



Special Meeting of Council

Minutes

27th July 2026

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 5:01pm

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDING MEMBER

Nil

3. ATTENDANCE

Members	Cr W Close – Presiding Member Cr G Guerini Cr L Granich Cr L Rose Cr D Newbury Cr B Bradford Cr D Steven	
Council Officers	B Forbes C Watson G Brigg T Prue	Chief Executive Officer Executive Manager Corporate Services Executive Manager Infrastructure Finance Manager
Apologies:	Nil	
Observers:	Nil	
Leave of Absence:	Nil	

4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil

5. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Nil

7. PRESENTATIONS, PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

Nil

8.1 Reporting Officer – Executive Manager Corporate Services

8.1.1 2026/2027 Budget Adoption

File Reference	8.2.5.3
Disclosure of Interest	Nil
Voting Requirements	Absolute Majority
Author	Ben Forbes – Chief Executive Officer
Attachments	Attachment – 2026/2027 Statutory Budget Attachment – 2026/2027 Schedule of Fees & Charges

Purpose of Report

To consider and adopt the Municipal Fund Budget for the 2026 / 2027 financial year together with supporting schedules, including imposition of rates and minimum payments, adoption of fees and charges, setting of elected members fees for the year and other consequential matters arising from the budget papers.

Background

The 2026 / 2027 operating budget has been compiled based on the principles contained in the Strategic Community Plan and Plan for the Future. The 2026 / 2027 budget has been prepared in accordance with the presentations made to councillors at the budget workshop held on the 3rd of July 2026.

The rating structure proposed for the 2026 / 2027 financial year is based on a 2.5% increase in the Rate raised from those imposed in the previous year. The 2026 rate year is not a GRV revaluation year.

UV valuations are provided annually with the 2026 rate year having material valuation increases of:
UV Rural – 13.33%
UV Mining – 1.49%

The differential rating advertised period for the receipt of submissions closed on the 25th of May and resulted in no submissions being received.

Comment

The budget has been prepared to include information required by the *Local Government Act 1995*, *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* and *Australian Accounting Standards*. The main features of the budget include:

- **The Schedule of Fees & Charges.**

There have been no changes to the Fees & Charges that Council considered in May.

- **General Rates and Minimums**

The general value of rates raised are included in the table below, the general minimums will remain the same:

Land Category	Rate in the Dollar		Rates Raised 2026/27	Rates Raised 2025/26	\$ Increase/ (Decrease)	% Increase/ (Decrease)
	2026/27	2025/26	\$	\$		
<u>General Rate</u>						
GRV - Residential / Industrial	9.1117	8.9291	404,468	394,593	9,875	2.50%
GRV - Commercial	8.3132	7.9996	85,781	83,687	2,094	2.50%
GRV - Minesites	16.3880	15.9882	83,530	81,492	2,038	2.50%
GRV - Single Persons Quarters	16.3880	15.9882	131,703	128,490	3,213	2.50%
UV - Rural	1.0468	1.1567	2,295,617	2,239,627	55,990	2.50%
UV - Mining Tenements	15.1180	15.2183	1,968,315	1,919,560	48,755	2.54%
<u>Minimum General Rate</u>						
GRV - Residential / Industrial	\$600	\$600	78,600	81,000	(2,400)	
GRV - Commercial	\$450	\$450	7,200	6,300	900	
GRV - Minesites	\$450	\$450	450	450	-	
GRV - Single Persons Quarters	\$450	\$450	900	900	-	
UV - Rural	\$450	\$450	21,150	20,250	900	
UV - Mining Tenements	\$450	\$450	106,200	103,050	3,150	

There was a general revaluation carried out to UV rated assessments effective 1st July 2026. This revaluation resulted in the following:

COMPARATIVE VALUATIONS		Valuations as at 1st July of the given year.						
	2025/2026			2026/2027				
	Rateable Valuation	Minimum Valuation	Total Valuation	Rateable Valuation	Minimum Valuation	Total Valuation	Change \$	Change %
Non-Rateable	-	-	1,432,211	-	-	1,454,362	22,151	1.55%
GRV - Mine Sites	509,700	500	510,200	509,700	500	510,200	0	0.00%
GRV - Single persons Quarters	803,655	1,075	804,730	803,655	1,075	804,730	0	0.00%
GRV - Residential / Industrial	4,403,076	308,517	4,711,593	4,439,000	281,211	4,720,211	8,618	0.18%
GRV - Commercial	1,016,398	72,317	1,088,715	1,031,868	64,847	1,096,715	8,000	0.73%
UV - Rural	193,520,186	490,127	194,010,313	219,298,569	572,134	219,870,703	25,860,390	13.33%
UV - Mining	12,831,768	307,995	13,139,763	13,019,679	315,261	13,334,940	195,177	1.49%

Sewerage Rate in the Dollar and household rubbish collection charges will remain unchanged from those imposed in 2025/2026.

- Major Income and Expenditure**

Capital expenditure totaling \$13.545M is budgeted, being made up of:

Land & Buildings	\$2,214,561
Furniture & Equipment	\$112,900
Plant & Equipment	\$1,533,000
Infrastructure - Roads & Footpaths	\$8,164,589
- Parks & Ovals	\$156,134
- Sewerage	\$28,000
- Aerodromes	\$1,100,000
- Other	\$236,250

Non-Operating grant income includes:

Roads to Recovery	\$1,722,703
Regional Road Group	\$1,419,182
Commodity Route	\$200,000
Main Roads WA Direct Grant	\$588,167
Road User Rehabilitation Contribution	\$1,000,000

Operating grant income includes (estimate after prepayment):

Federal Equalisation Grant	\$480,582	(Est)
Federal Untied Roads Grant	\$380,248	(Est)

Statutory Environment

Section 6.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* requires that not later than the 31st August in each financial year, or such extended time as the Minister allows, each local government is to prepare and adopt, (Absolute Majority required) in the form and manner prescribed, a budget for its municipal fund for the financial year ending on the following 30 June.

Divisions 5 and 6 of Part 6 of the *Local Government Act 1995* refer to the setting of budgets and raising of rates and charges. *The Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* details the form and content of the budget. The 2026 / 2027 budget as presented is considered to meet statutory requirements.

Strategic Implications

The draft 2026 / 2027 budget has been developed based on the existing Plan for the Future and strategic planning documents adopted by council.

Policy Implications

The budget is based on the principles contained in the Plan for the Future and the Corporate Business Plan.

Financial Implications

Forms the basis for Income and Expenditure for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.

Risk Implications

Risk Category	Description	Rating (Consequence x Likelihood)	Mitigation Action
Health/People	Service delivery benefits the residents of the district.	Moderate (6)	Community Strategic Planning process.
Financial Impact	Funding deficit leads to cuts in service level provision.	Moderate (9)	Maintain adequate reserve funds for high-risk services such as sewers and waste disposal sites.
Service Interruption	Variable from minor inconvenience to significant health issue.	High (12)	For high-risk services such as sewerage and transport infrastructure, continue to maintain to a suitable standard.
Compliance	Local Government Act 1995 and applicable Regulations	Low (1)	Nil
Reputational	Service delivery not meeting community expectations.	Moderate (9)	Ensure services are adequately resourced.
Property	Various significant community buildings identified.	Moderate (6)	Ensure buildings are adequately maintained and resourced.
Environment	Nil	Nil	Nil.

Risk Matrix						
Consequence Likelihood		Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
		1	2	3	4	5
Almost Certain	5	Moderate (5)	High (10)	High (15)	Extreme (20)	Extreme (25)
Likely	4	Low (4)	Moderate (8)	High (12)	High (16)	Extreme (20)
Possible	3	Low (3)	Moderate (6)	Moderate (9)	High (12)	High (15)
Unlikely	2	Low (2)	Low (4)	Moderate (6)	Moderate (8)	High (10)
Rare	1	Low (1)	Low (2)	Low (3)	Low (4)	Moderate (5)

101/2026

Moved Cr Guerini/Seconded Cr Bradford

That Officer Recommendations 1 through 8 on the agenda be approved en bloc as presented.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY (7/0)

Cr's For: Close, Guerini, Bradford, Granich, Newbury, Rose & Steven

Cr's Against: Nil

Officer Recommendation 1

GENERAL & MINIMUM RATES, INSTALMENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

1. For the purpose of yielding the deficiency disclosed by the Municipal Fund Budget adopted at Resolution 9 below, council pursuant to sections 6.32, 6.33, 6.34 and 6.35 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, impose the following differential general rates in the dollar and minimum payments on Gross Rental and Unimproved Values

General Rate

GRV - Residential / Industrial	9.1117
GRV - Commercial	8.3132
GRV - Minesites	16.3880
GRV - Single Persons Quarters	16.3880
UV - Rural	1.0468
UV - Mining Tenements	15.1180

Minimum Payments

GRV - Residential / Industrial	\$600
GRV - Commercial	\$450
GRV - Minesites	\$450
GRV - Single Persons Quarters	\$450
UV - Rural	\$450
UV - Mining Tenements	\$450

2. Pursuant to section 6.45 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 64(2) of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, council nominates the following due dates for the payment in full or by instalments:

Single Full Payment:-

- Full payment due date Friday, 18th September 2026

Payment by Two Instalments: -

- First instalment due date Friday, 18th September 2026
- Second instalment due date Wednesday, 20th January 2027

Payment by Four Instalments: -

- First instalment due date Friday, 18th September 2026
- Second instalment due date Thursday, 19th November 2026

- Third instalment due date Wednesday, 20th January 2027
 - Fourth instalment due date Tuesday, 23rd March 2027
3. Pursuant to Section 6.46 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, council offers a discount of 5% to ratepayers who have paid their rates in full, including arrears, waste and service charges, within 35 days of the issue date of the rate notice.
 4. Pursuant to section 6.45 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, regulation 67 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, council adopts an instalment administration charge where the owner has elected to pay rates (and service charges) through an instalment option of \$10 for each instalment after the initial instalment is paid.
 5. Pursuant to section 6.45 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 68 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, council adopts an interest rate of 4.50% where the owner has elected to pay rates and service charges through an instalment option.
 6. Pursuant to section 6.51(1) & section 6.51(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 70 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, council adopts an interest rate of 11% for all overdue rates (and service charges) and costs of proceedings to recover such charges.

Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority Required

Officer Recommendation 2

SEWERAGE RATES & CHARGES

That Council impose the following Sewerage Rates and Charges under s41 of the *Health Act 1911*, on a per annum basis to cover the cost of the service in Southern Cross and Marvel Loch:

1. Southern Cross Sewerage Scheme Charge (Residential/Industrial):

7.3 cents in the dollar on GRV (Residential and Industrial) properties within the Southern Cross Town-site.

- Minimum Charge per vacant land - \$210.00
- Minimum Charge per residential property - \$276.00
- Non-Rated Class 1st Fixture - \$176.00
- Non-Rated Class Additional Fixtures - \$89.00
- Non-Rated Class 2 and 3 Fixture - \$937.00

2. Southern Cross Sewerage Scheme Charge (Commercial):

5.0 cents in the dollar on GRV (Commercial) properties within the Southern Cross Town-site.

- Minimum Charge per commercial property - \$583.00

3. Marvel Loch Sewerage Scheme Charge (Commercial/SPQ):

12.0 cents in the dollar on GRV (Commercial/SPQ) properties within the Marvel Loch Town-site.

- **Minimum Charge per property - \$300.00**
- **Non-Rated Class 1st Fixture - \$138.00**
- **Non-Rated Class Additional Fixtures - \$62.00**

4. Marvel Loch Sewerage Scheme Charge (Residential):

6.4 cents in the dollar on GRV (Residential) properties within the Marvel Loch Town-site.

- **Minimum Charge per property - \$300.00**

Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority Required

Recommendation 3

SANITATION HOUSEHOLD REFUSE - RATES AND CHARGES

That Council impose the following Sanitation Rates and Charges on a per annum basis:

- **Domestic Collection per bin, per service \$340.00**
- **Commercial Collection per bin, per service \$364.00**
- **Non-Rateable Collection per bin, per service \$561.00**

Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority Required

Officer Recommendation 4

ELECTED MEMBERS' FEES AND ALLOWANCES FOR 2026 / 2027

1. Pursuant to section 5.98 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, council adopts the following sitting fees for individual meeting attendance:

- **Shire President - \$660 per Council meeting attended**
- **Councillors - \$440 per Council meeting attended**
- **Elected Member appointed by Council to the audit committee and CEO selection committee - \$220 per Committee Meeting attended**
- **Independent Committee Member's appointed by Council to the audit committee and CEO selection committee - \$450 per Committee Meeting attended**

2. Pursuant to section 5.99A of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulations 34ACA of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, council adopts the following annual allowances for elected members:

- **Travel Allowance**

Engine Displacement (in cubic centimetres)			
Area & Details	Over 2600cc	Over 1600cc to 2600cc	1600cc and under
	Cents per Kilometre		
Rest of State	99.01	70.87	58.37

- **ICT Allowance**

Annual allowance for hardware upgrades and data usage - \$1,180 per Councilor per annum

3. Pursuant to section 5.98(5) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, council adopts an annual allowance of \$13,000 to be paid to the Shire President in addition to the meeting fees.
4. Pursuant to section 5.98A of the *Local Government Act 1995*, council adopts an annual allowance of \$3,250 to be paid to the Deputy Shire President in addition to the meeting fees.

Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority Required

Officer Recommendation 5

INTEREST ON MONEY OWING OTHER THAN RATES AND SERVICE CHARGES

1. Pursuant to section 6.13(1) and 6.13(6) of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 19A and 19B of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, council adopts an interest rate of 11% for any amounts (other than rates and service charges) that are more than 60 days overdue.

Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority Required

Officer Recommendation 6

IMPOSITION OF FEES AND CHARGES

Pursuant to section 6.16(3) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, council adopts the Schedule of Fees & Charges as presented.

Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority Required

Officer Recommendation 7

MATERIAL VARIANCE REPORTING FOR 2026 / 2027

In accordance with regulation 34(5) of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, and *AASB 1031 Materiality*, Council resolves that its accepted materiality to be used in financial statement reporting for the year ended 30 June 2027 shall be +/- 10% or \$30,000, whichever is the greater.

Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority Required

Officer Recommendation 8

MUNICIPAL FUND BUDGET FOR 2026 / 2027

Pursuant to section 6.2(1) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, Council adopt the Shire of Yilgarn Annual Budget for the year ended 30 June 2027.

Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority Required

10 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

11 MOTIONS FOR WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

12 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF THE MEETING

Nil

13 MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC-CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

14 CLOSURE

As there was no further business to discuss, the Shire President declared the meeting closed at 5:05pm.

I, Bryan Close, confirm the above Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 27th July 2026, are confirmed on Thursday, 20th August 2026 as a true and correct record of the 27th July 2026 Special Meeting of Council.

Cr Bryan Close
SHIRE PRESIDENT