

2026/27 Business Plan & Budget - Receipt of Consultation Submissions

Tuesday, 9 June 2026
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 adoption of the 2026/27 Business Plan and Budget at the Council meeting on 23 June 2026.

At its meeting on 28 April 2026, Council endorsed the Draft 2026/27 Business Plan and Budget (BP&B) for the purpose of public consultation. Consultation on the Draft 2026/27 BP&B commenced 5 May 2026 and concluded at 11:59pm, 26 May 2026.

Consultation on the Draft 2026/27 BP&B provided ratepayers, key stakeholders and the wider community an opportunity to provide feedback. Key components of this consultation included informing and seeking feedback from the community on Council's services, programs, capital and strategic projects, changes to Rating Policy, updated fees and charges, and Council priorities.

Feedback on the Draft 2026/27 BP&B could be provided directly to Council staff at several in-person drop-in sessions, via Council's online community engagement platform, Our Adelaide, or by email or in writing. As part of the consultation, a strong level of community engagement was achieved, with 226 Our Adelaide online surveys, 17 written submissions and one verbal submission received. Furthermore, there were 55 face-to-face interactions with community members across four sessions and four community members elected to speak at the public meeting (five registered) held during the Council meeting on 26 May 2026.

An analysis of the feedback received is summarised in **Attachment A**. A copy of the feedback is provided in **Attachment B** (Our Adelaide surveys), **Attachment C** (written submissions), and **Attachment D** (in person feedback).

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

1. Notes the consultation summary on the Draft 2026/27 Business Plan and Budget, as contained in Attachment A to Item 16.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of Council held on 9 June 2026.
2. Receives the feedback from the community on the Draft 2026/27 Business Plan and Budget, as contained in Attachments B, C & D to Item 16.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of Council held on 9 June 2026.

IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Corporation Outcome – Financial Sustainability and Strategy, Value and Efficiency Focus on budget repair to ensure responsible financial management through the principle of intergenerational equity while delivering quality services.
Policy	Not as a result of this report.
Consultation	Public Consultation on the Draft 2026/27 Business Plan and Budget took place between 5 May and 26 May 2026.
Resource	Not as a result of this report.
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Consultation has occurred in line with the requirements of Section 50 of the <i>Local Government Act 1999</i> (SA), State Government Community Engagement Charter, and Council's Community Consultation Policy.
Opportunities	To consider the outcomes of consultation on the Draft 2026/27 Business Plan and Budget to finalise the 2026/27 Business Plan and Budget.
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. At its meeting on 28 April 2026, Council approved the Draft 2026/27 Business Plan and Budget (BP&B) for the purpose of public consultation.
2. The public consultation activities undertaken exceeded statutory requirements and offered a range of methods for our community to consider Council's Draft 2026/27 BP&B and provide feedback.
3. Consultation was focused on seeking the views of the community on Council's services, programs, capital and strategic projects, updated fees and charges, changes to the Rating Policy, and Council's priorities. The Draft 2026/27 BP&B focuses on delivering on City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024-2028 by prioritising the following Key Actions:

Our Community

- 3.1. Enable community-led services which increase wellbeing, social connections and participation in active lifestyles, leisure, recreation and sport.
- 3.2. Elevate the City's reputation for exceptional and unique arts and cultural experiences by encouraging and providing arts, culture and events partnerships, grants and sponsorship opportunities.

Our Environment

- 3.3. Continue the support for the Kadaltilla/ Adelaide Park Lands Authority Subsidiary and the delivery of the Kadaltilla Charter and Business Plans.
- 3.4. Lead and advocate for the environmental value, productivity, quality and biodiversity of the Park Lands, squares, open space and streetscapes.

Our Economy

- 3.5. Continue the support for the Adelaide Central Market Authority (ACMA) Subsidiary and the delivery of the ACMA Charter and Business Plans.
- 3.6. Continue the support for the Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA) Subsidiary and the delivery of the AEDA Charter and Business Plans.

Our Places

- 3.7. Maintain and improve disability, LGBTQIA+ and vulnerable or minority group access and inclusion.
- 3.8. Work with partners to support safer road user behaviour.

Our Corporation

- 3.9. Demonstrate bold capital city leadership and robust governance with our community at the heart of our decisions.
- 3.10. Work with local, national and international partners to deliver the outcomes of the Strategic Management Framework to move our city into the future.

Audit and Risk Committee Feedback

4. The Draft 2026/27 BP&B was also presented to the Audit and Risk Committee, at its meeting on 22 May 2026 [[Link 1](#)].
5. The Audit and Risk Committee noted and received the Draft 2026/27 BP&B, and that it was currently out for consultation.

Community Consultation

6. Public consultation on the Draft 2026/27 BP&B was undertaken from 5 May 2026 to 26 May 2026. A strong level of community engagement was achieved during the consultation resulting in:
 - 6.1. 11,085 total visits to the Draft 2026/27 BP&B project page on Council's online community engagement platform, Our Adelaide.
 - 6.2. 226 survey forms were received (provided as **Attachment B**).
 - 6.3. 17 written submissions and one verbal submission were received. Written submissions are defined as any feedback received in writing that does not follow the survey format (provided as **Attachment C**).

- 6.4. Approximately 55 people were engaged during the four in-person sessions held at the Meander Market – North Adelaide, Hutt Street Library, Adelaide Central Market, and the City Library (summarised and provided as **Attachment D**).
- 6.5. Four community members spoke to Council at the public meeting (five registered) held during the Council meeting on 26 May 2026.
7. The consultation sought feedback from City of Adelaide ratepayers and residents, community and key stakeholders.
8. The consultation was advertised through general channels, including:
 - 8.1. Legislatively required public notice in The Advertiser.
 - 8.2. Email newsletter sent to over 11,300 Our Adelaide subscribers as well as a call to action of over 300 individuals who specifically expressed past interest in the BP&B through Our Adelaide.
 - 8.3. Articles in the Adelaide Economic Development Agency newsletter and LinkedIN profile, Adelaide Central Market newsletter, and Art in the City newsletter.
 - 8.4. Notifications and displays at Council's Customer Centre, libraries, and community centres.
 - 8.5. Council's social media, with 22 posts published across the City of Adelaide Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn accounts – generating 297,940 views, with 12,740 people clicking to follow through to the link. An additional 9,833 people clicked the link through sponsored/paid posts on Facebook and Instagram.
 - 8.6. Council's digital assets, including external TV displays and Council's consultation platform Our Adelaide.
 - 8.7. 200 posters were distributed to city businesses for display (100 in English and 100 in Simplified Chinese).
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. Direct emails to resident groups and precinct groups.
 - 9.3. Direct emails to Adelaide Central Market traders, Rundle Mall subscribed stakeholders, Ageing Well distribution lists and through our Place Partner networks.
10. Numerous options for the community to provide comments were offered including:
 - 10.1. Our Adelaide online platform
 - 10.2. 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.
 - 10.3. Ability to book an in-person meeting with Council staff to discuss and ask questions about the Draft 2026/27 BP&B.
 - 10.4. In-person opportunities were available for the community to attend at the Adelaide Central Market, Meander Market on Melbourne Street, and the Hutt Street and the City Libraries.
 - 10.5. A public meeting, as part of Council's ordinary meeting on Tuesday 26 May 2026, which was advertised on Council's website, Our Adelaide website and in The Advertiser on 5 May 2026.

Consultation Outcomes

11. A strong level of community engagement achieved a total of 299 submissions as part of the consultation. This was made up of 226 completed survey forms, 17 written submissions and 1 verbal submission and 55 interactions at face-face sessions.
 - 11.1. Of these 299 items, 285 items contained qualitative feedback in 'free form' text
12. Some common themes emerged from the feedback received, which are summarised in the detailed summary and analysis of feedback contained in **Attachment A**. The most prominent themes which emerged include:

- 12.1. Active Transport, Movement and Accessibility: This was the clearest and most persistent theme. Residents, cyclists, businesses and in-person participants indicated a preference for a city that is easier and safer to move through without relying on cars. Feedback received on this theme linked active transport to lower household costs, better health, safer streets, more visitation, and a more modern capital city.
- 12.2. Rates, Fees and Cost of Living: A large share of feedback mentioned affordability, particularly within the context of cost-of-living concerns. In addition to sentiment on the proposed rate rise, there was also feedback on the cumulative burden of fees, parking costs, inflation, business overheads and household financial stress.
- 12.3. Park Lands, Environment and Greening: Feedback consistently reinforced the importance of the Park Lands as a defining feature of the city and its contribution to identity, liveability and environmental sustainability.
- 12.4. Social and Community Development (including wellbeing and inclusion): Feedback under this theme included a call for a stronger response to homelessness, social housing, affordable housing and community support. People wanted practical responses such as temporary housing, affordable housing, stronger partnerships, food and accommodation support, and community spaces that improve wellbeing and inclusion.
- 12.5. Core Services, Maintenance and Amenity: Comments under this theme raised concerns around 'doing the basics well' i.e. footpaths, lighting, cleanliness, roadworks coordination, side-street maintenance, accessibility, community facilities, and safe public spaces.
13. Copies of the feedback are provided in **Attachment B** (completed survey forms), **Attachment C** (written and verbal submissions) and **Attachment D** (in person feedback).
14. The Our Adelaide survey also asked about the level of support on the prioritised key actions, strategic projects, new and upgrade capital projects. Overall there was strong support for the prioritised key actions with the key findings based on the 226 completed forms outlined below:
 - 14.1. 94.7% of respondents expressed support for the proposed Strategic Plan Key Actions for 2026/27, either fully or in part. This includes 49.8% who supported all the proposed Key Actions prioritised for 2026/27 and 44.9% supported some, while 5.3% supported none of them. One participant skipped this question.
 - 14.2. 95.7% of respondents expressed support for the proposed Strategic Projects either fully or in part. This includes 49.2% who supported all the proposed Strategic Projects and 46.4% who supported some of them, while 4.4% supported none of the projects. 45 people skipped this question.
 - 14.3. 91.2% of respondents expressed support for the proposed Capital Projects either fully or in part. This includes 49.3% who supported the proposed Capital Projects for 2026/27 and 41.9% who supported some of the projects, while 8.8% supported none of the projects. 9 people skipped this question.

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

[Link 1](#) - Audit and Risk Committee presentation of the Draft 2026/27 Business Plan and Budget

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Consultation Summary

Attachment B – Our Adelaide Surveys

Attachment C – Written Submissions

Attachment D – In Person Feedback

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