

Recommendations of the City Finance and Governance Committee – 19 May 2026

Tuesday, 26 May 2026
Council

Strategic Alignment – Our Corporation

Public

Program Contact:

Rebecca Hayes, Associate
Director Governance and
Strategy

Approving Officer:

Anthony Spartalis, Chief
Operating Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City Finance and Governance Committee considered the following Items at its meeting held on 19 May 2026 and resolved to present to Council the following recommendations for Council determination:

- Item 7.1 – 2025/26 Business Plan & Budget Q3 Review
- Item 7.2 – Adoption of Caretaker Policy
- Item 7.3 - Community Engagement Policy Consultation

RECOMMENDATION

1. **Recommendation 1** – Item 7.1 - 2025/26 Business Plan & Budget Q3 Review

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.

2. **Recommendation 2** – Item 7.2 - Adoption of Caretaker Policy

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.

3. **Recommendation 3** – Item 7.3 - Community Engagement Policy Consultation

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.

DISCUSSION

1. The City Finance and Governance Committee met at a meeting of the Committee on Tuesday 19 May 2026. The Agenda with public reports for the meeting can be viewed [here](#).
2. Where the resolution of the Committee differs from the recommendation published in the Committee agenda, the Committee's recommendation to the Council is listed first, with the original recommendation provided in grey and italics.
3. The following matters were the subject of deliberation:

3.1. Item 7.1 – 2025/26 Business Plan & Budget Q3 Review

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.

For ease, Attachments A, B, C, D & E relating to Recommendation 1, Item 7.1, have been included at the end of this recommendation report.

3.2. Item 7.2 – Adoption of Caretaker Policy

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.

For ease, Attachment A relating to Recommendation 2, Item 7.2, has been included at the end of this recommendation report and is updated to reflect the recommendation of the Committee.

Original Recommendation as Printed in the CFG Committee Agenda

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.*
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.*

3.3. Item 7.3 – Community Engagement Policy Consultation

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.

For ease, Attachment A relating to Recommendation 3, Item 7.3, has been included at the end of this recommendation report.

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 – City Finance and Governance Committee Agenda

ATTACHMENTS