

2025/26 to 2034/35 Long Term Financial Plan Consultation feedback report

Tuesday, 11 November 2025
Council

Strategic Alignment - Our Corporation

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Public

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a summary of consultation responses to inform final decision-making ahead of its consideration of the 2025/26 to 2034/35 Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP).

At its meeting on 14 October 2025, Council endorsed the Draft 2025/26 to 2034/35 LTFP for the purpose of public consultation. Consultation on the Draft 2025/26 to 2034/35 LTFP commenced at 9.00am on Wednesday 15 October 2025 and concluded at midnight on Tuesday 4 November 2025.

Consultation on the Draft 2025/26 to 2034/35 LTFP provided ratepayers, key stakeholders and the wider community an opportunity to provide feedback. Key components of the consultation included seeking feedback from the community on Council's approach to maintaining our roads, buildings and infrastructure; funding for the renewal of significant assets (Adelaide Bridge, Torrens Weir and Rundle St UPark); and upgrading our Park Lands community buildings.

Feedback on the Draft 2025/26 BP&B was provided in person to Council staff at drop-in sessions, via Council's online consultation platform Our Adelaide, meetings with staff members, and by email or in writing.

As part of the consultation, 31 Our Adelaide surveys, one written submission, and three verbal submissions were received.

Based on the number of responses, the feedback received, and the lack of substantive alternative proposals provided, no changes are recommended to the draft LTFP.

A copy and analysis of the feedback received is summarised in **Attachment A**.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

1. Notes the consultation summary feedback on the 2025/26 to 2034/35 Long Term Financial Plan, as contained in Attachment A to Item 14.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of Council held on 11 November 2025.
2. Notes that based on the feedback received no changes to the financial projections are recommended to the 2025/26 to 2034/35 Long Term Financial Plan that will be presented to the City Finance and Governance Committee on 18 November 2025 for recommendation to Council to adopt at its meeting on 24 November 2025.

IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Corporation The LTFP is one of the City of Adelaide's key Strategic Management Plans. It is a ten year Plan, revised annually to ensure a ten year view is maintained. It is the plan for the long term financial sustainability of the City of Adelaide.
Policy	The <i>Local Government Act SA (1999)</i> (SA) requires Council to develop a LTFP within two years of being elected, and review it annually.
Consultation	A draft LTFP was approved by Council for 21 days public consultation on 14 October 2025. The consultation period closed on 4 November 2025, and this report provides a summary to date of consultation responses.
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	The <i>Local Government Act SA (1999)</i> (SA) requires Council to develop a LTFP within two years of being elected, and review it annually.
Opportunities	Not as a result of this report
25/26 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Proposed 26/27 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	The LTFP covers the ten-year period 2025/25 to 2034/35
25/26 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

DISCUSSION

1. At its meeting on 14 October 2025, Council approved the 2025/26 to 2034/35 Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) for the purpose of public consultation.
2. The consultation period of 21 days started 15 October 2025 and closed on 4 November 2025.
3. The public consultation activities undertaken exceeded statutory requirements and offered a range of methods for our community to consider Council's 2025/26 to 2034/35 LTFP and provide feedback.
4. Consultation focused on our proposed priorities and projects including:
 - 4.1. Council's approach to maintaining our roads, buildings and infrastructure
 - 4.2. Funding for the renewal of significant assets (Adelaide Bridge, Torrens Weir and Rundle St UPark);
 - 4.3. Upgrading our Park Lands community buildings.

Audit and Risk Committee Feedback

5. The Draft 2025/26 to 2034/35 LTFP was also presented to the Audit and Risk Committee at its meeting on 17 October 2025.
6. The Audit and Risk Committee provided feedback that [\[Link 1\]](#): it considers that the Draft 2025/2026 – 2034/35 LTFP is a prudent plan and appropriately responds to the financial sustainability observations of the ESCOSA report.

Community Consultation

7. Public consultation on the Draft 2025/26 to 2034/35 LTFP was undertaken from 15 October 2025 to 4 November 2025. During the consultation there were:
 - 7.1. 893 views, 679 visits, and 553 unique visitors to the Draft 2025/26 to 2034/35 LTFP project page on Council's consultation platform, Our Adelaide.
 - 7.2. There were 180 downloads of the Draft 2025/26 to 2034/35 LTFP document on Our Adelaide
 - 7.3. 31 survey forms were received, either online on Our Adelaide or as a hard copy.
 - 7.4. One written submission was received via email. Written submissions are defined as any feedback received in writing that does not follow the survey format.
 - 7.5. Three verbal submissions were received.
 - 7.6. No submissions were received from any organisations.
8. The consultation sought feedback from City of Adelaide ratepayers and residents, community and key stakeholders and was advertised through general channels, including:
 - 8.1. Legislatively required public notice in the South Australian Government Gazette, The Advertiser public notices and the City of Adelaide website.
 - 8.2. Notifications and displays at Council's Customer Centre, libraries, and community centres.
 - 8.3. Council's social media, with posts published across the City of Adelaide Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn accounts – generating 23,870 views, with 629 engagements through likes, shares, comments, and 39 people clicking to follow through to the link.
 - 8.4. Council's digital assets, including external TV displays and Council's consultation platform Our Adelaide.
9. Specific audiences were also targeted to seek feedback during the consultation period. This included:
 - 9.1. Over 9,000 direct emails to City of Adelaide ratepayers providing a link to the survey and information on how they could participate.
 - 9.2. Email newsletter sent to over 11,500 Our Adelaide subscribers in the first week of consultation, and inclusion in the Our Adelaide newsletter in the third week of consultation.
10. Numerous options for the community to provide comments were offered including:
 - 10.1. Hard copies of the survey available at various locations including the Customer Centre, libraries and community centres, along with provision of relevant documents for reference.
 - 10.2. Opportunities provided to request an in person meeting with Council staff to discuss and ask questions about the Draft 2025/26 to 2034/35 LTFP.

- 10.3. In person opportunities were available for the community to attend at the three drop-in sessions, held at the Hutt Street Library, North Adelaide Library and the Customer Centre.

Consultation Outcomes

11. A total of 35 pieces of feedback were received as part of the consultation. This consisted of 31 completed survey forms, one written submission (email), and three verbal submissions.
12. Some common themes emerged from the feedback, which are summarised in the detailed summary and analysis of feedback contained in **Attachment A**.
13. 90% of all respondents were City of Adelaide ratepayers: 65% (20) live in Adelaide, 19% (6) live in North Adelaide and 16% (5) live outside of the City of Adelaide.
14. The number of consultation responses are insufficient to make statistical inferences with a high degree of confidence, however the results are indicative and summarised below:
 - 14.1. In broad terms 55% were in agreement or neutral to the overall financial approach proposed in the LTFP, and 45% disagreed
 - 14.2. The current condition of our assets are good to excellent (74% agreed, 26% disagreed)
 - 14.3. Spreading increased renewal investment (Asset Renewal Funding Ratio) over eight years was supported by 52% of respondents. Support for an immediate rate increase to achieve 100% renewal funding received 6%, while 42% preferred not to increase investment in asset renewal
 - 14.4. The approach to funding major upgrades, including the Adelaide Bridge, Torrens Weir and Rundle Street UPark, was supported by 32% respondents, not supported by 45%, and 23% were neutral
 - 14.5. To manage the significant cost of upgrading the Adelaide Bridge and Torrens Weir, 36% of respondents supported funding through borrowings, while 64% supported a combination of rate increases and borrowings
 - 14.6. The proposed funding approach for Park Lands community buildings was supported by 35.5% of respondents, not supported by 35.5%, and 29% were neutral.
15. Based on this feedback, the number of responses, and the absence of substantive alternatives proposed, no changes to the financial projections are recommended to the draft LTFP for adoption.

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1: [Agenda for Council on Tuesday, 28th October, 2025, 5.30 pm - Modern Council](#)

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Consultation Summary

- END OF REPORT -