026 be noted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

DECISION

92.04.2026 Moved: Cr Carol Cox Seconded: Cr Garry Blenkhorn
That at 2.37pm the meeting take a 5-minute break and check information for item 17.2
Notice of Motion – Councillor Numbers Reform: Community Consultation.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: (4-0) Mayor Rachel Summers, Cr Carol Cox, Cr Garry Blenkhorn and Cr Ken Stockton

The Council meeting resumed at 2.44pm and Council reconsidered item 17.2 following the checking of information relating to this item.

20 Closure of Meeting

At 2.53pm, the Mayor declared the meeting closed.

Meeting Closed 2.53pm
