

Precinct Review - Consulting with Precinct Groups

Strategic Alignment - Our Corporation

Public

Tuesday, 18 November 2025
City Finance and Governance Committee

Program Contact:
Anthony Spartalis, Chief
Operating Officer

Approving Officer:
Anthony Spartalis, Chief
Operating Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to outline options for further engagement with Precinct Chairs and Presidents, and their boards, councils or committees, following on from the meeting with Precinct Group Chairs and Presidents on 6 November 2025.

This will include encouraging Precinct Chairs and Presidents to share information and seek feedback from their boards, councils or committees based on the levels of information outlined in the engagement options discussed in this report.

Feedback from Precinct Groups will be required by 17 December 2025, to be included in the report on a recommended precinct model to be presented to Council in February 2026 via the City Finance and Governance Committee meeting, as resolved by Council on 11 November 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

The following recommendation will be presented to Council on 25 November 2025 for consideration

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.

IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Corporation The review of Precinct arrangements is part of a commitment to partner with community and advocacy groups to activate and upgrade precincts to stimulate investment, visitation and maximise opportunities.
Policy	Not as a result of this report
Consultation	Boards, councils or committees of existing precinct groups will be consulted via their Group Chairs and Presidents on the assumptions and principles being used to guide a revised precinct model for Council consideration, and funding options.
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Not as a result of this report
Opportunities	Further engagement with Precinct Group boards, councils or committees may yield insights which will refine a revised approach to Precincts for Council consideration in early 2026.
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	Not as a result of this report
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. The two Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA) Reviews in 2024 resulted in internal audit actions relating to the precinct engagement model.
2. A Precinct Review commissioned by City of Adelaide (CoA) and authored by KPPM Consulting was finalised in November 2024. The CoA response to its findings and recommendations has been the subject of:
 - 2.1. Three confidential CEO briefings – 4 February 2025, 4 March 2025, and 22 April 2025
 - 2.2. One in confidence report to the City Finance and Governance Committee – 10 June 2025 (adjourned from 20 May 2025, and 27 May 2025)
 - 2.3. Two confidential briefings to Precinct Group Chairs and Presidents (Precinct Chairs) – 21 July 2025, and 6 November 2025
3. At its meeting of 24 June 2025, at item 22.1 - Recommendation 1 - Item 10.2 - Precinct Review [S90(3) (a)], Council resolved:

'THAT COUNCIL:

Notes that the resumed meeting of the Finance and Governance Committee notes the majority of precincts identified by the report are currently not represented by any ward Councillor and recommends that:

1. Further consideration of the Precinct structure is deferred until the supplementary election for Central Ward and the newly elected members can participate in the discussion.
2. A confidential briefing be provided to the Precinct Chairs and Presidents to update them on the deferral of the review.
3. Precincts lodging an approved application for funding for the 25/26 financial year receive the same funding as in the previous year until such time as a decision on the structure is made.
4. Authorises that, in accordance with Section 91(7) and (9) of the *Local Government Act 1999* (SA) and because Item 22 [Confidential Recommendation of the Reconvened City Finance and Governance Committee – 10 June 2025] listed on the Agenda for the meeting of the Council held on 24 June 2025 was received, discussed and considered in confidence pursuant to Section 90(3) (a) of the *Local Government Act 1999* (SA), this meeting of the Council do order that:
 - 4.1. The resolution, the report, the discussion and any other associated information submitted to this meeting and the Minutes of this meeting in relation to the matter remain confidential and not available for public inspection until otherwise determined by Council or 31 December 2025.
 - 4.2. The confidentiality of the matter be reviewed in December 2025.
 - 4.3. The Chief Executive Officer be delegated the authority to review and revoke all or part of the order herein and directed to present a report containing the Item for which the confidentiality order has been revoked.'
4. At its meeting of 14 October 2025, at item 18.3 – Councillor Noon - MoN – Precinct Review, Council resolved:

'THAT COUNCIL:

1. Notes the latest draft Precinct Review presentation that was recently confidentiality presented to Council.
2. Approves sharing the full presentation (omitting any confidential content) in confidence with the various Precinct Group Presidents / Chairs for their feedback.
3. Requests that Administration prepare a confidential report for the City Finance and Governance Committee 18 November summarising the feedback received from Precinct Presidents / Chairs, recommending a preferred approach to funding the Precinct Groups.
4. Requests that the relevant Committee report be presented to Council for consideration and decision not later than its meeting on 9 December 2025.'
5. At its meeting of 11 November 2025, at item 18.1 – Councillor Noon – MoN - Precinct Review, Council resolved:

'THAT COUNCIL:

1. Notes that a meeting of Precinct Presidents/Chairs was held on 6 November 2025 in accordance with the Council resolution of 14 October 2025 regarding the Precinct Review.

2. Notes that feedback has been sought from Precinct Presidents/Chairs regarding the proposed Precinct Review options.
 3. Acknowledges that while Presidents/Chairs represent their respective Boards, Councils, or Committees, they are not the sole decision-makers and therefore require time to consult with their members to ensure they submit representative feedback.
 4. Recognises that it would be inconsistent with good governance principles to request an outcome before such consultation has occurred.
 5. Requests that Administration provide advice at the CFG meeting on 18 November regarding a preferred option for Precinct Presidents/Chairs to engage with their committee members and provide considered, collective feedback.
 6. Further requests that Administration prepare a confidential report for the City Finance and Governance Committee meeting on 17 February 2026, summarising the feedback received and recommending a preferred model re the Precinct Groups.
 7. Requests that the relevant Committee report be presented to Council for consideration and decision no later than its meeting on 24 February 2026.'
6. The resolution of Council on 11 November 2025 resolved to receive a report at the City Finance and Governance Committee meeting on 18 November 2025, outlining options for engagement with Precinct Group boards, councils or committees, following on from a meeting with Precinct Chairs on 6 November 2025.
 7. At the meeting with Precinct Chairs on 6 November 2025, Precinct Chairs received a presentation outlining the Precinct Review key findings, the assumptions and principles being used to guide a revised precinct model for Council consideration, and three funding options.
 8. All information contained within the Precinct Chairs' presentations has previously been provided to the City Finance and Governance Committee (CFG) via the presentations referred to in point 2.1 above. The presentation to Precinct Chairs focussed on the process and funding options but did not include resourcing of a preferred model.
 9. Precinct Chairs in a 13 November email to the General Manager AEDA advised that the majority of them had convened and discussed their feedback, which would be provided to CoA by COB 14 November.
 10. Notwithstanding this advice Council can still extend an invitation and encouragement to consult further with Precinct Group boards, councils or committees.

Engagement options

11. 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 CoA by 17 December 2025.
12. Option 2: Precinct Group Chairs asked to engage in general terms with their boards, councils or committees about the Precinct Review, without reference to the 21 July 2025 and 6 November 2025 confidential presentations. Any feedback will be expected to be provided to CoA by 17 December 2025.

Recommended Engagement

13. The advice of Council Administration is that the presentation materials provided to Precinct Presidents and Chairs on 21 July 2025 and 6 November 2025, would if shared with their boards, councils or committees enable feedback to inform consideration of a preferred model by Committee and Council in February 2026.

Next steps

14. Whichever engagement option is preferred by Council, feedback from Precinct Group boards, councils or committees will be included in the report on a recommended precinct model to be presented to Council in February 2026 via the City Finance and Governance Committee meeting, as resolved by Council on 11 November.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

- END OF REPORT -