



CITY FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes

for the meeting on

Tuesday, 18 November 2025

in the Colonel Light Room, Adelaide Town Hall

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Our Adelaide.
Bold.
Aspirational.
Innovative.

Present – The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith

Councillor Dr Siebentritt (Chair)

Councillor Maher (Deputy Chair)

Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Snape and Councillors Cabada, Couros, Davis, Freeman, Giles and Martin

1 Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair stated:

‘Council acknowledges that we are meeting on traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.

And we also extend that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations who are present today.’

2 Apologies and Leave of Absence

Leave of Absence:

Councillors Abrahamzadeh and Noon

3 Confirmation of Minutes - 21/10/2025

Moved by Councillor Freeman,
Seconded by Councillor Maher

That the Minutes of the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held 21 October 2025, be taken as read and be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Carried unanimously

4 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Councillor Freeman declared a general conflict of interest in Confidential Item 10.1 [Nomination of Council Appointed Members to Kadaltilla], pursuant to Section 74 of the *Local Government Act 1999* (SA) as she knows one of the candidates personally, but will stay in the room, participate in the discussion and vote on the matter.

5 Deputations

Nil

6 Workshops

Nil

7 Reports for Recommendation to Council

The Chair sought leave of the meeting to consider Item 7.2, Q1 2025/26 BP&B Update, prior to Item 7.1, Adoption of the 2025/26 - 2034/35 Long Term Financial Plan.

Leave was granted

7.2 Q1 2025/26 BP&B Update

Theo Maras, Chair and Fabienne Reilly, General Manager, Adelaide Central Market Authority addressed the meeting.

Steve Maras, Chair and Greg Ratsch, General Manager, Adelaide Economic Development Agency addressed the meeting.

Discussion ensued, during which Councillor Couros left the Colonel Light Room at 5.33 pm and re-entered at 5.35 pm.

It was then –

Moved by Councillor Martin,
Seconded by Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Snape -

THAT THE CITY FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL

THAT COUNCIL

1. Receives the City of Adelaide 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget Quarter 1 update as contained in Attachment A to Item 7.2 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held on 18 November 2025.
2. Approves adjustments for the 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget (BP&B) as identified in this report and reflected in Attachment A to Item 7.2 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held on 18 November 2025.
3. Notes the year-to-date Operating (Financial Performance) for the quarter ending 30 September 2025, which includes:
 - 3.1. An operating surplus of \$9.678m (\$4.407m higher than the budget of \$5.271m, for the period)
 - 3.2. Total operating revenue of \$64.500m (\$2.554m higher than the budget of \$61.946m, for the period)
 - 3.3. Total operating expenses (including depreciation) of \$54.822m (\$1.853m lower than the budget of \$56.675m, for the period)
 - 3.4. Total Capital Expenditure of \$17.321m (\$7.823m higher than the budget of \$9.498m, for the period)
 - 3.5. Net cash surplus position of \$5.185m.
4. Approves budgeted year end Operating Position, which includes:
 - 4.1. An operating surplus of \$8.541m (consistent with the adopted budget of \$8.541m)
 - 4.2. Total operating revenue of \$251.571m (\$2.602m higher than the adopted budget of \$248.969m)
 - 4.3. Total operating expenses (including depreciation) of \$243.030m (\$2.602m higher than the adopted budget of \$240.428m).
5. Approves total capital expenditure of \$122.293m for 2025/26 year (\$7.995m higher than the adopted budget of \$114.298m).
6. Approves total borrowings of \$51.818m projected to 30 June 2026 (\$1.744m higher than the adopted projected borrowings of \$50.074m to 30 June 2026).
7. Receives the Council Subsidiary Quarter 1 updates as contained as Attachments B, C, D and E to Item 7.2 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held on 18 November 2025.

Carried unanimously

7.1 Adoption of the 2025/26 - 2034/35 Long Term Financial Plan

Discussion ensued

It was then –

Moved by Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Snape,
Seconded by Councillor Maher -

THAT THE CITY FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL

THAT COUNCIL

1. Adopts the 2025 updates to the Asset Management Plans in Attachment A to Item 7.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held on 18 November 2025.
2. Adopts the 2025/26 to 2034/35 Long Term Financial Plan document in Attachment B to Item 7.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held on 18 November 2025.
3. Notes the long term financial sustainability of the Long Term Financial Plan 2025/26 to 2034/35 based on the adopted assumptions.

4. Notes the 2025/26 CEO Sustainability Report in Attachment C to Item 7.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held on 18 November 2025.
5. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to make any necessary changes to the updated Asset Management Plans and 2025/26 to 2034/35 Long Term Financial Plan document arising from this meeting, together with any editorial amendments and finalisation of the document's formatting and graphic design.

Discussion continued

Councillor Martin called a Point of Order in relation to Councillor Davis breaching regulation 29 of the *Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013*, due to Councillor Davis behaving in an improper and disorderly manner.

Councillor Davis made a personal explanation in relation to the Point of Order called by Councillor Martin in accordance with Regulation 29 of the *Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013*.

The Chair ruled in favour of the point of order and asked Councillor Davis to leave the Colonel Light Room at 6.04 pm.

It was then –

Moved by Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Snape,
Seconded by Councillor Freeman –

That Councillor Davis has contravened regulation 29 of the *Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013*, by behaving in an improper and disorderly manner.

Discussion ensued

The motion was then put and carried

It was then –

Moved by Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Snape,
Seconded by Councillor Maher –

That it is acknowledged Councillor Davis' behaviour does not meet the Council Member's required standard but no further action will be taken at this time with a view to an upcoming item regarding the Behavioural Management Policy.

Discussion ensued, during which Councillor Cabada left the Colonel Light Room at 6.15 pm.

The motion was then put and carried

Councillor Davis re-entered the Colonel Light Room at 6.17 pm and was advised of the censure.

Councillor Cabada re-entered the Colonel Light Room at 6.18 pm.

Discussion continued

The motion was then put and carried

7.3 Review of the Behavioural Management Policy

Discussion ensued, during which Councillor Giles entered the Colonel Light Room at 6.40 pm.

Undertaking - Review of the Behavioural Management Policy

In response to a query from Councillor Couros, the CEO gave an undertaking to distribute the response to questions from Councillor Noon, sent by email to Administration, to all Council Members.

It was then –

Moved by Councillor Davis,
Seconded by Councillor Maher -

THAT THE CITY FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL

THAT COUNCIL

1. Adopts the Council Member Behavioural Management Policy as contained in Attachment A to Item 7.3 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held on 18 November 2025, subject to the consideration of amendments in part 2 below.

2. Proposed amendments:
 - 2.1 Inserts the definition of the word 'Trivial'
 - 2.2. At 7.1, amend the word 'may' to 'must' with the exception of 7.1.7
 - 2.3. That an assessment panel be established, to be in rotation, unless unavailable or unsuitable to assess the complaint
 - 2.4. The complaints be anonymised at the initial assessment stage.
3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to make any minor editorial and formatting changes as required to finalise the Council Member Behavioural Management Policy as contained in Attachment A to Item 7.3 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held on 18 November 2025.

Discussion ensued, during which:

- With the consent of the mover and seconder, the Chair advised the meeting that the motion would be taken in parts.
- Councillor Davis left the meeting at 7.03 pm.

Part 1 of the motion was then put and carried unanimously

Part 2.1 of the motion was then put and lost

Part 2.2 of the motion was then put and lost

Part 2.3 of the motion was then put and lost

Part 2.4 of the motion was then put and lost

Part 3 of the motion was then put and carried

7.4 Draft Community Engagement Charter and draft Community Engagement Policy

Moved by Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Snape,
Seconded by Councillor Giles -

THAT THE CITY FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT COUNCIL

1. Notes the feedback received on the draft Community Engagement Charter and draft Community Engagement Policy as contained in Attachments A, B and C to Item 7.4 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held on 18 November 2025.
2. Adopts the Community Engagement Charter, contained in Attachment D to Item 7.4 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held on 18 November 2025.
3. Adopts the Community Engagement Policy contained in Attachment E to Item 7.4 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held on 18 November 2025 and rescinds the Community Consultation Policy.
4. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to make any necessary changes, together with any editorial amendments and finalisation of the document's formatting and graphic design, to the Community Engagement Charter and Community Engagement Policy arising from the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held on 18 November 2025 to be presented to the meeting of Council on the 25 November for final adoption.

Discussion ensued, during which the Lord Mayor left the Colonel Light room at 7.18 pm.

Undertaking – Draft Community Engagement Charter and draft Community Engagement Policy

In response to a query from Councillor Couros, the CEO gave an undertaking to provide a workshop regarding the Community Engagement Toolkit at a future meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee.

The motion was then put and carried unanimously

7.5 Precinct Review - Consulting with Precinct Groups

Discussion ensued, during which Councillor Giles left the Colonel Light Room at 7.22 pm and re-entered at 7.24 pm.

It was then –

Moved by Councillor Couros,
Seconded by Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Snape -

THAT THE CITY FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Requests Administration pursue engagement with Precinct Group Chairs and Presidents and their boards, councils or committees in accordance with the recommended option of the City Finance and Governance Committee:
 - 1.1. Option 1: Precinct Group Chairs and Presidents are asked to seek feedback from their boards, councils or committees (excluding Council/Council subsidiary staff) based on information as contained in the 21 July 2025 and 6 November 2025 presentations and provide it to City of Adelaide by 17 December 2025.
2. Requests the Administration work with the Presiding Member of the City Finance and Governance Committee to convene a special meeting on 27 January 2026 to receive recommendations on the Precinct Review Model, based on the feedback from the Precinct Groups and Presidents.

Discussion continued during which Lord Mayor re-entered the Colonel Light Room at 7.25 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 7.28 pm, until the adjournment or closure of the Infrastructure and Public Works Committee.

The meeting resumed at 8.49 pm with the following Members present:

The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith, Councillor Dr Siebentritt (Chair), Councillor Maher (Deputy Chair), Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Snape and Councillors Cabada, Couros, Freeman, Giles and Martin.

Discussion continued

The motion was then put and carried

The Chair advised the meeting that the Chief Executive Officer had withdrawn Items 7.6 – 2025 Confidential Orders Review and 10.1 – Nomination of Council Appointed Members to Kadaltilla, which will be considered at the meeting of Council on 25 November 2025.

Closure

The meeting closed at 8.51 pm

Councillor Dr Siebentritt
City Finance and Governance Committee Chair

Documents Attached:

Nil