

2026/27 to 2035/36 Long Term Financial Plan - Consultation Results

Tuesday, 13 October 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 community engagement undertaken on the Draft 2026/27 to 2035/36 Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP), to inform final decision making, ahead of Council's consideration and final adoption of the 2026/27 to 2035/36 LTFP.

At its meeting on 25 August 2026, Council endorsed the Draft 2026/27 to 2035/36 LTFP for the purpose of public consultation, which was undertaken from 9.00am on Monday 31 August 2026 to midnight on Sunday 20 September 2026.

The consultation sought feedback on Council's long-term financial strategy, the objective of fully funding asset renewal requirements by 2031/32, and the proposed funding approach for the renewal of Adelaide Bridge, Torrens Weir Structure and Rundle UPark. Prior to consultation, the Audit and Risk Committee reviewed the Draft LTFP and advised that the financial indicators remained within appropriate target ranges, while also emphasising the importance of ongoing financial discipline, affordability, project prioritisation and debt management. The Committee also recommended revising the operating surplus ratio target range to 3% to 20%, which has been incorporated into the Plan.

During the consultation period, the project page received 202 views, the draft LTFP was downloaded 94 times, and three survey responses were received. No verbal submissions or submissions from organisations were received. It is noted that consultation on the LTFP coincided with consultation on the Adelaide Circuit Redevelopment for MotoGP, which may have contributed to lower community participation.

The feedback received did not identify any material concerns or propose substantive alternatives to Council's financial strategy. Accordingly, no changes to the financial projections contained within the Draft 2026/27 to 2035/36 Long Term Financial Plan are proposed.

The final LTFP is therefore recommended for adoption in its current form, incorporating the Audit and Risk Committee's recommended amendment to the operating surplus ratio target range.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

1. Notes the consultation summary feedback on the Draft 2026/27 to 2035/36 Long Term Financial Plan, as contained in Attachment A to Item 16.2 on the Agenda for the meeting of Council held on 13 October 2026.
2. Notes that based on the feedback received no changes to the financial projections are recommended to the 2026/27 to 2035/36 Long Term Financial Plan that will be presented to the City Finance and Governance Committee on 20 October 2026 for recommendation to Council to adopt at its meeting on 27 October 2026.

IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Corporation Long term financial planning supports Council's strategic outcomes by ensuring the sustainable allocation of resources, funding key priorities, and maintaining long-term financial capacity to deliver services, infrastructure, and community outcomes.
Policy	Consultation was conducted in accordance with Council's <i>Community Engagement Policy</i> .
Consultation	The Draft 2026/27 – 2035/36 Long Term Financial Plan was approved by Council for 21 days public consultation on 25 August 2026. The consultation period opened at 9am on Monday 31 August and closed at midnight 20 September 2026.
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	The annual review of the Long Term Financial Plan is in accordance with the <i>Local Government Act SA 1999</i> (SA).
Opportunities	Not as a result of this report
26/27 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Proposed 27/28 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	The Long Term Financial Plan covers the ten-year period of 2026/27 to 2035/36.
26/27 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 25 August 2026 [\[Link 1\]](#), Council approved the Draft 2026/27 to 2035/36 Long Term Financial Plan (Draft LTFP) for the purpose of public consultation.
2. The consultation period of 21 days started on Monday, 31 August 2026, and closed on Sunday, 20 September 2026.
3. The public consultation activities undertaken offered a range of methods for our community to consider Council's Draft LTFP and provide feedback.
4. Consultation sought feedback on:
 - 4.1. Council's financial strategy and direction outlined in the Draft LTFP;
 - 4.2. Council's objective of fully funding its asset renewal requirements by 2031/32 to ensure infrastructure is maintained for future generations; and
 - 4.3. Council's proposed funding approach for the renewal of Adelaide Bridge, Torrens Weir Structure and Rundle UPark.

Audit and Risk Committee Feedback

5. Prior to the commencement of community consultation, the Draft LTFP was considered by the Audit and Risk Committee at its meeting on 14 August 2026 [\[Link 2\]](#).
6. The Audit and Risk Committee provided the following feedback:
 - 6.1. That the key financial indicators over the life of the plan are within appropriate target ranges.
 - 6.2. That borrowings peak in 2034/35, reflecting the planned investment required to deliver the renewal of Adelaide Bridge, Torrens Weir Structure and Rundle UPark.
 - 6.3. That maintaining financial discipline throughout the life of the Plan will be critical to achieving long-term financial sustainability, including through project prioritisation, affordability assessments and prudent debt management.
 - 6.4. That Council consider an amendment to the operating surplus ratio range from 0% - 20% to a revised target of 3% – 20% (which has now been incorporated into the LTFP).

Community Consultation Activity

7. A communication and engagement program sought to raise community awareness and encourage participation in the consultation process and included:
 - 7.1. Notifications and displays at Council's Customer Centre, libraries, and community centres.
 - 7.2. Public notice on the City of Adelaide website.
 - 7.3. Over 312 direct emails to City of Adelaide ratepayers providing a link to the survey and information on how they could participate.
 - 7.4. Email newsletter sent to over 11,302 Our Adelaide subscribers during the consultation.
 - 7.5. Opportunities provided to request an in-person meeting with Council staff to discuss and ask questions about the Draft LTFP.
 - 7.6. 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.
8. Administration notes that the consultation period of the Draft LTFP coincided with community engagement activities relating to the Adelaide Circuit Redevelopment for MotoGP, which may have affected the level of participation.

Community Consultation Feedback

9. Throughout the consultation period there were:
 - 9.1. 202 page views from 114 unique visitors on the project page on Our Adelaide website.
 - 9.2. 94 downloads of the Draft LTFP.
 - 9.3. Three (3) survey responses were submitted through Our Adelaide.
 - 9.4. No verbal submissions received.
 - 9.5. No submissions were received from organisations or stakeholder groups.

Consultation Outcomes

10. The feedback received did not identify any material concerns with the proposed financial strategy or suggest substantive alternative approaches. Accordingly, no amendments to the financial projections contained within the Draft LTFP are recommended as a result of the consultation process.

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 – [Minutes of Council Meeting 25 August 2026](#)

Link 2 – [Minutes of Audit and Risk Committee Meeting 14 August 2026](#)

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

- END OF REPORT -