



CITY FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes

for the meeting on

Tuesday, 19 May 2026

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 Noon and Councillors Cabada, Couros, Davis, Freeman and Snape

Councillor Davis entered the Colonel Light Room at 6.33 pm.

1 Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair stated:

‘The City of Adelaide acknowledges the Kurna People of the Adelaide Plains as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today.

We acknowledge and honour their spiritual and cultural stewardship of this Country and recognise their deep and enduring relationship with its lands, waters, the sky, and all living things.

We pay our respects to Kurna Elders past and present and recognise the important role of emerging leaders in sustaining and strengthening culture.’

2 Apologies and Leave of Absence

Leave of Absence:

Councillors Giles and Martin

Apology:

Councillor Abrahamzadeh

3 Confirmation of Minutes - 21/4/2026 & 28/4/2026

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held 21 April 2026 and the Minutes of the Special meeting held on 28 April 2026, be taken as read and be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Carried unanimously

4 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil

5 Deputations

Nil

6 Workshops

Nil

7 Reports for Recommendation to Council

7.1 2025/26 Business Plan & Budget Q3 Review

Discussion ensued

Undertaking – 2025/26 Business Plan & Budget Q3 Review

In response to a query from Councillor Maher, an undertaking was given to distribute a list of current marketing promotions to Council Members to assist them in promoting events and activations in the City.

It was then –

Moved by the Lord Mayor,
Seconded by 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 3 Review as contained in Attachment A to Item 7.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held on 19 May 2026.
2. Approves adjustments for the 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget (BP&B) as identified in this report and contained in Attachment A to Item 7.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held on 19 May 2026.
3. Notes the year-to-date Operating (Financial Performance) for the quarter ending 31 March 2026, which includes:
 - 3.1. An operating surplus of \$20.684m (\$11.299m higher than the budget of \$9.385m, for the period)
 - 3.2. Total operating revenue of \$191.308m (\$2.865m higher than the budget of \$188.443m, for the period)
 - 3.3. Total operating expenses (including depreciation) of \$170.624m (\$8.434m lower than the budget of \$179.058m, for the period)
 - 3.4. Total Capital Expenditure of \$54.389m (\$3.196m higher than the budget of \$51.193m, for the period)
 - 3.5. Net cash surplus position of \$10.091m.
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 \$255.864m (\$2.582m higher than the Q2 budget of \$253.282m)
 - 4.3. Total operating expenses (including depreciation) of \$247.323m (\$2.582m higher than the Q2 budget of \$244.741m).
5. Approves total capital expenditure of \$112.274m for 2025/26 year (\$8.389m lower than the Q2 budget of \$120.663m).
6. Approves total borrowings of \$45.828m projected to 30 June 2026 (\$4.849m lower than the Q2 projected borrowings of \$50.677m to 30 June 2026).
7. Receives the Council Subsidiary Quarter 3 Reviews as contained as Attachments B, C, D and E to Item 7.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held on 19 May 2026.

Discussion continued

Undertaking – 2025/26 Business Plan & Budget Q3 Review

In response to a query from Councillor Freeman, an undertaking was given to provide Council Members with information on why George Street (Plan/Design, \$100k) has been included as part of the Q3 Review.

The motion was then put and carried unanimously

7.2 Adoption of Caretaker Policy

Discussion ensued

It was then –

Moved by Councillor Couros,
Seconded by Councillor Snape -

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

1. Adopts the Caretaker Policy as contained in Attachment A to the Item 7.2 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held on 19 May 2026, subject to a variation to the policy to include a public meeting(s) of candidates held and resourced by the Council.

2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to make any minor editorial and formatting changes as required to finalise the Caretaker Policy 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 May 2026.
3. Notes that the Lord Mayor and Chief Executive Officer have received a request from the No. 24 (City of Adelaide) (Auxiliary) Squadron of the Royal Australian Air Force to exercise their right to Freedom of Entry to the City of Adelaide to commemorate their 75th Anniversary on 24 October 2026.
4. Approves the Lord Mayor to exercise all civic and ceremonial functions and duties required to facilitate the Freedom of Entry to the City of Adelaide to the No. 24 (City of Adelaide) (Auxiliary) Squadron of the Royal Australian Air Force.

Discussion continued

Undertaking - Adoption of Caretaker Policy

In response to a query from the Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Noon, the CEO gave an undertaking to seek legal advice regarding the extent that Council can apply the Caretaker Policy to Council Subsidiaries, including Subsidiary Board Members.

Due to the discussion surrounding the potential removal of Lord Mayoral Benefits available under the Council Member Allowances and Benefits Policy, the Lord Mayor declared a general conflict of interest in Item 7.2 [Adoption of Caretaker Policy], pursuant to Section 74 of the Local Government Act 1999 (SA), but as it did not form part of the motion before the Committee, that she would stay in the room, participate in the debate and vote on the matter.

The motion was then put and carried

7.3 Community Engagement Policy Consultation

Moved by Councillor Cabada,
Seconded by Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Noon -

THAT THE CITY FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL

THAT COUNCIL

1. Approves the updated draft City of Adelaide Community Engagement Policy (CoA 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 19 May 2026 for the purpose of community engagement.
2. 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 draft City of Adelaide Community Engagement Policy arising from the meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee held on 19 May 2026 to be presented to the meeting of Council on 26 May 2026 for final adoption for the purposes of community engagement.
3. Endorses Administration undertaking community engagement on the draft CoA Policy between 3 June 2026 to 2 July 2026.

Carried

8 Reports for Noting

Nil

Closure

The meeting closed at 7.39 pm

Councillor Dr Siebentritt
City Finance and Governance Committee Chair

Documents Attached:

Nil

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