## **Public Document Pack**



# AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

# Agenda and Reports

for the meeting on

Friday, 16 May 2025

at 9.00 am

in the Colonel Light Room, Adelaide Town Hall

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Our Adelaide. **Bold. Aspirational. Innovative.** 

Membership The Lord Mayor (ex-officio)

1 Council Member

4 External Independent Members

2 Proxy Council Members

Quorum 3

Presiding Member Nicolle Rantanen Reynolds

Committee Members The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith (ex-officio)

Mark Davies
Simon Rodger

Councillor Janet Giles

#### **Agenda**

Item Pages

#### 1. Acknowledgement of Country

'Council acknowledges that we are meeting on traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.

And we also extend that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations who are present today.'

#### 2. Apologies and Leave of Absence

Nil

#### 3. Confirmation of Minutes

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee held on 11 April 2025, be taken as read and be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

View public 11 April 2025 Minutes here.

#### 4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

#### 5. Presiding Member Reports

#### 6. Reports

6.1	TechnologyOne Post Implementation Review Internal Audit - KPMG	3 - 33
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#### 7. Emerging Key Risks

#### 8. Independent Member Discussion

#### 9. Other Business

#### 10. Closure

# TechnologyOne Post Implementation Review Internal Audit - KPMG

Strategic Alignment - Our Corporation

**Public** 

## Agenda Item 6.1

Friday, 16 May 2025
Audit and Risk Committee

**Program Contact:** 

Rebecca Hayes, Associate Director Governance & Strategy

**Approving Officer:** 

Anthony Spartalis, Chief Operating Officer

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Internal audit is an essential component of a good governance framework. It is the mechanism that enables Council to receive assurance that internal controls and risk management approaches are effective, that it is performing its functions legally and effectively, and to advise how it can improve performance.

The 2024-2025 Internal Audit Plan (the Plan) for the City of Adelaide (CoA) has been developed in consideration of Council's key strategic risks and critical priorities.

In accordance with the Plan an internal audit was performed to assess the effectiveness of the TechologyOne (TechOne) upgrade from on-premise to cloud (the TechOne Project).

The implementation of the TechOne project commenced in October 2021 and concluded in July 2022.

The audit best aligns with the Strategic Risk – Lack of fit for purpose IT Systems and Data: Inadequate IT systems and data governance endanger operational efficiency and data integrity, while increasing susceptibility to security breaches and regulatory non-compliance.

The internal audit identified four findings. Three are risk-rated High and one risk-rated Moderate.

This report requests that the Audit and Risk Committee note the report and endorse the administration responses.

## RECOMMENDATION

#### THAT THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

- 1. Notes the TechnologyOne Post Implementation Review Internal Audit report provided as Attachment A to Item 6.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee held on 16 May 2025.
- Endorses the responses of the Administration to the TechnologyOne Port Implementation Review Internal Audit report as outlined in Attachment A to Item 6.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee held on 16 May 2025.

## **IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS**

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Corporation Internal Audit is an essential component of a good governance framework. It enables Council to ensure it is performing its function legally, effectively and efficiently.
Policy	Not as a result of this report
Consultation	The KPMG internal audit report has been presented to SRIA.
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Internal audit is an essential component of a good governance framework. It is the mechanism which enables Council to receive assurance that internal controls and risk management approaches are effective, that it is performing its functions legally, and effectively, and to advise how it can improve performance.
Opportunities	Internal audit focuses on compliance, risk management and improvement opportunities. Audit suggest a range of improvement opportunities related to the area being reviewed, enhancing functions and services and aligning Council processes to best practice standards.
24/25 Budget Allocation	\$250,000 is budgeted for external consultancy support as required by the 2024/25 internal audit program.
Proposed 25/26 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
24/25 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

Audit and Risk Committee – Agenda - Friday, 16 May 2025

### DISCUSSION

#### **Background**

- 1. The TechOne Post Implementation Review Internal Audit was performed by KPMG, in accordance with the 2024-25 Internal Audit Plan.
- 2. The implementation of the TechOne project commenced in October 2021 with project initiation and the system went live across the organisation in July 2022.

#### Report

- 3. This audit aligns with the City of Adelaide (CoA) Strategic Risk Lack of fit for purpose IT Systems and Data Governance: Inadequate IT systems and data governance endanger operational efficiency and data integrity, which increasing susceptibility to security breaches and regulatory non-compliance.
- 4. The TechOne Post Implementation Review Internal Audit focused on project management, governance and arrangements put in place, delivery of project benefits and consideration of lessons learned and overall areas for future improvement.
- 5. The objective of the TechOne Post Implementation Review Internal Audit included the following:
  - 5.1. Project governance frameworks and processes, including clarity of roles, responsibilities and accountabilities of key project activities.
  - 5.2. The project management methodology adopted during the upgrade, focusing on planning, execution and stakeholder engagement.
  - 5.3. Project risk management activities, including identification of project risks and controls and ongoing monitoring.
  - 5.4. Changes to scope during project delivery, including noting of change requests and modifications or enhancements made to the system post-implementation.
  - 5.5. Processes to manage project costs, including review and approval of variations to the project budget.
  - 5.6. The adequacy and effectiveness of change management activities during implementation, including communication, user training and heightened support.
  - 5.7. Overall achievement of project outcomes, including achieving key business case identified benefits.
  - 5.8. Lessons learned in terms of what went well and what could be improved upon, and what could be done differently for other IT related Projects delivered by the CoA.
- 6. The findings of the internal audit are indexed into the following risk ratings:

Finding	Risk Rating
Governance and management of the TechOne Project	High
Inadequate approval process and post-implementation challenges for the DT Project	High
Inadequate maintenance of project documentation	High
Change management not well documented and formalised	Moderate

7. The three high and one moderate findings from the Internal Audit and the agreed management comments are listed below:

Finding	Agreed management comment
Finding 1: Governance and management of the TechOne Project	The Information Management team has identified a lack of consistency in IT Project Management governance and is currently reviewing and updating new IT Project Governance Framework. Additionally, Information Management has re-established the Business Systems Committee (BSC) that will provide further project governance and

	oversight to the broader roadmap of Business systems related transformation. Key actions:  i. Re-establish the Business System Committee including updated Terms of Reference (ToR)  ii. Review and update IT Project Governance Framework, including adoption by BSC.  2. List of high-risk projects to be developed and plan to carry out in-flight reviews to be developed.  3. Minutes and actions will be reviewed as part of the in-flight review of projects planned in Management Action 2.  4. Strong change control processes to be implemented from 1 July 2025 with the Project Steering Committee accountable for the management of scope for individual projects.  5. & 6. The CoA will review, align and update documentation templates to the project
Finding 2: Inadequate approval process and post- implementation challenges for the DT Project	<ol> <li>&amp; 3. The CoA will review current AR function, including current integrations, manual work arounds, and identify key issues and opportunities for improvement and develop a remediation plan and, if required, consideration for 2026/2027 Business Plan and Budget process.</li> <li>Agree, as outlined in Management Response</li> </ol>
	1 to Finding 1, the re-establishment of the Business Systems Committee will provide further governance and oversight to the broader IT roadmap for the CoA.
Finding 3: Inadequate maintenance of project documentation	<ol> <li>The CoA will ensure clear processes and procedures are identified and documented that align to the CoA's records management practices for post project document management.</li> </ol>
	<ul><li>2. &amp; 3. The CoA will review, align and update documentation templates to the project phases.</li><li>4. Review project phases, milestones, including</li></ul>
	artefacts and approval stage-gates.
Finding: 4 Change management not well documented and formalised	1. The CoA will develop a flexible and fit for purpose change management/business readiness framework that can be used and adopted for future projects. Noting that CoA has identified change management as an organisational action in CoA's Culture Survey action plan, and further refinement and alignment will be made once that action has been progressed.

- 8. Administration has considered the findings and provided actions and time frames to address these findings (outlined in the findings section of KPMG's TechnologyOne Post Implementation Review Internal Audit report, **Attachment A**).
- 9. Management actions 2 and 3 against Finding 1 of the TechnologyOne Post Implementation Review Internal Audit, which were due on 1 May 2025 and 31 March 2025 respectively, have been completed.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A – TechnologyOne Post Implementation Review Internal Audit

- END OF REPORT -





# TechnologyOne Post Implementation Review

**Internal Audit Report** 

The Corporation of the City of Adelaide (CoA)

April 2025



# Acknowledgement of Country

KPMG acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of Australia. We pay our respects to Elders past, present, and future as the Traditional Custodians of the land, water and skies of where we work.

At KPMG, our future is one where all Australians are united by a shared, honest, and complete understanding of our past, present, and future. We are committed to making this future a reality. Our story celebrates and acknowledges that the cultures, histories, rights, and voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People are heard, understood, respected, and celebrated.

Australia's First Peoples continue to hold distinctive cultural, spiritual, physical and economical relationships with their land, water and skies. We take our obligations to the land and environments in which we operate seriously.

Guided by our purpose to 'Inspire Confidence. Empower Change', we are committed to placing truth-telling, self-determination and cultural safety at the centre of our approach. Driven by our commitment to achieving this, KPMG has implemented mandatory cultural awareness training for all staff as well as our Indigenous Peoples Policy. This sincere and sustained commitment has led to our 2021-2025 Reconciliation Action Plan being acknowledged by Reconciliation Australia as 'Elevate' – our third RAP to receive this highest level of recognition. We continually push ourselves to be more courageous in our actions particularly in advocating for the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

We look forward to making our contribution towards a new future for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples so that they can chart a strong future for themselves, their families and communities. We believe we can achieve much more together than we can apart.



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# **Executive Summary**

#### **Background**

In accordance with the 2024/2025 Plan for the Corporation of the City of Adelaide (CoA), an internal audit focussing on a post-implementation review of the TechnologyOne upgrade was performed. The objective, scope and approach are outlined below.

**BACKGROUND** 

#### **Objective**

The overall objective of this internal audit included assessing the effectiveness of the TechnologyOne upgrade from on-premise to cloud (the TechOne Project), by performing a post-implementation review of the TechOne Project. Key areas of focus included project management, governance and arrangements put in place, delivery of project benefits and consideration of lessons learned and overall areas for future improvement.

#### Scope of services

To address the overall objective above, the scope of this engagement included consideration of the adequacy of processes and key controls over the following areas:

- Project governance frameworks and processes, including clarity of roles, responsibilities and accountabilities of key project activities.
- The project management methodology adopted during the upgrade, focusing on planning, execution and stakeholder engagement.
- Project risk management activities, including identification of project risks and controls and ongoing monitoring.
- Changes to scope during project delivery, including noting of change requests and modifications or enhancements made to the system post-implementation.
- Processes to manage project costs, including review and approval of variations to the project budget.
- The adequacy and effectiveness of change management activities during implementation, including communication, user training and heightened support.

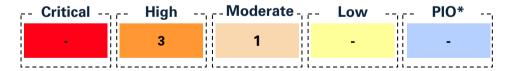
- Overall achievement of project outcomes, including achieving key business case identified benefits.
- Lessons learned in terms of what went well and what could be improved upon, and what could be done differently for other IT related Projects delivered by the CoA.

Note: Subsequent to the approval of the Scope of Work, the Management of the CoA requested for an increase in the Scope to include a review of the approval process of the transition of the TechnologyOne debtors module to Pathway (the DT Project). This review did not include a review of the transition of Pathway from on-premise to cloud.

The detailed scope and approach is included in **Appendix 1.** 

#### **Summary of Findings**

The number of findings identified during the course of this internal audit is shown in the table below. A full list of the findings identified, and the recommendations made, is included in the detailed findings of this report. Classification of internal audit findings is detailed in **Appendix 3**.



\*PIO: Performance Improvement Opportunity



# **Executive Summary**

#### Summary of key themes and findings

Large-scale technology projects often involve multiple stakeholders, intricate systems, and extensive integration efforts, which can lead to increased complexity and potential for errors. Limited resources, including budget, time, and skilled personnel, can also impede the progress of technology projects.

**BACKGROUND** 

Overall, the post-implementation reviews of the TechOne Project and the DT Project highlighted areas for improvement required in the CoA's technology project governance, project management and change management.

Going forward, there is an opportunity for the CoA to put in place the governance and risk management frameworks and procedural processes to support the ongoing management for technology-based projects. The key themes and findings from the internal audit are summarised below:

- Gaps identified in CoA's overarching technology project governance: An uplift is required in the CoA's oversight and governance over technology projects. During the implementation of both projects, the CoA did not utilise a formalised IT project management framework. While an Information Technology Project Management Framework was developed by the CoA, this framework was not utilised as it was out of date at the time of the TechOne Project and DT Project. The absence of adherence to a structured framework contributed to incomplete documentation, inadequate risk management, and insufficient stakeholder engagement during implementation of both projects.
- Inadequate approval process and post-implementation challenges for the DT Project. Formalised and documented review and approval of the planned debtors transition was not conducted. The results of the DT Project have resulted in challenges to the CoA with personnel having developed manual 'workarounds' to address system limitations.
- Improvements are required in the maintenance and record keeping of key project documentation: Maintenance of project documentation for both the TechOne Project and DT Project was a key challenge with key project documentation being in 'draft' state and not progressively updated throughout the project. Regular updates to project documentation will support effective project governance and allow for risks (such as gaps in the change management strategy) to be identified and mitigated earlier.

 Improvements are required in the CoA's adequacy and effectiveness of change management activities: For both projects a lack of a change management strategy and dedicated training plan for business users were identified, highlighting shortcomings in the CoA's change management processes for technology projects.

#### **Positive Observations**

While a number of findings were identified during the internal audit for improvement in the two projects assessed, areas of good practice were also identified which are outlined below.

- ✓ The initial Project Management Plans were well developed and included key project management sections and contents. While the Project Management Plans for the TechOne Project and DT Project were not periodically updated during the implementations, these initial Project Management Plans were well developed and included key project management sections and contents (and where applicable, reference to supporting plans).
- ✓ For the TechOne Project, the Fresh Service Desk ticketing system provided post-implementation support. The Service Desk allowed users to raise tickets on any issues or queries relating to the new system. This allowed a clear pathway to collate feedback on the implemented system and an efficient process to address user issues.
- ✓ It was advised by CoA Management that the CoA's Technology Project Management Framework is being reviewed and will be updated. Key issues identified in this review stem from the lack of a comprehensive framework to guide the implementation of technology projects, including essential documentation for project execution, delivery, and risk management. The updated framework will provide critical support to the CoA in the implementation of future technology initiatives.

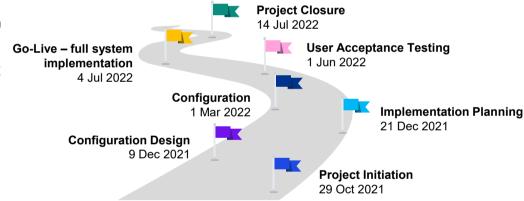


# **Background**

#### **Overview of the TechOne Project**

In 2021 the CoA initiated a project to move the on-premise TechnologyOne data and system to a cloud-based platform. This was driven by the fact that TechnologyOne was ceasing support to on-premise solutions.

A successful implementation of the TechOne Project was anticipated to provide the CoA with a range of benefits, alongside minimisation of the risk of loss of data due to the cloud set up. The implementation of the TechOne Project went live on 4 July 2022, with other key milestones shown below:



In addition to the migration of the system from on-premise to the cloud, the CoA also completed a change to the chart of accounts with the aim of consolidating the existing eight ledgers into two ledgers: the General Ledger and Project Ledger. This change was documented within the TechOne Project Initiation and Management document. It is noted that an internally driven lesson learnt session was not conducted following implementation (refer to Finding 4).

#### Overview of the transition of the DT Project

The CoA initially planned to include the debtors functionality, including invoicing, as part of the scope of the TechOne Project. However, it was subsequently decided to transition the debtors module from TechnologyOne system to the Pathway system (the DT Project). This decision was not formally documented and approved (refer Finding 2). This project began in July 2022 and went live in November 2022, which was four months following the go-live of the TechOne Project.

#### **Governance for both project implementations**

A Steering Committee was established to govern both implementations (the TechOne Project and DT Project), which included key stakeholders that were heavily involved in both projects. This included the Project Sponsors, Business Owner, Project Management and a Program Manager. The monthly meetings between the Steering Committee addressed the overall project progress for both projects, change request approvals and also provided project support where appropriate.

While the CoA has developed an Information Technology Project Management Framework (the Framework), this Framework was not utilised in the implementation of both the TechOne and the DT Projects. Stakeholder meetings highlighted that the Framework was not utilised as it was out of date at the time of implementation.

#### Resourcing Structure and Project Management for the TechOne Project

The CoA obtained an outsourced Project Manager (PM) and Business Analyst (BA) from Bailey Abbott SA Pty Ltd. where both roles assisted in the CoA TechOne Project implementation team. Whilst these two resources were contracted, there was also a range of CoA stakeholders guiding and delivering the TechOne Project. Further, the Finance Team collaborated closely with the PM, BA, and the CoA IT team to implement the TechOne Project.



# **Background**

#### Resourcing Structure and Project Management for the TechOne Project (contd.)

**BACKGROUND** 

Due to the impact of the TechOne Project, many business unit stakeholders were involved across the implementation, and these were identified in the TechOne Project Initiation and Management document.

While the TechOne Project Initiation and Management document identified key stakeholders, it lacked comprehensive details on governance and decision making processes, such as required approvals, escalation procedures, and documentation for risk and issue management.

Project reporting was also not formalised, including leaving meeting actions untracked. Critical artefacts like Test Strategy were absent, and many project documents remained incomplete or in draft form. These gaps underscore governance and procedural shortcomings, as detailed in Finding 1 and Finding 3.

#### Resourcing Structure and Project Management for the DT Project

The Implementation team that drove the DT Project was the same team as the TechOne Project. While the resourcing structure and Steering Committee of the DT Project provided consistency in the project implementation, key gaps present in the TechOne Project were also noted in the DT Project. These included ongoing maintenance and update of project management documentation during the implementation, including, the Project Management Plan Debtors document, Risk Issue log and Project Quality Register (RAID) (refer Finding 3 for further details).

#### **Change Management**

Effective change management supports the implementation of IT projects as it minimises disruptions, reduces resistance, improves communication, engages stakeholders, increases project success rates, and maintains project scope and quality.

#### The TechOne Project:

The transition of TechnologyOne from an on-premise system to a cloud-based solution was managed using multiple key documents:

- Project Initiation and Management Plan: This document outlined the project scope, objectives, and organisational structure, serving as the foundational blueprint for execution.
- Communication Plan: This plan specified the communication strategy, including the target audience, frequency, and types of communication mechanisms.

A shortfall in change management was identified during the TechOne Project, which included the absence of a dedicated training plan for business users and key stakeholders. This gap arose as the TechOne Project team believed that the new cloud system was sufficiently similar to the existing on-premise TechnologyOne system, and thus, additional training documentation was deemed unnecessary. This oversight led to inadequate preparation and support for those involved in the TechOne Project and business users.

#### The DT Project:

As outlined in Finding 2, the DT Project faced several challenges postimplementation due to a lack of formalised consideration and approval of the transition. Business users reported inadequate change management efforts, including insufficient communication of benefits and lack of training during and after the implementation.

Additionally, the absence of formal follow-up consultations post-implementation limited the CoA's ability to assess project success and user satisfaction with the new system. This gap in feedback contributed to ongoing issues during the DT Project. Better practice includes a robust consultation and feedback mechanisms to ensure continuous improvement and address user needs effectively. For further details on observations relating to Change Management for both projects refer to Finding 3.



# **Summary of Findings**

Internal Audit identified three (3) high-rated findings and one (1) moderate-rated finding. The details of the findings are provided in the **Detailed Findings** section of this report. These findings have been individually rated as outlined below. The classification of risk ratings in this report are based on the CoA's risk ratings (as shown in **Appendix 3**).

Critical	High	Moderate	Low	PIO	
-	3	1	-	-	

Rating	Ref#	Description	
High	F1	Governance and management of the TechOne Project	
High	F2	Inadequate approval process and post-implementation challenges for the DT Project	
High	F3	Inadequate maintenance of project documentation	
Moderate	F4	Change management not well documented and formalised	



# Detailed Findings

#### Finding 1: Governance and management of the TechOne Project

#### High

#### **Observations**

Gaps in governance and adherence to effective project governance and management practises were identified in the TechOne project, leading to issues in project execution, monitoring and user satisfaction.

**BACKGROUND** 

#### Need for an updated Project Management Framework to guide technology implementations

While the CoA had developed an Information Technology Project Management Framework (the Framework), the Framework was out of date at the time of implementation of the TechOne Project (and the DT Project) and was therefore not utilised. As a result, a structured methodology to manage the complex processes, tasks and risks associated with the system implementation were lacking. Such a framework seeks to ensure that all aspects of the project are systematically approached, facilitating better planning, execution and risk management, including introduction of key checkpoints along an IT project's implementation. Stakeholder consultations indicated that the CoA is currently in the process of updating the Framework.

It is recognised that the Project Initiation and Management document included a number of key project management aspects. This document, however, was not updated during the implementation and had a number of gaps as outlined below.

#### Recommendation(s)

1. The CoA to expedite efforts to update the Framework to further support technology project governance and decision-making processes, including required approvals and escalation for document sign-off, risk and issue management, stagegate reviews, and contract milestone approvals. As required, update supporting procedures and project management document templates to enable effective implementation of the updated Framework.

These documents and practical processes will support the CoA in managing future IT projects and can be updated and refined based on the size and complexity of projects.

#### **Agreed Management Actions**

- 1. The Information Management team has identified a lack of consistency in IT Project Management governance and is currently reviewing and updating the IT Project Governance Framework. Additionally, Information Management has reestablished the Business Systems Committee (BSC) that will provide further project governance and oversight to the broader roadmap of Business systems related transformation. Key actions:
  - i. Re-establish the Business Systems Committee, including updated Terms of Reference (ToR).
  - ii. Review and update IT Project Governance Framework, including adoption by BSC.

#### Responsibility:

i. & ii. Associate Director. Information Management

#### **Target Date:**

- i. 31 December 2024 (complete)
- ii. 30 September 2025



Continued on following page.

#### Finding 1: Governance and management of the TechOne Project (contd.)

**BACKGROUND** 

#### **Observations**

Continued from previous page.

#### Project governance and decision making

While the CoA TechOne Project Initiation and Management document captured certain governance elements including stakeholder roles and responsibilities, and approach for delivery, several good practice governance arrangements were missing, including a lack of detail regarding:

- Governance and decision making: Required approvals and escalation procedures and how these would apply to document sign-off, risk and issue management, establishment of stage-gate reviews and approvals and contract milestone approvals. Whilst the Project Initiation and Management document outlines the risks related to the Project, further guidance is not set out which outlines the procedure to be undertaken if risks materialise.
- Project reporting: No minutes or approval of the actions mentioned in the weekly reporting and Steering Committee presentations were formally documented to articulate and track the actions from each Steering Committee and weekly meetings.
- Project Scope Change Process: While the Project Initiation and Management
  document identified the responsible individuals for reviewing and approving changes
  to project milestones, it does not define the required change control steps,
  documentation and approvals for change identification, reporting, and impact
  assessment.
- Required milestone artefacts: The Project Initiation and Management document details the seven key milestones which the project will achieve, however, there is no further detail to outline how each milestone will be achieved.

#### Recommendation(s)

- 2. While the Framework is being updated (Recommendation 1 above), implement the existing Framework to provide greater governance on IT projects. For projects currently being implemented, considering the risk and importance of the IT project, conduct 'in-flight' review of those projects against existing Framework and address any gaps identified.
- Ensure that minutes and actions from weekly reporting and Steering Committee meetings are formally documented, with assigned action items and deadlines clearly articulated and tracked.
- 4. Create a clear change control process, including steps for change identification, documentation, reporting, and impact assessment, as well as the necessary approvals for any project scope changes.

## \_\_

High

# Agreed Management Actions

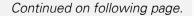
- 2. List of high-risk projects to be developed and plan to carry out in-flight reviews to be developed.
- Minutes and actions will be reviewed as part of the in-flight review of projects planned in Management Action 2 (above).
- 4. Strong change control processes to be implemented from 1 July 2025 with the Project Steering Committee accountable for the management of scope for individual projects.

#### Responsibility:

2 – 4. Associate Director, Information Management

#### **Target Date:**

- 2. 1 May 2025
- 3. 31 March 2025
- 4. 1 July 2025





#### Finding 1: Governance and management of the TechOne Project (contd.)

**BACKGROUND** 

#### **Observations**

Continued from previous page.

Internal Audit further noted:

- The Project Initiation and Management document outlines the need to prepare an Acceptance Test Strategy, Test Plans and Test Scripts. However, a Test Strategy was not formally documented. Further, while a document was provided that showcased tests conducted, this document did not indicate how these tests were planned and was more focused on outcome of testing rather than a plan that showcases tests were done to address key risks during the implementation/relating to the system.
- No Go-Live Readiness Report was developed prior to going live. This report is typically utilised for the organisation to review the testing and activities performed to ensure sufficient and appropriate actions have been undertaken prior to the system is live for use. Further, while no defined report was completed, there was also limited documentation outlining approval of the testing activities signifying that the test has been conducted appropriately and outcomes agreed.

#### **Risks**

- Lacking well-defined governance arrangements can lead to uncertainty regarding the required processes for managing the project and day-to-day decision making. This includes managing risks and issues which may impact the achievement of the project scope.
- The lack of a clear change control process may result in either uncontrolled variations in scope, including scope creep, or under-delivery.
- Without appropriate artefacts managed against stage-gate there is a risk that there is insufficient control regarding milestones in project delivery which may lead to misunderstandings both within the business and projects, and with third parties.

#### Recommendation(s)

- 5. Reinforce the need to detail how each project milestone will be achieved in the project planning, including the required key project artefacts and the processes to manage these milestones effectively. The appointed Project Manager to verify the successful completion during stagegate reviews.
- 6. As required, ensure the Framework contains a requirement for the preparation and approval of a Go-Live Readiness Report to review appropriateness and completeness of the testing activities performed. This will aid the CoA to identify if sufficient and appropriate actions have been taken before the next stage in the implementation plan and/or system goes live. This should include documented approval of testing activities.

#### High

# Agreed Management Actions

5. & 6. The CoA will review, align and update documentation templates to the project phases.

#### Responsibility:

5 & 6. Associate Director, Information Management

#### **Target Date:**

5 & 6. 30 September 2025



#### Finding 2: Inadequate approval process and post-implementation challenges for the DT Project

**BACKGROUND** 

#### **Observations**

The CoA did not undertake a formalised approval process for the transition of the debtors module. Further, there was a lack of formalised documentation that detailed the review and approval of the system design.

#### Approval of the transition of the debtors module

The debtors module was integrated with various systems across the CoA's IT environment. Consequently, reviewing and assessing the impact of this system on the CoA's IT environment would have been crucial to understanding the transition's effects on the Accounts Receivable (AR), Finance function and the broader IT ecosystem. However:

- Several system integrations were noted in the debtors process, but a design overview document and approval of design of transition from the Architecture Review Group was not available.
- Lack of availability of documentation that showcased that:
  - o Benefits relating to the transition were formally defined and accepted.
  - o Impact to the CoA's existing IT ecosystem was formally assessed.
  - o AR and business units have understood and accepted the transition.

This lack of formal consideration of the DT Project's design and impact to the CoA's existing IT ecosystem has led to ongoing issues with the debtors module post-implementation, causing the AR team to develop manual 'workarounds' to manage these challenges.

#### Gaps in the implemented debtors module

Stakeholder consultations further outlined a range of system deficiencies as well as lack of functions which were previously available to the business users post the DT system implementation. This included the AR team indicating a range of issues they are experiencing with the implementation:

- Pathway assigns debtors on an account-basis rather than an invoice-basis; therefore, a manual process is conducted to identify actual aging of invoices. As a result, this process provides additional risk due to the CoA being unable to accurately monitor and track debts.
- Pathway is unable to generate/assign Credit Notes to specific invoices.

Continued on following page.

#### Recommendation(s)

- 1. Conduct a comprehensive review of all AR integrations within the CoA's IT ecosystem and identify kev issues, deficiencies and manual workarounds currently being conducted. During this review, assess system integrations and data flows to identify where uplift is required. Develop and implement a plan to improve system integrations, eliminate manual workarounds, and address identified issues. Ensure that business stakeholders are engaged to understand business challenges with AR/debtors/invoicing system modules.
- 2. Ensure adherence to a structured and formal approval process for all IT implementations within the CoA (the Business Systems Committee can facilitate this). To ensure this approval process is in place, resource allocation should not be granted unless this approval is formally documented and provided. This process should include detailed documentation of system design reviews and impact assessments.

#### High

# Agreed Management Actions

1. & 3. The CoA will review current AR function, including current integrations, manual work arounds, and identify key issues and opportunities for improvement and develop a remediation plan and, if required, consideration for 2026/2027 Business Plan and Budget process.

#### Responsibility:

1. & 3. Acting Manager, Finance and Procurement & Associate Director, Information Management

#### **Target Date:**

- 1 & 3. 31 December 2025
- 2. Agree, as outlined in Management Response 1 to Finding 1, the re-establishment of the Business Systems Committee will provide further governance and oversight to the broader IT roadmap for the CoA.



Finding 2: Inadequate approval process and post-implementation challenges for the DT Pro	High	
Observations	Recommendation(s)	Agreed Management Actions
Business users also highlighted a range of inefficiencies with the system, including that they are unable to attach additional documentation to an invoice. This has resulted in business users having to send a separate email with the relevant documentation attached.  As noted above, due to system limitations, 'workarounds' have been developed by the AR team, however, these 'workarounds' have not been formally documented.  Risks  Without proper consideration of system integrations, technology projects may encounter significant technical challenges. These can include data mismatches, system incompatibilities, and failures in communication between different systems, leading to delays and additional costs.  Failure to document impacts means that stakeholders may not fully understand the effect of the project on existing systems and processes. This can result in unforeseen disruptions, stakeholder dissatisfaction, and resistance to change.  If a system design review is not properly approved and documented, critical issues with integrations and system architecture may go unnoticed. This increases the risk of system failures, user dissatisfaction, and costly rework.  If key AR team members leave or new members join, there could be a loss of knowledge regarding 'workarounds' developed, making it difficult for new employees to understand and apply them correctly.	3. Identify any manual workarounds currently being employed to address integration issues or system limitations.  Document these workarounds, including the reasons they are in place and the processes/steps involved.	



BACKGROUND

#### Finding 3: Inadequate maintenance of project documentation

#### **Observations**

Gaps were identified in the maintenance and completion of key project artefacts for the TechOne and DT Projects. This included multiple documents still in draft form, lacked proper sign-offs and contained incomplete sections.

**BACKGROUND** 

#### Inadequate maintenance of project documentation for the TechOne Project

- Whilst a Project Risk, Assumption, Issues and Dependencies (RAID) document was developed, multiple tabs were incomplete, including:
  - o Risk Register:
    - o Treatment Plans were not available for one (1) extreme, two (2) high and one (1) moderate risks.
    - o Risk Status was marked as 'Open' or blank for 27 extreme, 16 high, four (4) moderate and two (2) low risks.
  - o Issue Register: Of the 95 issues noted in the Issue Register, the status of 60 of those issues were marked as 'Open'.
  - o Decision Register: 65 out of 89 decisions remained as opened or no status provided. Additionally, only 24 of the 89 decisions had a documented impact summary completed.
  - o Dependencies Register: Six (6) dependencies were listed, with all six (6) recorded with the status as 'opened'.
  - o Change Register: Only one (1) change was identified as being documented with limited details provided regarding the status, process and reason for the change request.
  - o Assumption Register: 70 assumptions were listed within this register, however, only eight (8) were documented as closed, 61 assumptions were documented as either opened or no status provided, and one (1) assumption was identified with an opened status, however included a closed date.
  - o Opportunities Register: 14 opportunities were documented; however, none were documented as closed. Additionally, only one (1) opportunity was assigned to a staff member to complete.

Continued on following page.

#### Recommendation(s)

1. Ensure that all project artefacts, such as the RAID document, are thoroughly completed, signed off, and regularly updated. This includes maintaining accurate version control and ensuring completeness before implementation.

## Agreed Management

**Actions** 

High

1. The CoA will ensure clear processes and procedures are identified and documented that align to the CoA's records management practices for post project document management.

#### Responsibility:

 Associate Director, Information Management

#### **Target Date:**

1. 30 June 2025



#### Finding 3: Inadequate maintenance of project documentation

#### **Observations**

Continued from previous page.

#### Inadequate maintenance of project documentation for the DT Project

The Project Management Plan – Debtors document, which established the project plan and identified key stakeholders for the implementation was prepared by the outsourced PM. However, this Plan was in draft state and lacked sign-off.

**BACKGROUND** 

It is noted that the Project Management Plans for the TechOne Project and the DT Project employed distinct formats and templates, resulting in variations in their structure and content. For instance, the TechOne Project utilised a comprehensive Communication Plan maintained as a standalone document. In contrast, the DT Project Management Plan incorporates a condensed Communication Plan within the main document. It should be noted that the DT Project Management Plan was prepared by an outsourced project manager and deviated from the standard CoA Project Management Plan structure.

For the DT Project, the following gaps in documentation were identified:

- A RAID document was prepared, however, multiple areas that are incomplete, including:
  - o Risk Register: Contained one (1) risk which was not entered completely, with the control, risk owner and relevant dates missing.
  - o Issue Register: Ten (10) issues are noted within the register with only two (2) issues listed as closed and two (2) issues listed without a status.
  - o Change Register: One (1) change was indicated, however, all areas of the Change Register were not complete for this one (1) change.
  - o Opportunities Register: Five (5) opportunities are included in the register, however, these opportunities are not closed.
  - o Decision Register: 33 decisions listed with seven (7) remaining open and one (1) without a closed or opened status.
  - Decision Register, Assumption Register and Lesson Learnt Log are incomplete with no data entered.
- As per the Project Management Plan Debtors document, a Schedule Management, Risk Management, Stakeholder Management and Issue Management plans are required to be submitted to the CoA by the outsourced PM on a weekly basis, however, no evidence was provided that these plans were formally submitted and reviewed by the CoA on a weekly basis.

Continued on following page.

#### Recommendation(s)

- 2. Develop and maintain CoA-approved templates of comprehensive documentation for all stages of IT project implementations, including requirements specifications, test plans, deployment plans, and user acceptance testing. Ensure that this documentation is reviewed and approved by appropriate stakeholders.
- 3. To ensure consistency between project management documentation developed by CoA and outsourced resources. enforce the use of standardised templates and documentation formats. This also aids in providing coverage of all necessary information to the Steering Committee/CoAappointed PM.

#### High

## Agreed Management Actions

2. & 3. The CoA will review, align and update documentation templates to the project phases.

#### Responsibility:

2 & 3. Associate Director, Information Management

#### **Target Date:**

2 & 3. 30 September 2025



#### Finding 3: Inadequate maintenance of project documentation

#### **Observations**

Continued from previous page.

 Formalised requirements specification documents, Test Plan, Deployment Plan, and approved User Acceptance Testing documents were not available, and stakeholder consultations indicated that, while testing was completed, there was a lack of formal documentation of the testing methodology/test cases, approval of the testing methodology, and approval by the CoA that the testing completed was adequate and the results were deemed appropriate for the DT Project to golive.

**BACKGROUND** 

- With respect to project reporting:
  - o No minutes or approval of the actions mentioned in the weekly reporting was conducted.
  - The Steering Committee reporting did not track the actions or assigned owners from each Steering Committee.

This observation regarding project reporting for the DT Project is also applicable to the TechOne Project (refer Finding 1). To facilitate Management's review and response of this observation, the associated risks and recommendations have not been reiterated from Finding 1.

#### **Risks**

- Incomplete project documents during a technology implementation can pose various risks that can affect the success of the project. Key risks include:
  - o Incomplete documents may result in misunderstandings about project scope, timelines, and deliverables, leading to delays.
  - o If dependencies are not thoroughly documented, it can cause delays when unforeseen tasks or resources are required.
  - o Incomplete communication plans can result in stakeholders not being adequately informed or engaged, leading to dissatisfaction and lack of support.
  - Without clear documentation, it is challenging to manage and align stakeholder expectations, potentially causing conflicts.

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#### Recommendation(s)

4. Create formal testing methodologies, including Test Plans, Deployment Plans, and User Acceptance Testing (UAT) documents. Ensure all testing outcomes are documented, reviewed, and approved by relevant stakeholders before moving to the next project phase.

# Agreed Management Actions

High

 Review project phases, milestones, including artefacts and approval stagegates.

#### Responsibility:

 Associate Director, Information Management

#### **Target Date:**

4. 30 November 2025



17

#### Finding 4: Change management not well documented and formalised

#### Moderate

#### **Observations**

There was an absence of a documented change management strategy or plan for the TechOne and DT Projects, which led to inadequate change impact assessments, insufficient training, and inconsistent stakeholder engagement.

**BACKGROUND** 

Change management is crucial to the success of an IT project because it ensures that all stakeholders are fully informed, engaged, and prepared for the transitions that come with new implementations. Effective change management helps in clearly defining objectives, developing structured plans to meet those objectives, and establishing open communication channels with relevant stakeholders across the project lifecycle, which are essential to minimising resistance and maximising adoption. Further, it defines what training and support is required and allows for continuous monitoring and feedback, facilitating smooth transitions and addressing issues promptly.

In contrast, this review identified lapses in these areas, including:

- No Change Management Plan was developed for the TechOne and DT Projects to provide a formalised plan on the rollout of the new systems including relevant trainings.
- Business users advised that they were not well informed or consulted prior to project implementation, including a lack of clear understanding on how the system would impact their existing workflows.
- No Training Plan was developed to outline the required trainings to support effective change management.
- Business users consulted consistently highlighted a lack of training that was provided. Additionally, inconsistencies were found in the training provided within the CoA, with certain business users indicating they had not received any training at all. Furthermore:
  - o The training provided was not interactive with the new system and primarily focused on explaining the reasons behind its implementation. Moreover, there was no follow-up or refresher training offered to users to reinforce their understanding of the system.
  - o No formal identification of key users which were to be trained during the planning stage for both projects, however, super users have now been identified.

Continued on following page.

#### Recommendation(s)

1. For future projects and implementations with an impact on system integrations, it is advisable to develop a change management strategy or plan that identifies the needs of various users, how they will be impacted, and design/tailor appropriate training and support measures.

#### **Agreed Management Actions**

1. The CoA will develop a flexible and fit for purpose change management/ business readiness framework that can be used and adopted for future projects. Noting that CoA has identified change management as an organisational action in CoA's Culture Survey action plan, and further refinement and alignment will be made once that action has been progressed.

#### Responsibility:

1. Associate Director. Information Management.

#### **Target Date:**

1. 30 June 2026.



#### Finding 4: Change management not well documented and formalised (contd.)

**BACKGROUND** 

#### Moderate

#### **Observations**

Continued from previous page.

 A lessons learned review and/or feedback on the implementation of the projects was not formally obtained from stakeholders of the projects, including business users.

#### Risks

- Without having a clear change management strategy or plan that includes change impact assessments, communication and training efforts may be ineffective, leading to confusion, resistance, and ineffective resource allocation.
- Without proper change management, employees might struggle to adapt to the new technology, which can result in decreased efficiency and productivity.
- The anticipated benefits of the technology implementation, such as improved efficiency, cost savings, or competitive advantage, may not be fully realised if change management is neglected, leading to a reduced return on investment.
- Insufficient training and support can lead to a higher incidence of user errors, technical issues, and operational disruptions, affecting overall performance and reliability of the system.

#### Recommendation(s)

- Structured training plans should be developed, including interactive training sessions with the new systems. Identify and designate users and key/super users for detailed early training, who can then act as additional support within their teams. Training plans should accommodate different learning modes and include follow-up and refresher sessions.
- 3. To support continuous improvement in IT project delivery, it is recommended that the CoA:
  - i. Develop a standardised feedback mechanism (e.g., surveys, interviews, feedback forms) to gather insights from all relevant stakeholders, including business users, project team members, and other involved parties.
  - ii. Conduct mandatory post-implementation review meetings with key stakeholders to discuss the successes, challenges, and areas for improvement encountered during the project.

The CoA should ensure responsible parties are identified that will document and store all feedback and lessons learned. Feedback and lessons learned obtained should be analysed and as required, common areas for improvement should be addressed in updates to the Information Technology Project Framework or supporting guidelines.

# Agreed Management Actions

- 2. The CoA to incorporate robust training plans and training sessions in-line with the organisational change management framework being developed.
- 3. Post-implementation change management feedback and evaluation mechanism will be agreed in-line with the organisational change management framework being developed.

#### Responsibility:

- 2. Associate Director, People Services
- 3. Associate Director, Information Management

#### **Target Date:**

- 2. 30 June 2026
- 3. 30 June 2026



# Appendices

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# Appendix 1 – Scope of Work

## Internal Audit Program 2024/2025: TechnologyOne Post Implementation Review

**BACKGROUND** 

#### **Background**

In accordance with the 2024/2025 Internal Audit Plan for the Corporation of the City of Adelaide (CoA), an internal audit focussing on a post-implementation review of the TechnologyOne upgrade was performed. The objective, scope and approach are outlined below.

#### **Objective**

The overall objective of this internal audit included assessing the effectiveness of the TechnologyOne upgrade from on-premises to cloud (the TechOne Project), by performing a post-implementation review of the Project. Key areas of focus will include project management, governance and arrangements put in place, delivery of project benefits and consideration of lessons learned and areas for future improvement.

#### Scope of services

To address the overall objective above, the scope of this engagement included consideration of the adequacy of processes and key controls over the following areas:

- Project governance frameworks and processes, including clarity of roles, responsibilities and accountabilities of key project activities.
- The project management methodology adopted during the upgrade, focusing on planning, execution and stakeholder engagement.
- Project risk management activities, including identification of project risks and controls and ongoing monitoring.
- Changes to scope during project delivery, including noting of change requests and modifications or enhancements made to the system post-implementation
- Processes to manage project costs, including review and approvals of variations to the project budget.
- Overall achievement of project outcomes, including achieving key business case identified benefits.
- The adequacy and effectiveness of change management activities during implementation, including communication, user training and heightened support.

 Identify lessons learned in terms of what went well and what could be improved upon, and what could be done differently for other IT related Projects delivered by the CoA.

#### Additional Scope of Work:

• Review of the approval process of the transition of the TechOne debtors module to Pathway (the DT Project).

#### Limitation on Additional Scope of Work:

This review did not cover the transition of Pathway from on-premise to the cloud.

#### **Approach**

This engagement was performed using the following approach:

- Desktop review of relevant Project documentation, including planning, reporting, and materials relating to change management and user training.
- Conduct a maximum of seven consultations with key stakeholders from the City Operations, City Shaping, Infrastructure and UPark business units. Key roles including project managers, system administrators, and end-users, to assess feedback on system functionality and usability.
- Development of recommendations based on the work performed above.
- Close-out meeting with the internal audit project sponsor and key stakeholders to discuss initial findings and recommendations.
- Preparation of an internal audit report including identified control gaps, and recommendations for strengthening controls and aligning to better practice.



# Appendix 2 - Stakeholders Consulted

The table below outlines all personnel who were involved in discussions and contributed to the observations in this report.

Name	Role
Nicole Van Berkel	Acting Manager, Finance & Procurement
Sonjoy Ghosh	Associate Director, Information Management
Annette Pianezzola	Risk & Audit Analyst
Michelle Ryeys-Smith	Team Leader, Operations Support
Rada Sofranic	System Support Officer
Colette Keech	Program Admin Assistant
Celina Rebola	Program Admin Assistant
Harley Lambi	Program Admin Assistant
Ciaran Carty	Project Manager
Josh Axon	Team Leader, Asset Renewals
Kaushik Shekar	Finance & Business Administrator
Kelly Jamieson	Commercial Business Performance Analyst



# **Appendix 3 - Classification of Internal Audit Findings**

The following framework for internal audit ratings is based on the CoA's risk assessment matrix.

Rating	Definition	Examples of business impact	Action(s) required
Extreme/Critical	Issue represents a control weakness, which could cause or is causing severe disruption of the process or severe adverse effect on the ability to achieve process objectives.	<ul> <li>Detrimental impact on operations or functions.</li> <li>Sustained, serious loss in reputation.</li> <li>Going concern of the business becomes an issue.</li> <li>Decrease in the public's confidence in the CoA.</li> <li>Serious decline in service/product delivery, value and/or quality recognised by stakeholders.</li> <li>Contractual non-compliance or breach of legislation or regulation with litigation or prosecution and/or penalty.</li> <li>Life threatening.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Requires immediate notification to the CoA Audit Committee via the Presiding Member.</li> <li>Requires immediate notification to CoA's Chief Executive Officer.</li> <li>Requires immediate action planning/remediation actions.</li> </ul>
High	Issue represents a control weakness, which could have or is having major adverse effect on the ability to achieve process objectives.	<ul> <li>Major impact on operations or functions.</li> <li>Serious diminution in reputation.</li> <li>Probable decrease in the public's confidence in the CoA.</li> <li>Major decline in service/product delivery, value and/or quality recognised by stakeholders.</li> <li>Contractual non-compliance or breach of legislation or regulation with probable litigation or prosecution and/or penalty.</li> <li>Extensive injuries.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Requires immediate CoA Director notification.</li> <li>Requires prompt management action planning/remediation actions.</li> </ul>



# Appendix 3 - Classification of Internal Audit Findings (contd.)

The following framework for internal audit ratings is based on the CoA's risk assessment matrix.

**BACKGROUND** 

Rating	Definition	Examples of business impact	Action(s) required
Moderate	Issue represents a control weakness, which could have or is having a moderate adverse effect on the ability to achieve process objectives.	<ul> <li>Moderate impact on operations or functions.</li> <li>Reputation will be affected in the short-term.</li> <li>Possible decrease in the public's confidence in the CoA.</li> <li>Moderate decline in service/product delivery, value and/or quality recognised by stakeholders.</li> <li>Contractual non-compliance or breach of legislation or regulation with threat of litigation or prosecution and/or penalty.</li> <li>Medical treatment required.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Requires CoA Director and/or Associate Director attention.</li> <li>Requires short-term management action.</li> </ul>
Low	Issue represents a minor control weakness, with minimal but reportable impact on the ability to achieve process objectives.	<ul> <li>Minor impact on internal business only.</li> <li>Minor potential impact on reputation.</li> <li>Should not decrease the public's confidence in the Council.</li> <li>Minimal decline in service/product delivery, value and/or quality recognised by stakeholders.</li> <li>Contractual non-compliance or breach of legislation or regulation with unlikely litigation or prosecution and/or penalty.</li> <li>First aid treatment.</li> </ul>	Timeframe for action is subject to competing priorities and cost/benefit (i.e. 90 days).



# Appendix 4 - Disclaimer

## Inherent Limitations

This report has been prepared as outlined in the Scope Section. The services provided in connection with this engagement comprise an advisory engagement, which is not subject to assurance or other standards issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board and, consequently no opinions or conclusions intended to convey assurance have been expressed.

**BACKGROUND** 

Due to the inherent limitations of any internal control structure, it is possible that fraud, error or non-compliance with laws and regulations may occur and not be detected. Further, the internal control structure, within which the control procedures that have been subject to the procedures we performed operate, has not been reviewed in its entirely and, therefore, no opinion or view is expressed as to its effectiveness of the greater internal control structure. The procedures performed were not designed to detect all weaknesses in control procedures as they are not performed continuously throughout the period and the tests performed on the control procedures are on sample basis. Any projection of the evaluation of control procedures to future periods is subject to the risk that the procedures may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with them may deteriorate.

No warranty of completeness, accuracy or reliability is given in relation to the statements and representations made by, and the information and documentation provided by City of Adelaide management and personnel consulted as part of the process.

KPMG have indicated within this report the sources of the information provided. We have not sought to independently verify those sources unless otherwise noted within the report.

KPMG is under no obligation in any circumstance to update this report, in either oral or written form, for events occurring after the report has been issued in final form.

The findings in this report have been formed on the above basis.

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## Agenda Item 6.2

# 2024/25 Business Plan & Budget Quarter 3 Update

Friday, 16 May 2025
Audit and Risk Committee

Strategic Alignment - Our Corporation

**Program Contact:** 

Rebecca Hayes, Associate
Director Governance & Strategy

**Public** 

**Approving Officer:**Anthony Spartalis, Chief

Operating Officer

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report presents the performance and delivery status of Council's commitments against the 2024/25 Business Plan and Budget (BP&B) for the third quarter (January to March 2025) for the Audit and Risk Committee's consideration. Included within this report are recommendations for business plan and budget changes, an overview of portfolio and project achievements, as well as the performance of Council subsidiaries.

The year-to-date operating position as at 31 March 2025 is an operating surplus of \$14.408m, which is \$6.569m higher than the year-to-date budget of \$7.839m, for this period.

The projected year end operating position is an operating surplus of \$9.367m which remains consistent with the adopted budget. Total estimated operating revenue is forecast to be \$240.099m which is \$2.186m higher than the Quarter 2 budget of \$237.913m. This is mainly due to commercial parking revenue of \$1.041m, private works remediation income \$0.900m and bank interest of \$0.300m partially offset by a higher level of rates objections (\$0.650m). Total estimated operating expenditure (including depreciation) is forecast to be \$230.732m which is \$2.186m higher than the Quarter 2 budget of \$228.546m. This is due to additional private work expenses \$0.900m net adjustment of \$0.760m between depreciation and financing costs in relation to AASB16 and asset revaluations, and operating costs associated with capital projects amount to \$0.276m.

The year-to-date Capital Expenditure as at 31 March 2025 is \$68.152m, which is \$4.474m lower than the year-to-date budget of \$72.626m, for this period.

The Capital Program is proposed to decrease by \$8.134m from \$121.043m to \$112.909m as a result of retiming projects into 2025/26.

Quarterly reports are provided to support Council in monitoring the integrity of Council's financial statements and reporting, as well as reviewing and overseeing progress on the Business Plan and Budget. This process supports Council's commitment to transparency and accountability.

## RECOMMENDATION

#### THAT THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL

#### THAT COUNCIL

- Receives the City of Adelaide 2024/25 Business Plan and Budget Quarter 3 Update as contained in Attachment A to Item 6.2 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee held on 16 May 2025.
- Approves adjustments for the 2024/25 Business Plan and Budget (BP&B) as identified in this report and reflected in Attachment A to Item 6.2 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee held on 16 May 2025.
- 3. Notes the year-to-date Operating (Financial Performance) for the quarter ending 31 March 2025, which includes:
  - 3.1. Total operating revenue of \$178.338m (\$2.005m higher than the budget of \$176.333m, for the period)

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- 3.2. Total operating expenses (including depreciation) of \$163.930m (\$4.564m lower than the budget of \$168.494m, for the period)
- 3.3. An operating surplus of \$14.408m (\$6.569m higher than the budget of \$7.839m, for the period)
- 3.4. Total Capital Expenditure of \$68.152m (\$4.474m lower than the budget of \$72.626m, for the period)
- 3.5. Net cash surplus position of \$21.287m.
- 4. Approves budgeted year end Operating Position, which includes:
  - 4.1. Total operating revenue of \$240.099m (\$2.186m higher than the Quarter 2 budget of \$237.913m).
  - 4.2. Total operating expenses (including depreciation) of \$230.732m (\$2.186m higher than the adopted budget of \$228.546m)
  - 4.3. An operating surplus/deficit of \$9.367m (consistent with the Quarter 2 budget of \$9.367m).
- 5. Approves total capital expenditure of \$112.909m for 2024/25 year (\$8.134m lower than the Quarter 2 budget of \$121.043m).
- 6. Approves total borrowings of \$30.739m projected to 30 June 2025 (\$10.366m higher than the Quarter 2 projected borrowings of \$20.373m to 30 June 2025).
- 7. Receives the Council Subsidiary Quarter 3 updates as contained as Attachments B, C, D and E to Item 6.2 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee held on 16 May 2025.

## **IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS**

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Corporation  Quarterly reporting supports Council's <i>financial sustainability</i> objective within the 2024-2028  Strategic Plan.
Policy	Not as a result of this report
Consultation	Not as a result of this report
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Quarterly reporting is an important part of monitoring the organisation's performance and effectiveness against Council's planned activities, which is required under Section 122 (1) of the Local Government Act 1999 (SA).
Opportunities	Quarterly reporting enables Council to make informed and timely decisions to maintain or change its services, assets, and budgets to meet community expectations and needs, maintaining or improving Council's financial position, and enabling Council to be responsive to risks and opportunities.
24/25 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Proposed 25/26 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
24/25 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

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### DISCUSSION

### **FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

#### Year to Date

- 1. The year-to-date operating position as at 31 March 2025 was an operating surplus of \$14.408m, which is \$6.569m favourable to the year-to-date budget of \$7.839m surplus, for the period.
  - 1.1. Total operating revenue of \$178.338m (\$2.005m higher than the budget of \$176.333m, for the period).
  - 1.2. Total operating expenses (including depreciation) of \$163.930m (\$4.564m lower than the budget of \$168.494m, for the period).
- 2. This variance is driven by:
  - 2.1. Revenue \$2.005m favourable to budget largely due to increased fees and charges across parking \$0.916m, property leasing \$0.229m, private works \$0.313m, nursery sales \$0.122m, ACMA rental income \$0.224m, insurance claims \$0.163m and bank interest received \$0.315m. This is partially offset by unfavourable expiation income net of late payment fees (\$0.364m) and Town Hall (\$0.605m).
  - 2.2. Expenditure is \$4.564m favourable and is largely due to Strategic Projects \$2.040m, resource costs \$1.006m, maintenance \$1.948m, insurance \$0.201m and corporate applications \$0.481m. This is partially offset by unfavourable depreciation of (\$1.332m) to reflect an increase in asset valuations.
- 3. The year-to-date Capital Expenditure as at 31 March 2025, was \$68.152m, which is \$4.474m lower than the year-to-date budget of \$72.626m for this period.
- 4. As of 31 March 2025, Council had a net cash surplus of \$21.287m, with \$2.832m in bank accounts and \$18.455m in deposits.

### Projected Annual Financial Summary

- 5. The proposed Quarter 3 review delivers an end of year operating surplus of \$9.367m, (in line with the Quarter 2 budget):
  - 5.1. Total estimated operating revenue of \$240.099m.
  - 5.2. Total estimated operating expenses (including depreciation) of \$230.732m.
- 6. Operating revenue has increased by \$2.186m from the 2024/25 Quarter 2 budget of \$237.913m to the estimated income of \$240.099m. Of that increase \$1.041m relates to an increase in commercial parking revenue, \$0.900m for private works remediation, \$0.300m bank interest and \$0.124m North Adelaide Golf Course. This is partially offset by a higher level of rates objections of (\$0.650m).
- 7. Operating expenditure increased by \$2.186m from the 2024/25 Quarter 2 budget of \$228.546m to the estimated expenditure of \$230.732m. The increase is mainly due to private works remediation expenses of \$0.900m, net adjustment of (\$0.760m) between depreciation and financing costs in relation to AASB16 and asset revaluations and increases to operating costs associated with capital projects which amount to (\$0.276m).
- 8. Total proposed Capital Expenditure for the year is \$112.909m (decrease of \$8.134m compared to the Quarter 2 budget of \$121.043m) mainly through the retiming projects into 2025/26 of \$8.271m.
- 9. Grant funding to support capital expenditure on new and upgraded assets of \$10.148m (\$0.020m increase to Quarter 2 budget of \$10.128m).
- Updated financial statements are provided from page 64 in Attachment A.

### ADJUSTMENTS TO THE 2024/25 BUSINESS PLAN AND BUDGET

### **Operating Program**

- 11. Adjustments to Program deliverables and budgets for the quarter are not required, as permanent budget changes are accounted for largely through Strategic Project budget adjustments:
  - 11.1. Permanent changes to the budget of (\$0.086m) net increase in expenditure including changes to depreciation and finance costs of (\$0.705m) to reflect increases in asset valuations and lease extensions, rates objections of (\$0.650m), Offsetting this impact is additional income of \$1.177m derived from Commercial Parking and property management. These permanent changes have been reflected in the draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget.
  - 11.2. Adjustments to Strategic Projects (temporary in nature) for the quarter total \$0.096m decrease in net expenditure consisting of:

- 11.2.1. Savings from bridge maintenance project of \$0.200m, 218-232 Flinders Masterplan \$0.080m.
- 11.2.2. Inclusion of new strategic projects, World Heritage Bid (\$0.130m) and Supplementary Council Election (\$0.075m).
- 11.2.3. Grant funded project for ACMA traders sustainability program with \$0.050m of grant income offset by (\$0.050m) of expenditure.
- 11.2.4. A summary of the status of Strategic Projects is provided further in this report.
- 11.3. Temporary (one-off) changes to the budget of \$0.009m net increase in expenditure mainly from capital projects amounting to (\$0.276m) and additional legal and search fees associated with expiations (\$0.118m), offset by increases to operating income associated with bank interest received \$0.300m.
- 12. Further detailed information on these changes is from page 55 (Operating Program Adjustments) in **Attachment A**.

### Capital Program

- 13. Capital expenditure is proposed to decrease to \$112.909 for the year, which is \$8.134m lower than the Quarter 2 budget of \$121.043m.
  - 13.1. New and Upgrade projects show revised expenditure of \$56.613m (\$8.134m decrease to the Quarter 2 approved budget of \$64.747m).
  - 13.2. Renewal expenditure of \$56.296m is in line with the Quarter 2 approved budget.
- 14. Adjustments to the Capital program include:
  - 14.1. Retiming of works into 2025/26 to the value of \$8.406m, offset by bringing back from 2025/26 \$0.135m from a previous (Quarter 2) retime.
  - 14.2. The release of unused project management costs \$1.000m.
  - 14.3. Accrued grant interest \$0.017m.
  - 14.4. Creation of a new project funded from the Rundle Mall Separate Rate \$0.020m.
  - 14.5. A summary of the status of Capital Projects is provided further in this report.
- 15. Further detailed information on these changes is available from page 46 in Attachment A.

### **PROJECT DELIVERY SUMMARY**

### Strategic Projects

- 16. Including the adjustments outlined in this report, Council has a commitment of \$7.903m (\$5.958m net of grant funding) to deliver 43 Strategic Projects during 2024/25. Five new Strategic Projects have been identified during Quarter 3. At the end of this quarter:
  - 16.1. 35 projects had both timeframe to deliver and budget on track.
  - 16.2. Three projects had either timeframe to deliver or budget at risk and are being managed; these may exceed estimated time and adopted budget.
  - 16.3. Five projects have been completed, of which three were completed this quarter.
- 17. For information on these changes refer to the Strategic summary from page 52 in Attachment A.

### Capital Works Program

- 18. Including the adjustments outlined in this report, Council has a commitment of \$112.909m to deliver 448 projects as part of its Capital Works Program. To the end of this quarter:
  - 18.1. 49 new and upgrade projects had both timeframe to deliver and budget on track.
  - 18.2. 20 new and upgrade projects had both timeframe to deliver and budget at risk and are being managed but may exceed estimated time and adopted budget.
  - 18.3. 28 new and upgrade projects have been completed.
- 19. For information on these changes refer to the Capital New and Upgrade summary from page 46 and Capital Renewal summary from page 50 in **Attachment A**.

### **COUNCIL SUBSIDIARIES SUMMARY**

- 20. The Adelaide Central Market Authority, Adelaide Economic Development Agency and Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority have provided updates as per **Attachments B, C and D**.
- 21. The Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Board (Regional Subsidiary), which Council is a member of, has provided an update as per **Attachment E**.

### Adelaide Central Market Authority - Year to Date Financial Summary

- 22. The year-to-date operating position as at 31 March 2025 is an operating surplus of \$0.086m, which is \$0.612m better when compared to the Quarter 2 budget of (\$0.527m) deficit for this period.
  - 22.1. Total operating revenue of \$4.231m.
  - 22.2. Total operating expenditure of \$4.145m.
- 23. The proposed changes for Adelaide Central Market Authority in Quarter 3 includes an increase to the income budget of \$0.087m to recognise unbudgeted casual and sundry income. Grant income of \$0.050m has also been recognised along with a corresponding expense of \$0.050m.

### Adelaide Economic Development Agency - Year to Date Financial Summary

- 24. The year-to-date operating position as at 31 March 2025 is an operating surplus of \$0.279m, which is (\$0.404m) lower when compared to the Quarter 2 budget of an operating surplus of \$0.683m for this period.
  - 24.1. Total operating revenue of \$9.389m, including \$5.895m appropriation of funds from the City of Adelaide.
  - 24.2. Total operating expenditure of \$9.110m.
- 25. The proposed changes for Adelaide Economic Development Agency in Quarter 3 is an increase in income of \$0.235m which comprises additional concession stand income in Rundle Mall \$0.120m, ticket sales for the AEDA Business Summit Event and additional appropriation of funds from CoA \$0.015m. All of these are fully offset by corresponding expenditure. The expenses increase by (\$0.214m) which includes the additional Rundle Mall spend of the concession stand income (\$0.120m), costs to run the AEDA Business Summit (\$0.100m) and AEDA contribution to Committee for Adelaide (\$0.015m). Also employee cost savings in Rundle Mall of \$0.021m have been recognised to fund the Twin Street Lighting capital project.

### Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority – Year to Date Financial Summary

- 26. The year-to-date operating position as at 31 March 2025 is an operating deficit of (\$0.206m), which is \$0.035m better when compared to the year-to-date budget of (\$0.240m) for this period.
  - 26.1. Total operating revenue of \$NIL.
  - 26.2. Total operating expenditure of \$0.206m.
- 27. There are no proposed changes to the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority budget in Quarter 3.

## DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Nil

## ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – 2024/25 Business Plan and Budget Quarter 3 Update

Attachment B - Adelaide Central Market Authority Quarter 3 Update

Attachment C – Adelaide Economic Development Agency Quarter 3 Update

Attachment D - Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority Quarter 3 Update

Attachment E - Brown Hill Keswick Creek Board Quarter 3 Update

# 2024/25 Business Plan & Budget

Our Adelaide. Bold. Aspirational. Innovative.



January to March 2025 **Quarter 3 Update** 



# Kaurna Acknowledgement

City of Adelaide tampendi, ngadlu Kaurna yertangga banbabanbalyarnedi (inbarendi). Kaurna meyunna yaitya mattanya Womma Tandanyako. Parnako yailtya, panuko tappa purruna, parnuko yerta ngadlu tampendi. Yellaka Kaurna meyunna itto yailtya, tappa purruna, yerta kuma burro martendi, burro warriappendi, burro tangka martulyaiendi. Kumarta yaitya miyurna iyangka yalaka ngadlu tampinthi.

City of Adelaide acknowledges the traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today. And we also extend that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations.

### Legend

Throughout this document, these icons represent:

### Status

- that the project timeline, delivery and budget are on track (based on latest adopted schedule and budget)
- hat the project has risks that are being managed and may exceed estimated time and adopted budget
- that the project is no longer on track or within adopted budget / delivered outside of schedule and budget

### Budget

- b that there is no change from the most recent adopted budget to the proposed budget
- ▲ that there is an increase from the most recent adopted budget to the proposed budget
- ▼ that there is a <u>decrease</u> from the most recent adopted budget to the proposed budget

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## **CEO Message**

### Delivering the 2024/25 Business Plan and Budget



The 2024/25 Business Plan and Budget drives delivery on the first year of the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024-2028. This report highlights our progress for Quarter 3 against the objectives of the Business Plan and Budget and the corresponding aspirations of our Strategic Plan.

At the end of Quarter 3, all eight Key Objectives of the 2024/25 Business Plan and Budget were commenced and are on track for delivery by the end of the financial year.

The 2024/25 Capital Program is continuing with strong progress being made across both New and Upgrade and Renewals. Twelve New and Significant projects reached practical completion, including the Charles Street Streetscape Upgrade, which connects the cultural boulevard of North Terrace to Rundle Mall and improves pedestrian safety and accessibility of this laneway.

During the quarter, 30 renewal projects achieved practical completion including Public Art renewal projects, various road and footpaths projects, Urban Element Renewal projects, Colonel Light Centre lift renewals and some ICT renewal projects.

At the end of Quarter 3 the Strategic Project program was 71% committed or spent, with a focus on projects that support the delivery of the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024-2028 and other endorsed strategies. The Social Work in Libraries Evaluation Framework project was scoped and will support the delivery of the Homelessness Strategy – Everyone's Business. Three Strategic Projects were finalised in Quarter 3; North Adelaide Golf Course – Water Investigative Study, Contact Centre Software Replacement and the ESCOSA Review.

The ongoing financial planning and management over Quarter 3 has seen delivery of an operating result generally in line with the budget. The forecast operating surplus of \$9.367m will ensure that we remain in a strong position to support our priority to deliver the 2024/25 Business Plan and Budget within the parameters adopted by Council, the Long-Term Financial Plan, and associated Asset Management Plans.

I encourage you to read through and review this progress report to recognise the Quarter 3 achievements towards the delivery of the City of Adelaide's 2024/25 Business Plan and Budget and the priorities of our Strategic Plan 2024-2028.

Michael Sedgman

Chief Executive Officer

## **Executive Summary**

This report presents the performance and delivery status of Council's commitments against the 2024/25 Business Plan and Budget (BP&B) for the third quarter (January to March 2025). Included within this report are recommendations for business plan and budget changes, an overview of Portfolio and Project achievements, as well as the performance of Council subsidiaries.

The year end projected operating position is an operating surplus of \$9.367m which remains consistent with the adopted budget. Total estimated operating income is forecast to be \$240.099m which is \$2.186m higher than the Q2 budget of \$237.913m. This is mainly due to commercial parking revenue of \$1.041m, private works remediation income \$0.900m and bank interest of \$0.300m partially offset by a higher level of rates objections (\$0.650m). Total estimated operating expenditure (including depreciation) is forecast to be \$230.732m, which is \$2.186m higher than the Q2 budget of \$228.546m. This is due to additional private work expenses (\$0.900m) net adjustment of (\$0.760m) between depreciation and financing costs in relation to AASB16 and asset revaluations, and operating costs associated with capital projects amount to (\$0.276m).

The year-to-date Capital Expenditure as at 31 March 2025 is \$68.152m, which is \$4.474m lower than the Q2 budget of \$72.626m for this period. This is a result of the continued effort to deliver the 2024/25 capital program. The Capital Program is proposed to reduce by \$8.134m from \$121.043m to \$112.909m as a result of retiming new and upgrade projects. The renewal program has been

### **Operating Position (Financial Performance)**

\$000's	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance	Q2 Budget	Proposed Q3	Variance
Total Revenue Total	178,338	176,333	2,005	237,913	240,099	2,186
Expenses Operating	163,930	168,494	4,564	228,546	230,732	(2,186)
Surplus / Deficit	14,408	7,839	6,569	9,367	9,367	0

Council's forecasted borrowings as of 30 June 2025 is increased by \$10.366m from \$20.373m to \$30.739m as set out in the table below and is largely due to the delay in timing of the receipt of the proceeds of surplus assets into 2025/26:

Borrowings Reconciliation	Q2 Budget	Proposed Q3	Movement
Opening Cash/(borrowings) – Reconciliation provided via E-News (26/8/24)	1,635	1,635	0
Operating Surplus	9,367	9,367	0
Net outlays on Renewal of Assets	(3,583)	(4,812)	(1,229)
Net outlays on New and Upgraded Assets	(40,474)	(50,840)	(10,366)
Receipt of Long term lease extension payment	16,400	16,400	0
Movement in Net Payables and Receivables	(3,718)	(2,489)	1,229
Forecast Borrowings as at 30 June 2025	(20,373)	(30,739)	(10,366)

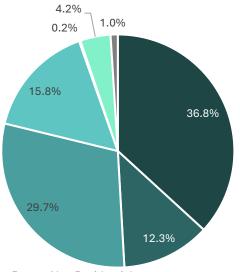
Council's Capital Program Quarter 3 budget changes are set out in the table below:

\$000's	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance	Q2 Budget	Proposed Q3	Variance
New and						
Upgrades Projects	36,895	40,597	3,702	64,747	56,613	8,134
Renewal /						_
Replacement of Assets	31,257	32,029	772	56,296	56,296	0
Total Revenue	68,152	72,626	4,474	121,043	112,909	8,134

# **Business Plan and Budget Funding Overview**

### Where our funds come from

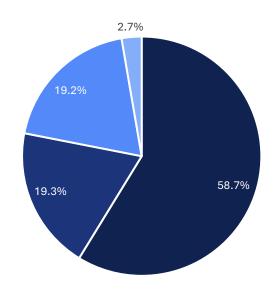
	Вι	ıdget (\$m)	
Rates - Non Residential	\$	107.782	36.8%
Rates - Residential	\$	35.927	12.3%
Fees and charges			
(Statutory & User			
Charges)	\$	86.926	29.7%
Borrowings	\$	46.285	15.8%
Proceeds from the Sale			
of Assets	\$	0.500	0.2%
External Funding	\$	12.279	4.2%
Other	\$	2.958	1.0%
TOTAL	\$	292.657	



- Rates Non Residential
- Rates Residential
- Fees and charges (Statutory & User Charges)
- Borrowings
- Proceeds from the Sale of Assets
- External Funding
- Other

### How our funds are spent

	В	udget (\$m)	
Service Delivery	\$	171.845	58.7%
New and Upgraded Assets	\$	56.613	19.3%
Renewal/Replacement of Assets	\$	56.296	19.2%
Strategic Projects <b>TOTAL</b>	\$ <b>\$</b>	7.903 <b>292.657</b>	2.7%



- Service Delivery
- New and Upgraded Assets
- Renewal/Replacement of Assets
- Strategic Projects

# **Spotlight on Strategic Plan Priorities and Projects**

## **Our Community**

## Vibrant, connected and inclusive

Implement the Housing Strategy, actively seek partnership opportunities with private, public and community developers to increase supply of affordable housing.

To ensure development supports our communities' changing needs, Council approved a submission to the State Planning Commission on the Accommodation Diversity Code Amendment (the Code Amendment) on 11 February 2025. The Code Amendment is one in a series of State Government led Code Amendments that seek to facilitate increased housing supply and diversity. Procurement commenced for the concept design of the Flinders Street Housing Project to build project feasibility. Renewal SA will seek detailed request for proposals from shortlisted proponents.

### Establish a new Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan, a Disability, Access and Inclusion Plan and a Cultural Policy.

The development of a Cultural Policy continued with community engagement occurring on a draft Policy during November 2024 and in March 2025. Over 1,100 submissions were received during this timeframe, representing one of the most extensive cultural engagement efforts undertaken by the City of Adelaide. The new Cultural Policy will position culture, creativity and community at the heart of Adelaide's planning for sustainable urban development over the next decade. It makes Adelaide an interesting and engaging place to live, learn and visit and celebrates and honours our community and cultures. Further community engagement will occur in Quarter 4 ahead of the draft being considered by Committee and Council in June 2025 for adoption. Activities for the finalisation of the 2021-2024 Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) included a 2024 Reconciliation Achievements Video Report. The video report presented the significant milestones and achievements from the 2021-2024 Stretch RAP. Significant achievements included the National NAIDOC events held in SA, Kaurna artefact ceremony at Possum Park / Pirltawardli (Park 1), and the Kaurna Voices project. Planning for the implementation of the 2024-2028 Stretch RAP is ongoing. Activities for the implementation of the Disability, Access and Inclusion Plan include the development of a Business Accessibility Support Pilot Program and opportunities identified to support Journey Planning and more inclusive Council Meetings





Adaptive Reuse City Housing Initiative

**24/25 Budget** \$0.250m **Status** On Track
Year to date there are 58 potential dwellings in the Adaptive
Reuse City Housing Initiative pipeline including 24 dwellings that have been granted Development Approval.

### City Activation

24/25 Budget \$0.502m Status On Track

Support for the 2025 Fringe West End increased visitation to the area by 13% from 2024. City of Adelaide, in partnership with Renewal SA, held Westbound Artisan Market on Saturday 15 March 2025; over 40 emerging creative stalls attracted over 2,000 visitors on the day. Planning is ongoing for Quarter 4 activations. *Photo: Matt Carter* 



Disability Access and Inclusion Plan Implementation

24/25 Budget \$0.235m Status On Track

Business Accessibility Support Program (BASP) pilot began in February with project planning commencing for the eight business to create more accessible, welcoming experiences for all.

### **Our Environment**

## Resilient, protected and sustainable

Deliver the Sustainability Incentive Scheme, supporting our partners and community to implement changes to enable a reduction in community carbon emissions.

As of 19 March 2025, 30 incentives were approved under the Sustainability Incentives Scheme with applications receiving rebates totalling \$50,954 with out-of-pocket community expenses totalling \$333,063.

Overall, these incentives have resulted in an estimated emissions reduction of 7,763 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents (tCO2e) over the lifespan of the products and services provided. The incentives included 13 for active travel, eight smart and green energy incentives, five climate ready incentives (thermal efficient doors/windows, shading devices, insulation), and 4 resource recovery incentives (food organics collections, indoor sorting bins, reusable delivery containers).

### Partner with the State Government to undertake a Master Plan for Helen Mayo Park, improving community access.

In order to protect, enhance and activate our Park Lands, the State Government and City of Adelaide are continuing to work on finalising funding arrangements to enable master planning for Helen Mayo Park to commence.



### Public Realm Greening Program

24/25 Budget

\$3.459m

Status

At Risk

To the end of Quarter 3, 26 trees have been planted with another 180+ in the final stages of planning. 56 locations are being investigated for potential planting.



### Integrated Climate Change

24/25 Budget

\$0.080m

Status

On Track

The Microclimate Dashboard and Cool Wayfinding Tool is in progress. The tool will allow the public to navigate the city using the coolest route based on data from the microclimate sensors.

## **Our Economy**

## Growing, innovative and responsive

### Deliver an investment attraction program as per the AEDA Business Plan

AEDA engaged with 74 businesses (YTD) on relocation and investment opportunities that have the potential of an additional 4,100+ workers in the City.



Central Market Arcade Redevelopment

24/25 Budget

\$21.841n

Status

On Track

Progress has continued with the two-level basement and up to level four of the podium complete. Coles was announced as the supermarket operator for the Level One supermarket. Lease plans are being finalised and branding and licensing of Christmas concepts progressing.



24/25 Budget \$0.500m Status On Track
22 events and festivals have been awarded funding for
delivery in 2025, including the Adelaide Motorsport
Festival, Laneway Festival and Side by Side Music, Arts
and Culture Festival. Gluttony, The Garden of Unearthly
Delights, Fools Paradise, and The Courtyard of Curiosities

were also awarded funding support.

Commercial Events & Festivals Sponsorship Program



88 O'Connell Project Delivery

24/25 Budget

\$0.080m

Status 0

On Track

Construction is continuing with the external cladding of the building complete and internal fit outs of apartments are underway. The total number of apartments sold has increased to 83% and the commercial leasing strategy is progressing well.



### Rundle Mall Live Music Program

**24/25 Budget** \$0.100m **Status** On Track Sixty artists have provided performances that have been programmed to coincide with specific opportunities. In Quarter 3, nine performers participated over the WOMADelaide weekend. The Rundle Mall City Sessions program is delivered in partnership with the City of Adelaide and UNESCO City of Music, with all artists being paid for their performances.

### **Our Places**

## Interesting, purposeful and safe

### Deliver the Adaptive Reuse City Housing Initiative (ARCHI), identifying building stock suitable for adaptive reuse.

There are 58 potential dwellings in the ARCHI pipeline including 24 dwellings granted Development Approval as at Quarter 3. The ARCHI Incentives Scheme received eight general enquiries through the webpage, Development Assessment Portal, and direct engagement. ARCHI marketing & communications is ongoing including social media posts, advertising and industry outreach. Quarter 3 project work included a demand survey for city-based properties (forming part of a University of Adelaide Student Research Project), adaptive reuse fact sheets and case studies.

# Commence construction of the Hindley Street Revitalisation project and progress design for Gouger Street, O'Connell Street and Hutt Street Revitalisation projects.

City of Adelaide is progressing the development of a revised Concept Design in preparation for commencing stakeholder consultation for the Hindley Street Revitalisation Project. Following a period of stakeholder consultation, the updated Concept Design will be presented to Council for endorsement. Design consultants have been engaged to progress the Gouger Street Detailed Design during 24/25, and design works are currently progressing in accordance with the program. Paving upgrade works adjacent the new 88 O'Connell Street development are progressing in line with the completion of the development, with the design nearing completion and site works to commence towards the back end of Q4. To create safe, healthy and inclusive spaces, extensive stakeholder engagement process was undertaken to understand communities' aspirations for on-street parking. A report will be presented to Infrastructure & Public Works Committee in April 25.



Main Street Revitalisation - Hutt Street

24/25 Budget \$0.208m Status At risk

Community consultation of the five designs approved by Council occurred during February and March 2025. Engineering investigations including geotechnical, road pavement and stormwater assessments are underway.



218-232 Flinders Street

24/25 Budget \$0.216m Status On Track

Demolition of buildings on site occurred during January and February with all asbestos removed. This enabled full access to all car parks on site ready for the 2025 Fringe season.



Charles Street - Streetscape Upgrade

24/25 Budget \$5.188m Status On Track

Charles Street Streetscape Upgrade reached project completion on 28 February 2025. The result is an open and spacious thoroughfare connection to the North Terrace cultural boulevard with the Rundle Mall shopping precinct, allowing for safe and accessible passage of pedestrians.



Main Street Revitalisation - Melbourne Street

24/25 Budget \$0.697m Status On Track

Black Spot Grant secured from the South Australian Department of Infrastructure to enable two wombat crossings to be installed ahead of the finalised Main Street Revitalisation project.

## Our Corporation High performing, customer-centric and bold

Deliver the 2024/25 Business Plan & Budget (BP&B) within Council adopted parameters and within the parameters of the Long Term Financial Plan, and associated Asset Management Plans.

Priority to deliver the 2024/25 BP&B within the adopted parameters are on track. Forecast operating position of \$9.367m. Asset Renewals \$56.296m. New and Upgraded Assets \$56.613m.



**Graduate Program** 

24/25 Budget

\$0.841m

Status On Track

The 2025 graduate cohort commenced. CoA's Graduate program was shortlisted for LG Professional's Excellence in People and Culture Award.



On Street Parking Compliance Technology and **Customer Analytics Reform** 

24/25 Budget

\$0.148m

Status

On Track

Analytics and actions insights continuing to broaden, delivering KPI reporting across all legislative functions in regulatory services.



**ESCOSA Review** 

24/25 Budget

\$0.040m

Status

Complete

ESCOSA report was published on 28 February 2025 and the findings will be incorporated into the 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget.



Contact Centre Software Replacement

24/25 Budget

\$0.450m

Status

Complete

Contact Centre Software Replacement project has been successfully implemented and is resulting in increased service efficiency across a range of operational elements.

# **Our Programs and Projects**

## **Our Organisation**

The City of Adelaide will deliver the 2024/25 Business Plan and Budget through our Organisational Structure, including our Portfolios, Offices and Subsidiaries.

City Community	<ul> <li>Director City Community</li> <li>City Culture</li> <li>Customer and Marketing</li> <li>Regulatory Services</li> </ul>
City Infrastructure	<ul> <li>Director City Infrastructure</li> <li>Infrastructure</li> <li>Strategic Property and Commercial</li> </ul>
City Shaping	<ul> <li>Director City Shaping</li> <li>City Operations</li> <li>Park Lands, Policy and Sustainability</li> <li>Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority (Kadaltilla)</li> </ul>
Corporate Services	<ul> <li>Chief Operating Officer</li> <li>Finance and Procurement</li> <li>Governance &amp; Strategy</li> <li>Information Management</li> <li>People</li> </ul>
Subsidiaries	<ul> <li>Adelaide Central Market Authority (ACMA)</li> <li>Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA)</li> </ul>
Offices	<ul> <li>Office of the Chief Executive Officer</li> <li>Office of the Lord Mayor</li> </ul>

# **Operational Summary**

	Q2	2 Budget	Proposed Q3		
\$'000	Income	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	
City Community					
Director City Community		(334)		(334)	
City Culture	6,298	(20,316)	6,199	(20,493)	
Customer and Marketing	2	(6,714)	2	(6,812)	
Regulatory Services	16,712	(10,376)	16,862	(10,367)	
Strategic Projects	124	(774)	112	(762)	
City Infrastructure					
Director City Infrastructure		(699)		(699)	
Infrastructure	488	(47,554)	684	(48,850)	
Strategic Property and Commercial	57,240	(33,108)	58,381	(32,478)	
Strategic Projects	966	(3,387)	966	(3,132)	
City Shaping					
Director City Shaping		(697)		(697)	
City Operations	2,720	(44,336)	3,720	(45,325)	
Park Lands, Policy and Sustainability	79	(7,436)	95	(7,346)	
Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority	328	(328)	328	(328)	
Strategic Projects	784	(2,239)	784	(2,359)	
Corporate Services					
Chief Operating Officer		(1,014)		(1,014)	
Finance and Procurement	138	(4,821)	138	(4,821)	
Governance and Strategy		(6,056)		(6,065)	
Information Management	31	(14,001)	31	(14,181)	
People		(4,660)	88	(4,748)	
Corporate Activities*	142,243	3,264	141,559	3,265	
Adelaide Central Market Authority	5,343	(5,880)	5,430	(5,879)	
Adelaide Economic Development Agency	4,417	(12,455)	4,637	(12,670)	
Strategic Projects		(1,528)	83	(1,651)	
Offices					
Office of the CEO		(1,457)		(1,507)	
Office of the Lord Mayor		(1,640)		(1,479)	
Total	237,913	(228,546)	240,099	(230,732)	
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)		9,367		9,367	

<sup>\*</sup> Includes Rates Revenue, Corporation grants (e.g. Financial Assistance Grants), vacancy management target, and capital overhead.

# **City Community Portfolio**

The City Community Portfolio strives to deliver exceptional experiences for our community and customers, providing opportunities for creativity, recreation and wellbeing in a city that is safe, accessible and supportive of all our communities.

### Programs:

- City Culture
- Customer and Marketing
- Regulatory Services

### Key Focus areas:

- Strategic communication that keeps our community informed
- Support safer public spaces and keep the city moving
- Community led services that increase wellbeing, social connection and active lifestyles
- City activation, events, initiatives, grants and sponsorship
- Provide brilliant customer service to all city users
- Facilitation of high-quality built form outcomes through the assessment phase.

### **Planning & Budget Updates**

A Change Request of \$15,000 was submitted to install sub-meters and smart tags across a number of leased Park Lands properties to reduce staff time and resources in calculating, reimbursing and invoicing water usage where infrastructure was shared between lessees and City of Adelaide.

A \$0.030m grant was secured from the State Government's Department of Human Services to fund a Volunteer Coordinator to review, expand and enhance our volunteer program. The role will be based at the North Adelaide Community Centre and will primarily focus on developing capacity for that community however the project will result in benefits for all centres and communities.

#### **Operating Budget Changes**

Increase in Business Centre income \$0.150m

Recognition of reimbursement for Sheffield Shield contribution \$0.020m and corresponding expense \$0.020m Change in accounting treatment in Commonwealth Home Support Program, with a reduction in income \$0.032m and savings in corresponding expenditure \$0.032m

Reduction in New Year's Eve income budget \$0.063m

Reduction in Library Grant Funding \$0.013m

Reduction in Kaurna Burn budget \$0.011m

Increase in budget for Regulatory Services rostering, Park Safe mobile camera vehicle and noise monitoring consultants \$0.070m

Increase in Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) portal subscription \$0.012m

Increase in Community Centre casuals \$0.033m

Recognition of event booking system within Community Centres \$0.025m

Recognition of consulting services incurred for the review of library operations \$0.030m, which has been partly offset by savings in minor purchases \$0.025m

Savings identified in delivery of the Public Art Action Plan \$0.020m and Marketing expenditure \$0.020m

Recognition of additional Aquatic Centre expenses incurred following closure of the centre \$0.020m

Increase in Fines Enforcement Recovery Unit (FERU) expenditure \$0.100m and search and information fees \$0.018m

Depreciation adjustments \$0.019m

Increase in salary required for Mercer reviews \$0.166m in City Culture team have been offset by savings across the Program

Reallocation of FTE from Regulatory Services to City Culture \$0.091m has had a nil bottom line effect Transfer of International Relations budget from Office of the Lord Mayor

### Strategic Project Budget Changes

Funding received for Social Workers in library will now be finalised in 2025/26, this grant and associated expenditure will be recognised in 2025/26 \$0.012m.

### **Portfolio Quarterly Highlights**

### City Culture

On 11 February 2025 Council endorsed a proposal to transition out of the delivery of Commonwealth Home Support Program services, and towards a stronger positive ageing social program for the older members of the City's community. This is the result of two years of planning, in light of the upcoming changes to the delivery model for in-home aged care services and the aged care sector as a whole.

The City of Adelaide Community attended a series of student welcome events throughout February and March, including Adelaide University Student Welcome Event, Flinders University Student Welcome Event, and Kaplan Business School and Study Adelaide's Study Fest event. Student welcome brochures were distributed, which collated information about a variety of City of Adelaide and city offerings, and directing students to the Welcome International Students to the City of Adelaide website. Brochures were also delivered to student accommodation buildings in Study Adelaide Welcome Packs, including some translated into Mandarin.

On 11 March 2025, Council endorsed the proposal by South Australian Cricket Association to improve Sports Lighting in Gladys Elphick Park / Narnungga (Park 25) and endorsed a Draft Lease Agreement for Golden Wattle Park / Mirnu Wirra (Park 21W) for the purpose of public consultation.

Three community workshops on the Kaurna Knowledge Project were held this quarter, with over 100 people attending.

A huge amount of event activity occurred over Quarter 3. From Adelaide Fringe through to the Tour Down Under, the City was alive and benefitting from the hundreds of thousands of people that experienced the City. Five significant Council run event activities, including East End Unleashed, were delivered in Quarter 3.

Two Library Connections Officers were appointed in January 2025 for the 'Social Workers in Libraries' initiative, a key commitment of the *City of Adelaide Homelessness Strategy – Everyone's Business*. The initiative is designed to support homelessness prevention and early intervention through a community development approach. These new staff members have already made a positive difference through their presence in the city's libraries.

Approximately 500 residents celebrated Neighbour Day on Sunday 30 March across 13 grass roots gatherings supported by the City of Adelaide. This year saw six new hosts volunteer to help their neighbours connect. One highlight was the Halls Place/Weil Street Neighbour Day gathering, which featured the launch of a new Little Street Library, an idea that emerged from a Neighbour Day brainstorming session in Halls Place in 2024.

### Customer and Marketing

Voice of Customer survey results remained at the interim target levels and the Quarter 3 report on Service Level Agreement performance showed strong improvement across all key customer-facing services.

The new telephony system was introduced during March, resulting in increased service efficiency across a range of operational elements.

### Regulatory Services

Positive outcomes were achieved in long running noise complaint matters in the West End precinct, with Council receiving positive feedback from agencies such as Consumer and Business Services and South Australian Police for the approach taken.

# City Community Portfolio Budget

		Q2	Budget		Proposed Q3			
\$'00	0 FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)
Operating Budget								
Revenue		23,136		23,136		23,175		23,175
Employee Costs	196.9		(24,436)	(24,436)	196.9		(24,636)	(24,636)
Materials			(9,835)	(9,835)			(9,882)	(9,882)
Sponsorships			(1,016)	(1,016)			(1,004)	(1,004)
Depreciation			(2,932)	(2,932)			(2,951)	(2,951)
Finance Costs			(295)	(295)			(295)	(295)
TOTAL	196.9	23,136	(38,514)	(15,378)	196.9	23,175	(38,768)	(15,5793)
Program Budget								
Office of the Director	3.0	0	(334)	(334)	3.0	0	(334)	(334)
City Culture	70.0	6,298	(20,316)	(14,018)	71.0	6,199	(20,493)	(14,294)
Customer and Marketing	40.1	2	(6,714)	(6,712)	40.1	2	(6,812)	(6,810)
Regulatory Services	82.0	16,712	(10,376)	6,336	81.0	16,862	(10,367)	6,495
Strategic Projects	1.8	124	(774)	(650)	1.8	112	(762)	(650)
TOTAL	196.9	23,136	(38,514)	(15,378)	196.9	23,175	(38,768)	(15,5793)

		Q2 Budget		Proposed Q3	
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Ехр.
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade		105	(4,187)	5	(4352)
Renewal		274	(291)	274	(728)
TOTAL		379	(889)	279	(5,080)

## **City Culture**

		(	Q2 Budget		Pro		roposed Q3	
\$'00	0 FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)
Operating Budget								
Revenue		6,298		6,298		6,199		6,199
Employee Costs	70.0		(9,365)	(9,365)	71.0		(9,655)	(9,655)
Materials			(7,213)	(7,213)			(7,081)	(7,081)
Sponsorships			(511)	(511)			(511)	(511)
Depreciation			(2,932)	(2,932)			(2,951)	(2,951)
Finance Costs			(295)	(295)			(295)	(295)
TOTAL	70.0	6,298	(20,316)	(14,018)	71.0	6,199	(20,493)	(14,294)
Activity View								
Associate Director (office)	2.0		(377)	(377)	2.0		(397)	(397)
Adelaide Town Hall	5.0	3,130	(3,265)	(135)	5.0	3,130	(3,265)	(135)
Aquatic Centre	0.0	194	(738)	(544)	0.0	194	(756)	(562)
City Experience	15.1	814	(4,249)	(3,435)	16.1	770	(4,440)	(3,670)
City Lifestyle	10.8	1,585	(3,747)	(2,162)	10.8	1,543	(3,716)	(2,173)
Creative City	11.6	33	(2,425)	(2,392)	11.6	33	(2,438)	(2,405)
Libraries	25.5	542	(5,515)	(4,973)	25.5	529	(5,481)	(4,952)
TOTAL	70.0	6,298	(20,316)	(14,018)	71.0	6,199	(20,493)	(14,294)

		Q2	Q2 Budget		osed Q3	
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.	
Operating Activities						
Aboriginal Protocol Grant		0	(41)	0	(41)	
Adelaide's New Years Eve		63	(700)	0	(700)	
Annual Delivery of Kaurna Initiatives		24	(81)	13	(81)	
ANZAC Day Service - March & Related Activities		0	(61)	0	(55)	
Arts and Cultural Grants		0	(262)	0	(262)	
Business Activation and Support		0	0	20	(20)	
Christmas Festival Action Plan		0	(529)	0	(529)	
City Activation - West End Precinct		0	(52)	0	(45)	
City Activation – East End Unleashed		40	(294)	40	(279)	
City Activation - Gouger Street Precinct		0	(52)	0	(50)	
City Activation - Hutt Street Precinct		0	(79)	0	(74)	
City Activation - North Adelaide Precinct		0	(106)	0	(97)	
City Activation - Precinct Support		0	(118)	0	(118)	
Community Capacity Development		0	(3)	0	(3)	
Community Impact Grants		0	(372)	0	(372)	
Homelessness Social and Affordable Housing		0	(301)	0	(301)	
International Relations (Sister Cities)		0	0	0	(15)	
Live Music Industry and Venues Support		35	(93)	35	(93)	
UNESCO Adelaide City of Music Ltd Partnership		0	(54)	0	(54)	
Winter Weekends		0	(207)	0	(108)	
TOTAL		162	(3,405)	108	(3,297)	

		Q2 I	Budget	Proposed Q3	
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Strategic Projects					
City Activation			(502)		(502)
DHS Community Neighbourhood Development Funding		99	(99)	99	(99)
Social Work in Libraries		25	(25)	13	(13)
TOTAL		124	(626)	112	(614)

		Q2	Budget	Prop	oosed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade		105	(4,187)	5	(4,352)
Renewal		274	(274)	274	(711)
TOTAL		379	(872)	279	(5,063)

## **Customer and Marketing**

		2024/25 Q2					Proposed Q3			
•	5'000 F	TE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	
Operating Budget										
Revenue			2		2		2		2	
Employee Costs	4	0.1		(4,832)	(4,832)	40.1		(4,832)	(4,832)	
Materials				(1,882)	(1,882)			(1,980)	(1,980)	
Sponsorships									0	
Depreciation									0	
Finance Costs									0	
TOTAL	4	0.1	2	(6,714)	(6,712)	40.1	2	(6,812)	(6,810)	
Activity View										
Manager	1	.0		(215)	(215)	1.0		(215)	(215)	
Customer Experience	2	8.1	2	(4,280)	(4,278)	28.1	2	(4,398)	(4,396)	
Marketing & Communications	1	1.0		(2,219)	(2,219)	11.0		(2,199)	(2,199)	
TOTAL	4	0.1	2	(6,714)	(6,712)	40.1	2	(6,812)	(6,810)	

		2024	/25 Q2	Propo	sed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Operating Activities					
N/A					
TOTAL		0	0	0	0

		2024	/25 Q2	Propo	sed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade					
Renewal			(17)		(17)
TOTAL		0	(17)	0	(17)

# **Regulatory Services**

	Q2 Budget					Pro	posed Q3	
\$'0	00 FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)
Operating Budget								
Revenue		16,712		16,712		16,862		16,862
Employee Costs	82.0		(9,651)	(9,651)	81.0		(9,560)	(9,560)
Materials			(725)	(725)			(807)	(807)
Sponsorships			0	0			0	0
Depreciation			0	0			0	0
Finance Costs			0	0			0	0
TOTAL	82.0	16,712	(10,376)	6,336	81.0	16,862	(10,367)	6,495
Activity View								
Associate Director (office)	5.0	0	(867)	(867)	5.0	0	(867)	(867)
City Development	21.9	3,631	(2,791)	840	21.9	3,631	(2,804)	827
City Safety	13.0	521	(1,854)	(1,333)	13.0	521	(1,884)	(1,363)
On-Street Parking Compliance	42.1	12,560	(4,864)	7,696	41.1	12,710	(4,812)	7,898
TOTAL	82.0	16,712	(10,376)	6,336	81.0	16,862	(10,367)	6,495

		Q2 I	Q2 Budget		sed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Operating Activities					
N/A			0		
TOTAL		0	0	0	0

	Q2	Budget	Propo	osed Q3
<b>\$'000</b>	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Strategic Projects				
On-Street Parking Compliance Technology and Customer Analytics Reform		(148)		(148)
TOTAL	0	(148)	0	(148)

		Q2 E	Budget	Proposed Q3	
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade					0
Renewal					0
TOTAL		0	0	0	0

## **City Infrastructure Portfolio**

The City Infrastructure Portfolio is responsible for Council's infrastructure assets, strives to make it easier to conduct business in our City and leads the Council's property portfolio and commercial businesses to generate income.

### Programs:

- Infrastructure
- Strategic Property and Commercial

Key Focus areas:

- Capital Works Program, including New and Upgrade and Renewals
- Main street revitalisation and improvements
- Delivery of initiatives as defined in the City of Adelaide Property Strategy
- Progress approved property development projects including Market Square, 88
   O'Connell, and the Former Bus Station site.

### **Planning & Budget Updates**

A number of budget changes have been considered during Quarter 3, for retiming into 2025/26. These projects include:

- Vincent Street & Vincent Place commencing in Quarter 4 2024/25 but extending into 2025/26.
- Torrens Lake Earth Retaining Structure.
- Street Tree Greening retiming of unspent budget in 2024/25 into 2025/26.
- Rymill Park Masterplan & Accessibility commenced, but staging of works around events will see work extend into 2025/26.
- O'Connell / Archer Blackspot intersection upgrade.

For Q3 budget review, Commercial Income has been increased by \$1.140m mainly driven by Commercial Parking as pricing decisions continue to provide higher revenue. Grants of \$0.197m were recognised in the quarter including Roads to Recovery.

Depreciation and interest costs increased by (\$0.560m) due to revaluations and recognition of a building impairment and lease extension.

Operating costs associated with capital projects \$0.276m have been offset by savings in Commercial expenditure \$0.197m (including consultancy of \$0.075m and transport activities \$0.015m.

Strategic projects provided savings of \$0.255m including a delay to the bridge maintenance program \$0.200m and savings in the Flinders Masterplan project of \$0.080m.

## **Portfolio Quarterly Highlights**

### <u>Infrastructure</u>

The Infrastructure Program has maintained strong delivery through to the end of Quarter 3, with a significant New & Upgrade and Renewals spend to the end of March 2025.

Key projects that have reached completion in Quarter 3 include the Charles Street redevelopment and the North-South Bikeway project along Frome Road.

Significant stormwater projects at Hutt Street/South Terrace and Unley Road Culvert have commenced.

The Street Tree Greening program is gathering momentum, with contracts awarded to a number of contractors, and trees beginning to be planted.

### Strategic Property and Commercial

Market Square progress has continued including slab construction up to level four.

Multiplex has also completed overhead protection works in the Adelaide Central Market with the installation of scaffolding at either ends of the Eastern Roadway (Grote and Gouger Street).

Consultant procurement for concept design has commenced for the Flinders Street housing project in order to build a project feasibility.

Renewal SA will seek detailed request for proposals from shortlisted proponents within the next month.

# City Infrastructure Portfolio Budget

			Q2	2 Budget			Pro	posed Q3	
	\$'000	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)
Operating Budget									
Revenue			58,694		58,694		60,031		60,031
Employee Costs		118.2		(12,153)	(12,153)	118.2		(12,143)	(12,143)
Materials				(20,508)	(20,508)			(20,368)	(20,368)
Sponsorships				(162)	(162)			(162)	(162)
Depreciation				(51,419)	(51,419)			(50,046)	(50,046)
Finance Costs				(506)	(506)			(2,440)	(2,440)
TOTAL		118.2	58,694	(84,748)	(26,054)	118.2	60,031	(85,159)	(25,128)
Program Budget									
Office of the Director		3.0	0	(699)	(699)	3.0	0	(699)	(699)
Infrastructure		69.3	488	(47,554)	(47,066)	69.3	684	(48,850)	(48,166)
Strategic Property and Commercial		44.9	57,240	(33,108)	24,132	44.9	58,381	(32,478)	25,903
Strategic Projects		1.0	966	(3,387)	(2,421)	1.0	966	(3,132)	(2,166)
TOTAL		118.2	58,694	(84,748)	(26,054)	118.2	60,031	(85,159)	(25,128)

		Q2	Budget	Proposed Q3		
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.	
Capital Projects						
New and Upgrade		5,999	(46,390)	6,245	(41,657)	
Renewal		487	(45,232)	684	(43,352)	
TOTAL		6,486	(95,188)	6,929	(100,406)	

## Infrastructure

		Q2 Budget Proposed Q3							
\$'	000	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)
Operating Budget									
Revenue			488		488		684		684
Employee Costs		69.3		(3,941)	(3,941)	69.3		(3,941)	(3,941)
Materials				(5,302)	(5,302)			(5,563)	(5,563)
Sponsorships				(162)	(162)			(162)	(162)
Depreciation				(38,149)	(38,149)			(39,184)	(39,184)
Finance Costs									0
TOTAL		69.3	488	(47,554)	(47,066)	69.3	684	(48,850)	(48,166)
Activity View									
Associate Director (office)		1.9		(674)	(674)	1.9		(674)	(674)
Infrastructure Planning and Delivery		45.6	488	(46,216)	(45,728)	45.6	684	(47,512)	(46,828)
Technical Services		21.8		(664)	(664)	21.8		(664)	(664)
TOTAL		69.3	488	(47,554)	(47,066)	69.3	684	(48,850)	(48,166)

		Q2 Budget		Proposed Q3	
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Operating Activities					
Free City Connector			(1,301)		(1,301)
TOTAL		0	(1,301)	0	(1,301)

		Q2 Budget		Proposed Q3	
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Strategic Projects					
Adelaide Park Lands Strategic Water Resources Study		0	(80)	0	(80)
Resilient Flood Planning		966	(1,723)	966	(1,723)
Bridge Maintenance Program		0	(400)	0	(200)
CLC & Eagle Chambers - Accommodation Planning		0	0	0	(25)
Heritage Strategy 2021 - 2036		0	(41)	0	(41)
Asset Condition Audit		0	(539)	0	(539)
SA Power Networks (SAPN) Luminaire Upgrades		0	(14)	0	(14)
Transport Strategy		0	(295)	0	(295)
North Adelaide Golf Course Water Feasibility Study		0	(26)	0	(26)
City Speed Limit Review		0	(27)	0	(27)
School Safety Review		0	(12)	0	(12)
TOTAL		966	(3,157)	966	(2,982)

			Q2 Budget		osed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Ехр.
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade		5,999	(22,436)	6,245	(17,690)
Renewal		487	(45,007)	684	(42,927)
TOTAL		6,486	(71,009)	6,929	(76,014)

# **Strategic Property and Commercial**

		Q	2 Budget		Proposed Q3				
\$'000	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Ехр.	Total(N)	
Operating Budget									
Revenue		57,240		57,240		58,381		58,381	
Employee Costs	44.9		(7,390)	(7,390)	44.9		(7,380)	(7,380)	
Materials			(11,942)	(11,942)			(11,796)	(11,796)	
Sponsorships				0				0	
Depreciation			(13,270)	(13,270)			(10,862)	(10,862)	
Finance Costs			(506)	(506)			(2,440)	(2,440)	
TOTAL	44.9	57,240	(33,108)	24,132	44.9	58,381	(32,478)	25,903	
Activity View									
Associate Director (office)	1.8		(431)	(431)	1.8		(410)	(410)	
Commercial	4.0	308	(852)	(544)	4.0	295	(923)	(628)	
Parking	17.8	45,304	(14,846)	30,458	17.8	46,351	(15,306)	31,045	
North Adelaide Golf Course	13.1	4,950	(5,100)	(150)	13.1	4,977	(5,097)	(120)	
Strategic Property Development	4.0		(821)	(821)	4.0		(771)	(771)	
Strategic Property Management	4.2	6,678	(11,058)	(4,380)	4.2	6,758	(9,971)	(3,213)	
TOTAL	44.9	57,240	(33,108)	24,132	44.9	58,381	(32,478)	25,903	

		2024/25 Q2		Proposed Q	
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Operating Activities					
N/A					
TOTAL		0	0	0	0

		2024	2024/25 Q2		osed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Strategic Projects					
218 - 232 Flinders Street Masterplan Investigations			(150)		(70)
88 O'Connell St Redevelopment			(80)		(80)
TOTAL			(230)		(150)

		2024/25 Q2		Proposed Q	
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade			(23,954)		(23,967)
Renewal			(225)		(425)
TOTAL			(24,179)		(24,392)

# **City Shaping Portfolio**

The City Shaping Portfolio leverages and celebrates our role as a Capital City Council and delivers the services that protect our heritage, Park Lands and urban environment and demonstrate our environment leadership now and into the future.

### Programs:

- City Operations
- Park Lands, Policy and Sustainability

### Subsidiary

Kadaltilla/Adelaide Park Lands Authority

### Key Focus areas:

- Adelaide Park Lands greening, management and improvements
- Developing the City Plan
- Kaurna heritage and voice and cultural mapping of the Adelaide Park Lands
- Heritage promotion and protection
- Maintenance of public realm and city presentation

### **Planning & Budget Updates**

Recognition of higher volumes of trade in the Green Waste Facility (Nursery) \$0.100m offset by higher expenditure incurred of (\$0.040m).

Recognition of event fee for service \$0.900m which is offset by additional expenditure of (\$0.900m).

Recognition of a grant for EV smart charging was received in the quarter \$0.015m.

Expenditure savings of \$0.235m partially funding strategic projects delivering the Business Plan for Park Lands Policy and Sustainability – Key Biodiversity Area Management Plan (\$0.075m), Disability Access and Inclusion Plan increase to delivery (\$0.030m), Climate Change Risk Assessment (\$0.145m).

Savings in the Design Code Amendment project of \$0.075m partially funded the new project for World Heritage Bid for the Park Lands of (\$0.130m).

Savings of \$0.040 in Reconciliation Action Plan.

Increases to budget to cover an Operational review in City Operations (\$0.045m) and partially fund the Fleet Asset Management Plan (\$0.015m) were also made.

Ongoing drier than average weather conditions are requiring higher than anticipated irrigation requirements. The full quantum of the cost impacts is not known at this time.

Instances of vandalism remains prevalent and is resulting in an unexpected budget pressure.

An update of the City of Adelaide's climate risk report will commence in Quarter 4 of 2024/25 in response to Council's preparation of a climate governance and reporting framework.

Council considered the Historic Area Statement Update Code Amendment on 11 March 2025 following public consultation and deferred the matter for further review and advice from Administration on the inclusion of 'Representative Buildings' in the Planning and Design Code.

### **Portfolio Quarterly Highlights**

### City Operations

The review of the 2012 Cleansing Service Standard is progressing, with the pilot program commencing on 10 March 2025. Prior to the pilot, community engagement was conducted through a survey to gather feedback, which will help shape the pilot and guide the assessment of findings, opportunities, and recommendations, which will be presented at a future Infrastructure and Public Works Committee meeting.

Service Standard workshops to align with adopted Asset Management Plans are ongoing. City Operations staff along with key parts of the organisation are working through Phase One of the project - defining Failure/Cause/Remedy and Asset Criticality for each Asset Class.

The Waste Services feasibility study is ongoing, with the consultant having met with key stakeholders to gather insights. Work continues on assessing options for the future of service delivery, ensuring recommendations are well-informed and comprehensive.

Our teams have been heavily involved in supporting the Events Team throughout the current events season, providing technical advice and on-the-ground assistance to ensure events run smoothly.

City Operations recently concluded the second round of de-silting operations within the Torrens Lake. This year, a contractor trialled a new piece of plant that proved to be highly successful.

### Park Lands Policy & Sustainability

The Business Accessibility Support Program pilot project launched in February 2025 with the support of the City of Adelaide Access and Inclusion Panel. The pilot cohort of local businesses are participating in accessibility workshops, one-on-one consultations, and tailored resources as part of the program design. The \$80,000 support fund was noted by Council on 11 February 2024 and is operational. Participating businesses have commenced project planning for accessibility improvements.

The Tentative List submission for the World Heritage Bid is progressing with work focused on establishing processes to enable consultation with Traditional Owners using the principles of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC). The Tentative List submission is being prepared in 2025 and targeting submission to the Federal Government by early 2026.

Council approved the Built Heritage Management Policy on 11 February 2025 which covers the conservation and promotion of built heritage places, historic character streetscapes, historic areas, archaeology, designed landscapes and public realm elements of Adelaide, North Adelaide and the Adelaide Park Lands.

### Kadaltilla/Adelaide Park Lands Authority

The draft Kadaltilla Business Plan and Budget 2025/2026 was delivered. A Cultural Burn Park Lands Site Tour was undertaken with City of Adelaide staff and members of the Board. Review of the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy (APLMS) Towards 2036 is ongoing including consultation with the State Government.

# City Shaping Portfolio Budget

		Q2	2 Budget		Proposed Q3			
\$'000	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)
Operating Budget								
Revenue		3,911		3,911		4,927		4,927
Employee Costs	269.8		(30,975)	(30,975)	269.8		(30,742)	(30,742)
Materials			(20,091)	(20,091)			(21,368)	(21,368)
Sponsorships			(2,183)	(2,183)			(2,213)	(2,213)
Depreciation			(1,787)	(1,787)			(1,732)	(1,732)
Finance Costs				0			0	0
TOTAL	269.8	3,911	(55,036)	(51,125)	269.8	4,927	(56,055)	(51,128)
Program Budget								
Office of the Director	3.0	0	(697)	(697)	3.0	0	(697)	(697)
Park Lands, Policy & Sustainability	35.6	79	(7,436)	(7,357)	35.6	95	(7,346)	(7,251)
City Operations	227.9	2,720	(44,336)	(41,616)	227.9	3,720	(45,325)	(41,605)
Kadaltilla / Park Lands Authority	1.3	328	(328)	0	1.3	328	(328)	0
Strategic Projects	2.0	784	(2,239)	(1,455)	2.0	784	(2,359)	(1,575)
TOTAL	269.8	3,911	(55,036)	(51,125)	269.8	4,927	(56,055)	(51,128)

		Q2	Budget	Prop	oosed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade		120	(4,149)	10	(4,149)
Renewal			(1,492)		(1,492)
TOTAL		120	(5,663)	10	(5,641)

# **City Operations**

	2024/25 Q2					Proposed Q3			
\$'000	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	
Operating Budget									
Revenue		2,720		2,720		3,720		3,720	
Employee Costs	227.9		(24,759)	(24,759)	227.9		(24,759)	(24,759)	
Materials			(17,790)	(17,790)			(18,834)	(18,834)	
Sponsorships			0	0				0	
Depreciation			(1,787)	(1,787)			(1,732)	(1,732)	
Finance Costs			0	0				0	
TOTAL	227.9	2,720	(44,336)	(41,616)	227.9	3,720	(45,325)	(41,605)	
Activity View									
Associate Director (office)	16.8	12	(2,977)	(2,965)	16.8	12	(3,037)	(3,025)	
Manager, City Maintenance	1.0	0	(200)	(200)	1.0	0	(200)	(200)	
Manager, City Presentation	1.0	0	(190)	(190)	1.0	0	(190)	(190)	
Cleansing	48.5	7	(7,309)	(7,302)	48.5	7	(7,309)	(7,302)	
Facilities	5.0	0	(3,169)	(3,169)	5.0	0	(3,204)	(3,204)	
Horticulture	84.7	2,428	(15,182)	(12,754)	84.7	3,328	(16,022)	(12,694)	
Infrastructure Maintenance	33.0	0	(5,907)	(5,907)	33.0	0	(5,852)	(5,852)	
Trades	25.0	253	(5,743)	(5,490)	25.0	353	(5,843)	(5,490)	
Waste	2.5	20	(3,116)	(3,096)	2.5	20	(3,116)	(3,096)	
Workshops	10.4	0	(543)	(543)	10.4	0	(552)	(552)	
TOTAL	227.9	2,720	(44,336)	(41,616)	227.9	3,720	(45,325)	(41,605)	

		2024	/25 Q2	Propo	sed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Operating Activities					
Safer City Program		0	(95)	0	(95)
TOTAL		0	(95)	0	(95)

		2024	/25 Q2	Propo	osed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Strategic Projects					
Waste Feasibility			(100)		(100)
TOTAL		0	(100)	0	(100)

		202	4/25 Q2	Prop	osed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade					
Renewal			(1,492)		(1,492)
TOTAL		0	(1492)	0	(1492)

# Park Lands, Policy & Sustainability

		Q2 Budget				Proposed Q3			
\$'000	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	
Operating Budget									
Revenue		79		79		95		95	
Employee Costs	35.6		(5,113)	(5,113)	35.6		(4,879)	(4,879)	
Materials			(863)	(863)			(1,007)	(1,007)	
Sponsorships			(1,460)	(1,460)			(1,460)	(1,460)	
Depreciation				0				0	
Finance Costs				0				0	
TOTAL	35.6	79	(7,436)	(7,357)	35.6	95	(7,346)	(7,251)	
Activity View									
Associate Director (office)	3.0		(485)	(485)	3.0		(434)	(434)	
City Planning and Heritage	17.2	44	(4,034)	(3,990)	17.2	45	(4,004)	(3,959)	
Low Carbon & Circular Economy	7.8	35	(1,674)	(1,639)	7.8	35	(1,757)	(1,722)	
Park Lands & Sustainability	7.6		(1,243)	(1,243)	7.6	15	(1,151)	(1,136)	
TOTAL	35.6	79	(7,436)	(7,357)	35.6	95	(7,346)	(7,251)	

		Q2 E		Pro	posed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Operating Activities					
Integrated Climate Strategy - SIS			(226)		(226)
City of Adelaide Prize			(30)		(30)
Integrated Climate Strategy - Carbon Neutral			(353)		(436)
Integrated Climate Strategy - Sustainability			(106)	15	(106)
Economic Policy			(42)		(42)
Heritage Incentive Scheme			(1,163)		(1,163)
Heritage Promotion Program			(182)		(181)
History Festival			(32)		(32)
Homelessness - Social and Affordable Housing			(160)		(160)
Homeless and Vulnerable People Project		44	(44)	44	(44)
NAIDOC Week Celebrations			(54)		(54)
Noise Management Program Incentive Scheme			(46)		(46)
Safer City Program			(197)		(197)
TOTAL		44	(2,635)	59	(2,717)

	Q2	Q2 Budget		posed Q3
\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Strategic Projects				
Social Planning Homelessness and Adelaide Zero Project Resourcing		(208)		(208)
Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027 Implementation		(140)		(100)
National Heritage Management Plan Implementation		(100)		(100)
Local Heritage Assessments - 20th Century Buildings		(50)		(50)
Homelessness Strategy Implementation		(40)		(40)
Historic Area Statement - Code Amendment		(112)		(112)
Economic Development Strategy Implementation		(106)		(106)
Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2024-2028 Implementation		(205)		(235)
Delivering the Planning and Design Code Amendment Program 23-26 (Yr 2)		(240)		(165)
Dry Areas Evaluation		(115)		(115)
Botanic Creek Rehabilitation (Community Planting)^	34	(72)	34	(72)
Adaptive Reuse City Housing Initiative^	250	(250)	250	(250)
Adaptive Re-use Housing Initiative Program (ARCHI)	250	(250)	250	(250)
Heritage Incentive Scheme - State Heritage Buildings	250	(250)	250	(250)
World Heritage Bid for the Park Lands				(130)
Key Biodiversity Area Management Plans				(75)
TOTAL	784	(2,138)	784	(2,258)

		Q2	Budget	Prop	oosed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade		120	(4,149)	10	(4,149)
Renewal					
TOTAL		120	(4171)	10	(4149)

# Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority

	2024/25 Q2					Proposed Q3			
	\$'000	FTE	Inc.	Ехр.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)
Operating Budget									
Revenue			328		328		328		328
Employee Costs		1.3		(175)	(175)	1.3		(175)	(175)
Materials				(138)	(138)			(138)	(138)
Sponsorships				(15)	(15)			(15)	(15)
Depreciation				0	0				0
Finance Costs				0	0				0
TOTAL		1.3	328	(328)	0	1.3	328	(328)	0
Activity View									
Kadaltilla		1.3	328	(328)	0	1.3	328	(328)	0
TOTAL		1.3	328	(328)	0	1.3	328	(328)	0

		202	4/25 Q2	Proposed Q3	
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Ехр.
Operating Activities					
N/A			0		
TOTAL		0	0,000	0	0,000

		2024	/25 Q2	Propo	sed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade					
Renewal					
TOTAL		0	0	0	0

		2024	4/25 Q2	Prop	osed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Ехр.
Strategic Projects					
N/A					
TOTAL		0	0,000	0	0,000

# Corporate Services Portfolio (including subsidiaries)

The Corporate Services Portfolio provides effective and efficient services and insights to strengthen and grow our organisational capability, and support a culture of accountability, transparency and innovation.

### Key Focus areas:

- Revised Strategic Management
   Framework and new Strategic Plan
- New and different ways to engage our community
- City of Adelaide Graduate program
- Update Long Term Financial Plan
- Development of Program Plans

### Programs:

- Finance and Procurement
- Governance & Strategy
- Information Management
- People

### Subsidiaries:

- Adelaide Central Market Authority
- Adelaide Economic Development Agency

### **Planning & Budget Updates**

Increase in rates objections of \$0.650m to reflect the increase in the number of objections that have been approved in 2024/25.

Recognition of a new strategic project of \$0.073m to undertake the Central Ward Election.

Increase in bank interest received of \$0.0300m to reflect an improved cash position is better than originally forecasted.

Increase in property income of \$0.087m within Adelaide Central Market.

Recognition of grant funding secured for Trader Sustainability Program of \$0.050m offset by additional expenditure of \$0.050m.

Recognition of grant funding received from Local Government Mutual Liability Scheme of \$0.088m offset by additional expenditure of \$0.088m to deliver leadership capability and field verification works.

Recognition of reimbursement of costs incurred during banking transition \$0.033m.

Transfer of \$0.021m from Rundle Mall operational budget to fund street lighting capital project in Rundle Mall laneway.

Recognition of Contribution to the Committee for Adelaide \$0.015m administered by Adelaide Economic Development Agency.

Increase in Rundle Mall Concession income \$0.120m, offset by additional activation activities in Rundle Mall.

Recognition of sales and expenditure related to the AEDA Business Summit \$0.100m (net nil).

### **Portfolio Quarterly Highlights**

#### Finance & Procurement

Rating Review commenced.

46 active procurements occurred in 2024/25 Quarter 3 to the value of \$48.845m.

#### Governance & Strategy

Appointment of Core Committee Chairs successfully approved by Council with appointments through to the end of the Council term, this included approval of the Core Committee meeting schedule.

Exercise Firecracker was named a Finalist in the LG Annual Awards for Excellence in Emergency Management / Disaster Recovery.

Progressed the 2024/25 Business Plan & Budget Quarter 3 Report.

In Quarter 3 the City of Adelaide submitted eight grant opportunities to the value of \$12 million.

Reported on the Integrated Community Engagement Framework for Quarter 2 2024/25.

Commenced the City User Profile Survey for 2025.

Continued workshops with the Council for the development of the 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget.

#### <u>Information Management</u>

Data Analytics roadmap defined and is progressing as planned.

The new Contact Centre software successfully implemented.

Improvements to the Service Desk processes have been implemented and updates to the staff portal has been rolled out to make is easier and simpler to use.

#### <u>People</u>

Organisational Culture Action plan, arising from the 2024 Culture Survey, created and endorsed by Executive and communicated to staff.

City of Adelaide's Graduate program shortlisted for LG Professional's Excellence in People and Culture Award.

Continued roll out of workforce planning framework with an additional five programs commencing workforce planning in Quarter 3.

#### Adelaide Central Market Authority

Successful in winning a \$0.100m Green Industries SA LEAP Grant to deliver a Trader Sustainability Program, in partnership with local sustainability experts 2XE Research.

Friday Nights at the Adelaide Central Market voted Australia's favourite food experience in the 2025 Delicious 100 awards which gained additional media coverage and showed strong national support.

#### Adelaide Economic Development Agency

Rundle Mall achieved record breaking foot traffic (681,000 people) over the 21-23 March weekend coinciding with the Inaugural Colours of Asia Festival, the last weekend of the Adelaide Fringe Festival and the Port Adelaide vs Richmond AFL game at the Adelaide Oval.

The See for Yourself campaign was extended from January – April 2025 with a focus on Experiences, Food & Drink (with a new daytime focus), Nightlife, Events & Festivals, Retail, and Families (new) with over 45 businesses and events featured.

Business Events Adelaide, a recipient of the Adelaide Economic Development Agency Strategic Partnership Program, announced \$540 million economic value from business events won in the first six months of this financial year.

Five events and festivals supported through the Events and Festivals Sponsorship program and nine events and festivals supported through the Commercial Events Sponsorship Program during Quarter 3.

74 businesses (YTD) have been engaged on relocation and investment opportunities that have the potential of an additional 4,100+ jobs within Adelaide and North Adelaide.

The \$5.9 million Charles Street upgrade completed in March 2025 and transformed the laneway into a key pedestrian-focused link between North Terrace and the Rundle Mall precinct.

Adelaide Economic Development Agency conducted a Visitor Economy Industry Update on 19 February at U-City amongst 60+ tourism representatives. The session included an update on visitor expenditure, travel behaviours and trends from the SA Tourism Commission, an outline on the Adelaide Economic Development Agency Visitor Economy Guiding Framework, and an update on the latest destination marketing campaign encouraging South Australians to the visit the city.

# Corporate Services Portfolio Budget

	Q2 Budget					Proposed Q3				
\$'000	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)		
Operating Budget										
Revenue		152,172		152,172		151,966		151,966		
Employee Costs	165.8		(14,212)	(14,212)	165.8		(9,550)	(9,550)		
Materials			(28,119)	(28,119)			(33,199)	(33,199)		
Sponsorships			(3,749)	(3,749)			(3,764)	(3,764)		
Depreciation			(1,064)	(1,064)			(1,244)	(1,244)		
Finance Costs			(7)	(7)			(7)	(7)		
TOTAL	165.8	152,172	(47,151)	105,021	165.8	151,966	(47,764)	104,202		
Program Budget										
Office of the COO	5.0	0	(1,014)	(1,014)	5.0	0	(1,014)	(1,014)		
Finance and Procurement	28.8	138	(4,821)	(4,683)	28.8	138	(4,821)	(4,683)		
Governance and Strategy	23.3	0	(6,056)	(6,056)	23.3	0	(6,065)	(6,065)		
Information Management	35.0	31	(14,001)	(13,970)	35.0	31	(14,181)	(14,150)		
People <sup>^</sup>	28.8	0	(4,660)	(4,660)	28.8	88	(4,748)	(4,660)		
Corporate Activities	3.0	142,243	3,264	145,507	3.0	141,559	3,265	144,824		
ACMA	9.8	5,343	(5,880)	(537)	9.8	5,430	(5,879)	(449)		
AEDA	31.6	4,417	(12,455)	(8,038)	31.6	4,637	(12,670)	(8,033)		
Strategic Projects	0.5	0	(1,528)	(1,528)	0.5	83	(1,651)	(1,568)		
TOTAL	165.8	152,172	(47,151)	105,021	165.8	151,966	(47,764)	104,202		

		Q2 E	Budget	Proposed Q3	
	\$'000	Inc.	Ехр.	Inc.	Exp.
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade		3,954	(4,257)	3,954	(1,591)
Renewal			(3,615)		(5,058)
TOTAL		3,954	(7,872)	3,954	(6,649)

<sup>^</sup> Includes 10.0 FTE Graduates allocated in business units across the Administration.

## **Finance and Procurement**

	Q2 Budget					ı	Proposed Q3	
\$'000	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)
Operating Budget								
Revenue		138		138		138		138
Employee Costs	28.8		(4,087)	(4,087)	28.8		(4,087)	(4,087)
Materials			(734)	(734)			(734)	(734)
Sponsorships			0	0			0	0
Depreciation			0	0			0	0
Finance Costs			0	0			0	0
TOTAL	28.8	138	(4,821)	(4,683)	28.8	138	(4,821)	(4,683)
Activity View								
Manager	1.0		(288)	(288)	1.0		(288)	(288)
Financial Planning & Reporting	13.0		(1,984)	(1,984)	13.0		(1,984)	(1,984)
Procurement & Contract Management	7.8		(1,063)	(1,063)	7.8		(1,063)	(1,063)
Rates & Receivables	7.0	138	(1,486)	(1,348)	7.0	138	(1,486)	(1,348)
TOTAL	28.8	138	(4,821)	(4,683)	28.8	138	(4,821)	(4,683)

		Q2 B	udget	Proposed Q3	
	\$'000	Inc.	Ехр.	Inc.	Exp.
Operating Activities					
N/A					
TOTAL		0	0	0	0

		Q2 Budge		Propo	sed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Strategic Projects					
Banking Transition				33	
TOTAL		0	0	33	0

		Q2B	udget	Proposed Q3	
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade					
Renewal					
TOTAL		0	0	0	0

## **Governance & Strategy**

				Q2 Budget			ı	Proposed Q3	;
\$'	000 F	TE	Inc.	Ехр.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)
Operating Budget									
Revenue					0				0
Employee Costs	2	23.3		(3,031)	(3,031)	23.3		(3,031)	(3,031)
Materials				(3,025)	(3,025)			(3,034)	(3,034)
Sponsorships				0	0			0	0
Depreciation				0	0			0	0
Finance Costs				0	0			0	0
TOTAL	2	23.3	0	(6,056)	(6,056)	23.3	0	(6,065)	(6,065)
Activity View									
Manager	•	1.0		(343)	(343)	1.0		(343)	(343)
Corporate Governance	Ę	5.2		(3,183)	(3,183)	5.2		(3,183)	(3,183)
Council Governance		5.1		(1,110)	(1,110)	5.1		(1,110)	(1,110)
Legal Governance	(	0.0		0	0	0.0		0	0
Project Management Office		5.0		(258)	(258)	5.0		(258)	(258)
Strategy & Insights	-	7.0		(1,162)	(1,162)	7.0		(1,171)	(1,171)
TOTAL	2	23.3	0	(6,056)	(6,056)	23.3	0	(6,065)	(6,065)

		Q2 B	udget	Proposed Q3		
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.	
Operating Activities						
N/A						
TOTAL		0	0	0	0	

		Q2 Budget		Proposed Q3	
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Strategic Projects					
ESCOSA Review			(40)		(40)
Supplementary Election 2025					(73)
TOTAL			(40)		(113)

		Q2 Budget		Proposed Q3	
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade					
Renewal					
TOTAL		0	0	0	0

# **Information Management**

	Q2 Budget					Proposed Q3			
\$'000	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	
Operating Budget									
Revenue		31		31		31		31	
Employee Costs	35.0		(4,657)	(4,657)	35.0		(4,116)	(4,116)	
Materials			(8,405)	(8,405)			(8,946)	(8,946)	
Sponsorships				0				0	
Depreciation			(939)	(939)			(1,119)	(1,119)	
Finance Costs				0				0	
TOTAL	35.0	31	(14,001)	(13,970)	35.0	31	(14,181)	(14,150)	
Activity View									
Manager	10.0	8	(1,420)	(1,412)	10.0	8	(1,419)	(1,411)	
Project Delivery	11.0		(2,602)	(2,602)	11.0		(2,603)	(2,603)	
Service Desk	6.0	23	(8,811)	(8,788)	6.0	23	(8,991)	(8,968)	
Technology, Infrastructure and Platforms	8.0		(1,168)	(1,168)	8.0		(1,168)	(1,168)	
TOTAL	35.0	31	(14,001)	(13,970)	35.0	31	(14,181)	(14,150)	

		Q2	Budget	Proposed Q3	
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Operating Activities					
Business Systems Roadmap			(1,600)		(1,600)
TOTAL		0	(1.600)	0	(1,600)

		Q2	Budget	Proposed Q3	
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Strategic Projects					
Contact Centre Software Replacement			(450)		(450)
Cyber Security Enhancement			(85)		(85)
TOTAL		0	(535)	0	(535)

		Q2	Budget	Proposed Q3		
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.	
Capital Projects						
New and Upgrade			(233)		(330)	
Renewal			(3,615)		(4,978)	
TOTAL		0	(3,848)	0	(5,308)	

## People

				Q2 Budget			ı	Proposed Q3	3
	\$'000	FTE	Inc.	Ехр.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Ехр.	Total(N)
Operating Budget									
Revenue					0		88		88
Employee Costs		28.8		(3,491)	(3,491)	28.8		(3,491)	(3,491)
Materials				(1,169)	(1,169)			(1,257)	(1,257)
Sponsorships									0
Depreciation									0
Finance Costs									0
TOTAL		28.8	0	(4,660)	(4,660)	28.8	88	(4,748)	(4,660)
Activity View									
Manager		3.0		(576)	(576)	3.0		(576)	(576)
People Experience		15.8		(2,249)	(2,249)	15.8	60	(2,309)	(2,249)
People Safety and Wellbeing		4.0		(768)	(768)	4.0	28	(796)	(768)
People Services		6.0		(1,067)	(1,067)	6.0		(1,067)	(1,067)
TOTAL		28.8	0	(4,660)	(4,660)	28.8	88	(4,748)	(4,660)

		Q2	Budget	Proposed Q3	
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Operating Activities					
Graduate Employment Program			(841)		(841)
TOTAL		0	(841)	0	(841)

		Q2 B	Budget	Propo	sed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Strategic Projects					
N/A					
TOTAL		0	0	0	0

		Q2 E	Budget	Propo	sed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade					
Renewal					
TOTAL		0	0	0	0

# Adelaide Central Market Authority (ACMA)

	Q2 Budget				Proposed Q3			
\$'000	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)
Operating Budget								
Revenue		5,343		5,343		5,430		5,430
Employee Costs	9.8		(1,580)	(1,580)	9.8		(1,580)	(1,580)
Materials			(4,263)	(4,263)			(4,262)	(4,262)
Sponsorships								0
Depreciation			(36)	(36)			(36)	(36)
Finance Costs			(1)	(1)			(1)	(1)
TOTAL	9.8	5,343	(5,880)	(537)	9.8	5,430	(5,879)	(449)
Activity View								
ACMA Operations	9.8	5,257	(5,246)	11	9.8	5,344	(5,245)	99
Market Expansion	0.0		(399)	(399)	0.0		(399)	(399)
Online Market Platform	0.0	86	(235)	(149)	0	86	(235)	(149)
TOTAL	9.8	5,343	(5,880)	(537)	9.8	5,430	(5,879)	(449)

		Q2 E	Budget	Propo	sed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Operating Activities					
N/A					
TOTAL		0	0	0	0

		Q2 I	Budget	Proposed Q3		
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.	
Strategic Projects						
ACMA Traders Sustainability Program Stage 1				50	(50)	
Adelaide Central Market Expansion Operational Preparedness			(220)		(220)	
TOTAL		0	0	50	(50)	

		Q2 B	udget	Propo	sed Q3
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade					
Renewal					
TOTAL		0	0	0	0

## **Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA)**

		(	Q2 Budget			Pro	posed Q3	
\$'000	FTE	Inc.	Ехр.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N
Operating Budget								
Revenue		4,417		4,417		4,637		4,637
Employee Costs	31.6		(4,676)	(4,676)	31.6		(4,656)	(4,656
Materials			(4,436)	(4,436)			(4,656)	(4,656
Sponsorships			(3,249)	(3,249)			(3,264)	(3,264
Depreciation			(88)	(88)			(88)	(88)
Finance Costs			(6)	(6)			(6)	(6)
TOTAL	31.6	4,417	(12,455)	(8,038)	31.6	4,637	(12,670)	(8,033
Activity View			, , ,	, ,		,	, ,	\ ,
General Manager AEDA	2.0		(572)	(572)	2.0		(587)	(587)
Business and Investment	7.0		(2,618)	(2,618)	7.0	100	(2,718)	(2,618
Marketing	8.0		(1,917)	(1,917)	8.0		(1,918)	(1,918
Rundle Mall Management	9.6	4,398	(4,391)	7	9.6	4,518	(4,490)	28
Visitor Economy	5.0	19	(2,957)	(2,938)	5.0	19	(2,957)	(2,938
TOTAL	31.6	4,417	(12,455)	(8,038)	31.6	4,637	(12,670)	(8,03
	01.0	.,	(12,100)	(0,000)	0 1.10	1,007	(,0,0,	(0,000
					Q2	Budget	Propo	osed Q3
				\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Operating Activities								
Adelaide Fashion Week						(310)		(310)
Business Growth - Business Suppor	t					(172)		(172)
Data and Insights						(198)		(359)
AEDA Summit							100	(100)
Event and Festival Sponsorship						(1,932)		(1,932)
General Marketing						(408)		(408)
Growth Precinct Support						(184)		(184)
Strategic Partnerships						(1,108)		(1,108)
Visitor Growth - Tourism Projects						(180)		(180)
TOTAL					0	(4,492)	100	(4,753)
					02	Budget	Propo	sed Q3
				\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Strategic Projects								
Rundle Mall Live Music Program						(100)		(100)
Tourism and Business Attraction						(133)		(133)
Commercial Events and Festivals Sp	onsors	hip Progr	am			(500)		(500)
TOTAL		<u> </u>			0	(733)	0	(733)
							_	osed Q3
				\$'000	Q2 Inc.	Budget Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Capital Projects				Ψ		EAp.		
Capitat Fiojects								
New and Upgrade					3,954	(4,024)	3,954	(1,261

3,954 (4,024) 3,954

(1,341)

TOTAL

# Offices and Regional Subsidiary

## Office of the Chief Executive Officer (OCEO) / Office of the Lord Mayor (OLM)

OCEO Supports the CEO to lead a sustainable, successful organisation, to make well informed decisions to deliver on Council's priorities, and to foster productive partnerships both with industry, and local government and other government bodies through the delivery of effective intergovernmental relations.

OLM Supports the Lord Mayor and Council Members to foster productive relationships with peak bodies, other government bodies and the community, to deliver our strategic priorities, plan, and fulfil our Capital City leadership responsibilities.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Capital City oversight
- Communication and public relations
- Executive support and administration
- Grants and advocacy
- Partnerships and intergovernmental relations
- Civic protocols and events
- Communication and public relations
- Lord Mayor and Council administration
- Partnerships and intergovernmental relations

## **Planning & Budget Updates**

Reduction of budget in the Office of the Lord Mayor due to current year savings in events and International Relations budgets \$0.146m.

Transfer of International Relations budget to City Culture Program

Allocation of budget to the Office of the Chief Executive Officer \$0.050m for Renew Adelaide supplementary grant funding

## **Quarterly Highlights**

On 24 January 2025, the Lord Mayor hosted the quarterly Citizenship Ceremony & Citizen of the Year Awards.

On 13 February 2025 the Lord Mayor attended a two-day conference with The University of Melbourne's Centre for Cities as part of their Night Shift project which was sponsored by the Council of Capital City Lord Mayors, joining the Lord Mayor of Melbourne Nick Reece and 24-hour economy experts in panels discussing the future of our nighttime economies.

The Lord Mayor and CEO attended the Capital City Committee meeting on 26 February 2025.

The Key to the City was awarded to Electric Fields (an Australian electronic music duo made up of vocalist Zaachariaha Fielding and keyboard player and producer Michael Ross) on 13 March 2025 at a Civic Event hosted by the Lord Mayor.

A total of five civic events were delivered during the quarter.

			Q2 Budget		Proposed Q3			
\$'000	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total(N)
Operating Budget								
Revenue								0
Employee Costs	10.3		(1,808)	(1,808)	10.3		(1,808)	(1,808)
Materials			(1,289)	(1,289)			(1,128)	(1,128)
Sponsorships			0	0			(50)	(50)
Depreciation			0	0			0	0
Finance Costs			0	0			0	0
TOTAL	10.3		(3,097)	(3,097)	10.3	0	(2,986)	(2,986)
Program Budget								
Office of the Chief Executive	4.0		(1,457)	(1,457)	4.0		(1,507)	(1,507)
Civic Event, Partnerships, and Other Events			(482)	(482)			(321)	(321)
Lord Mayor's Office Administration	6.3		(1,158)	(1,158)	6.3		(1,158)	(1,158)
TOTAL	10.3		(3,097)	(3,097)	10.3		(2,986)	(2,986)

		Q2 E	Budget	Proposed Q3	
	\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Operating Activities					
International Relations (Sister Cities)		0	(95)	0	0
Supplementary Funding To Renew Adelaide		0	0	0	(50)
TOTAL		0	(95)	0	(65)

There are no Strategic or Capital Projects for OCEO and OLM.

#### **Brown Hill and Keswick Creek Stormwater Board**

The Regional Subsidiary, known as the Brown Hill and Keswick Creek Stormwater Board, was established in February 2018. The Board coordinates the delivery of the Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project, which is a collaborative undertaking between the Cities of Adelaide, Burnside, Mitcham, Unley and West Torrens. The Board is governed by a Charter prepared by these five constituent Councils and subsequently approved by the Minister for Local Government.

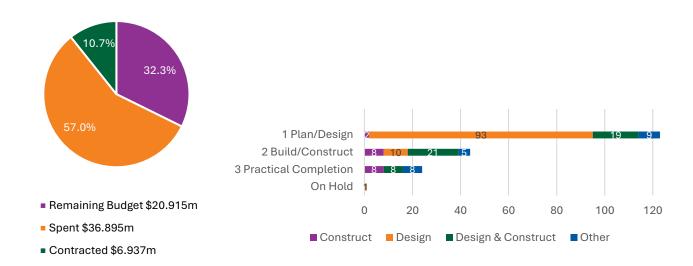
Reporting for this Board is done separately and is not embedded in the City of Adelaide's quarterly report reporting, however, where available, the Board's own report and plans will be provided as attachments as well as being available on the Board's website.

# **Projects**

## Capital New and Upgrade

New and Upgrade projects are works of a capital nature that are either introducing new assets or significantly upgrading existing assets, usually by extending the footprint of an asset or increasing the level of service an asset provides.

### **Approved Budget**



### **Budget Highlights**

The New and Upgrade budget has decreased by \$8.134m from the approved Quarter 2 budget of \$64.747m to a proposed Quarter 3 budget of \$56.613m due to the re-timing of projects into future years \$8.271m (Main Street Revitalisation, Experience Adelaide – Visitor Centre, O'Connell/Archer Intersection project, Integrated Climate Strategy – City Public Realm Greening project, Rymill Park / Murlawirrapurka - Masterplan Safety and accessibility works, Torrens Lake retaining structure, Vincent St/Vincent Place streetscape improvements, Hutt Street Entry statement and Golden Wattle Park / Mirnu Wirra - Community Sports Building, Project Delivery Management costs) offset by a new grant of \$0.1m from the State Bike Fund for the Bonython Park Shared Use Path project, by accrued grant interest in Quarter 3 of \$0.017m and a funding increase to the Twin Street Festoon Lighting project funded from the Rundle Mall levy \$0.02m.

## **Key Achievements**

During the quarter, 12 New and Upgrade projects achieved practical completion, including sections of the North-South Bikeway project, 218-232 Flinders Street (demolition), City Activation – Festoon Lighting and Communication Server Relocation (Adelaide Central Market).

Quarter 3 saw the commencement of delivery of the Vincent Street/Vincent Place streetscape improvements project and the Torrens Lake retaining structure project as well as the commencement of design of the Twin Street festoon lighting.

Several projects have signed contracts for intended works including greening projects and Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master Plan implementation.

## 2024/25 New and Upgrade Projects

For the purposes of reporting in the table below, please note that some projects have been 'rolled' up into themed groups where there is similarity of works being undertaken – i.e cycling projects (Bikeways) and Greening (Greener City Streets).

		Plan			Expenditu	ıre (\$'000)	
Project	D	elivered by	Q	2 Budget	Proposed Q3	Variance	Stage
City Community Portfolio							
City Culture							
Aquatic Centre Community Playing Field - Park 2			•	3,589	3,589	0	Build/ Construct
Market to Riverbank Link Project^		Jul 25	•	43	43	0	Build/ Construct
Golden Wattle Park / Mirnu Wirra (Park 21 West) - Community Sports Building (detailed design)		Mar 27	•	100	235	(135)	Design Only
Main Street Revitalisation - Melbourne Street (planning)	•	Jun 26	•	0	0	0	On Hold
City of Music Laneways - The Angels Artwork		Jun 25	•	61	61	0	Plan/ Design
Honouring Women in the Chamber - Portrait Commissions	•	Jun 25	•	15	15	0	Plan/ Design
Iparrityi Commission for Whitmore Square	_	Jun 26	•	0	0	0	Plan/ Design
Place of Courage^	•	Jun 26		0	0	0	Plan/ Design
Public Art	•	Jun 25		42	42	0	Plan/ Design
Public Art Action Plan Deliverables		Jun 26		100	100	0	Plan/ Design
Ruby Hunter & Archie Roach Laneway Artwork		Jun 26		0	0	0	Plan/ Design
Christmas 2024	•	Complete		188	177	11	Practical Completion
City Activation (Festoon Lighting)	_	Complete	_	49	90	(41)	Practical Completion
City Infrastructure Portfolio							Completion
Infrastructure							
Automated External Defibrillators Installation on Designated Council Buildings	•	Apr 25		342	101	241	Build/ Construct
Adelaide Park Lands Trail – Sir Donald Bradman Drive - New Bike and Pedestrian Actuated Crossing					50	(50)	Design Only
Adelaide Town Hall - David Spence Room and Prince Alfred Room - TV and False Wall	•	Complete	•	82	82	0	Practical Completion
Belair-City Bikeway / Adelaide Park Lands Trail – Glen Osmond Road - New Bike and Pedestrian Actuated Crossing					50	(50)	Design Only
Bikeways (North-South)^	<b>*</b>	Dec 24		1,648	1,648	0	Build/ Construct
Black Spot Funding 23/24 Signage		Complete		3	3	0	Practical
Blackspot program - O'Connell Street and Archer Street Intersection Traffic Signal Safety Upgrade (Construction)^	<u> </u>			350	0	350	Completion Plan/ Design
Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli Shared Path Lighting, Retaining wall and Footpath Upgrade (Construction)*^	•	Feb 26	•	0	100	(100)	Plan/ Design
Botanic Catchment Water Course Rehabilitation*^	<u> </u>		<u> </u>	353	353	0	Plan/ Design
Brown Hill Keswick Creek - Stormwater Project		Jun 25		320	320	0	Plan/ Design
Charles Street – Streetscape Upgrade Major Project^	•	Apr 25	•	5,888	5,188	700	Build/ Construct
Communication Server Relocation and Associated Services (Central Market)	•	Complete	•	300	140	160	Practical Completion
Field Street Improvements (Construction)*	•	Complete	•	543	538	5	Practical Completion

		Plan		Expenditure (\$'000)				
Project	D	elivered by	Q	Q2 Budget Pro		Variance	Stage	
Field Street Planters		Jun 25		30	30	0	Build/ Construct	
Francis Street Public Art	•	Complete	•	28	28	0	Practical Completion	
Frome Street - Footpath Upgrades	_	Complete	•	462	462	0	Practical Completion	
Glen Osmond Road / Hutt Road and Carriageway Park / Tuthangga (Park 17) Improvements (detailed design)*^				20	20	0	Design Only	
Glen Osmond Road / Hutt Road Intersection Upgrade			•	22	22	0	Design Only	
Greener City Streets Program^	_	Mar 25	•	228	228	0	Build/ Construct	
Hutt Rd and South Tce Intersection Traffic Signal Upgrade Black Spot^	•	Jun 25	•	148	148	0	Build/ Construct	
Hutt Road / Park Lands Trail Signalised Crossing (Construction)^	<u> </u>	Complete	<u> </u>	222	258	(36)	Practical Completion	
Hutt Street and South Terrace – Stormwater Improvements*	_	Jul 25	•	224	224	0	Build/ Construct	
Hutt Street Entry Statement Project^	•	Apr 25	_	1,355	1,126	229	Build/ Construct	
James Place - Upgrade*	•	Mar 26	_	0	0	0	Plan/ Design	
Kingston Terrace Bus Stop Upgrades (Construction)		Sep 25	<u> </u>	157	157	0	Plan/ Design	
Light Square Electrical Infrastructure Upgrade		Complete	•	131	131	0	Practical Completion	
Main Street Revitalisation - Gouger Street (detailed design)*	•	Jan 27	•	662	449	213	Plan/ Design	
Main Street Revitalisation - Hindley Street*^	•	May 27	•	1,325	640	685	Plan/ Design	
Main Street Revitalisation - Hutt Street (detailed design)*	•		_	400	208	192	Design Only	
Main Street Revitalisation - Melbourne Street (planning)	•	Jun 26	•	100	100	0	On Hold	
Main Street Revitalisation - Melbourne Street Improvements^	•	Aug 25	•	697	697	0	Build/ Construct	
Main Street Revitalisation - O'Connell Street (detailed design)	•	Feb 27	•	1,024	1,024	0	Design Only	
Market to Riverbank Link Project^	•	Jul 25	•	440	510	(70)	Build/ Construct	
Memorial Bench Seat - Alifia Soeryo - Bullrush Park/Warnpangga	•		•		11	(11)	Plan/ Design	
Minor Traffic Signal Safety Upgrades - 3G Hardware Replacement	•	Complete	•	7	0	7	Practical Completion	
Mistletoe Park/ Tainmuntilla (Park 11) Shared Use Path Renewal & Public Lighting Upgrade*^	•	May 25	•	188	188	0	Build/ Construct	
New Access Ramps for Accessible Car Parks (Construction)	•		•	10	0	10	Cancelled	
New Parents Room with store room (Central Market)	•		•	55	55	0	Design Only	
North Adelaide Golf Links - Renewal Planning*			•	80	0	80	Deferred	
Old Police Station Horticulture Shed - New Air Conditioning Install	•		•		6	(6)	Plan/ Design	
Park 27B Hellas Sports club building and lighting upgrade (grant)^	_		_	178	196	(18)	Design Only	
Peacock Road Cycle Route			•		50	(50)	Design Only	
Public Lighting Alterations - 176 Mackinnon Parade, North Adelaide		Complete	<u> </u>	23	23	0	Practical Completion	
Royal Avenue – Improvements				0	0	0	Build/ Construct	

		Plan		Expenditure (\$'000)				
Project	D	elivered by	q	2 Budget	Proposed Q3	Variance	Stage	
Rymill Park / Murlawirrapurka (Park 14) – Master Plan Safety and Accessibility Works*^	•	Jul 25	•	822	92	730	Build/ Construct	
Rymill Park / Murlawirrapurka (Park 14) Public Lighting Upgrade (Construction)^	•	Jul 25	•	357	357	0	Build/ Construct	
Rymill Park /Murlawirrapurka (Park 14) Lake Upgrade (Construction)*^	•	Mar 25	•	309	308	1	Build/ Construct	
School Safety Implementation Project	•	Jun 25		100	100	0	Plan/ Design	
Torrens retaining structure	_	Sep 25		1,600	1,011	589	Build/ Construct	
Vincent Street and Vincent Place – Improvements*	_			1,203	258	945	Build/ Construct	
West Pallant Project Steet Lighting Design*			•	0	0	0	Plan/ Design	
Strategic Property and Commercial								
218-232 Flinders Street		Complete		203	216	(13)	Practical Completion	
Central Market Arcade Options		Feb 26	•	409	409	0	Build/ Construct	
Central Market Arcade Redevelopment		Feb 26		21,842	21,842	0	Build/ Construct	
South West Community Centre	•	Jun 25	•	1,500	1,500	0	Plan/ Design	
City Shaping Portfolio		i			.1		<u> </u>	
City Operations			•					
Plant and Fleet Replacement Program			•	0	0	0	Cancelled	
Park Lands, Policy & Sustainability		<u>i</u>					<u> </u>	
Laneways Recycling Project**	_	Feb 25		10	10	0	Build/ Construct	
Light Square / Wauwi – Master Plan (detailed design)				250	250	0	Design Only	
Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2024-2028 Implementation				100	100	0	Plan/ Design	
Integrated Climate Strategy – City Public Realm Greening Program^	_		_	3,459	3,459	0	Plan/ Design	
Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master Plan implementation	•			250	250	0	Plan/ Design	
Integrated Climate Strategy (ICS)		Complete		80	80	0	Practical Completion	
Corporate Services Portfolio							Competion	
Corporate Activities							<u> </u>	
Project Delivery Management Costs (Overheads)*	•		•	5,764	4,864	900	Build/ Construct	
Information Management							<u> </u>	
GIS Spatial Laptops*	•	Complete	•	8	8	0	Practical Completion	
HR System - Implementation of Integration Suite		May 25		200	200	0	Build/ Construc	
ICT Network Connectivity - Gardeners Shed*		Jun 25			80	(80)	Plan/ Design	
Microsoft Teams Enabled Room - Lord Mayor's Office		Complete		25	25	0	Practical Completion	
Teams Room Equipment - COO Office and CLC3 Pirie	•	Complete	•		17	(17)	Practical Completion	
Adelaide Economic Development Agency							*	
Experience Adelaide Centre^		Dec 25		3,954	1,170	2,784	Plan/ Design	
Rundle Mall Sound System*		Nov 25	•	50	50	0	Plan/ Design	
Twin Street Lighting - request for new decorative lighting installation	•		•	20	41	(21)	Plan/ Design	
Total New and Upgrade Program				64,747	56,613	8,134		

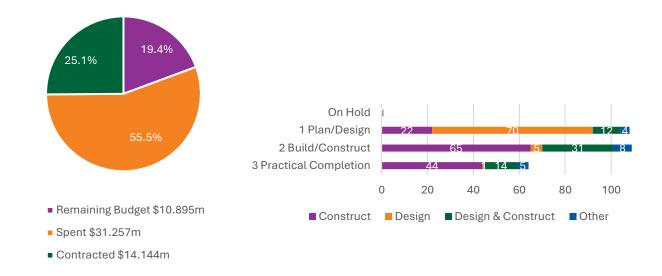
<sup>\*</sup> in addition to this budget there is a renewal amount which is reflected separately in the Renewal Program Table
\*\* fully grant funded

<sup>^</sup> partially grant funded

## **Capital Renewal**

Renewals are works of a capital nature that are replacing an existing asset like for like, or like for modern equivalent.

### **Approved Budget**



### **Budget Updates**

The Renewals budget has remained at \$56.296m.

### **Key Achievements**

During the quarter, 30 renewal projects achieved practical completion, including Public Art renewal projects, various road and footpaths projects, Urban Element Renewal projects, Colonel Light Centre lift renewals and some ICT renewal projects.

Quarter 3 saw the commencement of delivery of the following projects: Unley Road stormwater culvert renewal, South Terrace/Hutt Street Stormwater improvements, several traffic signal renewals and Urban Element renewal projects.

Several projects have signed contracts for the intended works. This includes footpath renewal on Grenfell Street, Glen Osmond Road (North) lighting renewal, public art renewals and Mills Terrace renewals.

## 2024/25 Renewal Budget by Category

\$'000	Q2 Budget	Proposed Q3	Variance	
Bridges	320	266	54	▼
Buildings	12,390	11,751	639	▼
ICT Renewals	2,061	3,102	(1,041)	<b>A</b>
Light'g & Electrical	3,159	3,462	(303)	<b>A</b>
Park Lands Assets	2,066	1,984	82	▼
Plant and Fleet	1,995	2,235	(240)	<b>A</b>
Traffic Signal	3,385	3,663	(278)	<b>A</b>
Transport	14,316	14,644	(328)	<b>A</b>
Urban Elements	2,893	2,488	405	▼
Water Infrastructure	8,046	7,036	1,010	▼
Project Management Delivery Costs	5,665	5,665	0	<b>&gt;</b>
Total Renewal Program	56,296	56,296	0	-

## 2024/25 Renewal Projects by Category and Project Phase

Category	Total*	Design only	Plan/Design	Build/Construct	On Hold	Complete
Bridges	3	1	2			
Buildings	46	8	10	14	1	13
ICT Renewals	17		10	3		4
Light'g & Electrical	31	17	1	8		5
Park Lands Assets	18	6	2	7		3
Plant and Fleet	10		4	4		2
Traffic Signal	11		1	9		1
Transport	83	23	5	29		26
Urban Elements	53	12	2	29		10
Water Infrastructure	10	3	1	6		
Total	282	70	38	109	1	64

<sup>\*</sup>Total Project count: mixed funded projects are only counted once in the total project count.

#### Note:

- Transport is made up of Roads, Pathways and Kerb and Water Table
- Plant and Fleet includes Commercial Plant and Fleet
- Some projects have been broken down into sub-projects, so total appears different

## **Strategic**

Strategic Projects are generally 'one off' or short-lived activities that have been prioritised to be delivered within a specific timeframe to meet strategic outcomes, often as a result of Council decisions and/or partnerships.

### **Budget Updates**

Quarter 3 has seen the Strategic Projects program reduce by \$0.025m overall, from the approved Quarter 2 budget of \$7.928m to a proposed Quarter 3 budget of \$7.903m.

This decrease is attributed to reduced forecast spend in the Bridge Maintenance Program of \$0.200m, 218-232 Flinders Street Master Plan Investigations of \$0.080m, Delivering the Planning and Design Code Amendment Program 23-26 (Year 2) of \$0.075m, Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027 Implementation of \$0.040m and the Social Work in Libraries Evaluation Framework of \$0.013m, with these forecast underspends being redirected to emerging or existing projects able to achieve deliverables in 24/25.

### **Key Achievements**

During the third quarter the number of Strategic projects increased from 38 projects in Quarter 2 to a proposed 43 projects in Quarter 3 with the inclusion of:

- World Heritage Bid Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)
- Colonel Light Centre & Eagle Chambers Accommodation Planning.
- Adelaide Central Market Authority Traders Sustainability Program Stage 1 (100% grant funded).
- Supplementary Election 2025, and
- Preparation of Key Biodiversity Area Management Plan for G S Kingston Park.

Funding for these new initiatives has been provided through the reallocation of forecast underspends from existing approved projects, as mentioned above.

Spend and commitment continues to increase with 70% of the Strategic budget now committed and /or spent at end of Quarter 3. Projects include:

- City Activation partially committed and on track for completion by end of Quarter 4.
- Dry Areas Evaluation partially committed and on track for delivery.
- Asset Audit Condition partially committed and on track for delivery.

The following projects have now reached practical completion:

- North Adelaide Golf Course Water Investigative Study.
- ESCOSA Review.
- Contact Centre Software Replacement.

As Quarter 4 commences, delivery continues to remain on track, noting several projects have been flagged for continuation into next financial year.

		Plan	Ex	penditure (\$'0	00)	
2024/25 Strategic Projects	De	livered by	Q2 Budget	Proposed Q3	Varia	псе
City Community						
City Culture						
Social Work in Libraries Evaluation Framework**	•	Nov 2025	25	13	12	•
DHS Community Neighbourhood Development Funding^	•	Jun 2025	99	99	0	<b>&gt;</b>
City Activation	•	June 2025	502	502	0	▶
Regulatory Services						
On-Street Parking Compliance Technology and Customer Analytics Reform	•	Jun 2025	148	148	0	<b>&gt;</b>
City Infrastructure						
Infrastructure						
Transport Strategy	_	Jun 2025	295	295	0	▶
School Safety Review		Jun 2025	12	12	0	<b>&gt;</b>
SA Power Networks (SAPN) Luminaire Upgrades	•	Sep 2024	14	14	0	▶
Resilient Flood Mapping^	_	April 2026	1,723	1,723	0	<b>&gt;</b>
North Adelaide Golf Course - Water Investigative Study	•	Feb 2025	26	26	0	▶
Conservation Management Plans for Heritage Assets		Jun 2024	41	41	0	▶
CLC & Eagle Chambers - accommodation planning	•	Jun 2025		25	(25)	<b>A</b>
City Speed Limit Review	•	Aug 2024	27	27	0	<b>&gt;</b>
Bridge Maintenance Program	_	Jun 2025	400	200	200	▼
Asset Condition Audit		May 2025	539	539	0	<b>&gt;</b>
Adelaide Park Lands Strategic Water Resources Study		May 2025	80	80	0	<b>&gt;</b>
Strategic Property & Commercial		•			•	
88 O'Connell Project Delivery		Jun 2025	80	80	0	<b>&gt;</b>
218 - 232 Flinders Street Master Plan Investigations		Jun 2025	150	70	80	▼
City Shaping			<u>.</u>		ı	
City Operations						
Feasibility Studies - Waste and Recycling Collection		Jun 2025	100	100	0	<b></b>
Park Lands, Policy & Sustainability	<b>J</b>	<u> </u>	.1		İ	
World Heritage Bid - FPIC		Jun 2026		130	(130)	<b>A</b>
Key Biodiversity Area Management Plan		Jun 2026	-	75	(75)	<b>A</b>
Social Planning Homelessness and Adelaide Zero Project Resourcing		Nov 2024	208	208	0	<b></b>
Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027 Implementation		Jun 2025	140	100	40	_
National Heritage Management Plan Implementation		Jun 2025	100	100	0	, •
Local Heritage Assessments - 20th Century Buildings		Jun 2025	50	50	0	<u> </u>
Homelessness Strategy Implementation		Jun 2025	40	40	0	, 
Historic Area Statement - Code Amendment		Jun 2025	112	112	0	
Heritage incentive Scheme - State Heritage Buildings**		Dec 2025	250	250	0	<b> </b>
Economic Development Strategy Implementation		Jun 2025	106	106	0	<b> </b>
Dry Areas Evaluation		Jun 2025	115	115	0	<b> </b>
Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2024-2028 Implementation		Jun 2025	205	235	(30)	
Delivering the Planning and Design Code Amendment Program 23-26						
(Year 2)	•	Jun 2025	240	165	75	▼
Botanic Creek Rehabilitation (Community Planting)^	•	Jun 2025	72	72	0	<b>&gt;</b>
Adaptive Re-use Housing Initiative Program (ARCHI)**	•	Jun 2026	250	250	0	<b>&gt;</b>
Adaptive Reuse City Housing Initiative^	•	Oct 2025	250	250	0	<b>•</b>

	Plan	00)		
2024/25 Strategic Projects	Delivered by	Q2 Budget	Proposed Q3	Variance

Corporate Services						
Governance and Strategy						
ESCOSA Review	0	Feb 2025	40	40	0	<b>&gt;</b>
Supplementary Election 2025	-	Jun 2025		73	(73)	<b>A</b>
Information Management				·		
Cyber Security Enhancement	0	Jun 2025	85	85	0	<b>&gt;</b>
Contact Centre Software Replacement	-	Mar 2025	450	450	0	<b>&gt;</b>
ACMA						
Adelaide Central Market Expansion Operational Preparedness	•	Jun 2025	220	220	0	<b>•</b>
ACMA Traders Sustainability Program Stage 1**	•	Jun 2026		50	(50)	<b>A</b>
AEDA	J					
Tourism and Business Attraction	0	May 2025	133	133	0	<b>&gt;</b>
Rundle Mall Live Music Program	•	Jun 2025	100	100	0	<b>&gt;</b>
Commercial Events and Festivals Sponsorship Program	•	Jun 2025	500	500	0	<b>&gt;</b>
TOTAL	43	projects	7,928	7,903	25	▼

# **Budget**

## Summary

## March Year to Date (YTD)

The operating position as at the end of Quarter 3 2024/25 is a surplus of \$14.408m, which is \$6.569m favourable to the Year to Date (YTD) budget of \$7.839m. This is driven by:

- Income \$2.005m favourable to budget largely due to higher fees and charges across Commercial Parking income \$0.916m, bank interest \$0.315m, Property Management \$0.229m and ACMA \$0.224m.
- Expenditure \$4.564m favourable and is due to timing of Strategic Project delivery \$2.040m, resource costs (salaries net of temp staff) \$1.006m and maintenance costs \$1.948m. Offsetting this is additional depreciation of (\$1.332m) to reflect changes in asset revaluations.

The Capital Projects spend of \$68.152m is \$4.474m lower than the YTD budget of \$72.626m. An adjustment to the capital program budget in Q3 has been made to reflect forecasted spend for new & upgraded assets to be \$8.134m lower than originally budgeted for.

Council had net cash surplus of \$21.287m as at 31 March.

## **Quarter 3 2024/25 Projected Operating Position**

The proposed Quarter 3 forecast is an operating surplus of \$9.367m which remains consistent as per the adopted budget. The following adjustments are incorporated into Quarter 3:

Additional Income of \$2.186m This is mainly due to commercial parking revenue of \$1.041m, private works remediation income \$0.900m and bank interest of \$0.300m partially offset by a higher level of rates objections (\$0.650m).

Additional Expenditure of (\$2.186m) This is due to additional private work expenses (\$0.900m) net adjustment of (\$0.760m) between depreciation and financing costs in relation to AASB16 and asset revaluations, and operating costs associated with capital projects amount to (\$0.276m).

The **Capital Program** is proposed to reduce by \$8.134m from \$121.043m to \$112.909m due to retiming of new and upgrade projects.

Borrowings are forecast to finish the year at \$30.739m, an increase of \$10.366m from the Quarter 2 forecast of \$20.373m.

## **Operating Position (Financial Performance)**

\$000's	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance	Q2 Budget	Proposed Q3	Variance
Rates Revenue	107,983	108,262	(279)	144,359	143,709	(650)
Fees and Charges	65,215	63,986	1,229	85,164	86,926	1,762
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions	3,156	2,934	222	6,568	6,506	(62)
Other Income	1,984	1,151	833	1,822	2,958	1,136
Total Revenue	178,338	176,333	2,005	237,913	240,099	2,186
Employee Costs	58,917	62,193	3,276	83,584	78,879	4,705
Materials, Contracts and Other Expenses	55,502	58,024	2,522	79,842	85,945	(6,103)
Sponsorships, Contributions and Donations	4,664	4,768	104	7,110	7,193	(83)
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	44,235	42,903	(1,332)	57,202	55,973	1,229
Finance Costs	612	606	(6)	808	2,742	(1,934)
Total Expenses	163,930	168,494	4,564	228,546	230,732	(2,186)
Operating Surplus / Deficit	14,408	7,839	6,569	9,367	9,367	0

## Capital Program

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance	Q2 Budget	Proposed Q3	Variance
New and Upgrades Projects	36,895	40,597	3,702	64,747	56,613	8,134
Renewal / Replacement of Assets	31,257	32,029	772	56,296	56,296	0
Total Revenue	68,152	72,626	4,474	121,043	112,909	8,134

# **Operating Program – Adjustments**

\$000's	Budget	Proposed	Variance
2024/25 Quarter 3 Budgeted Operating Position			
Commercial Parking Income Anticipated full year additional income	45,255	46,296	1,041
North Adelaide Golf Course Anticipated full year additional income	4,950	4,977	27
Adelaide Central Market Authority Additional rental income due to fewer vacancies	3,171	3,258	87
Property Management Increase to property rental income	6,551	6,597	46
Property Management Bus Departure Fees	127	161	34
Commercial Income Reduction in EV charging station income	17	5	(12)
Commercial Income Bus station locker income	50	55	5
City Infrastructure Grant Funding received for footpath renewal project	0	20	20

\$000's	Budget	Proposed	Variance
2024/25 Quarter 3 Budgeted Operating Position			
Infrastructure Renewals Third party contribution to renewal project	0	8	8
Roads To Recovery			
Retiming of grant into 2025/26	332	169	(163)
Kaurna Initiatives			
Reduction in grant received	24	13	(11)
Libraries State Government Operating Grant Reduction in grant received	231	218	(13)
New Years Eve			
Reduction in revenue due to programming being conducted by external facilitator	63	0	(63)
Banking Transition		33	33
Reimbursement of costs incurred during banking transition	0	33	33
<b>Golf</b> Reduction in casual labour and operating expenditure	(4,920)	(4,880)	40
Bank Interest Received	0.40	0.40	
Additional interest due to bank accounts being cash positive	640	940	300
Twin Street Lighting	(1.076)	(1 OEE)	0.1
Salary savings in Rundle Mall redirected to capital project	(1,276)	(1,255)	21
Park Lands Parking	217	274	(57
Additional casuals and expenses	217	2/4	(37
Aquatic Centre	(539)	(559)	(20
Additional expenses being recognised following closure of the centre		, ,	`
City Operations	1,637	1,592	(45
Reduction in costs reimbursed by Aquatic Centre			
Library & Community Centre Booking System Implementation costs	(11)	(36)	(25
City User Profile Survey			
Additional cost of undertaking the survey			(9
ePlanning Portal			
Increase in contribution over and above CPI	(65)	(77)	(12
Acoustic Consultancy		, \	
Building compliance consultants	(15)	(45)	(30
Community Safety Consulting	0	(40)	(40
Rostering solution for PIOs and Sensen modelling	0	(40)	(40
Operating Costs Associated with Capital Projects			
Footpath work Paxton's Boardwalk and Hindley Street Toilets which	0	(276)	(276
cannot be capitalised due to the nature of the works			
Transport Initiatives	(211)	(196)	15
Savings to fund initiatives such as traffic counts		, ,	
Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027	(140)	(100)	40
Forecasted savings			
Legal & Search Fees Additional costs in relation to expiations recovery	(752)	(870)	(118
Consultants A/D City Culture			
Additional spend incurred through the review of Library operations	(5)	(35)	(30
Bridge Maintenance			
Savings released from project	(400)	(200)	200
Commercial Parking Bank Charges			
Lower than expected costs	(642)	(603)	39

\$000's	Budget	Proposed	Variance
2024/25 Quarter 3 Budgeted Operating Position			
Commercial EV Charging	(111)	(37)	74
Savings from no longer providing this service, provided by third party	(111)	(37)	/4
Property Doubtful Debt	0	(76)	(76)
Provision for tenant doubtful debt		(, 0)	(,0)
Commercial Parking Advertising	(354)	(380)	(26)
Increased costs	(66.)	(000)	(=0)
Supplementary Election 2025	0	(73)	(73)
Costs for running supplementary council election		( - /	(/
Renew Adelaide	0	(50)	(50)
Supplementary funding		(/	(/
Contribution To Committee For Adelaide	0	(15)	(15)
AEDA contribution made			, ,
Depreciation	(57,202)	(55,973)	1,229
Adjustment to depreciation for asset revaluations and impairment			
AASB 16 Adjustments	(808)	(2,742)	(1,934)
Due to revaluation in leases		, , ,	, , ,
Business Centre Banners	50	80	30
Increase to revenue			
Business Centre Temporary Parking Controls	315	435	120
Increase to revenue			
Office Of Lord Mayor Events	(1,640)	(1,494)	146
Events either not run or with savings			
Council Requests			10
Reduction in consultants needed to respond to council requests			
Property Investigations	(150)	(125)	25
Reduction in consultants for property investigations			
Ten Gig	26	0	26
Advertising not required this year			
Commercial Tenancies	(86)	(46)	40
Reduction in consultants to manage Commercial Tenancies			
Bus Shelters  Paduation in rates as third party accumuths land	(63)	(3)	60
Reduction in rates as third party occupy the land  Public Art Action Plan			
Savings in delivery of program	(250)	(230)	20
Library Operations			
Savings in software, minor purchases and freight	(71)	(51)	20
Tour Down Under			
Savings from promoting event	(194)	(174)	20
Rates Objections			
Increase in the number of objections approved in 2024/25	(170)	(820)	(650)
Nursery Income			
Anticipated full year additional income	788	888	100
Nursery Costs			
Additional costs incurred to generate extra income	(592)	(632)	(40)
Fleet Asset Management Plan			
Consultant costs	0	(15)	(15)
City Operations			
Operational review	0	(45)	(45)

\$000's	Budget	Proposed	Variance
2024/25 Quarter 3 Budgeted Operating Position			
Park Lands Policy & Sustainability Operational expenditure savings within the program identified to fund strategic projects	(5,387)	(5,152)	235
Climate Change Risk Assessment Additional expenses for consultancy to achieve business plan outcomes	(107)	(252)	(145)
Grant Income for EV Smart Charging Trial Additional income used to fund increase to Climate Change Risk	0	15	15
Disability Access & Inclusion Plan Additional project undertaken	(205)	(235)	(30)
Key Biodiversity Area Management Plan Opportunity to achieve business plan outcomes	0	(75)	(75)
Design Code Amendment Savings used to fund World Heritage Bid	(240)	(165)	75
218-232 Flinders Masterplan Savings used to fund World Heritage Bid and CLC/Eagle Chambers needs assessment	(150)	(70)	80
CLC/Eagle Chambers Needs Assessment New strategic project	0	(25)	(25)
World Heritage Bid New strategic project	0	(130)	(130)
Minor Items Small changes trivial in nature			5
Proposed Quarter 3 Budget Review Operating Position		9,367	
Total Proposed Adjustment		0	

The following changes have a net nil impact on the Operating Program, as income or grant funding received fully offsets incurred expenditure:

\$000's	Budget	Proposed	Variance
Rundle Mall Concession stand income	380	500	120
Rundle Mall Additional activation	(2,119)	(2,239)	(120)
CHSP Income reduction due to change in program delivery	37	5	(32)
CHSP Expense savings due to change in program delivery	(257)	(225)	32
AEDA Business Summit Ticket sales for unbudgeted event	0	100	100
AEDA Business Summit Costs to run event	0	(100)	(100)
Leadership Capability Grant Grant funding received	0	60	60
Leadership Capability Grant Grant funded expenditure	0	(60)	(60)
Field Verification Grant Grant funding received	0	28	28

Field Verification Grant	_	(20)	(20)
Grant funded expenditure	0	(28)	(28)
ACMA Traders Sustainability Program	0	50	50
Funding received	U	50	50
ACMA Traders Sustainability Program	0	(EO)	<b>(EO)</b>
Consultants to deliver	U	(50)	(50)
Redbacks Sheffield Shield Celebration	0	20	20
Contribution from State Government towards event	U	20	20
Redbacks Sheffield Shield Celebration	0	(20)	(20)
Costs to put on event	U	(20)	(20)
Event Support	108	1,008	900
Fee for Service	106	1,006	900
Event Support	(266)	(1 166)	(000)
City Operations support for events	(266)	(1,166)	(900)
Mercer Reclassifications	(000)	(714)	166
Expense savings in Place & Events and City Events to fund	(880)	(714)	100
Mercer Reclassifications	(2.074)	(2.240)	(166)
Staff reclassifications	(2,074)	(2,240)	(166)
Social Workers In Libraries Evaluation	O.F.	10	(10)
Reduction due to timing of evaluation	25	12	(13)
Social Workers In Libraries Evaluation	(05)	(40)	10
Timing of grant	(25)	(12)	13
Resource cost allocation			4.000
Recognition of backfill of temporary vacancies by external temporary	(5,301)	(5,301)	4,639
labour	,	-	(4,639)

# **Capital Program – Adjustments**

\$000's	Budget	Proposed	Variance
New and Upgrades  Works of a significant nature that are either introducing new assets or significantly upgrading existing assets. Usually by extending the footprint of an asset or increasing the level of service the asset provides.	64,747	56,613	8,134
<b>Renewals</b> Works of a capital nature that are replacing an existing asset like for like or like for modern equivalent.	56,296	56,296	-
Total Adjustment	121,043	112,909	8,134

## **Financial Indicators**

	Target	Adopted	Q1	Q2	Q3
Operating Surplus Ratio					
The ratio expresses the Operating Surplus as a	0%-20%	4.0%	4.0%	3.9%	3.9%
percentage of Total Operating Revenue.					
Net Financial Liabilities	Less than				
The ratio expresses the Financial Liabilities as a	80%	21%	15%	13%	18%
percentage of Operating Income.					
Asset Renewal Funding Ratio					
The ratio expresses the expenditure on Asset Renewals	90%-	92.5%	92.5%	93.0%	93.0%
as a percentage of forecast required expenditure	110%				
according to the Asset Management Plans.					
Asset Test Ratio	Maximum	470/	00/	<b>-</b>	400/
The ratio expresses Borrowings as a percentage of	50%	17%	8%	7%	10%
Saleable Property Assets.					
Interest Expense Ratio	Maximum	0.00/	0.00/	0.00/	0.00/
Interest expense as a percentage of General Rates	10%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Revenue (less Landscape Levy).					
Leverage Test Ratio	Maximum	0.4110000	0.2	0.14	0.22
The ratio expresses total Borrowings relative to General	1.5 years	0.4 years	0.2 years	years	years
Rates Revenue (less the Landscape Levy).					
Cash Flow From Operations Ratio	Greater				
The ratio expresses Operating Income as a percentage of Operating Expenditure plus expenditure on	than	103%	110%	110%	110%
Renewal/Replacement of assets.	100%				
Borrowings					
The ratio expresses Borrowings as a percentage of the	Less than				
Prudential Borrowing Limit (50% of Saleable Property	50%	34%	15%	13%	19%
Assets).					
Borrowings					
The ratio expresses Borrowings (Gross of Future Fund)	Less than	F.C0/	400/	250/	440/
as a percentage of the Prudential Borrowing Limit (50%	50%	56%	40%	35%	41%
of Saleable Property Assets).					

On track	Within range
At risk	May be within range but at risk of going outside of range
Off track	Outside of range

## **Treasury Reporting**

The tables below present the debt and cash investment information as required by Council's Treasury Policy.

**Table 1** shows the borrowing facilities taken out by Council. Council had nil borrowings as at 31 March 2025:

Borrowings Facility*	Available	Interest Type	Interest Rate	Current Borrowings	Change since previous report \$'000	Maturity Date
LGFA CAD 555	\$70m	Variable	5.35%	-	-	15/06/2033

<sup>\*</sup>Note CAD facilities are flexible and allows Council to convert all or part of it into a fixes rate interest only loan for a maximum of 5 years.

**Table 2** shows cash invested by Council. Council had \$21.287m in cash investments at 31 March 2025:

Cash & Cash Equivalents	Available	Interest Type	Interest Rate	Current Investments	Change since previous report \$'000	Maturity Date
LGFA General		Variable	4.40%	\$15.587m	\$15.494m	-
NAB		Variable	4.30%	\$0.074m	(0.400m)	-
CBA		Variable	4.10%	\$2.758m	(\$1.806m)	-
LGFA FT 63188		Fixed	4.95%	\$0.000m	(\$3.728m)	18/03/2025
LGFA FT 63189		Fixed	4.95%	\$0.000m	(\$15.000m)	18/03/2025
LGFA FT 64008		Fixed	4.69%	\$2.868m	\$2.868m	16/06/2025

Total cash position without the Future Fund offset (\$16.854m) would otherwise be \$4.433m cash surplus.

**Table 3** provides the Prudential Limit Ratios as outlined in Council's Treasury Policy:

Prudential Limit Ratio** Comments		Limits	YTD Actual
Interest Expense Ratio	Annual interest expense relative to General Rates Revenue (less Landscape Levy).	Maximum 10%	0.04%
Leverage Test	Total borrowings relative to annual General Rates Revenue (Less Landscape Levy).	Max 1.5 years	0 years
Asset Test	The percentage of total borrowings to Council's saleable property assets.	Maximum 50%	0%

Borrowings: showing current facilities against our prudential limit and forecasted position



# **Glossary**

#### **Budget**

24/25 Budget: is the current adopted budget.

*Financial Indicators:* Measures used to assess Council's financial performance, to guide decision making on major projects, and ensure its continued financial sustainability.

Reallocation: Reallocation of funds from one source to another.

**Reclassification:** A change of a project categorisation to reflect the scope, size or funding source of a project (e.g. Renewal to Upgrade).

Retimed: Deliberate change of timing of a project into a future year based on an agreed decision.

*Subsidiaries:* Established by Council under Section 42 of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* that operate under independent boards or organisations that the City of Adelaide either operates or supports.

#### Capital Works

**New and upgrade:** Works of a capital nature that are either introducing new assets or significantly upgrading existing assets. Usually by extending the footprint of an asset or increasing the level of service the asset provides.

**Renewal:** Works of a capital nature that are replacing an existing asset like for like or like for modern equivalent.

#### **Project Management Phases**

**Commit/Concept:** A project plan is being finalised with scope, and greater understanding of budget timing and stakeholder management.

*Design:* Projects for which only the design phase will be undertaken in the current year, with construction occurring in another financial year.

*Design/Detail Planning:* The planning and design phase of a project, which includes activities such as project planning and technical design.

*Build/Construct (also Deliver):* The build and construction phase of a project, which includes activities such as tendering, and construction/creating an asset.

*Practical Completion:* The practical completion phase of a project where an area/asset is open and created in our asset system. Depreciation commences at this point.

*On Hold:* Project status indicating a decision of Executive or Council is required and cannot proceed until a decision is reached.

#### Types of Projects

Capital Project: A long-term project to establish, develop, improve or renew a capital project.

*Strategic Project:* Delivers the Strategic Plan and are generally 'once off' that have been prioritised to be delivered in a specific timeframe. Strategic Project budgets are operational in nature (not capital) and are aligned to a relevant service.

# **Appendix: Risk and Opportunities**

## **Risks and Opportunities**

There have been several risks identified in Quarter 3 that have impacted on Council operations.

The legislative change that required a roll out of new Automated Electronic Defibrillators is almost complete. The inspection requirements have resulted in a significant increase in effort with no additional budget or resource. As a result, the provision of some in-house services has ceased to free up resources to undertake this increased service.

New Aboriginal Cultural and Archaeological legislative reporting requirements are impacting on the project delivery timings for community buildings in Golden Wattle Park/Mirnu Wirra (Park 21W) and Mary Lee Park (Park 27B).

From a broader context, there is currently a high level of interest in external organisations collaborating with the Adelaide Economic Development Agency on various projects and opportunities. The agency does not have the capacity to effectively collaborate on many of these opportunities given the extent of the current work program.

There is no significant change in Australia's domestic economic environment, internationally however, the policy agenda of the Government of the United States of America and its potential impact on foreign trade, investment and consumer confidence is one that will continue to be monitored.

Safety and security are an ongoing risk in Rundle Mall with retail crime emerging as a significant issue. Multiple high-profile incidents have received media coverage with the negative sentiment beginning to emerge in consumer research initiatives. Rundle Mall will also see increased competition from suburban shopping centres such as with the Burnside Village \$350 million investment.

Resourcing, both internal and external, remains a challenge for progressing capital projects through design and construction. Internal resources continue to be supplemented with short term contract staff and external consultants and contractors have high workloads due to a busy time in the industry, with pricing remaining at post-covid levels.

All 2024/25 Community Impact Grants have been awarded with sixteen applications not successful in obtaining funding. There is potentially some risk of negative sentiment directed at CoA from the unsuccessful applicants.

The City of Adelaide has been successful with a total \$14.3 million of grants being awarded in the 2024/25 to assist with the delivery of our capital and strategic projects.

# **Appendix: Financial Statements**

Statement of Comprehensive Income	Adopted			
\$'000s	Budget	Q1	Q2	Q3
<u>Income</u>				
Rates Revenue	144,908	144,908	144,359	143,709
Statutory Charges	16,893	16,893	16,893	16,893
User Charges	67,399	67,567	68,271	70,033
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions	4,842	5,057	6,568	6,506
Investment Income	166	166	715	715
Reimbursements	150	150	150	150
Other Income	866	967	956	2,093
TOTAL INCOME	235,225	235,708	237,913	240,099
<u>Expenses</u>				
Employee Costs	86,220	86,489	83,584	78,879
Materials, Contracts and Other Expenses	81,973	82,187	86,952	93,138
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	56,857	56,857	57,202	55,973
Finance Costs	808	808	808	2,742
TOTAL EXPENSES	225,858	226,341	228,546	230,732
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	9,367	9,367	9,367	9,367
Asset Disposal & Fair Value Adjustments	0	0	0	0
Amounts Received Specifically for New or Upgraded Assets	7,026	9,015	10,128	10,148
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	16,393	18,382	19,495	19,515
Changes in Revaluation Surplus – I,PP&E	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	16,393	18,382	19,495	19,515

### **Statement of Financial Position**

Adopted						
\$'000s	Budget	Q1	Q2	Q3		
ASSETS						
Current Assets						
Cash and Cash Equivalents	800	800	800	800		
Trade & Other Receivables	45,116	19,556	19,740	19,921		
Inventories	741	805	804	741		
Other Current Assets	0	27,000	27,000	27,000		
Total Current Assets	46,657	48,161	48,344	46,462		
Non-Current Assets						
Financial Assets	679	839	839	839		
Equity Accounted Investments in Council Businesses	2,258	4,386	4,386	4,386		
Investment Property	2,968	3,165	3,165	3,165		
Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment	1,924,347	2,075,923	2,073,713	2,084,948		
Other Non-Current Assets	1,306	0	0	0		
Non-Current Receivable	0	0	0	0		
Total Non-Current Assets	1,931,559	2,084,313	2,082,103	2,093,338		
TOTAL ASSETS	1,978,216	2,132,474	2,130,446	2,141,800		
LIABILITIES						
Current Liabilities						
Trade and Other Payables	19,071	23,829	24,059	25,026		
Provisions	21,596	16,875	16,875	16,875		
Borrowings (Lease Liabilities)	5,142	5,077	5,077	5,077		
Total Current Liabilities	45,808	45,781	46,011	46,978		
Non-Current Liabilities						
Trades and Other Payables	0	16,066	16,066	16,066		
Borrowings	53,677	23,733	20,373	30,739		
Provisions	2,103	2,058	2,048	2,048		
Borrowings (Lease Liabilities)	30,922	34,241	34,241	34,241		
Total Non-Current Liabilities	86,703	76,098	72,728	83,094		
TOTAL LIABILITIES	132,511	121,879	118,739	130,072		
Net Assets	1,845,705	2,010,595	2,011,708	2,011,728		
EQUITY						
Accumulated Surplus	807,169	799,387	806,424	825,162		
Asset Revaluation Reserves	1,004,383	1,171,996	1,171,995	1,171,995		
Future Reserve Fund	34,154	39,212	33,288	14,571		
TOTAL COUNCIL EQUITY	1,845,705	2,010,595	2,011,708	2,011,728		

Statement of Changes in Equity \$'000s	Adopted Budget	Q1	2024/25 Q2	2024/25 Q3
a. Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year	16,393	18,382	19,495	19,515
b. Other Comprehensive Income	0	0	0	0
Total Comprehensive Income	16,393	18,382	19,495	19,515
Balance at the end of period	1,845,705	2,010,595	2,011,708	2,011,728
Statement of Cash flows \$'000s	Adopted Budget	Q1	2024/25 Q2	2024/25 Q3
Cash Flows from Operating Activities				
Receipts				
Operating Receipts	232,801	254,465	256,487	258,491
<u>Payments</u>				
Operating Payments to Suppliers and Employees	(170,091)	(175,130)	(176,879)	(178,563)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities	62,710	79,335	79,608	79,928
Cash Flows from Investing Activities				
Receipts				
Amounts Received Specifically for New/Upgraded Assets	6,026	4,556	5,773	5,773
Proceeds from Surplus Assets	18,500	18,500	18,500	0
Sale of Replaced Assets	500	500	500	500
Payments Payments				
Expenditure on Renewal/Replacement of Assets	(56,022)	(56,022)	(56,296)	(56,296)
Expenditure on New/Upgraded Assets	(56,489)	(66,570)	(64,427)	(56,613)
Capital Contributed to Equity Accounted Council Businesses	(320)	(320)	(320)	(320)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities	(87,805)	(99,356)	(96,270)	(106,956)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities				
Receipts				
Proceeds from Borrowings	30,084	23,733	20,373	30,739
<u>Payments</u>				
Repayment from Borrowings	0	0	0	0
Repayment of Lease Liabilities	(4,989)	(4,989)	(4,989)	(4,989)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities	25,095	18,744	15,385	25,750
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash Held	0	(1,277)	(1,277)	(1,277)
plus: Cash and Cash Equivalents at beginning of period	800	2,077	2,077	2,077
Cash & Cash Equivalents at and of pariod	900	900	900	900

Cash & Cash Equivalents at end of period

Uniform Presentation of Finances \$'000s	Adopted Budget		2024/25 Q2	2024/25 Q3
		Q1		
ncome				
Rates Revenue	144,908	144,908	144,359	143,709
Statutory Charges	16,893	16,893	16,893	16,893
User Charges	67,399	67,567	68,271	70,033
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions	4,842	5,057	6,568	6,506
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Reimbursements	150	150	150	150
Other Income	866	967	956	2,093
TOTAL INCOME	235,225	235,708	237,913	240,099
<u>Expenses</u>				
Employee Costs	86,220	86,489	83,584	78,879
Materials, Contracts and Other Expenses	81,973	82,187	86,952	93,138
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	56,857	56,857	57,202	55,973
Finance Costs	808	808	808	2,742
TOTAL EXPENSES	225,858	226,341	228,546	230,732
Operating Surplus / (Deficit) before Capital  Amounts	9,367	9,367	9,367	9,367
Net Outlays on Existing Assets				
Capital Expenditure on Renewal and	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	/50 000\
Replacement of Existing	(56,022)	(56,022)	(56,296)	(56,296)
Finance lease payments for right of use assets on existing assets	0	(4,989)	(4,989)	(4,989)
add back Depreciation, Amortisation and mpairment	56,857	56,857	57,202	55,973
add back Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets	500	500	500	500
Net Outlays on Existing Assets	1,335	(3,654)	(3,583)	(4,812)
Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets				
Capital Expenditure on New and Upgraded				
Assets	(56,809)	(66,890)	(64,747)	(56,613)
add back Amounts received specifically for New	6,026	4,556	5,773	5,773
and Upgraded Assets				
and Upgraded Assets add back Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets	18,500	18,500	18,500	0

## City of Adelaide 25 Pirie Street, Adelaide

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## Attachment B CEN

## **Adelaide Central Market Authority**

Quarter 3 Report: 1 January 2025 - 31 March 2025



### **Executive Summary**

Highlights for the quarter included ACMA being successful in winning a \$100K Green Industries SA LEAP Grant to deliver a Trader Sustainability Program, in partnership with local sustainability experts 2XE Research. In addition, Friday nights at Adelaide Central Market was voted Australia's favourite food experience in the 2025 delicious 100 awards which gained additional media coverage and showed strong national support.

January to March included several highlights for customers, with an expanded Sauce Day event across two days including sold out sauce making and gnocchi making classes, live music and trader specials. Lunar New Year was celebrated with precinct neighbours, with roving lion dancing throughout the Market and free kid's craft and customers were treated to a free sunflower on Valentine's Day.

A partnership with Gluttony saw an inaugural sponsorship of the Local Bar, with naming and branding opportunities, directional signage and a Enter & Win competition to gain new subscribers. Additional outdoor advertising was implemented during February and March to target the key tourism period and drive brand awareness.

Customer Experience (CX) surveys continue every month, in addition to an in-Market survey during February, measuring the impact of construction work on visitors to the Market. This indicated a positive customer satisfaction rate of 80%.

Tenancy movement included one stall reassigned (The Old Lolly Shop) and two stalls (Sunmi Sushi and Something Wild) under renovations and anticipated to re-open in Q4. One stall (Con's Fruit & Veg) retired on 29 March after nearly 45 years of trade, with a replacement stall (SA Central Fresh) opening once the shop's structure is renovated, with a premium fresh produce offer. Leasing revenue remains strong, with 98.7% occupancy and one lease under offer.

Overall, the Market visitation has slowed down in Q3 (-4% vs 2024) which is consistent with the national passer-by foot traffic result, economic conditions and cost of living pressures. A lift in numbers is anticipated coming into Q4 with the key Easter period.

# **Financial Report**

		March 2025 YTD			Annual		
\$'000	Actual	Q2 Budget	Variance	Q2 Budget	Proposed Q3 Budget	Variance	
Income							
Feees and Charges	4,200	3,971	229	5,294	5,381	87	
Grants, Donations & Sponsorships					50	50	
Other Revenue	31	36	(5)	49	49	-	
Total Income	4,231	4,007	224	5,343	5,480	137	
Expenditure							
Salaries and wages	1,042	1,152	110	1,580	1,580	-	
Materials, Contracts & Other Expenditure	3,074	3,353	279	4,483	4,533	(50)	
Depreciation	29	27	(2)	39	39	-	
Finance	-	1	1	1	1	-	
Total Expenditure	4,145	4,533	388	6,103	6,153	(50)	
Net Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	86	(526)	612	(760)	(673)	87	

		March 2025 YTD		Annual		
\$'000	Actual	Q2 Budget	Variance	Q2 Budget	Proposed Q3 Budget	Variance
Income	4,231	4,007	224	5,343	5,480	137
Expenditure	4,050	4,369	318	5,880	5,929	50
Net Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	181	(362)	543	(537)	(449)	87
Expansion Operational Preparedness	95	165	70	220	220	-
ACMA Traders Sustainability Program Stage 1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	86	(527)	612	(757)	(669)	87

The operating position is \$612K favourable to the YTD Q2 budget due to strong leasing income, as well as timing of the operational expenditure and salary savings. The Expansion Preparedness Strategic Project has seen some delay in expenditure but will be fully expended by EOFY.

It is proposed to increase the income budget by \$87k to reflect unbudgeted casual and sundry income received so far this year, as well as grant funding received to deliver the Traders Sustainability Program (\$50k zero bottom line).

# **Debtors Summary**

Financial Year	Total Arrears	Current	%	30 Days	%	60 Days	%	90+ Days	%
2024/25	\$38,584	\$26,714	69%	\$2,898	8%	\$4,974	13%	\$3,998	10%

69% of the debt is current. 1 lease is currently on a payment plan with 1 payment left.

# Leasing

Q3 – The total number of Market stalls is 72 – 98.7% Occupancy				
Renewals	3			
Holdovers	1 (Big Table)			
Vacancies	1 (Stall 55, under offer))			

Out of 21 leases expiring in FY2024/25, 18 have been renewed with 3 remaining leases in progress. Federal Hall will be vacated by 31 March 2025 as planned and is not included in vacancies as this space is not for retail occupancy, and not on the Market floor.

# **Risks and Opportunities**

- Stall 55 (Something Wild / Seven Seasons) lessor works complete resulting in the stall being the only vacancy. New lease issued with conditions required to be met prior to signing. Stall/lessee works may only commence late May 2025, and the stall will need to be opened and activated during the key Easter and school holiday period (April).
- The decreased capacity in UPark Central Market, the trade disruptions in Market Plaza as well as economic conditions and cost of living pressures impact on Market visitation.
- Market Plaza standards (including general lack of maintenance, lifts out of order, vacancies and lack of communication) resulting in customer complaints and negative precinct experience.
- Marketing adapting to communicate the market affordability and quality as an opportunity.

# Business Plan & Budget 2024/25 and Strategic Plan Measures

The 2024/25 ACMA Business Plan and Budget includes 92 priority actions across the five strategic pillars of the ACMA Strategic Plan 2023/28: Our Customers, Our Traders, Our Business, Our Community and Our Market.

At end of Q3, tracking of progress is as follows:

Summary 93 actions	Delivered/ongoing/ on track	To be monitored	Off track
OUR CUSTOMERS	23	0	0
OUR TRADERS	14	0	0
OUR BUSINESS	32	0	0
OUR COMMUNITY	14	0	0
OUR MARKET	9	1	0
TOTAL	92	1	0

# Q3 Highlights

#### **OUR CUSTOMERS**

We will keep customer experiences at the heart of all decisions, every day.

- Delivery of in Market activations including Sauce Day two-day program, cooking demonstrations, roving entertainment, live music and free kid's activities (28 February and 1 March)
- Delivery of Valentine's Day sunflower giveaway 250 to Market shoppers
- Delivered brand awareness tourism campaign during key tourism period including Tour Down Under Village wayfinding and flyer distribution
- Construction Impact Research, Customer Experience and in Market surveys

#### **OUR TRADERS**

We will work with our traders to support them in the delivery of an exceptional shopping experience.

- Free wellbeing and mental health workshops offered to traders (April and May placement)
- Big clean for Market
- Support trader collaboration with Journey Beyond Trail train weekly visitors (after hours event) and Safari Tours
- Second 'Trader Award for Customer Experience' delivered

#### **OUR BUSINESS**

We will take a responsible and sustainable approach to our business in pursuing positive long-term financial results.

- Adelaide Central Market voted Australia's favourite food experience for Friday nights in the 2025 delicious 100 awards
- Gluttony partnership The Local Bar presented by Adelaide Central Market
- Market Expansion: 38 meetings held with applicants to date (including 8 existing traders).
- Preparedness: Brand and licencing registration underway to protect ACM brand in future expansion

#### **OUR COMMUNITY**

We will make a valuable contribution to the economic, social and cultural wellbeing of our precinct and community.

- GISA LEAP Grant application successful, with up to \$100K for development of trader resources/sustainability guidelines
- Delivery of Lunar New Year celebrations and collaboration with Chinatown
- Ongoing partnership support Oz Harvest (weekly produce collection) and Catherine House (monthly fruit and veg support)

# **OUR MARKET**

We will deliver infrastructure and programs that address the current and emerging needs for our customers and traders.

- New directional signage at the Gouger Street Eastern entrance
- Sprinklers renewal
- Stall renewals (Stall 1 and Stall 55)
- CCTV cameras in UPark and Adelaide Central Market replaced
- Additional dry storage built in cellars for 3 small tenancies
- Emergency And Chief Warden training for staff and key traders
- Market Expansion:
  - o Completed Retail Design Guidelines
  - o Preliminary Lease Plans delivered

# **Upcoming quarter priorities: 1 April 2025 – 30 June 2025**

Marketing:

- Deliver events and activations
  - Easter campaign
  - School holidays program
  - Tasting Australia Program (free cooking demonstration program)
- Prepare Illuminate Adelaide installation
- Deliver National Reconciliation Week installation in collaboration with City of Adelaide
- Prepare GISA Grant `

## Operational:

- Remediation works of the basement (under O'Connell's Meats)
- Federal Hall make good works ready for handover to tenant
- o Common Dining areas install fans in seating areas

# Market Expansion:

- Online Community consultation and youth focus group re future retail mix
- Leasing conversations with the balance of potential tenants
- Operational readiness project wayfinding scoping
- Review and finalise lease documentation to issue letter of offers
- Investigate trading hours options and establish for Expansion
- Commence procurement for Retail Design Manager (RDM) and Tenancy Coordinator (TC)
- Obtain Council Rate estimates for new tenancies
- Support ORAT consultant engagement through developer

















# Adelaide Economic Development Agency

# Quarter 3 Report

1 January 2025 - 31 March 2025

The following matters that occurred between 1 January 2025 and 31 March 2025 are highlighted:

- Rundle Mall achieved record breaking foot traffic (681,000 people) between Friday 21 and Sunday 23 March coinciding with the Inaugural Colours of Asia Festival, last weekend of Fringe and an AFL game at Adelaide Oval.
- Events and festivals added to the buzz of the City. AEDA supported 5 events/festivals through the Events and Festivals Sponsorship program and 9 events/festivals through the Commercial Events Sponsorship Program.
- Continued interest in the City as a place to do business. AEDA has engaged with 74 businesses (YTD) on relocation and investment opportunities that have the potential of an additional 4,100+ jobs.
- Extended the See for Yourself campaign from January April 2025 with a focus on Experiences, Food & Drink, Nightlife, Events & Festivals, Retail, and Families. Over 45 businesses/events were featured.
- The \$5.9 million Charles Street upgrade, completed by City Infrastructure in March 2025, transformed the laneway into a key pedestrian-focused link between North Terrace and the Rundle Mall precinct.
- Conducted a Visitor Economy Industry Update on 19 February at U-City for 60+ tourism representatives. The session included
  an update on visitor expenditure, travel behaviours and trends from the SA Tourism Commission, an outline on the AEDA
  Visitor Economy Guiding Framework, and an update on the latest destination marketing campaign encouraging South
  Australians to visit the city.

# **Financial Report**

Operating Position	·	March YTD			Ann	ual	
\$000s	2024/25 Actuals	2024/25 Q2 Budget	Variance	2024/25 Original Budget	2024/25 Adopted Q2 Budget	2024/25 Revised Budget	Variance
Income							
Rundle Mall Levy	3,048	3,036	12	4,017	4,017	4,017	-
Rundle Mall User Charges	441	285	156	380	380	500	(120)
CoA Appropriation of Funds Other Income	5,895 5	6,529 14	(634) (9)	8,351 19	8,778 19	8,793 119	(15) (100)
Total Income	9,389	9,864	(475)	12,767	13,194	13,429	(235)
Expenses							
Employee Costs	3,058	3,531	473	4,843	4,743	4,722	(21)
Materials, Contracts and Other Expenses	3,365	2,840	(525)	4,629	4,608	4,828	220
Sponsorship, Contributions and Donations	2,620	2,744	124	3,249	3,749	3,764	15
Depreciation, Amortisation and	,	,		,		,	
Impairment	67	66	(1)	88	88	88	-
Total Expenses	9,110	9,181	71	12,809	13,188	13,402	214
Operation Surplus / Deficit	279	683	(404)	(42)	7	27	21

# Year to Date (YTD) Financial Summary

### Income

- Rundle Mall concession stand income \$156k favourable to YTD budget.
- CoA Appropriation of Funds represents AEDA expenditure (excluding Rundle Mall activities) by March 2025.
- Other income includes retail sales from the Visitor Information Centre.

#### Expenditure

- Employee Costs has a \$473k favourable variance mainly within Business and Investment and Marketing.
- Materials, Contracts and Other Expenses has an unfavourable variance of (\$525k) mainly because of timing in Security Services (\$267k), Stage Hire (\$159k) and Promotions Material (\$48K). The timing for Security and Stage Hire has been adjusted in Q3.
   There is also an overspend of (\$47k) in engaging temp staff.
- Sponsorships, Contributions and Donations has a favourable variance of \$124k, mainly due to timing related to AEDA
  Commercial Events and Festival Sponsorship Program and Strategic Partnership.

In regards to the security and stage hire the timing of these has been fixed in Q3 (noting the figures in the table are based on the last adopted budget being Q2).

# **Projected Annual Financial Summary**

# Proposed Quarter 3 Variances and Budget Requests

#### Income

- Rundle Mall concession stand income increased by \$120k offset by additional expenditure in Materials of (\$120k).
- CoA Appropriation of Funds increased by \$15k to fund AEDA contribution to Committee for Adelaide.
- Other income increased by \$100k for AEDA Business Events Summit offset by additional expenditure in Materials of (\$100k).

### Expenditure

- Employee Costs reduction of \$21k within Rundle Mall to fund Twin Street lighting capital project.
- Materials increased by (\$220k) for additional costs in Rundle Mall funded by the extra concession stand income (\$120k) and
  costs to put on the AEDA Business Events Summit (\$100k) funded by ticket sales.
- Sponsorships increased by (\$15k) for AEDA contribution to Committee for Adelaide.

#### **Risks and Opportunities**

- There is currently a high level of interest in external organisations collaborating with AEDA on various projects and opportunities. The agency has limited capacity to effectively collaborate on many of these opportunities given the extent of the current work program.
- There is no significant change in Australia's domestic economic environment, internationally however, the impact of global economic uncertainty including its potential impact on trade, investment and consumer confidence is one that will continue to be monitored.
- Safety and security remain an ongoing risk in Rundle Mall. Multiple high-profile incidents have received media coverage with the negative sentiment beginning to emerge in consumer research initiatives.
- Increased competition to Rundle Mall from suburban shopping centres e.g. Burnside Village \$350 million investment.

NB: AEDA's strategic risks are included within the City of Adelaide's Strategic Risk Register, which is reported through the Strategic Risk and Internal Audit Group that then reports into the Audit and Risk Committee

# **Board and Advisory Committee Term Changes**

Three new appointments were made to the AEDA Advisory Committee following the 12 February 2025 AEDA Board meeting. These appointments were:

- Mirella Romano for a period of two years
- Alfredo Cabada for a period of three years
- Jasmin Ilic for a period of three years

# **Grant Funding Approved**

#### Commercial Events and Festivals

At its meeting on 25 February 2025, Council approved the Business Plan and Budget Quarter 2 Update that included an additional \$200,000 allocation of funding to AEDA for the Commercial Events and Festivals Sponsorship Program 2025.

Commercial Events and Festivals funding of \$485k was approved to support the following 22 events and festivals to be held between 15 February and 31 December 2025:

#### **Small to Medium Category**

- A Decade in Gilbert Place \$8,000
- Adelaide Polo Classic \$14,000
- CheeseFest \$20,000
- Colours of Asia \$16,000
- Gathered Market in the Mall -\$16,000
- Gresham Street Gateway Festival \$20,000
- Holi Festival \$18,000
- Home Base: Footy at Gilbert Place \$7,000
- Hongdae In Adl \$14,000
- Laneway Festival \$16,000
- Mary's in the Park \$10,000
- Our Sound \$16,000
- Rhino Room Street Fest \$20,000
- Rock The Park 2025 \$14,000
- Sidebyside \$20,000
- The Courtyard of Curiosities \$14,000
- Vegan Festival Adelaide \$12,000

#### **Medium to Large Category**

- Adelaide Motorsport Festival \$40,000
- Fool's Paradise \$50,000
- Gluttony \$50,000
- Lucky Dumpling Market \$45,000
- The Garden of Unearthly Delights \$45,000

#### **Mainstreet Development Program**

The Hutt Street Traders Association received \$17,347 for 2024/25 through the Mainstreet Development Program.

#### Strategic Partnership Program

At the AEDA Board meeting on 12 February 2025, the Board agreed to support the following organisations through the AEDA Strategic Partnership Program 2025/26-2027/28:

- Strategic Partnership Submission 2025-27: Business Events Adelaide \$948,000
- Adelaide MTP Gateway Connecting Global Innovation with Local Impact: MTP Connect \$460,000
- Economic Vibrancy Partnership: Renew Adelaide \$969,080
- ThincSeed CBD: ThincLab (The University of Adelaide) \$549,920

# Visitor Experience Centre

Following discussions with the State Library of South Australia (SLSA) regarding utilising the Jervois Room in the Mortlock Chamber to accommodate the Visitor Experience Centre, it became apparent that the timeline for ensuring DDA compliance would not align with the Visitor Experience Centre's delivery schedule. Consequently, the alternative location in the Institute Building at the corner of North Terrace and Kintore Avenue has progressed.

The AEDA General Manager and Executive Manager Marketing and Tourism briefed the SLSA Board at its March 2025 meeting. The SLSA Board resolved to approve accommodation of the VEC and provided authority to the Director to negotiate the licence terms on their behalf. Discussions are progressing with the State Library of the terms of the licence agreement to occupy the premises and this is expected to be completed shortly.

The procurement process for the design of the VEC opened on 21 February and closed on 25 March 2025. Assessment of the submissions is currently underway.

## **AEDA Review Recommendations**

Since Council's adoption of the AEDA Review Implementation Plan on 24 October 2023, which detailed how the 36 actionable recommendations from the Deloitte and KPMG reviews of AEDA would be addressed, 35 actions have been completed. The outstanding action relates to the development of AEDA's Long Term Financial Plan which will be progressed in line with discussions and directions from the 2025-26 Business Plan and Budget process.

# 2024-25 Business Plan & Budget Measures

The 2024/25 AEDA Business Plan and Budget includes 18 measures across the four key areas, Business, Investment & Residential Growth; Visitor Economy; Rundle Mall and Brand and Marketing.

As at the end of quarter three, progress against the measures is as follows:

- Eight measures have been marked 'Complete/Achieved' which would indicate they have been finalised or the annual target met;
- Four measures are 'On Track', meaning the pro-rata measure is tracking ahead or in-line with the target;
- Three measures are 'Partially complete', which indicates some progress has been made towards the target, but are not tracking ahead of the pro-rata benchmark and;
- Three measures are 'Active' which means work is being done towards the target but no numerical figure towards the target has been recorded.

# Business, Investment and Residential Growth

Key Performance Indicator	Status	Annual Measure	Actual	Pro Rata YTD Difference*
50 inward investment proposals/local expansions supported with at least 1,500 jobs	Complete/Achieved	50	74	24
Increase of bookable tourism experiences in the city (delivery of Strategic Project)	On-Track	Consultant procured and industry engagement finalised		
30+ vacant shopfronts/premises activated	Partially Complete	30	14	-16
Deliver 3 industry briefing events	Complete/Achieved	3	3	Achieved
Outcomes from collaborative partnerships with MTPConnect; SouthStart and University of Adelaide/ ThincLab to support small businesses to grow and scale	Complete/Achieved	Programs completed - 36 start ups and early stage businesses participated.		
5 projects/market interventions to support emerging industries in the city	Complete/Achieved	5	9	4
Supported/ facilitated 6 networking/knowledge transfer events for businesses.	Complete/Achieved	6	15	9

# **Rundle Mall**

Key Performance Indicator	Status	Annual Measure	Actual	Pro Rata YTD Difference*
Demonstrate uplift in market share and foot traffic across 3 core campaigns	Complete/Achieved	3	3	-
5 new brands commit to Rundle Mall	Complete/Achieved	5	6	+2.25
2 public realm infrastructure projects completed	Partially Complete	2	1	n/a
A minimum of \$20M new capital investment delivered or committed in the Rundle Mall precinct	On Track	\$20m	\$15,185,901	\$4.8m
10 Business or industry media stories relating to Rundle Mall	On track	10	5	-2.5
Uplift in Rundle Mall small business sentiment index over FY24/25	Complete/Achieved	n/a	60	n/a

# **Visitor Economy**

Key Performance Indicator	Status	Annual Measure	Actual	Pro Rata YTD Difference*
Delivery of the new Experience Adelaide Visitor Centre	Active	-	-	-
20 new bookable city tourism products/experiences	Partially Complete	20	11	-4
Visitor sentiment and community sentiment index (being developed)	Active	84	84	n/a

# Brand & Marketing

Key Performance Indicator	Status	Annual Measure	Actual	Pro Rata YTD Difference*
10% increase to \$2.2m on 2023/24 in media mentions (advertising space rate) with reference to AEDA. – Maintain a variance of 85% – 95% neutral and/or positive sentiment of media mentions.	On Track	\$2.42m	\$2.19m	+\$378k
Increase the brand health metric for Adelaide as a destination to visit to 6.5/10. (Currently 6.35)	Active	6.5	Quarterly progress is not available as research is conducted annually	

<sup>\*</sup>Difference relates to the difference between the measure and the quarter 3 pro-rata benchmark, not the annual target

# **Program Updates**





#### **Rundle Mall Activations**

Colours of Asia: The Mall was enlivened between 21 and 23 March by the inaugural Colours of Asia Festival. Sixteen vendors served authentic street food, while live music and traditional dance created a vibrant atmosphere. The Mall registered its greatest ever level of visitors over a weekend (since foot traffic records have been maintained) with total visitors exceeding 680k over the period.

Mallfest: Rundle Mall benefited from exclusive extended trading hours granted by the State Government during the Fringe Festival, remaining open until 6 pm on five consecutive Saturdays (22 Feb–22 Mar). A curated program of street performers, live DJs, and vibrant activations boosted foot traffic and dwell time. Weekend activity was up 4% compared to Fringe 2024 and up 14% compared to the 12-month weekend average.

<u>City Sessions</u>: From 7–9 March, nine acts—from solo artists to a six-piece band—brought global sounds to the Mall to coincide with WOMADelaide. The event ran alongside MallFest's street performers and live DJs, reinforcing Adelaide's UNESCO City of Music status.

<u>LIV Golf</u>: On Wednesday 12 February, Rundle Mall hosted a signing session with LIV Golf stars Cameron Smith and Louis Oosthuizen, provided a valet service and offered give aways. AEDA supported LIV be providing information through Experience Adelaide, driving ongoing engagement before, during, and after the event.

<u>Lunar New Year</u>: To celebrate the Year of the Dragon, Rundle Mall featured hourly lion dances from 12–6 pm on Friday 31 January, with acrobatic performers visiting 24 stores.

<u>Gathered Markets</u>: Gathered Market was held in the Mall on a Friday for the first time with a special edition on 28 March.

**Charles Street Upgrade** 

The \$5.9 million **Charles Street upgrade** in Adelaide, completed in March 2025 by City Infrastructure, transformed the laneway into a pedestrian-focused link between North Terrace and the Rundle Mall precinct. Featuring kerbless streets, high-quality paving, improved lighting, and upgraded drainage, the project enhances safety, access, and the retail experience. Bollards and a gate limit vehicle access while allowing loading and emergency use.

#### **Rundle Mall Industry Promotion**

Rundle Mall's business and investment attraction plan aims to position the precinct as SA's top retail, dining, and entertainment hub. On 20 March, part two of a sponsored **Inside Retail** feature highlighted how events are boosting the precinct's economy, supported by a new brand video. A media release on Rundle Mall's low vacancy rates gained coverage in Shopping Centre News, InDaily, and The Advertiser.



**Visitor Economy Industry Update** 

AEDA provided a **Visitor Economy Industry Update** on 19 February at U-City for 60+ tourism representatives. The session included an update on visitor expenditure, travel behaviours and trends from SA Tourism Commission, an outline on the AEDA Visitor Economy Guiding Framework, and an update on the latest destination marketing campaign encouraging South Australians to the visit the city.

#### See for Yourself

Building on the the initial **See for Yourself** campaign (June–September 2024), an extended campaign is running between January–April 2025. The campaign focuses on six key pillars: Experiences, Food & Drink (with a new daytime focus), Nightlife, Events & Festivals, Retail, and Families.

#### Results to date include:

- 18,600 views on Featured See For Yourself pages
- A total of 16,144 leads across Experience Adelaide, which is a 44% increase in leads compared to last year.
- Over 45 businesses/events featured
- Campaign materials on display in 11 hotels across city and North Adelaide



**Sponsored Events and Festivals** 

In quarter three, the following events took place that were supported by the **Events and Festivals Sponsorship Program**:

- Chihuly in the Botanic Gardens\*\*
- Adelaide International (Tennis)
- Santos Tour Down Under
- Adelaide Festival
- Adelaide Fringe
- WOMADelaide

A total of \$975k was invested into 5 events/festivals held in Q3 (excluding Chihuly). These events are expected to generate an estimated gross economic impact in excess of \$353 million to the State with estimated city-based attendance of approx. 4.67 million.

\*please note estimated figures are derived from 23/24 acquittal report data with the exception of the Adelaide International, which has provided actual results, and Chihuly which concludes in Q4.

\*\*Chihuly in the Botanic Gardens has continued from Q1 and Q2 into Q3 and will conclude in Q4. The investment has been included in previous quarter reports so has not been added here.

In the quarter the following events supported by the **Commercial Events and Festivals Sponsorship Program** took place:

- Laneway Festilval
- Garden of Unearthly Delights
- Gathered Market in the Mall
- Fool's Paradise
- The Courtyard of Curiosities
- Gluttony
- Sidebyside
- Adelaide Motorsport Festival
- Colours of Asia

A total of \$267,000 was invested into 9 events/festivals held in Q3 with estimated attendee expenditure of \$127.57 million and total attendance of 1.69 million expected (based on estimates provided in application forms).

\*Gathered Market in the Mall runs from Feb – Dec. Data is derived from 2 markets delivered in Q3 and is based on estimates in the original application. please note estimated figures are derived from initial applications.





Organisations supported through the Strategic Partnerships Program have delivered the following:

<u>Business Events Adelaide</u>: Business Events Adelaide announced that \$540m worth of business events had been won in the first six months of this financial year. Business Events Adelaide (BEA) hosted **Destination South Australia** at the Adelaide Convention Centre19-21 March 2025. AEDA participated in an aligned Business Exchange Roundtable with a targeted group of Indian travel agents to Adelaide.

Study Adelaide: Study Adelaide delivered its **Global Familiarisation Program** for 90 international student agents, including 56 visiting from other countries. AEDA participated in the Access Adelaide Exhibition on Monday 17 March where those agents had the opportunity to understand all aspects of living, studying and working in Adelaide.

Renew Adelaide: Renew Adelaide facilitated the attraction of Van Brussell to the city which opened at 18 Ebenezer Place on 21 February 2025. Van Brussell is a curated boutique offering European-inspired fashion, lifestyle, and homewares. It is expected that three new Renew Adelaide supported ventures will open in April.



**Industry Support** 

AEDA sponsored the **SA Gaming Expo** (SAGE) on 7–8 February 2025 to support the growth of the gaming sector. As part of this, AEDA partnered with Youth Options to launch a new Quality Assurance training program for neurodiverse and marginalised youth. The expo showcased 37 locally developed games, including 16 from AEDA-supported studios, and attracted more than 3,000 attendees over two days. AEDA's Business Investment Advisor also participated as a panel speaker in the Industry Talks program.

As a sponsor and judge, AEDA also supported the inaugural **South Australian Games Association (SAGA) Awards**, held on 9 February 2025. The event, attended by over 200 industry professionals, celebrated the achievements of the local gaming community.

AEDA supported a **Media Hosting Program** to attract interstate journalists to attend SouthStart (4–6 March 2025), with the goal of showcasing Adelaide's startup ecosystem and the success of local scale-up companies. The initiative attracted 8 journalists, including six from interstate. Coverage was positive, with stories appearing across 58 online news platforms, reaching a collective reach of 19.2 million.

A business case was received through AEDA's Advisory Committee, for the **establishment of BioAdelaide**, an initiative to develop Adelaide's health and medical sector. This will be further progressed with stakeholders.





During the quarter, six firms that AEDA had assisted (either directly or via property owners) moved into and/or opened offices in the City collectively adding over 850 jobs to the CBD workforce.

These companies included firms that relocated from the City Fringe and operate in engineering, healthcare, defence, manufacturing, utilities and agriculture.

Services provided by AEDA to these businesses included welcome packs, data and qualitative information, property advice and parking options (including referral to U Park).

The principle drivers for firms securing a City location include better access to clientele, amenities, property options, proximity to events and festivals and a wider pool of skilled talent.



**Data and Insights** 

AEDA's data and insights function has become increasingly well utilised as awareness of the data it has available and capability becomes more well known. Excamples of the team's work in the past has included economic assessment to help inform the Botanic Gardens' business case for Chihuly, provision of city data to support inbound investment decisions and regular briefings to the AEDA Board on trends in the City.

In Q3, the team presented at:

- Property Council of South Australia Office Market Report Breakfast on 6 February
- AEDA's Visitor Economy Update / Tourism Forum on 19 February
- AEDA's Advisory Committee on 24 January
- AEDA's Board on 12 March

During the quarter the team received approximately 100 requests for information and data. This is in addition to increased usage of AEDA's data and insights webapages which had:

- 1,305 users (+36% vs same quarter last year)
- 3,833 views (+50% vs same quarter last year)
- 13,000 engagement events (+66% vs same quarter last year)
- Increase in average time spent on site

# Quarter 4

Coming up from 1 April 2025 to 30 June 2025:

- Gather Round
- AEDA Business Summit 2025 20 May at Adelaide Oval
- Winter Experiences campaign
- Urban Kitchen
- 2025/26 Events and Festivals Sponsorship Program applications close 21 April 2025



# Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority

January to March 2025 **Quarter 3 Report** 



# Kaurna Acknowledgement

The Kadaltilla/Adelaide Park Lands Authority (Kadaltilla) tampendi, ngadlu Kaurna yertangga banbabanbalyarnendi (inbarendi). Kaurna meyunna yaitya mattanya Womma Tarndanyako. Parnako yailtya, parnuko tappa purruna, parnuko yerta ngadlu tampendi. Yellaka Kaurna meyunna itto yailtya, tappa purruna, yerta kuma burro martendi, burro warriappendi, burro tangka martulyaiendi. Kumarta yaitya miyurna iyangka yalaka ngadlu tampinthi.

Kadaltilla acknowledges the traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today. And we also extend that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations

Kadaltilla is a traditional Kaurna word meaning Green place/Green lands/Parklands.

# Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority Quarter 3 Report

January to March 2025

# **Executive Summary**

Between 1 January 2025 and 31 March 2025, Kadaltilla:

- Delivered the draft <u>Kadaltilla Business Plan and Budget 2025/2026</u>
- Undertook a Cultural Burn Park Lands Site Tour
- Continued review of the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy (APLMS) Towards 2036, including consultation with the State Government
- Finalised Kadaltilla's Cultural Policy Discussion Paper submission
- Received an update on the World Heritage Listing for the Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscapes
- Endorsed the concept designs for the sports ground lighting upgrade at Gladys Elphick Park / Narnungga (Park 25)
- Noted the outcomes of phase 2 consultation on the draft Light Square / Wauwi Master
   Plan and the high level of stakeholder support for draft Option 1
- Received a Department for Infrastructure and Transport Tram Grade Separation Projects presentation
- Endorsed a draft 21-year Park Lands Community Lease Agreement for community sports facilities at Golden Wattle Park / Mirnu Wirra (Park 21 West)
- Noted the proposal for Statues Commemorating South Australian Aboriginal Leaders from the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Government of South Australia
- Appointment of State Government Board Members
  - Elinor Walker (Deputy Presiding Member)
  - Ashleigh Halliday
  - Stephanie Johnston
  - Warwick Keates
  - Kirsty Bevan
  - Sarah Russo (Deputy Member to Stephanie Johnston)

# Strategic Plan 2023-2028

# **Key Actions January to March 2025**

# **Cultural Value**

Promote the cultural values of the Park Lands including Kaurna culture, heritage, and wellbeing

Objective	
(Strategic Plan 2023-2028)	Achievements and Measures
1.1 Seek Kaurna cultural authority in everything we do	<ul> <li>Reviewed a proposal for Statues Commemorating South Australian Aboriginal Leaders in the Adelaide Park Lands</li> <li>Confirmed the KYAC Chair and Deputy Chair appointment to the Kadaltilla Board under the 'Indigenous culture or reconciliation' skills category following its Annual General Meeting</li> <li>Sought funding recommendations through the City of Adelaide and the State Government for initiatives planned for the 2025/2026 financial year</li> <li>Integrated feedback into Kadaltilla's submission on the draft Cultural Policy Discussion Paper – Culture: The Life of Our City</li> </ul>
1.2 Assist with Kaurna cultural mapping	<ul> <li>Promotion of the Kaurna Voices Cultural Mapping Tool on Kadaltilla's social media platforms</li> </ul>
1.3 Advocate for the featuring of the Adelaide Park Lands in relevant promotional campaigns	Adelaide Park Lands featured in paid social media promotional campaigns
1.4 Champion the development of World Heritage listing nomination	Reviewed World Heritage listing submission progress

# **Environmental Performance**

Maintain and improve climate resilience and the landscape values of the Park Lands

Objective (Strategic Plan 2023-2028)	Achievements and Measures
2.1 Define, protect, and enhance landscape values and design qualities	Reviewed landscape values in the draft APLMS

- 2.2 Promote ecologically sustainable initiatives and monitor tree canopy cover, biodiversity, and environmental sustainability and design quality
- Promoted the Urban Forest Map tool on Kadaltilla's social media platforms
- 2.5 Increase the accessibility of evidence-based information
  - Developed a Social Media Strategy to ensure a structured, goal-oriented approach to online engagement to keep customers well-informed

# **Management and Protection**

Treat the Park Lands holistically with an adaptive future focused approach

Objective	
(Strategic Plan 2023-2028)	Achievements and Measures
Management and Protection 3.1 Monitor delivery of priority projects in the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy	Draft APLMS approved by Kadaltilla and Council
3.2 Advocate for and establish Funding Mechanisms to support delivery of the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy	<ul> <li>Advised the State Government and Council of Kadaltilla's budget recommendations in 2025/2026</li> </ul>

# **Expert Advice**

Function as the peak advisory body for policy, development, heritage, and management of the Park Lands based on sound data and evidence

Objective	
(Strategic Plan 2023-2028)	Achievements and Measures
4.1 Provide advice on plans, projects, and policies for the Adelaide Park Lands	Advice of Kadaltilla is endorsed and adopted
4.2 Engage with City of Adelaide and State Government including input into State Government initiatives	<ul> <li>Received presentations from the State Government and provided a submission on the draft Cultural Policy Discussion Paper</li> </ul>
4.3 Review leasing and licensing and event management policies together with other relevant Park Lands use policies	<ul> <li>Reviewed lease agreement with the Adelaide Community Sports and Recreation Association in Golden Wattle Park / Mirnu Wirra (Park 21 West)</li> </ul>

4.4 Strengthen Kadaltilla's
engagement with City of
Adelaide, State Government, and
adjoining Councils

- The City of Adelaide, State Government, and adjoining Councils actively engaged with Kadaltilla
- 4.5 Increase the profile of the Kadaltilla Board
- Created a social media profile detailing the business of Kadaltilla

# **Budget Position January to March 2025**

Budget performance remains on track, with current expenditure aligning to planned allocations and financial targets.

\$'000s	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance	2024/25 Q2 Budget	2024/25 Revised Budget	Variance
Grants, Donations,	-	-	-	328	328	-
Sponsorships						
Total Revenue	-	-	-	328	328	-
Employee Costs	114	130	15	175	175	-
Materials, Contracts and	76	111	34	138	138	-
Other Expenses						
Sponsorships,	15	-	(15)	15	15	-
Contributions and						
Donations						
Total Expenditure	206	240	35	328	328	-
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	(206)	(240)	35	-	-	-

For 2024/2025, Kadaltilla's budget of \$328,475 includes:

- Sitting Fees and Salary of \$247,405
- Brand and Marketing of \$25,550
- Insurance, Audit and Legal of \$21,520

- Grants (Adelaide Park Lands Art Prize Sponsorship) of \$15,000
- Operations (e.g. Marketing; community forum) of \$14,000
- External Advice of \$5,000

# **Upcoming Quarter**

Coming up from 1 April to 30 June 2025 are:

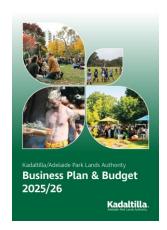
- Finalise the draft Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy Towards 2036 with State Government approval
- Induct new State Government Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority Board Members
- Finalise Kadaltilla's Social Media Strategy
- Preparation of Kadaltilla's draft 2024/2025 Annual Report
- Coordinate a briefing session led by the State Government on the Greater Adelaide Regional Plan (GARP)

# **Forward Report Schedule:**

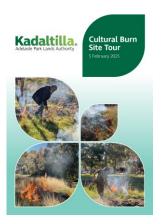
Expiry of Deed of Agreement – Royal Adelaide Show Parking	REPORT
Park Lands Leasing – Expressions of Interest: King Rodney Park / Ityamai-itpina (Park 15) and Carriageway Park / Tuthangga (Park 17)	REPORT
Adelaide Park Lands Dry Area Regulation Review	REPORT
Kadaltilla 2025 Annual Community Forum	REPORT
City of Adelaide Draft 2025/26 Adelaide Park Lands Budget	REPORT
World Solar Challenge 2025 – South Australian Motor Sport Board Event Consultation	REPORT
VAILO Adelaide 500 2025 - South Australian Motor Sport Board Event Consultation	REPORT
Draft Park Lands Lease and Licence Policy	REPORT
Mary Lee Park (Park 27B) – Community Sports Building Design	REPORT
South Park Lands Creek – Open Channel Stormwater Projects	REPORT
Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Commercial Expressions of Interest	CONF REPORT
Golden Wattle Park / Mirnu Wirra (Park 21 West) - Lease Consultation Findings	REPORT

Place of Courage	REPORT
Park Lands Contribution Study	REPORT
Update on the World Heritage Listing for the Adelaide Park Lands and Rural Settlement Landscapes	REPORT

# **Key Highlights**



Delivered the draft Kadaltilla Business Plan and Budget 2025/2026

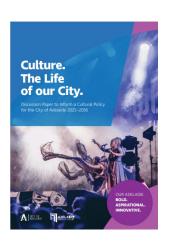


Undertook a Cultural Burn Park Lands Site Tour



Continued review of the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy (APLMS) Towards 2036,

including consultation with the State
Government



Finalised Kadaltilla's Cultural Policy Discussion Paper submission



Received an update on the World Heritage Listing for the Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscapes



Endorsed the concept designs for the sports ground lighting upgrade at Gladys Elphick Park / Narnungga (Park 25)



Noted the outcomes of phase 2 consultation on the draft Light Square / Wauwi Master Plan and the high level of stakeholder support for draft Option 1



Received a Department for Infrastructure and Transport Tram Grade Separation Projects presentation



Endorsed a draft 21-year Park Lands Community Lease Agreement for community sports facilities at Golden Wattle Park / Mirnu Wirra (Park 21 West)



# Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project

**Project Update March 2025** 

# Welcome

Significant construction progress has been made in both Lower and Upper Brown Hill Creek in recent months to take advantage of the dry weather before winter flows commence. The Audit and Risk Committee have been focussing on review of the Board's strategic and operational risks, WHS policies and procedures, and preparation of the annual budget for 2025/26.

# In This Edition

- Financial Summary
- Maintenance and Operating Report
- Lower Brown Hill
   Creek, Packages 1-3
- Upper Brown Hill Creek, Area 3
   Millswood



# **Financial Summary**

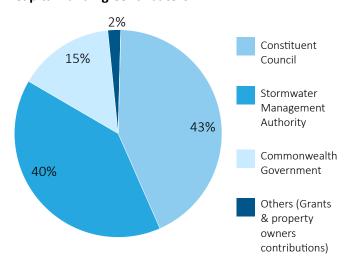


# Capital Funding Summary as at 28 February 2025

Capital funding to 28 February 2025 includes:

- \$32.2m from the 5 Constituent Councils the Cities of Adelaide, Burnside, Mitcham, Unley and West Torrens.
- \$29.9m from the Stormwater Management Authority.
- \$11.6m from the Commonwealth Government, being portion of a total \$21.6m commitment provided under 3 grant programs.
- \$1.1m from other sources including property owner contributions to projects and smaller State Government grant programs.

# **Capital Funding Contributors**



# 2024/25 Operating Summary as at 28 February 2025

	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Variance \$
Income	\$1,203,857	\$972,019	\$231,838
Expenses	\$580,304	\$651,580	(\$71,276)
Net Surplus	\$623,553	\$320,439	\$303,114
Depreciation	\$152,058	\$160,000	(\$7,942)



The Board recently endorsed the draft annual budget for 2025/26. This budget aligns with the long-term financial plan adopted in November 2024 and sees commencement of construction in 4 new locations.

# **Maintenance and Operating Report for Completed Works**



# Maintenance Responsibility for Completed Works

Stage	Sub-project <sup>1</sup>	Responsibility for Maintenance <sup>2</sup>
Flood	Ridge Park Flood Control Dam	City of Unley
Detention	Glenside Flood Detention Basin	BHKCSB – stormwater infrastructure delivered under the plan.
		City of Burnside – all non-stormwater assets located on site.
	Pakapakanthi Wetland and	BHKCSB – stormwater infrastructure delivered under the plan.
	Kurangga Creek Works	City of Adelaide – all existing and non-stormwater assets on site.
LBHC	LBHC – Daly Street Bridge	BHKCSB – stormwater infrastructure delivered under the plan.
		City of West Torrens – road components of the project.
UBHC	UBHC Area 1 Everard Park	BHKCSB – stormwater infrastructure delivered under the plan (culvert).
		City of Unley – ground level shared use path improvements.
	UBHC Diversion – DIT Culvert	DIT
	UBHC Hawthorn Reserve	BHKCSB – stormwater infrastructure delivered under the plan.
		City of Mitcham – all existing and non-stormwater assets on site

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Projects that remain within the contractors maintenance and defects period are not yet listed above.

# 2024/25 Maintenance & Operating Budget to 28 February 2025

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance \$
Glenside Detention Basin¹	\$81,746	\$102,900	(\$21,154)
Pakapakanthi Wetland²	\$98,841	\$105,000	(\$10,159)
Other Works³	\$491	\$6,667	(\$6,176)
Total	\$177,078	\$214,567	(\$37,489)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> First GPT clean for 2024/25 was undertaken from 12th to 16th August and the next clean was completed in November 2025. A further clean is scheduled in the coming weeks, ahead of winter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Responsibility for clearing blockages within the creek is always the responsibility of the property owner.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Wetland maintenance is being provided under a services agreement in accordance with a defined maintenance schedule with scope for one-off requirements on an as-needs basis. Replanting occurred in October 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Other includes any operating and maintenance requirements that don't relate to the wetland or Glenside site.

# **Lower Brown Hill Creek** Packages 1-3



Packages 1 to 3 of the Lower Brown Hill Creek Upgrade will involve doubling the flow capacity of a 1.7-kilometre-long section of channel beginning at the south-eastern corner of Adelaide Airport and ending at Birdwood Terrace. The channel is primarily situated within a 12-metre-wide drainage corridor owned by City of West Torrens.

The upgrades will comprise a 6-6.8 metre wide by 1.8 metre high rectangular concrete channel (or an equivalent sized covered culvert) and the upgrade of four crossings using either box culverts or single span bridge structures.



# **Key Messages**

The Early Contractor Involvement phase has concluded for all remaining work packages, construction contracts are in place, and works are well underway. Significant achievements in recent months include:

Securing DIT's approval for the proposed timing, staging and traffic management for works at Marion Road and completing the new culverts on the western side of the road on schedule.

Coordinating the interface between the BHKC culvert upgrades and SA Water's water trunk main relocation at Marion Road.

Securing APA Gas' consent for the proposed work method and temporary support to the gas transmission main at Birdwood Terrace.



# **Lower Brown Hill Creek** Packages 1 -3 continued...



# Recent Works and Focus Areas

#### **Recent activities**

- Completion of manufacturing of all precast culvert
- Completion of all minor service authority relocation works (except SA Water).
- Award of construction contracts for Packages 1E, 2 and 3A to Camco and commencement of construction.
- Obtained DIT approval to commence works on the Marion Road crossing (Package 2) in the December school holidays, completion of culvert construction on western side of road in February, and handover of site to SA Water's contractor for the water trunk main relocation.
- Award of construction contract for Package 3B to Beltrame Civil, following an Early Contractor Involvement process that resolved the protection method for the gas transmission main at Birdwood Terrace, allowing works to commence with consent from APA Gas.

## **Upcoming Works**

- SA Water's contractor to complete the water trunk main relocation.
- Camco to re-commence culvert construction on eastern side of Marion Road crossing (Package 2).
- Camco to complete channel construction for Package 1E and continue works on Package 3A.
- Beltrame to continue works on Package 3B.

# Stakeholder Management

A significant notification and engagement exercise was undertaken in the lead-up to the works for the Marion Road Crossing, including:

- notification to all major stakeholders.
- use of variable message sign boards on adjoining arterial roads.
- 24/7 project phone during the works.
- suburb-wide letterbox drops in Netley and North Plympton in December 2024 and March 2025 to inform residents of the status of the works and changes to traffic management.

A relatively small number of directly impacted property owners agreed to enter Licence Agreements prior to the commencement of construction. Notices of Intention to Enter and Occupy Land were issued to other owners to enable secondary safety fencing to be installed on private property. One-on-one engagement with directly adjoining property occupants is ongoing.





Marion Road Crossing Works





# **Upper Brown Hill Creek** Area 3, Millswood



The capacity of the section of Brown Hill Creek from just downstream of Regent Street to Malcolm Street Millswood is being upgraded, including upgrade of the Regent Street culvert. The creek passes through several privately owned properties and the project team have been engaging closely with owners over the course of the design development and during construction.

# **Key Messages**

The channel upgrades at 14 Malcolm Street have reached Practical Completion and the landscape reinstatement (fencing and planting) has been scheduled for Autumn.

All works between Malcolm Street and Regent Street will then be in the Defects Liability and Maintenance Phase.

# Recent Works and Focus Areas

#### **Recent activities**

- Completion of channel upgrades at 14 Malcolm
- Construction of new shade structure at 14 Avenue
- Landscape maintenance for properties between Avenue Street and Regent Street.

# **Upcoming works**

- Completion of landscape reinstatement (fencing and planting) at 14 Malcolm Street.
- Completion of new shade structure at 14 Avenue Street.
- Landscape maintenance for properties between Malcolm Street and Regent Street.



# **Upper Brown Hill Creek Commonwealth Funded Projects**



Five Upper Brown Hill Creek sub-projects have been funded by the Commonwealth Government's Urban Rivers and Catchments Program and Disaster Ready Fund and are scheduled for construction in the 2025/26 financial year, with the option to extend the on-ground works into 2026/27 if required.

The works will include upgrades through both private property and public open space and are located within the Cities of Unley and Mitcham as follows:

- 1. UBHC Area 1 Third Avenue to Leah Street, Forestville
- 2. UBHC Area 1 Forestville Reserve
- 3. UBHC Area 2 Orphanage Park
- 4. UBHC Area 5 Cross Road to Hampton Street, Hawthorn
- 5. UBHC Area 6 Betty Long Gardens



# Private Property Interface

Based on lessons learned from past projects, efforts have been made to refine and standardise the process for engaging with property owners, including preparation of the following documents:

- A standard template for the *Memorandum of* Understanding that confirms a property owner's intention to collaborate with BHKC representatives throughout the design process and to enter a voluntary agreement with the Board to deliver the works once the designs are finalised.
- A standard template for the *Agreement and Licence* to Occupy and Carry out Works.
- A Design Guide which is used to coordinate input from property owners during the design process and to ensure consistency in the application of design techniques and materials. The Design Guide illustrates the suite of 'standard' options for channel walls, safety fences, pedestrian bridges and plantings, while providing opportunities for property owners to contribute towards 'value-add' options if they wish.

# **Upper Brown Hill Creek Commonwealth Funded Projects**



# Design Update

The Board's landscape architects, Aspect Studios and Oxigen, have completed preliminary photomontages and landscape designs based on the preliminary civil engineering designs. The ecological, environmental and geotechnical investigations have been completed. A constructability review and preliminary staging plan has been developed.

# Next Steps and Community Consultation

A site briefing was provided to City of Unley's Ward Councillors at Orphanage Park in late November 2024. A formal presentation of the preliminary designs for Wilberforce Walk, Forestville Reserve and Orphanage Park will be provided to staff and Elected Members from the City of Unley in April 2025, followed by a series of community information sessions. Outcomes from this consultation will enable the detailed designs to be finalised.

A formal presentation of the preliminary designs for Betty Long Gardens will be provided to staff and Elected Members from the City of Mitcham in April 2025, followed by a community information session.

All property owners affected by the works between Cross Road and Hampton Street, Hawthorn and in Betty Long Gardens have received the draft MoU, preliminary designs and supporting reports. Most property owners have also met with the Program Manager and Oxigen's Landscape Architects to refine the landscape designs. The collaborative process and Design Guide has been well received by property owners and the project team will now seek to execute the MoUs and work through the detailed designs with continuing input from the property owners.







# Agenda Item 6.3

# Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget

Strategic Alignment - Our Corporation

**Public** 

Friday, 16 May 2025 Audit and Risk Committee

**Program Contact:** 

Rebecca Hayes Associate Director Governance & Strategy

**Approving Officer:** 

Anthony Spartalis, Chief **Operating Officer** 

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At its meeting of 29 April 2025, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1999 (SA), Council endorsed the Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget (BP&B) for community consultation from 6 May 2025 to 27 May 2025.

Consultation is being undertaken for the required three-week period, seeking input on the proposed priorities, projects, rates and fees and charges, and to ensure our community understands the proposed expenditure and services to be delivered in 2025/26. The feedback will then be used to inform the final 2025/26 BP&B, due to Council for consideration and adoption in June.

The Draft 2025/26 BP&B outlines the priorities, programs, services and projects that we plan to deliver, our sources of revenue, financial levers, long term sustainability targets and how we propose to allocate our budget. It is the third BP&B for this term of Council and is set to continue to deliver on Council's Strategic Plan 2024-2028 and other endorsed strategies, like the Economic Development Strategy, and Integrated Climate Strategy.

Highlights of the Draft BP&B include:

- Investing over \$39m into new and upgraded Capital projects including converting the previous Adelaide Aquatic Centre site into a community playing field, upgrading James Place, progressing the Central Market Arcade redevelopment and continuing greening throughout the city.
- Undertaking over \$67m maintenance and renewal for the \$2 billion plus Council owned assets (roads, footpaths, parks, buildings etc) in line with Council's endorsed Asset Management Plans
- Continuing our commitment to upgrading Park Lands Buildings, ensuring that sporting clubs and our community have the facilities they need now and for future generations with works commencing at the sporting clubs at Golden Wattle Park / Mirnu Wirra (Park 21 West) and Mary Lee Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27B), and further concept designs.
- Implementing the Mainstreet Revitalisation Program, with construction works progressing in Gouger Street, Hindley Street, Hutt Street and Melbourne Street, and designing of O'Connell Street.
- Stimulating growth in the City's economy through the implementation of the Economic Development Strategy and the Adelaide Economic Development Agency's Strategic Plan.
- Improving active transport and safety, with a pedestrian crossing being installed at Franklin Street, traffic signal upgrades on Morphett Street and cycling path improvements along Peacock Road and the Adelaide Park Lands Trail.

In 2025/26 Council will support the continuing delivery of its Strategic Plan 2024-2028. Our diverse range of strategies will continue to focus on repairing our budget after continued financial pressures that have impacted our ability to renew assets, upgrade infrastructure and provide core community services. Council will also continue to support our subsidiaries Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority, Adelaide Central Market Authority and the Adelaide Economic Development Agency. Council proposes to do this through:

- A focus on delivery of key projects and infrastructure upgrades within the Strategic Plan 2024-2028
- Delivery of core council services
- Delivery of a financially sustainable budget with an equitable approach to income generation, in line with our Long Term Financial Plan
- Delivery of an operating position to meet the ongoing cost requirements of our Asset Management Plans, working towards a target of 100% asset renewals
- A moderate rate increase based on CPI that supports businesses during this period of economic instability
- Prioritising our operational budget, grants and sponsorships and where there are opportunities to partner with other levels of Government to seek co-funding.

The Draft BP&B delivers a surplus budget position of \$8.541m. Total borrowings are projected to be \$49.329m at the end of the financial year; however, Council's financially sustainable decisions provide a structured pathway to repaying the debt required to deliver the new and upgraded capital program.

Council is also proposing changes to its rating policy during the consultation on the Draft 2025/26 BP&B. These changes introduce a minimum rate of \$600 and how council rates residential properties under development.

# RECOMMENDATION

# THAT THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

- 1. Notes the Draft 2025/26 Business Plan & Budget document as contained in Attachments A, B, C and D to Item 6.3 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee held on 16 May 2025.
- 2. Notes the Draft 2025/26 Business Plan & Budget document is currently out for consultation, which concludes at midnight Tuesday 27 May 2025.
- 3. Receives the Draft 2025/26 Business Plan & Budget document as contained in Attachments A, B, C and D to Item 6.3 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee held on 16 May 2025 and provides the following advice:

3.1.						

# **IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS**

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Corporation  Focus on budget repair and ensure responsible financial management through the principle of intergenerational equity while delivering quality services.
Policy	The Draft 2025/26 BP&B has been prepared in accordance with Council's current Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) assumptions and endorsed Financial Policies. The approved public consultation will be undertaken in accordance with Council's Public Communication and Consultation Policy.
Consultation	The public consultation process on the Draft 2025/26 BP&B commenced at 9.00am on Tuesday 6 May 2025 and will conclude at midnight on Tuesday 27 May 2025.
Resource	The Draft 2025/26 BP&B identifies how Council's resources will be allocated in meeting the 2025/26 deliverables and objectives of the Strategic Plan and other related plans and strategies.
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Council's Draft 2025/26 BP&B is developed in accordance with section 123 of the Local Government Act 1999 (SA), and sections 6 and 7 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 (the Regulations).
Opportunities	Public consultation is a key part of the BP&B providing the community with an opportunity to provide feedback on the draft. Community members can provide feedback on issues that affect them with the commitment of Council to provide pathways for their input.
24/25 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Proposed 25/26 Budget Allocation	The Draft 2025/26 BP&B provides the proposed budget for 2025/26 financial year.
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	Not as a result of this report
24/25 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

Audit and Risk Committee – Agenda - Friday, 16 May 2025

## DISCUSSION

#### Context

- 1. As the Capital City Council for all South Australians, the City of Adelaide plays a key role in ensuring that Adelaide continues to be a cultural, civic and economic hub where our residents, students, visitors, workers and businesses can thrive. To shape this future requires bold thinking, long-term planning and a vision. In December 2023, Council adopted the Strategic Plan 2024-2028 with a long-term vision of: "Our Adelaide. Bold. Aspirational. Innovative."
- 2. The Draft 2025/26 Business Plan & Budget (BP&B) (**Attachment A**) has been developed to ensure that Council can deliver on this vision and the key actions outlined in the Strategic Plan 2024-2028.
- 3. Council's suite of Strategic Management Plans the Long Term Financial Plan, Asset Management Plans and City Plan, as well as recent Council decisions and endorsed Strategies, have also been taken into consideration in developing this plan and budget.
- 4. This is the third BP&B for this term of Council and continues the work undertaken in 2024/25, including such initiatives as Mainstreets revitalisation, greening and tree planting, and upgrading community buildings in the Park Lands.
- 5. Council Members participated in a series of briefings and workshops to further develop the projects, priorities and budget for 2025/26.
- 6. At its special meeting held on 29 April 2025, Council resolved:

## 'THAT COUNCIL

- Approves the Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget document set out in Attachment A to Item 6.1 on the Agenda for the Special Meeting of Council held 29 April 2025 for the purpose of community consultation commencing at 9:00am on Tuesday 6 May 2025 and concluding at midnight Tuesday 27 May 2025, subject to the following amendment:
  - 1.1. That a proposed Minimum Rate of \$600 is introduced as part of the Draft 2025/26 Rating Policy.
  - 1.2. That the proposed 2025/26 Road Event (Closure Fees) apply to State and Federal Government agencies and entities.
  - 1.3. That the proposed transfer of Precinct Activation resources of \$0.822m (including 3.0 FTE) to the Adelaide Economic Development Agency remains within the City Culture Program, subject to a final decision by Council in relation to the Precincts Review.
  - 1.4. That the Community Sports Building Redevelopment (Concept Design) allocation of \$100k for 2025/26 be the subject of a further report to Council in relation to confirming the project to be selected from the Community Buildings Priority Needs Analysis.'
- 2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to make any necessary changes to the Draft 2025/26 Business Plan & Budget document arising from this meeting, together with any editorial amendments and finalisation of the document's formatting and graphic design.'

## Consultation

- 7. In accordance with section 123(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999 (SA) (the Act), Council will follow the relevant steps in our community consultation policy to facilitate community feedback on the Draft 2025/26 BP&B.
- 8. The consultation process seeks feedback from the community including our residents, ratepayers, businesses and other key stakeholders.
- 9. Consultation opened at 9am on Tuesday 6 May 2025 and will close at midnight on Tuesday 27 May 2025.
- 10. Notification of consultation has been provided through various channels including but not limited to a public notice in the Government Gazette and Advertiser newspaper, advertisements through social media and in our Libraries, Community Centres and Customer Centre, and direct emails to key stakeholders and residents.
- 11. Feedback will be received through Council's Our Adelaide online engagement platform, email, post and facilitated by a range of in person (face-to-face) opportunities.
- 12. Whilst ideally the Audit and Risk Committee feedback would occur prior to Council adopting the Draft 2025/26 BP&B for consultation, due to the timing and cycles of meetings, the feedback from the Audit and Risk Committee will be incorporated into the report to Council in June 2025, on the submissions received during the consultation period.

Audit and Risk Committee - Agenda - Friday, 16 May 2025

#### Priorities for 2025/26

- 13. The Act requires council to articulate priorities for the financial year within an Annual Business Plan and Budget. The Draft BP&B proposes the following priorities for 2025/26:
  - 13.1. Support increased residential growth and housing affordability through partnerships and advocacy.
  - 13.2. Celebrate and elevate our community culture and the profiles of multicultural communities and create welcoming programs and services.
  - 13.3. Make public electric vehicle charging available for all users, including micro-mobility, catalysing the uptake of electric vehicles in Adelaide and improving Council and community performance on transport emissions.
  - 13.4. Work with partners to create innovative ways to create or convert underutilised areas to green space.
  - 13.5. Reinforce the position of Adelaide as the State's central business district and amplify Adelaide's reputation as a place to learn, work and start a business.
  - 13.6. Provide services and information that contribute towards a high productivity economy.
  - 13.7. Work with partners to increase active and diverse transport measures to ensure drivers, cyclists and pedestrians can safely and easily move within the city with a goal to minimise road incidents and decrease fatalities.
  - 13.8. Encourage repurposing, adaptive reuse and improvement of buildings and facilities.
  - 13.9. Create, maintain and integrate plans and policies that reflect and guide decision making and support our city and our community to thrive.
  - 13.10. Attract and retain people with skills and behaviours which align with our organisational objectives and values.

## **Financial principles**

- 14. The Draft 2025/26 BP&B was built on an agreed set of financial principles to ensure that the projects, services and budget repair are accomplished in a financially sustainable, fair and equitable manner:
  - 14.1. Approach to rates, fees and charges is fair and equitable with fees and charges reflecting cost of services provided.
  - 14.2. Continue to deliver a minimum of the current suite of services and asset maintenance, indexed in line with Consumer Price Index (CPI).
  - 14.3. Maintain the current rating system and operating surplus.
  - 14.4. Capitalise on external funding, fast-tracking projects that attract such funding, recognising the potential need for increased borrowings in order to respond to external funding opportunities which require matched funding.
  - 14.5. New or enhanced services, assets or maintenance requiring an increase in operating costs are to be funded from the adjustment of priorities, rates or other revenues, and/or through savings not from borrowings.
  - 14.6. Capital renewal expenditure will be based on Asset Management Plans and prioritised based on audit condition and risk.
  - 14.7. Borrowings will be used to fund new and upgrade projects (which include major projects) and will not be used to fund operations, expenses or renewal projects.
  - 14.8. Short-term borrowings will be used to fund the Asset Renewal Repair Fund, to ensure the increased spending required through the revised Asset Management Plans can be spread over a longer period to meet community expectation, and their capacity to pay is managed over time through sustainable rate increases.
  - 14.9. Capital enhancements (new and upgrade) in line with Council decisions to fund Central Market Arcade redevelopment, mainstreets revitalisations, upgrades to Park Lands buildings, in addition to other items on the final list of New and Upgrade projects.
  - 14.10. New or enhanced services, assets or maintenance requiring an increase in operating costs are to be funded from the adjustment of priorities, rate revenue or other revenue increases and/or through savings.
  - 14.11. Adjust rate revenue after consideration of all other budget components and use growth in rate revenue to partly fund servicing new rateable properties, fund endorsed strategies of Council and

to service new borrowings.

## **Proposed Budget Position**

- 15. Consistent with these principles of responsible financial management, the Draft 2025/26 BP&B delivers an operating surplus position of \$8.541m from our core operating budget, enabling the generation of sufficient cash flow from operations to fund our Asset Renewal Program at 93.5% of our Asset Management Plans and allocate funding to upgrade community Park Lands Buildings.
- 16. A proposed capital program of \$107.116m is outlined, inclusive of a \$67.937m asset renewal program, and \$39.179m on New and Upgraded Assets which will deliver on the priorities set by Council.
- 17. In order to fund the New and Upgraded assets, additional borrowings of \$28.956m is required. The total projected borrowings to 30 June 2025 is \$49.329m.

## **Operational Budget 2025/26**

18. The operating surplus of \$8.541m is \$0.826m lower than the forecast quarter 2 2024/25 operating surplus. This is representative of the need to generate adequate cash flow from operations to fund the upgrade to community buildings in the Park Lands, service new borrowings, and account for growth from new developments to service increase in maintenance in future years.

Statement of Comprehensive Income (\$'000s)	2024/25 Q2	2025/26
Income		
Rates Revenues	144,359	154,908
Statutory Charges	16,893	17,809
User Charges	68,271	70,309
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions	6,568	5,206
Investment Income	715	171
Reimbursements	150	181
Other Income	956	695
Total Income	237,913	249,279
Expenses		
Employee Costs	83,584	90,672
Materials, Contracts and Other Expenses	86,952	84,843
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	57,202	64,506
Finance Costs	808	717
Total Expenses	228,546	240,738
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	9,367	8,541

- 19. Borrowings are projected to cap at \$49.329m for 2025/26 as a result of the capital program delivery. This remains within prudential limits articulated through the suite of ratios Council uses to attest prudential borrowings being:
  - 19.1. Net Financial Liabilities below 80% (2025/26 budget 34%)
  - 19.2. Asset Test ratio below 50% (2025/26 budget 15.6%)
  - 19.3. Interest Expense ratio below 10% (2025/26 budget 1.5%)
  - 19.4. Leverage Test ratio below 1.5 years (2025/26 budget 0.32 years)
- 20. The projected borrowings of \$49.329m are \$45.505m favourable to the 2024/25 to 2033/34 LTFP projections for the same period. A reconciliation of the movement has been provided in the following table.

Borrowings Reconciliation \$000's	2025/26 Draft budget	2025/26 LTFP	Movement
Opening Borrowings (2024/25 Forecast Position)	(20,373)	(53,677)	33,304
Operating Surplus	8,541	6,070	2,471
Net outlays on Renewal of Assets	(8,033)	(8,077)	44
Net outlays on New and Upgraded Assets	(31,161)	(39,119)	7,958
Movement in Net Payables and Receivables	1,697	(31)	1,728
Forecast Borrowings as at 30 June 2026	(49,329)	(94,834)	45,505

#### **Rates**

- 21. Income from rates is forecast to increase by \$10.549m which equates to a 5.6% increase for existing properties, plus a further 1.3% from growth from new developments. This rate revenue will be generated through the revaluation of properties, combined with amendment to the Rate in the Dollar.
- 22. Council is also proposing changes to its rating policy during the Draft 2025/26 BP&B consultation period. The changes to the policy include:
  - 22.1. An introduction of a minimum rate of \$600.
    - 22.1.1. Currently, there is no minimum rate amount charged. This change will ensure that the lowest amount payable for a rateable property is \$600.
    - 22.1.2. The purpose of the minimum rate is to ensure that all ratepayers contribute towards the provision of basic services and infrastructure maintenance and renewal, at a reasonable level.
    - 22.1.3. Where two or more adjoining properties have the same owner and are occupied by the same occupier, only one minimum rate is payable by the ratepayer.
    - 22.1.4. The Discretionary Rate Rebate (10% cap) does not apply to the increase in general rates payable through the introduction of a Minimum Rate.
  - 22.2. Property Developments change for residential applications
    - 22.2.1. The current Rating Policy rates all property developments as non-residential (even those that are residential) during construction. Council is proposing to change this so that residential developments can now be rated as residential:
    - 22.2.2. Where a residential property has been demolished and a new residential building is being constructed, the property will be rated as residential during the construction phase.
    - 22.2.3. Where a residential property has been demolished and a commercial building is being constructed, the property will be rated as non-residential during the construction phase.

## Fees and charges

- 23. Council has reviewed its fees and charges consistent with increased costs to deliver services and meet inflation. As a base position, Council is increasing fees by 3% in 2025/26 to meet rising costs and inflation.
- 24. Total proposed fees and charges increases are expected to be \$2.954m in 2025/26, compared to the quarter 2 2024/25 forecast.
- 25. A review has been undertaken, with a range of changes to, or introduction of, fees and charges. The fees and charges reviewed include:
  - 25.1. A change to 2025/26 Parklet fees to simplify the model and introduce quarterly invoicing. This fee is recommended to be applied from 2025/26 and not applied retrospectively.
  - 25.2. Daily charge for major road closures instead of a one-off fee. This fee is now charged for all road closure applications, not just commercial applications, but continues the exemption for not-for-profits and charities (excluding State and Federal Government agencies and entities).
  - 25.3. Inclusion of Park Lands lease fees into the schedule for Council endorsement, noting Park Lands lease fees are currently set by the Park Lands Leasing and Licensing Policy. This schedule inclusion enables fees to be annually indexed and provides consistency with other fees and charges.
  - 25.4. Introduction of a once-off application fee for Private Laneway Parking arrangements, once off fee.

- 25.5. Introduction of an annual permit fee, ladder usage.
- 25.6. Introduction of recovery of animal management fees paid to service providers.
- 25.7. Introduction of fees for City Archives sales of digital maps and reports, at cost recovery.
- 25.8. Introduction of Commercial watercraft fees on the River Torrens.
- 25.9. Introduction of a River Torrens permit licence fee.
- 25.10.Introduction of a new fee for Council documents, rates and rating information.
- 25.11.Introduction of a new fee for education institutions for Court, Green and Piste usage to align with current fees currently being charged to the Community.
- 25.12. Change to Rundle Mall Zone B fee schedule.
- 25.13. Introduction of Rundle Mall fee for decals and roaming fees to the schedule.

## Capital Budget 2025/26

- 26. The draft budget includes a capital budget of \$107.116m (net \$99.098m after external funding), including:
  - 26.1. \$67.937m for asset renewal for the \$2 billion plus owned Council assets (roads, footpaths, parks, buildings etc).
  - 26.2. \$39.179m of New and Upgrade capital projects.
  - 26.3. Grant funding confirmed to be received specifically for New and Upgrade capital projects is \$8.018m.

\$'000	8	Proposed Draft Position
Capit	al Expenditure	
1	Capital Expenditure on Renewal & Replacement of Existing Assets	(67,937)
2	Capital Expenditure on New and Upgraded Assets	(39,179)
Total Capital Expenditure		(107,116)
3	Amounts received specifically for New and Upgraded Assets	8,018
Net C	apital Expenditure	(99,098)

#### **Key Financial Indicators 2025/26**

27. A suite of financial sustainability indicators (KFIs) is used to measure Council's financial performance, to guide decision-making on major projects and significant components in the LTFP, and to secure its continued financial sustainability. The KFIs for 2025/26 expressed in the table below are within target ranges, indicating the council is financially sustainable for 2025/26.

	Target	2024/25 Q2 budget	2025/26
OPERATING SURPLUS RATIO  Expresses the operating surplus as a percentage of operating revenue.	0%-20%	3.9%	3.4%
<b>NET FINANCIAL LIABILITIES</b> Expresses the financial liabilities as a percentage of operating income.	Less than 80%	13%	34%
ASSET RENEWAL FUNDING RATIO  Expresses expenditure on asset renewals as a percentage of forecast expenditure required as per the asset management plans.	90%-110%	93.0%	93.5%
ASSET TEST RATIO Expresses borrowings as a percentage of saleable property assets.	Maximum 50%	7%	15.6%
INTEREST EXPENSE RATIO Interest expense as a percentage of General Rates Revenue (less Landscape Levy)	Maximum 10%	2.0%	1.5%
<b>LEVERAGE TEST RATIO</b> Expresses total borrowings relative to General Rates Revenue (less the Landscape Levy).	Maximum 1.5 years	0.14	0.32
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATIONS RATIO  Expresses operating income as a percentage of operating expenditure plus expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets.	Greater than 100%	110%	103%
BORROWINGS Expresses borrowings as a percentage of the Prudential Borrowing Limit (50% of saleable property assets).	Within Prudential Limits	13%	31%
<b>BORROWINGS</b> Expresses Borrowings (Gross of Future Fund) as a percentage of the Prudential Borrowing Limit (50% of Saleable Property Assets).	Within Prudential Limits	35%	52%

## **Opportunities and Risks**

- 29. The Draft 2025/26 BP&B presents an investment program to deliver for our city and community. Appropriate consideration has been given to a range of delivery risks. A non-exhaustive list of risks includes:
  - 29.1. Challenging procurement market
  - 29.2. Challenging recruitment market
  - 29.3. Materials and contractor availability
  - 29.4. Capacity of existing resources to address an infrastructure focus
- 30. It is also important to note the Draft 2025/26 BP&B does not list every item Council will focus on in the coming year. To ensure effective delivery and community value, Council will continue to focus on:
  - 30.1. Building strategic relationships and partnerships to improve access to funding opportunities that support community outcomes.
  - 30.2. Investing in community engagement to build trusting relationships.
  - 30.3. Continuous improvement and efficiencies in the planning and delivery of services, programs and assets and improve our procurement lifecycle.
  - 30.4. Service reviews to identify service changes based on community need and meeting Council's strategic intent.

- 30.5. Pursuing revenue opportunities and grants which reduce the reliance on rates.
- 30.6. Attracting businesses, workers and visitors to the city through economic opportunities, arts, culture and events.
- 30.7. Encouraging investment and development through partnerships.

#### **Subsidiaries**

- 31. Council owns and operates three subsidiaries as a part of its operations. They are included in the Draft 2025/26 BP&B as follows:
  - 31.1. Adelaide Central Market Authority (ACMA) has prepared a budget with an overall operating deficit of \$1.576m. Further details on the activities and budget can be found in ACMA's Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget (**Attachment B**).
  - 31.2. Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA) has prepared a budget to deliver a range of programs designed to stimulate the city's economic growth. The income generated from Rundle Mall will be utilised specifically to support and promote the Rundle Mall Precinct. The remaining services delivered by AEDA are funded through the City of Adelaide through an appropriation of funds.
  - 31.3. Feedback heard throughout the development of the Draft2025/26 BP&B showed a desire to provide an allocation of funding to AEDA, based on a percentage of rate revenue. This allocation will support the operating costs of the subsidiary and will fund Strategic Projects that support the delivery of the Economic Development Strategy and AEDA's Strategic Plan. The proposed draft budget includes a 6.4% allocation.
  - 31.4. Further details on the activities and budget can be found in AEDA's Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget (**Attachment C**).
  - 31.5. Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority has prepared a break-even budget, largely funded through an external grant. Further details on the activities and budget can be found in Kadaltilla's Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget (**Attachment D**).
  - 31.6. In addition to the owned and operated subsidiaries, contributions to the Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Board include minor operational \$0.175m and capital \$0.320m budgets.

## **Next Steps**

- 32. Council will receive copies of the community feedback on the Draft 2025/26 BP&B at its meeting scheduled for 10 June 2025.
- 33. At a Council meeting proposed for 24 June 2025 (and presented to the City Finance and Governance Committee 17 June 2025), Council will be asked to adopt:
  - 33.1. The City of Adelaide 2025/26 BP&B
  - 33.2. Adelaide Central Market Authority 2025/26 BP&B.
  - 33.3. Adelaide Economic Development Agency 2025/26 BP&B
  - 33.4. Kadaltilla 2025/26 BP&B
  - 33.5. Rating Policy, Valuations, Declaration of Rates and Rundle Mall Differential Special Rate

# DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

**Community Consultation Policy** 

# **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A - Draft 2025/26 Business Plan & Budget

Attachment B - Draft 2025/26 ACMA Business Plan & Budget

Attachment C – Draft 2025/26 AEDA Business Plan & Budget

Attachment D - Draft 2025/26 Kadaltilla / Park Lands Authority Business Plan & Budget

- END OF REPORT -

# Draft 2025/26 **Business Plan & Budget**



Our Adelaide. **Bold. Aspirational. Innovative.** 



# Kaurna Acknowledgement

City of Adelaide tampendi, ngadlu Kaurna yertangga banbabanbalyarnendi (inbarendi). Kaurna meyunna yaitya mattanya Womma Tarndanyako.

Parnako yailtya, parnuko tappa purruna, parnuko yerta ngadlu tampendi. Yellaka Kaurna meyunna itto yailtya, tappa purruna, yerta kuma burro martendi, burro warriappendi, burro tangka martulyaiendi.

Kumarta yaitya miyurna iyangka yalaka ngadlu tampinthi.

City of Adelaide acknowledges the traditional Country of the Kaurna People of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present.

We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.

And we also extend that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations.

# **Our City**

The City of Adelaide is the heart of the state's civic, cultural and commercial life.

First shaped by the Kaurna People of the Adelaide Plains, then by Colonel William Light, Adelaide is known for being progressive, resilient, bold, trailblazing and enterprising.

From the Nationally Heritage Listed Adelaide Park Lands that breathe life into our city, to our culturally diverse neighbourhoods and unique and easy to get around precincts, with year-round events and activations, a vibrant dining scene and international recognition as a UNESCO City of Music, the City of Adelaide offers an unparalleled quality of life.

The City of Adelaide boasts a bustling business landscape, accommodating over 12,500 enterprises and fostering approximately 169,940 local jobs, contributing nearly 18% to the state's economic prosperity. Leading industries include financial and insurance services, professional and scientific sectors, health, education and public administration and safety, reflecting the city's economic vitality and diversity.

The city accommodates approximately 29,000 residents and over 390,000 daily visitors. Adelaide's allure extends globally, attracting over two million visitors annually. The city's vibrant atmosphere is unmistakable, nurturing inclusivity and connectivity within its diverse population, which includes individuals of all ages, from the young to the young-at-heart. Adelaide's appeal extends far and wide, inviting everyone to be a part of its rich tapestry of experience.

We aspire to strengthen what we know makes Adelaide one of the world's most liveable cities. The City of Adelaide's great liveability is created not just through our layout and world class infrastructure, but also through the breadth of our heritage, festivals, residents, businesses, students and visitors.

## Our City at a glance:

12,500 + local businesses	<b>169,000+</b> local jobs	\$24 billion  contribution to State Economy (18%)
<b>\$4.18b</b> local spend (Feb 24 – Feb 25)	2.7 million local and overseas visitors	390,000+ people visit the city daily
29,118 + city residents (ABS ERP 2024)	<b>47%</b> aged 18 to 34 (ABS Census 2021)	20% aged 60 and over (ABS Census 2021)

## Our Adelaide

# **Bold. Aspirational. Innovative.**

The 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget is the key annual operational and financial planning document for the City of Adelaide. It describes the priorities, programs, services and projects that we plan to deliver, our sources of revenue, financial levers, long term sustainability and how we propose to allocate our budget in the coming year.

In 2025/26 Council will continue to support the delivery of its Strategic Plan 2024-2028. Our diverse range of strategies will continue to focus on repairing our budget after continued financial pressures that have impacted our ability to renew assets, upgrade infrastructure and provide core community services. Council will continue to support for our subsidiaries Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority, Adelaide Central Market Authority and the Adelaide Economic Development Agency.

This Business Plan and Budget sets out the Council's priorities, services, programs, projects and budget for 2025/26.

This plan delivers on Year 2 of the Strategic Plan 2024-2028 and Council has provided a list of priorities, highlights and measures for the year ahead (Our Strategies and Plans).

Council proposes to do this through:

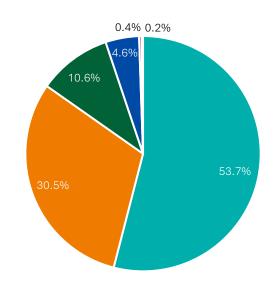
- A focus on delivery of the Strategic Plan 2024-2028 with key projects and infrastructure upgrades
- Delivery of core council services
- Delivery of a financially sustainable budget with an equitable approach to income generation, in line with our Long Term Financial Plan
- Delivery of an operating position to meet the ongoing cost requirements of our Asset Management Plans, working towards a target of 100% asset renewals
- A moderate rate increase based on CPI that supports businesses during this period of economic instability
- Prioritising our operational budget, grants and sponsorships and where there are opportunities to partner with other levels of Government to seek co-funding.

What the community can expect to see delivered throughout the year has been provided under each Program of the Organisation, alongside a Capital Works Program (Our Programs and Projects).

The financial information, including our financial framework and Resource Plan 2024-2028, that underpins this plan, is provided at the end of this document (Our Resources and Budget).

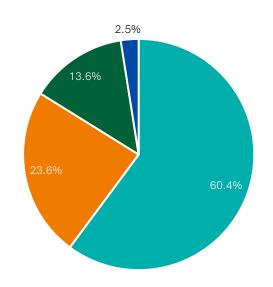
Further information, including a copy of Council's subsidiary plans and budgets, is available online at <a href="mailto:cityofadelaide.com.au/budget">cityofadelaide.com.au/budget</a>.

## Where our funds come from:



	Rates	\$154.908m	(53.7%)
•	Fees and Charges (Statutory and User Charges)	\$88.119m	(30.5%)
	Borrowings	\$28.956m	(10.6%)
	External Funding	\$13.224m	(4.6%)
	Other	\$1.047m	(0.4%)
	Proceeds from the Sale of Assets	\$0.500m	(0.2%)
	TOTAL	\$286.754m	

## How are funds are spent:



	Service Delivery	\$172.492m	(60.4%)
•	Renewal/ Replacement of Assets	\$67.937m	(23.6%)
•	New and Upgraded Assets	\$39.179m	(13.6%)
•	Strategic Projects	\$7.146m	(2.5%)

TOTAL \$286.754m

# **Key Investments**

## **Investing over \$39m into Capital projects**

including converting the previous Adelaide Aquatic Centre site into a community playing field, upgrading James Place, progressing the Central Market Arcade redevelopment and continuing greening through the city.

## **Undertaking over \$67m in maintenance and renewal**

for the \$2 billion plus owned Council assets (roads, footpaths, parks, buildings etc).

## **Continuing our commitment to upgrading Park Lands Buildings**

ensuring that sporting clubs and our community have the facilities they need now and for future generations, with works commencing at the sporting clubs at Golden Wattle Park / Mirnu Wirra (Park 21 West) and Mary Lee Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27B), and further concept designs.

## **Implementing the Mainstreet Revitalisation Program**

with construction works progressing in Gouger Street, Hindley Street, Hutt Street and Melbourne Street, and finalising the design of O'Connell Street.

## Stimulating growth in the City's economy

through the implementation of the Economic Development Strategy and the Adelaide Economic Development Agency's Strategic Plan.

## Improving active transport and safety

with a pedestrian crossing being installed at Franklin Street, traffic signal upgrades on Morphett Street and cycling path improvements along Peacock Road and the Adelaide Park Lands Trail.

# **Lord Mayor Introduction**

Upgrading Park Lands sports facilities, planting more trees across city streets and revitalising our main streets will be the focus of this Council's third Budget.

The 2025/26 Business Plan & Budget continues this Council's strong track record of repairing not just our bottom line but major infrastructure across the city.

This Budget proposes spending more than \$107 million on city infrastructure, including building new bikeways and walking trails through the Park Lands and a pedestrian crossing on Franklin Street.

Our bold plan to revitalise Gouger, Hindley, Hutt and Melbourne streets is a key pillar of this Budget, with more than \$5 million earmarked for detailed design and construction to turn our plans into a reality.

Making sure our city is climate resilient is a key consideration in this Budget with our \$2.2 million commitment to greening CBD streets.

Up to 200 trees will be planted over the next year across streets to increase shade, bring down temperatures and make our city more pedestrian friendly.

Community sport is a key attribute of our Adelaide Park Lands with more than 207 hectares of dedicated playing space.

This Council has committed 1.5 per cent of its rates revenue to upgrading community buildings in the Park Lands.

This Budget proposes spending more than \$8 million to redevelop two rundown buildings in Golden Wattle Park/Mirnu Wirra (Park 21 West) and Mary Lee Park (Park 27B) used by footballers and cricketers; as well as drawing up concept designs for another Park Land building, to be determined during the year.

When it comes to housing, this Budget also proposes extending our successful Adaptive Reuse City Housing Initiative (ARCHI) program to larger empty buildings.

The latest Essential Services Commission of SA (ESCOSA) report confirmed this Council is on the right path after many years of waived fees and frozen rates.

While our finances remain fragile, this is a disciplined Budget that continues to make significant investments in improving the City of Adelaide.

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Frequently used terms within this document:

Budget views: Within this document we have presented operational budgets within each Portfolio and Program of Council (being the administrative structure). Each budget table presents two views, an operating view and an activity view. The operating view presents a summary of the nature of the income and expenditure consistent with the financial statements. The activity view provides the budget by the services and deliverables of each Program.

Note: the Operating View and Activity View is the same budget information of programs, shown in two different views.

**Capital Projects:** Support the delivery of Council's Strategic Plan and its Asset Management Plans. The delivery of projects is prioritised / reviewed annually to deliver on relevant financial and asset indicators.

FTE: Full Time Equivalent (1.0) employee.

**Operating Activities:** Deliver on Council decisions, partnerships and/or strategic projects that are ongoing in nature.

Program and Portfolio: A description of the structure of the organisation, consisting of a group of people responsible for specific policies, strategies, plans, functions and services. Multiple Programs make up a Portfolio. Each Portfolio is led by a Director, who is a member of Executive and reports to the Chief Executive Officer.

**Service**: Local government services that meet community need, expectation and legislated requirements.

**Strategic Projects**: Generally, 'one off' activities that have been prioritised to be delivered within a specific timeframe to meet strategic outcomes, often as a result of Council decisions and/or partnerships.

**Subsidiaries**: Established by Council under Section 42 of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* that operate under independent boards or organisations that City of Adelaide either operates or supports.

# Our Strategies and Plans

Strategic Drivers

How We Plan

**Business Plan Priorities** 

Our Community

Our Environment

Our Economy

Our Places

Our Corporation

Performance

**Grants and Partnerships** 

## Strategic Drivers

The environment that Council is operating in to deliver for our community and city continues to evolve and is influenced by trends and challenges at a state, national and global level. We need to balance the City's growth with our changing community demographics as we expand the range of essential services delivered based on our community's expectations, whilst remaining financially responsible.

This means we are required to make the best of our available resources, diversify our revenue streams and plan for the changing expectations of our communities in an increasingly challenging environment.

#### State and Federal Government

Both the State and Federal Governments continue to influence the way Council operates, from grant funded projects and partnerships, to setting policy positions around immigration, transport, legislation, planning and development. The recently endorsed State Government Transport and Urban Greening Strategies, Cultural Policy, Greater Adelaide Regional Plan and State-led projects such as the New Women's and Children's Hospital, Aquatic Centre and LIV Golf, present opportunities and challenges for our Council. Upcoming Federal and State elections present opportunities to further advocate for our City and community.

#### Financial sustainability

The impacts of inflation on the cost to deliver services, combined with lower grant revenue and delivering COVID-19-influenced budgets has resulted in Council continuing to prioritise financial sustainability for current and future generations. This has been reflected by the Essential Services Commission of South Australia (ESCOSA) Review finding that the City of Adelaide is mostly sustainable. Council's response to these findings are found on page 83 of this document.

## Infrastructure and resourcing

Our organisation has not been immune to local and global pressures on the physical and human resources required to deliver projects and asset renewals. During the COVID-19 pandemic, our Asset Renewal Funding Ratio fell below 90% with Council now focusing on record breaking investment to ensure that our assets and capital projects are appropriately funded and renewed.

#### Climate adaptation and resilience

Council has a vision for a resilient, protected and sustainable city. From transport and movement to the Adelaide Park Lands and biodiversity, Council is working towards building climate resilience, transitioning to a decarbonised city, and protecting natural ecosystems. As a world-class city, there is ample opportunity in accelerating the transition to a low carbon, green and electrified city.

## Demographic changes

With a target to increase the City's population to 50,000 residents by 2036, Council will enable this growth while maintaining our residents' quality of life by ensuring services and infrastructure support a larger population. Most of the population growth for the city is likely to come from overseas migration, which is forecasted to peak between 2027 and 2031 to add another 2,000-plus residents to the city.

## Domestic and global economic conditions

There is ongoing uncertainty in global trade and economic conditions with recent Federal Government Budget papers reflecting a potential flattening of western countries' gross domestic output. While Australia continues to be well placed for a 'soft-landing' from the economic pressures of the past two years, other western nations are expected to have minimal economic growth and will see an increase in trade barriers. This has the potential to impact investment and visitation but provides an opportunity to focus on supporting our local economy.

Locally, Adelaide continues to experience low commercial vacancy rates, 'return to offices' by workers, new commercial developments and with the South Australian Government's support, record breaking visitation trends due to an increase in investment in festivals such as the AFL Gather Round and LIV Golf.

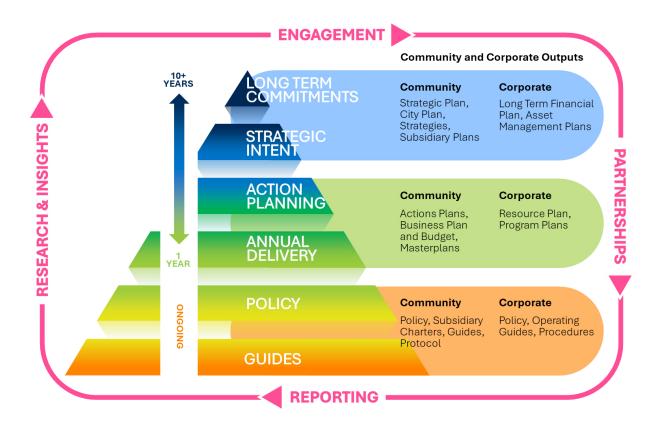
Nevertheless, there are ongoing challenges with retail spend in our City as a result of 'cost of living' pressures on our community over the past two years. This is further exacerbated as housing supply and affordability continues as one of the biggest challenges facing Australia, particularly in South Australia where median house prices continue to reach record levels. The increase in house values, while providing local government with extra income, is putting pressure on the liveability and vibrancy of our communities and neighbourhoods.

## How We Plan

Strategic and corporate planning at the City of Adelaide articulates our vision for the future based on our community's expectations. It takes into account future operations, financial sustainability, resourcing, Council's views on issues and the 'grand challenges' we face.

Connecting this space is our research and insights, partnerships and advocacy, engagement with the community, and transparent reporting.

Council is committed to showing a clear line of sight and a holistic view of this work, as we connect program and service delivery with meeting community expectations and our vision for moving forward, as articulated below:



This approach provides a strong foundation that represents the interplay and cohesion between our vision and strategy, planning and delivery, policy, principles and guides.

## **Long Term Commitments**

Under the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*, Council must develop and adopt 'strategic management plans' which identify Council's objectives, how Council intends to achieve its objectives, how these fit with the objectives of other levels of government, performance measures and estimates of revenue and expenses. These plans must cover at least four years and are reviewed after every Council election. For the City of Adelaide these are:

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**Long Term Financial Plan (Financial):** Ten-year plan, revised annually to ensure a ten-year view is maintained. Planning for long term financial sustainability.

**Asset Management Plans (Infrastructure):** Suite of ten-year plans. Planning for the sustainable renewal and maintenance of assets.

City Plan (Development): Ten-year spatial plan. Planning for future land uses and built form.

and

**Strategic Plan (Community):** Long term with a four-year delivery focus. Planning for vision and aspirations.

The Strategic Plan 2024-2028 presents a long-term vision of **Our Adelaide. Bold. Aspirational. Innovative.** 

To deliver on this vision, the Strategic Plan focusses our long-term efforts against the following Aspirations:



Each Aspiration outlines Council's commitment over four years through key actions and indicators of success. The Strategic Plan is supported by a Resource Plan that identifies the financial, infrastructure, information management and people resources required to deliver on our long-term and short-term objectives.

## **Strategic Intent**

Supporting our long-term commitments are a range of topic specific documents, which articulate Council's strategic intent. These strategies and plans align to the Strategic Plan 2024-2028 and have been developed to respond to legislation, community expectations, 'grand challenges' and Council decisions.

Strategy/Plan	Alignment
Active City Strategy (2013 – 2023)	Our Community
Adelaide Central Market Strategy	Our Economy
Adelaide Economic Development Agency Strategic Plan 2024/25 – 2028/29	Our Economy
Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy (2015-2025)	Our Environment
Asset Management Plans	Our Places
City Plan (2024 - 2036)	Our Places
Community Land Management Plans	Our Places
Cultural Strategy	Our Community
Customer Experience Strategy	Our Corporation
Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (2024 – 2028)	Our Community
Dog and Cat Management Plan (2019 – 2024)	Our Places
Economic Development Strategy (2024-2028)	Our Economy
Heritage Strategy (2021-2036)	Our Places
Homelessness Strategy – everyone's business	Our Community
Housing Strategy – investing in our housing future	Our Community
Integrated Climate Strategy (2030)	Our Environment
International Relations Strategy	Our Community
Long Term Financial Plan	Our Corporation
Smart Move Transport and Movement Strategy (2012-2022)	Our Places
Spatial Vision	Our Places
Strategic Plan 2024-2028	Our Corporation
Wellbeing Plan (2020-2025)	Our Community

## **Annual Delivery**

Council undertakes an annual plan and budget process, with a commitment to the community to deliver on the Strategic Plan and provide services and projects within our budget and resources to achieve:

- Responsible management of public funds to support community outcomes
- Council's commitment to the community and legislatively required priorities
- Deliverables for the year, showing how these align to our services, Strategic Plan, Asset Management Plans and other endorsed strategies and action plans
- Deliverables which respond to the challenges and opportunities of the current environment and show how we will manage these.

## **Business Plan Priorities**

To ensure the delivery of the Strategic Plan's long-term vision and the short-term actions and measures, it is essential to embed these into the everyday business of Council, which is achieved annually through the Business Plan and Budget. This process also allows Council to identify our Key Actions from our 2024–2028 Strategic Plan to prioritise for the year ahead.

Our planning approach and commitments alongside the identified financial principles ensure that we are able to plan, budget and report on the 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget in alignment with the Strategic Plan, community expectations and operational challenges and opportunities.

To support our planning, we are committed to:

- Demonstrating bold capital city leadership and robust governance with community at the heart of our decisions
- Building strategic relationships and partnerships to improve access to funding opportunities that support community outcomes and encourage investment and development
- Investing in meaningful and authentic community engagement to build trusting relationships
- Focusing on continuous improvement and efficiencies in the planning and delivery of services, programs and assets, based on community need and meeting Council's strategic intent
- Pursuing revenue opportunities and grants which reduce the reliance on rates and improve our procurement lifecycle
- Undertaking research and collecting data, to ensure we are continuously understanding the environment we are working in and to be able to inform decision making and planning outcomes
- Presenting our plan and budget through our organisational structure (articulated Program Overviews within this document).

A summary of our 2025/26 Business Plan, aligned to the Strategic Plan aspirations, is presented on the following pages.

## Our Community - vibrant, connected and Inclusive

Drive affordable, safe and quality housing outcomes that attract and retain residents in our city.

An interesting and engaging place to live, learn and visit.

An inclusive, equitable and welcoming community where people feel a sense of belonging.

#### **Action to Prioritise**

- Support increased residential growth and housing affordability through partnerships and advocacy.
- Celebrate and elevate our community culture and the profiles of multicultural communities and create welcoming programs and services.

## Projects that deliver on this aspiration:

- Bilingual Community Liaison Officer
- Social Planning Homelessness and Adelaide Zero Project – Partnership
- Future Libraries Business Case
- Implementation of the City of Adelaide Housing Strategy – vacancy assessment
- Positive Ageing Program Pilot
- City Activation

- Rundle Mall Live Music Program
- Australia Day Partnership Australia Day Council of South Australia Incorporated
- Flinders Street housing Concept Planning
- Christmas Decorations City-Wide, One Market and Rundle Mall
- Public Art Action Plan Deliverables
- Place of Courage

## Measures within our Strategic Plan to deliver in 2025/26:

- Reduce the incidences of people sleeping rough or experiencing homelessness to functional zero by 2026 in line with Council's Homelessness Strategy
- Support 29 State Government housing outcomes per month in the City of Adelaide for people experiencing homelessness to 2026 in line with Council's Homelessness Strategy
- Review the Active City Strategy by 2025
- Review library and community centre service delivery model to better meet the evolving community's need by 2025
- Develop a Community Wellbeing Plan by 2026

## Our Environment - Resilient, protected and sustainable

Leads as a Low Carbon Emissions City.

A sustainable city where climate resilience is embedded in all that we do.

The status, attributes and character of our green spaces and the Park Lands are protected and strengthened.

#### **Action to Prioritise**

- Make public electric vehicle charging available for all users, including micromobility, catalysing the uptake of electric vehicles in Adelaide and improving Council and community performance on transport emissions.
- Work with partners to create innovative ways to create or convert underutilised areas to green space.

## Projects that deliver on this aspiration:

- Annual Cultural Burn in the Adelaide Park Lands
- National Heritage Management Plan Implementation
- Master Plan for Helen Mayo Park
- Key Biodiversity Area Management Plan for G S Kingston Park / Wirrarninthi (Park 23)
- Tentative List Submission for the World Heritage Bid for Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscapes

- Accelerated Greening Water Truck
- Aquatic Centre Community Playing Field-Denise Norton Park / Pardipardinyilla (Park 2)
- Brown Hill Keswick Creek (Financial Contribution)
- City Public Realm Greening Program
- London Road Depot Electrification (Stage 1)

## Measures within our Strategic Plan to deliver in 2025/26:

- Develop a Sustainability Governance and Reporting Framework by 2025 and capture and share data and learnings
- All new dwellings built from 2025 are fully electric (no internal gas supply)

## Our Economy - Growing, innovative and responsive

Adelaide's unique experiences and opportunities attract visitors to our city.

Achieve a critical mass of jobs and investment and attract and retain businesses by growing a dynamic, holistic economy.

Council is driving development opportunities for our community via diverse commercial activities.

#### **Action to Prioritise**

- Reinforce the position of Adelaide as the State's central business district and amplify Adelaide's reputation as a place to learn, work and start a business.
- Provide services and information that contribute towards a high productivity economy.

## Projects that deliver on this aspiration:

- 88 O'Connell Project Delivery
- Adelaide Central Market Expansion Operational Readiness
- City Brand Development
- Tourism and Business Attraction
- Investment Attraction Program
- Partner Marketing Winter Focus

- Federal Hall Trade Waste and Water Connections
- Central Market Arcade Redevelopment Options
- Central Market Arcade Redevelopment Major Project
- Market Expansion Capital Works Ground Floor

Measures within our Strategic Plan to deliver in 2025/26:

N/A

## Our Places - Interesting, purposeful and safe

Community Assets are adaptable and responsibly maintained.

Encourage bold, interesting and purposeful development that supports the changing needs of our community and city.

Create safe, inclusive and healthy places for our community.

#### **Action to Prioritise**

- Work with partners to increase active and diverse transport measures to ensure drivers, cyclists and pedestrians can safely and easily move within the city with a goal to minimise road incidents and decrease fatalities.
- Encourage repurposing, adaptive reuse and improvement of buildings and facilities.

## Projects that deliver on this aspiration:

- Asset Condition Audit
- Resilient Flood Planning
- Adaptive Reuse City Housing Initiative (ARCHI)
- Planning and Design Code Amendment Program
- Implementation of the Disability, Access and Inclusion Plan 2024-2028
- Main Street Revitalisation
  - Gouger Street (Detailed Design & Construction)
  - Hindley Street (Construction)
  - Hutt Street (Detailed Design & Construction)
  - Melbourne Street (Detailed Design & Construction)
  - o O'Connell Street (Detailed Design)
- Community Sports Building Redevelopment Golden Wattle Park / Mirnu Wirra (Park 21 West)

- Community Sports Building Redevelopment Mary Lee Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27B)
- Community Sports Building Redevelopment Concept Design
- Rundle Mall Sound System
- James Place Upgrade
- Additional Park Safe Vehicle
- Adelaide Park Lands Trail Sir Donald Bradman Drive
- Belair-City Bikeway / Adelaide Park Lands Trail
   Glen Osmond Road
- Traffic Signal Safety upgrade
  - Morphett Street and Franklin Street Intersection
  - Morphett Street and Grote Street Intersection
- Peacock Road Cycle Route
- School Safety Implementation Project
- West Pallant Street Improvements
- Franklin Street Pedestrian Crossing

#### Measures within our Strategic Plan to deliver in 2025/26:

- Commence the design of the Melbourne Street upgrade project by 2025/26
- Review the heritage overlays to ensure our heritage places are known and accommodated during development by 2025
- Increase the number of dwellings in our city from 14,660 (2021) to 17,780 by 2026 and 22,770 by 2031
- Deliver conservation management plans for heritage assets by 2025

- Review the Wellbeing (Public Health) Plan by 2026
- Review and implement by-laws which respond to community needs by 2025
- Commence the design of the Hindley Street, Gouger Street, O'Connell Street, Hutt Street upgrade projects
- Review the Dog and Cat Management Plan

## Our Corporation - high performing, customer centric and bold

Effective Leadership and Exceptional Customer Financial Sustainability

Governance Experience

People Engagement Strategy, Value and Efficiency Technology and Information

## **Action to Prioritise**

 Create, maintain and integrate plans and policies that reflect and guide decision making and support our city and our community to thrive.  Attract and retain people with skills and behaviours which align with our organisational objectives and values.

## Projects that deliver on this aspiration:

- City of Adelaide Website Redevelopment
- Parking Coordinator On-Street Paid Parking Control Changes
- Aboriginal Trainee and Cadet Program
- Talent Attraction and Retention
- City Plan Digital Tool (City of Adelaide Digital Explore – CoADE)
- On-Street Parking Compliance Technology and Customer Analytics Reform

- Minor Works Building Safety Upgrades
- Aboriginal Employment and Inclusion Coordinator
- Cyber Security Enhancement
- UPark Central Market Market Square Car Park
  - o Car Park Hardware
  - Parking Guidance System
- Review of Property Management

## Measures within our Strategic Plan to deliver in 2025/26:

- Review Emergency Management Plans and response by 2025
- Deliver a City of Adelaide Graduate Program by 2025
- Implement a Public Transparency Policy
- Review the Rating System to ensure optimum outcomes
- Deliver and maintain a Workforce Strategy

## Performance

The Strategic Plan 2024-2028 includes a range of indicators of success to ensure Council is on a path to deliver our long-term vision. These were built based on conversations with Council, our community and consideration of external influences and other Government Strategies and Plans. While many of these are for the life of the Strategic Plan or beyond, a number of measures are specific to 2025/26.

The assessment of performance and progress against the Business Plan and Budget, including the services, projects, commercial businesses and budget of Council, are provided through quarterly updates. The updates also outline how events in the past quarter have shaped our financial forecast going forward and any changes in scope and budget to deliverables. Careful consideration is given to key financial indicators and ratios, and cash flow estimates to guide decision making that supports Council's financial sustainability through these updates. This reporting supports Council to respond to emerging challenges while continuing to support and deliver for our community. Quarterly reviews provide an opportunity for Council to re-prioritise services, projects and budgets as required.

At the end of each financial year the City of Adelaide also prepares an Annual Report which provides an update on the progress of Council's Strategic Plan and the extent to which the City of Adelaide achieved these actions and measures.

Council also monitors community feedback as well as key city, community and service indicators and measures to provide support in understanding indicators of achievement against our plans and identify risks and opportunities. These keep us on track and support transparency and accountability by ensuring our progress is communicated and shared in a consistent manner.

# Grants and partnerships

The Strategic Plan 2024-2028 reflects Council's commitment to working with others to shape the future of our city for the benefit of the whole state.

To ensure that we can deliver on our long term vision and short term strategic plan actions, we need to be outward looking and work collaboratively with Federal, State and Local Governments to demonstrate excellence, innovation and exceptional service provision.

We will continue to advocate, build strong partnerships and leverage our relationships, to seek co-investment, grants and contributions for the benefit of the city and our community.

Key partnerships include those with the Federal, State and Local Government sectors and strategic non-government (private sector, community groups and not-for-profit) organisations.

These include:

## **Capital City Committee**

The Capital City Committee is the main forum for the City of Adelaide and the State Government of South Australia to progress the strategic development of our city.

## **Council of Capital City Lord Mayors (CCCLM)**

The Lord Mayor works with other leaders on the CCCLM to represent the special roles and interests of each Australian Capital City in relation to other spheres of government.

## **Local Government Collaboration**

These collaborations typically support the delivery of sector-wide policies and best practice, improved community services, greater Council efficiency and sharing of resources.

## **Strategic Partnerships**

While government partnerships provide a means for Council to jointly work on and fund major projects and address regional issues, strategic partnerships provide a greater opportunity for Council to work with the private sector, community and not-for-profit organisations.

External Funding 2025/26 (\$'000)	Operating	Capital	Total
Federal Grant Funding	: :		
Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP)	309	-	309
Financial Assistance – Roads to Recovery	409	-	409
Preparing Local Communities - Local Stream	100	-	100
Supplementary Local roads	133	-	133
State Government Funding			
Adaptive Reuse City Housing Initiative	303	-	303
Adelaide Park Lands Trail - Sir Donald Bradman Drive BPAC	-	1,200	1,200
Belair-City Bikeway / Adelaide Park Lands Trail - Glen Osmond Road	-	1,300	1,300
Community Sports Building Redevelopment – Mary Lee Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27B)	-	1,368	1,368
DHS Community Neighbourhood Development	99	-	99
James Place Upgrade	-	500	500
Library Grant	219	-	219
Local Government Financial Assistance Grant	1,107	-	1,107
Master Plan for Helen Mayo Park	250	-	250
Melbourne Street Wombat Crossings	-	600	600
Mike Turtur Bikeway - Peacock Road Separated Bike Lanes	-	500	500
Park Lands Related Activity	2,058	-	2,058
School Immunisation Program	108	-	108
Vulnerable and Homeless People Project	46	-	46
Other			
Community Sports Building Redevelopment – Golden Wattle Park / Mirnu Wirra (Park 21 West)	-	2,550	2,550
Sponsorships and Donations	65	-	65
TOTAL	5,206	8,018	13,224

# Our Programs and Projects

Our Organisation

2025/26 Budget

City Community Portfolio

City Infrastructure Portfolio

City Shaping Portfolio

Corporate Services Portfolio

Office of the Chief Executive

Office of the Lord Mayor

Capital Works

# **Our Organisation**

The City of Adelaide will deliver the 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget through our Organisational Structure, including our Portfolios, Offices and Subsidiaries.

Each Portfolio has key focus areas which will support our priorities for the year. A detailed view of our supported functions, strategic projects and budgets across these Programs, Subsidiaries and Offices is provided in this section.

City Community	<ul> <li>Director City Community</li> <li>City Culture</li> <li>Customer and Marketing</li> <li>Regulatory Services</li> </ul>
City Infrastructure	<ul> <li>Director City Infrastructure</li> <li>Infrastructure</li> <li>Strategic Property and Commercial</li> </ul>
City Shaping	<ul> <li>Director City Shaping</li> <li>City Operations</li> <li>Park Lands, Policy and Sustainability</li> <li>Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority</li> </ul>
Corporate Services	<ul> <li>Chief Operating Officer</li> <li>Finance and Procurement</li> <li>Governance and Strategy</li> <li>Information Management</li> <li>People</li> <li>Adelaide Central Market Authority (ACMA)</li> <li>Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA)</li> </ul>
Offices	<ul> <li>Office of the Chief Executive</li> <li>Office of the Lord Mayor</li> </ul>

#### Notes for this section:

Where shown in finances tables, the below applies:

- FTE Full Time Equivalent (1.0) staffing levels
- Inc. Incomes
- Exp. Expenditure
- Total(N) Total (net)
- Materials and other Materials, contracts and other expenses
- Sponsorship Sponsorship, contributions and donations
- Depreciation Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment

# 2025/26 Budget

The table below provides a snapshot of the City of Adelaide's Budget for 2025/26 compared against the previous financial year, across our organisational structure and outlining the proposed Strategic (non-Capital) Projects for each Portfolio:

	2024	/25 Q2	Propose	d 2025/26
\$'000	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
City Community				
Director City Community	-	(334)	-	(680)
City Culture	6,298	(20,316)	5,593	(19,556)
Customer and Marketing	2	(6,714)	1	(6,895)
Regulatory Services	16,712	(10,376)	17,625	(10,613)
Strategic Projects	124	(774)	-	(895)
City Infrastructure				
Director City Infrastructure	-	(699)	-	(709)
Infrastructure	488	(47,554)	_	(53,287)
Strategic Property and Commercial	57,240	(33,108)	58,837	(34,046)
Strategic Projects	966	(3,387)	270	(2,528)
City Shaping				
Director City Shaping	-	(697)	-	(715)
City Operations	2,720	(44,336)	2,935	(47,084)
Park Lands, Policy and Sustainability	79	(7,436)	46	(7,710)
Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands	328	(220)	323	(323)
Authority	320	(328)	323	(323)
Strategic Projects	784	(2,239)	553	(1,994)
Corporate Services				
Chief Operating Officer	-	(1,014)	-	(974)
Finance and Procurement	138	(4,821)	142	(4,853)
Governance and Strategy	-	(6,056)	-	(5,925)
Information Management	31	(14,001)	38	(15,227)
People	-	(4,660)	-	(5,082)
Corporate Activities	142,243	3,264	152,743	2,692
Adelaide Central Market Authority	5,343	(5,880)	5,645	(6,282)
Adelaide Economic Development	4,417	(12,455)	4,528	(13,134)
Agency	4,417	(12,455)	4,526	(13,134)
Strategic Projects	-	(1,528)	-	(1,729)
Offices				
Office of the Chief Executive	_	(1,457)	-	(1,501)
Office of the Lord Mayor	_	(1,640)	-	(1,688)
Total	237,913	(228,546)	249,279	(240,738)
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)		9,367		8,541

# **City Community Portfolio**

The City Community Portfolio strives to deliver exceptional experiences for our community and customers, providing opportunities for creativity, recreation and wellbeing in a city that is safe, accessible and supportive of all our communities.

The Portfolio contains: City Culture; Customer and Marketing; and Regulatory Services

## **Key Focus areas**

- Strategic communication that keeps our community informed
- Support safer public spaces and keep the city moving
- Community led services that increase wellbeing, social connection and active lifestyles
- City activation, events, initiatives, grants and sponsorship
- Provide brilliant customer service to all city users
- Facilitation of high-quality built form outcomes through the assessment phase.

\$'000 2024/25 Q2				2025/26				
Operating Budget	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Revenue	-	23,136	-	23,136	-	23,219	-	23,219
Employee costs	196.9	-	(24,436)	(24,436)	196.9	-	(25,268)	(25,268)
Materials and other*	-	-	(9,835)	(9,835)	-	-	(9,255)	(9,255)
Sponsorships**	-	-	(1,016)	(1,016)	-	-	(909)	(909)
Depreciation	-	-	(2,932)	(2,932)	-	-	(2,936)	(2,936)
Finance costs	-	-	(295)	(295)	-	-	(271)	(271)
TOTAL	196.9	23,136	(38,514)	(15,378)	196.9	23,219	(38,639)	(15,420)
Program Budget	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Office of the Director, City Community	3.0	-	(334)	(334)	3.0	-	(680)	(680)
City Culture	70.0	6,298	(20,316)	(14,018)	70.8	5,593	(19,556)	(13,963)
Customer and Marketing	40.1	2	(6,714)	(6,712)	40.1	1	(6,895)	(6,894)
Regulatory Services	82.0	16,712	(10,376)	6,336	81.0	17,625	(10,613)	7,012
Strategic Projects	1.8	124	(774)	(650)	2.0	-	(895)	(895)
TOTAL	196.9	23,136	(38,514)	(15,378)	196.9	23,219	(38,639)	(15,420)

 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}$  materials, contracts and other expenses /  $^{\star\star}$  sponsorships, contributions and donations

	2024/25	2024/25 (Q2 update) 2025/26		
Capital Projects	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
New and Upgrade	105	(598)	3,918	(14,521)
Renewal	274	(291)	-	(196)
TOTAL	379	(889)	3,918	(14,717)

## **City Culture**

City Community Portfolio

Strategic Our Community, Plan link Our Places

Creates brilliant experiences for all who choose to live in and enjoy our City. By activating and curating places and spaces, and providing opportunities for creativity, recreation, and wellbeing, we connect, support and inspire our diverse community, and draw more people to Adelaide to live, study, work and play.

#### **Functions supported:**

- Adelaide Town Hall
- BMX and Skate Parks
- City Activation
- Community Centres
- Community Development
- Positive Ageing Program
- Community Wellbeing
- Arts and Culture
- International and Sister City Relationships
- Libraries
- Major Event Facilitation
- Place Making
- Public Art and Monuments
- Sports and Recreation Initiatives
- Volunteers

#### Outputs for the year ahead

- Enable community-led services which increase wellbeing, social connections and participation in active lifestyles, leisure, recreation and sport
- Drive social change and strengthen communities through locally-led arts, cultural and recreational activities
- 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
- Lead and create opportunities for people to expand knowledge, learn, and master new skills
- Celebrate and elevate our community culture including the profiles of multicultural communities and create welcoming programs and services
- Support belonging through an inclusive and welcoming community that recognises diversity and enables people of all abilities living, working and visiting the city
- Create sustained, respectful, and inclusive opportunities that encourage full participation of people from diverse backgrounds in the cultural and social life of the City by ensuring our services and projects are accessible and inclusive for all.

The following table provides a view of this Program's budget by both operations and activity:

\$'000		2024/25 (Q2 update)			2025/26			
Operating view	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Revenue	-	6,298	-	6,298	=	5,593	-	5,593
Employee costs	70.0	-	(9,365)	(9,365)	70.8	-	(9,538)	(9,538)
Materials and other*	-	-	(7,213)	(7,213)	-	-	(6,302)	(6,302)
Sponsorships**	-	-	(511)	(511)	-	-	(509)	(509)
Depreciation	-	-	(2,932)	(2,932)	-	-	(2,936)	(2,936)
Finance costs	-	-	(295)	(295)	-	-	(271)	(271)
TOTAL	70.0	6,298	(20,316)	(14,018)	70.8	5,593	(19,556)	(13,963)
Activity view	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Ехр.	Total (net)
Associate Director (office)	2.0	-	(377)	(377)	2.0	-	(381)	(381)
Adelaide Town Hall	5.0	3,130	(3,265)	(135)	5.0	2,814	(3,136)	(322)
Aquatic Centre	-	194	(738)	(544)	0.0	-	-	-
City Experience	15.1	814	(4,249)	(3,435)	15.1	820	(4,138)	(3,318)
City Lifestyle	10.8	1,585	(3,747)	(2,162)	10.8	1,566	(3,879)	(2,313)
Creative City	11.6	33	(2,425)	(2,392)	12.4	137	(2,419)	(2,282)
Libraries	25.5	542	(5,515)	(4,973)	25.5	256	(5,603)	(5,347)
TOTAL	70.0	6,298	(20,316)	(14,018)	70.8	5,593	(19,556)	(13,963)

 $^{\star}$  materials, contracts and other expenses /  $^{\star\star}$  sponsorships, contributions and donations

## Operating Activities that this Program delivers (cost embedded in the Program Budget):

\$'00	0 2024/25 (	2024/25 (Q2 update)		2025/26	
	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.	
Aboriginal Protocol Grant	-	(41)	-	(41)	
Adelaide's New Years Eve	63	(700)	65	(585)	
Annual Delivery of Kaurna Initiatives	24	(81)	-	(27)	
ANZAC Day Service - March & Related Activities	-	(61)	-	(57)	
Arts and Cultural Grants	-	(262)	-	(39)	
Christmas Festival Action Plan	-	(529)	-	(532)	
City Activation - West End Precinct	-	(52)	-	(53)	
City Activation – East End Unleashed	40	(294)	-	(291)	
City Activation - Gouger Street Precinct	-	(52)	-	(53)	
City Activation - Hutt Street Precinct	-	(79)	-	(81)	
City Activation - North Adelaide Precinct	-	(106)	-	(109)	
City Activation - Precinct Support	-	(118)	-	(121)	
Community Capacity Development	-	(3)	-	(3)	
Community Impact Grants	-	(372)	-	(550)	
DHS Community Neighbourhood Development Funding - Minor Works	-	-	99	(99)	
Homelessness Social and Affordable Housing	-	(301)	-	(310)	
Live Music Industry and Venues Support	35	(93)	-	(59)	
UNESCO Adelaide City of Music Ltd Partnership	-	(54)	-	(54)	
Winter Weekends	-	(207)	-	-	
TOTAL	162	(3,405)	164	(2,511)	

## Strategic and Capital Projects that this Program delivers (cost in addition to the Program Budget):

\$'0	00 2024/25	2024/25 (Q2 update)		2025/26	
Strategic Projects	Income	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	
Annual Cultural Burn in the Park Lands	-	-	-	(25)	
Australia Day Partnership - Australia Day Council of South Australia Incorporated	-	-	-	(100)	
Bilingual Community Liaison Officer	-	-	-	(93)	
City Activation	-	(502)	-	(300)	
Future Libraries Business Case	-	-	_	(75)	
Positive Ageing Program – Pilot	-	-	-	(50)	
DHS Community Neighbourhood Development Funding	99	(99)	-	-	
Social Work in Libraries	25	(25)	-	-	
TOTAL	124	(626)	-	(643)	
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade	105	(598)	3,918	(14,454)	
Renewal	274	(274)	-	(196)	
TOTAL	379	(872)	3,918	(14,650)	

Note: Some of the new and upgrade budget reflected in 2024/25 income and expenditure has been retimed into 2025/26 and is incorporated in the 2025/26 income and expenditure

## **Customer and Marketing**

City Community Portfolio

Strategic Our Corporation Plan link

Supports extraordinary customer experiences, celebrates our city through the delivery of creative and digital services, and enhances our reputation by promoting our achievements and initiatives.

#### **Functions supported:**

- Customer Service
- Customer Advocacy
- Customer Process Review and Development
- Customer Sentiment
   Measurement
- Content Production
- Graphic Design
- Media and Public Relations
- Social Media Management
- Website Management
- Digital Experience and Journey
- Videography
- Strategic Communications
- Communications campaign implementation

#### Outputs for the year ahead

- Implementation of strategic communication approach that informs and educates our community on our progress against key Strategic Outcomes from our Business Plan and Budget, and Strategic Plan
- Support the organisation in the production and development of engaging marketing and advertising approaches that strengthens CoA's reputation, informs our community on key CoA initiatives and celebrates our achievements
- Development of content series that showcases our passionate staff and demonstrating the value we deliver to the community through our core services
- Supporting our commercial businesses through strategic marketing plans to drive revenue growth opportunities
- Support the development and delivery of data driven customer experience programs including a revised channel strategy, comprehensive customer surveying, consolidation of customer services processes and by effectively closing the communications loop with customers
- Support the improvement of customer experience for residents, businesses and city users by embedding the Customer Experience Strategy and measuring success through an expanded Voice of Customer Program
- Provide brilliant customer experiences through first point of contact resolution of Council enquiries and information through a variety of channels and in accordance with relevant legislative/regulatory requirements and council objectives.

The following table provides a view of this Program's budget by both operations and activity:

\$'000		2024/25 (	'Q2 update)			20.	25/26	
Operating view	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Revenue	-	2	_	2	-	1	-	1
Employee costs	40.1	-	(4,832)	(4,832)	40.1	-	(4,974)	(4,974)
Materials and other*	-	-	(1,882)	(1,882)	-	-	(1,921)	(1,921)
Sponsorships**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finance costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	40.1	2	(6,714)	(6,712)	40.1	1	(6,895)	(6,894)
Activity view								
Associate Director (office)	1.0	_	(215)	(215)	1.0	_	(222)	(222)
Customer Experience	28.1	2	(4,280)	(4,278)	28.1	1	(4,411)	(4,410)
Marketing and Communications	11.0	-	(2,219)	(2,219)	11.0	-	(2,262)	(2,262)
TOTAL	40.1	2	(6,714)	(6,712)	40.1	1	(6,895)	(6,894)

\* materials, contracts and other expenses / \*\* sponsorships, contributions and donations

\$'000	2024/25 (Q	2 update)	202	5/26
	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
N/A	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-

	\$'000	2024/25 (0	Q2 update)	202	25/26
Strategic Projects		Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
City of Adelaide Website Redevelopment		-	-	-	(100)
TOTAL		-	-	-	(100)
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade		-	-	-	-
Renewal		-	(17)	-	-
TOTAL		-	(17)	-	-

## **Regulatory Services**

City Community Portfolio

**Strategic** Our Environment, **Plan link** Our Places

The Regulatory Services Program facilitates safer places for all to enjoy, provides easy access for those who visit and move around our City, and makes the experience of doing business with the City of Adelaide a pleasure.

#### **Functions supported:**

- Building Assessment
- Building Compliance
- Community Safety Compliance
- Environmental Health
- On-Street Parking Compliance
- Permits
- Planning Assessment

#### Outputs for the year ahead

- Facilitate high-quality built form outcomes through the assessment of Development Applications, engagement with SCAP and the Local Design Review pilot program
- Provide safer spaces through delivering Council's legislative obligations regarding public health, building compliance, permit management, related legislation and by-laws
- Enable access to on-street parking through monitoring compliance and encouraging kerbside turnover
- Enhance Council's use of data and intelligence in making evidence-based decisions to improve regulatory service delivery.

The following table provides a view of this Program's budget by both operations and activity:

\$'000	ס	2024/25 (	Q2 update)			202	25/26	
Operating view	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Revenue	-	16,712	-	16,712	=	17,625	-	17,625
Employee costs	82.0	-	(9,651)	(9,651)	81.0	-	(9,861)	(9,861)
Materials and other*	-	-	(725)	(725)	-	-	(752)	(752)
Sponsorships**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finance costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	82.0	16,712	(10,376)	6,336	81.0	17,625	(10,613)	7,012
Activity view								
Associate Director (office)	5.0	-	(867)	(867)	5.0	-	(899)	(899)
City Development	21.9	3,631	(2,791)	840	21.9	3,852	(2,897)	955
City Safety	13.0	521	(1,854)	(1,333)	13.0	538	(1,902)	(1,364)
On-Street Parking Compliance	42.1	12,560	(4,864)	7,696	41.1	13,235	(4,915)	8,320
TOTAL	82.0	16,712	(10,376)	6,336	81.0	17,625	(10,613)	7,012

\* materials, contracts and other expenses / \*\* sponsorships, contributions and donations

\$'000	2024/25 (Q	2 update)	202	5/26
	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
N/A	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-

\$'000	2024/25 (	Q2 update)	202	5/26
Strategic Projects	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
On-Street Parking Compliance Technology and Customer Analytics Reform	-	(148)	-	(152)
TOTAL	-	(148)	-	(152)
Capital Projects				
New and Upgrade	-	-	-	(67)
Renewal	_	-	-	_
				-

## **City Infrastructure Portfolio**

The City Infrastructure Portfolio is responsible for Council's infrastructure assets, strives to make it easier to conduct business in our City and leads the Council's property portfolio and commercial businesses to generate income.

The Portfolio contains: Infrastructure; and Strategic Property and Commercial

#### **Key Focus areas**

- Capital Works Program, including New and Significant Upgrades and Renewals
- Main street revitalisation and improvements
- Deliver initiatives as defined in the City of Adelaide Property Strategy
- Progress with approved property development projects including Market Square, 88 O'Connell, and the Former Bus Station site.

\$'000 2024/25 Q2						202	5/26	
Operating Budget	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Revenue	-	58,694	-	58,694	-	59,107	-	59,107
Employee costs	118.2	-	(12,153)	(12,153)	119.2	-	(12,709)	(12,709)
Materials and other*	-	-	(20,508)	(20,508)	-	-	(19,826)	(19,826)
Sponsorships**	-	-	(162)	(162)	-	-	(175)	(175)
Depreciation	-	-	(51,419)	(51,419)	-	-	(57,420)	(57,420)
Finance costs	-	-	(506)	(506)	-	-	(440)	(440)
TOTAL	118.2	58,694	(84,748)	(26,054)	119.2	59,107	(90,570)	(31,463)

Program Budget	FTE	Inc.	Ехр.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Ехр.	Total (net)
Office of the Director, City Services	3.0	-	(699)	(699)	3.0	-	(709)	(709)
Infrastructure	69.3	488	(47,554)	(47,066)	69.3	-	(53,287)	(53,287)
Strategic Property and Commercial	44.9	57,240	(33,108)	24,132	44.9	58,837	(34,046)	24,791
Strategic Projects	1.0	966	(3,387)	(2,421)	2.0	270	(2,528)	(2,258)
	118.2	58,694	(84,748)	(26,054)	119.2	59,107	(90,570)	(31,463)

 $<sup>^\</sup>star$  materials, contracts and other expenses /  $^{\star\star}$  sponsorships, contributions and donations

	\$'000	2024/25 (	2024/25 (Q2 update)		25/26
Capital Projects		Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
New and Upgrade		5,999	(49,956)	4,100	(12,804)
Renewal		487	(45,232)	-	(58,324)
TOTAL		6,486	(95,188)	4,100	(71,128)

### Infrastructure

City Infrastructure Portfolio

**Strategic** Our Environment **Plan link** Our Places

Provides effective whole of life planning, design, delivery and management of our diverse community infrastructure assets and seeks partnerships with government bodies to deliver on Council's strategic plans, supporting community needs and future growth.

#### **Functions supported:**

- Asset Planning and Management
- Geographic Information Systems
- Infrastructure Delivery Plans
- Park Lands and Open Space Management
- Road and Footpath Management
- Sustainable and Climate Resilient City
- Traffic and Transport Management

#### Outputs for the year ahead

- Develop and manage Asset Management Plans for Council's Infrastructure Assets, including reviews, revaluations, maintenance advice and condition audits
- Provide the community with the agreed levels of service, through the management and delivery of efficient and effective Infrastructure Assets at the lowest whole of life costs
- Provide excellent community outcomes through whole of project delivery of asset renewal, and new and upgrade projects
- Facilitate safe and efficient people movement through the development and implementation of key strategy and policy, designed public realm and strategic partnerships
- Support private development through the provision of advisory and coordination services.

The following table provides a view of this Program's budget by both operations and activity:

\$'000		2024/25	(Q2 update)			20.	25/26	
Operating view	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Revenue	-	488	-	488	-	-	-	-
Employee costs	69.3	-	(3,941)	(3,941)	69.3	-	(3,990)	(3,990)
Materials and other*	-	-	(5,302)	(5,302)	-	-	(5,358)	(5,358)
Sponsorships**	-	-	(162)	(162)	-	-	(175)	(175)
Depreciation	-	-	(38,149)	(38,149)	-	-	(43,764)	(43,764)
Finance costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	69.3	488	(47,554)	(47,066)	69.3	-	(53,287)	(53,287)
Activity view								
Associate Director (office)	1.9	-	(674)	(674)	1.9	-	(679)	(679)
Infrastructure Planning and Delivery	45.6	488	(46,216)	(45,728)	45.6	<del>-</del>	(51,894)	(51,894)
Technical Services	21.8	-	(664)	(664)	21.8		(714)	(714)
TOTAL	69.3	488	(47,554)	(47,066)	69.3	-	(53,287)	(53,287)

\* materials, contracts and other expenses / \*\* sponsorships, contributions and donations

\$'000	2024/25 (Q	)2 update)	2025/26	
	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Free City Connector	-	(1,301)	-	(1,364)
TOTAL	-	(1,301)	-	(1,364)

#### Strategic and Capital Projects that this Program delivers (cost in addition to the Program Budget):

	\$'000	2024/25	(Q2 update)	20	25/26
Strategic Projects		Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Asset Condition Audit		-	(539)	-	(1,200)
Resilient Flood Planning		966	(1,723)	100	(1,100)
Adelaide Park Lands Strategic Water Resources Study		-	(80)	-	-
Bridge Maintenance Program		-	(400)	-	-
City Speed Limit Review		-	(27)	-	-
Heritage Strategy 2021-2036		-	(41)	-	-
North Adelaide Golf Course Water Feasibility Study		-	(26)	-	-
SA Power Networks (SAPN) Luminaire Upgrades		-	(14)	-	-
School Safety Review		-	(12)	-	-
Transport Strategy		-	(295)	-	-
TOTAL		966	(3,157)	100	(2,300)
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade		5,999	(26,002)	4,100	(10,764)
Renewal		487	(45,007)	-	(58,324)
TOTAL		6,486	(71,010)	4,100	(69,088)

Note: Some of the new and upgrade budget reflected in 2024/25 income and expenditure has been retimed into 2025/26 and is incorporated in the 2025/26 income and expenditure.

## **Strategic Property and Commercial**

City Infrastructure Portfolio

**Strategic** Our Environment, Our **Plan link** Economy, Our Places

Leverages the development and management of Council's property assets and identifies opportunities in partnership with the private and public sectors, to generate income, create employment opportunities, and reinvigorate City precincts, building a prosperous City.

#### **Functions supported:**

- Commercial Leasing
- North Adelaide Golf Course
- Off Street Parking (UPark)
- On-Street Parking
- Property Development
- Property Management

#### Outputs for the year ahead

- Effectively manage Commercial Operations (Paid Parking and Golf) to grow visitation and net contribution
- Maintain ticketless, frictionless parking solutions across all UPark locations to deliver an improved customer experience
- Implement a best practice, ticketless, cashless onstreet parking solution
- Deliver initiatives as defined in the City of Adelaide Property Strategy
- Progress with approved property development projects including Market Square, 88 O'Connell, and the Former Bus Station site
- Progress master planning of the Flinders Street land acquisition for future housing
- Effectively manage CoA property leasing portfolio.

The following table provides a view of this Program's budget by both operations and activity:

\$'000	0	2024/25 (	Q2 update)	I		202	25/26	
Operating view	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Revenue	_	57,240	-	57,240	-	58,837	_	58,837
Employee costs	44.9	-	(7,390)	(7,390)	44.9	-	(7,753)	(7,753)
Materials and other*	-	-	(11,942)	(11,942)	-	-	(12,196)	(12,196)
Sponsorships**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	(13,270)	(13,270)	-	-	(13,657)	(13,657)
Finance costs	-	-	(506)	(506)	-	-	(440)	(440)
TOTAL	44.9	57,240	(33,108)	24,132	44.9	58,837	(34,046)	24,791
Activity view								
Associate Director (office)	1.8	-	(431)	(431)	1.8	-	(443)	(443)
Commercial	4.0	308	(852)	(544)	4.0	300	(770)	(470)
Parking	17.8	45,304	(14,846)	30,458	17.8	46,152	(14,999)	31,153
North Adelaide Golf Course	13.1	4,950	(5,100)	(150)	13.1	5,455	(5,524)	(69)
Strategic Property Development	4.0	-	(821)	(821)	4.0	-	(840)	(840)
Strategic Property Management	4.2	6,678	(11,058)	(4,380)	4.2	6,930	(11,470)	(4,540)
TOTAL	44.9	57,240	(33,108)	24,132	44.9	58,837	(34,046)	24,791

\* materials, contracts and other expenses / \*\* sponsorships, contributions and donations

\$'000	2024/25 (C	)2 update)	202	5/26
	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
N/A	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-		-	-

	\$'000	2024/25 (	(Q2 update)	202	25/26
Strategic Projects		Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
88 O'Connell Project Delivery		-	(80)	-	(50)
Parking Coordinator – On-Street Paid Parking Control Changes		-	-	170	(128)
Review of Property Management		-	-	-	(50)
218 - 232 Flinders Street Master Plan Investigations		-	(150)	-	-
TOTAL		-	(230)	170	(228)
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade		-	(23,954)	-	(2,040)
Renewal		-	(225)	-	-
TOTAL		-	(24,179)	-	(2,040)

## **City Shaping Portfolio**

The City Shaping Portfolio leverages and celebrates our role as a Capital City Council and delivers the services that protect our heritage, Park Lands and urban environment and demonstrate our environment leadership now and into the future.

The Portfolio contains: City Operations; and Park Lands, Policy and Sustainability

The Portfolio includes the Council subsidiary: Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority (embedded within Park Lands, Policy and Sustainability).

#### **Key Focus areas**

- Adelaide Park Lands greening, management and improvements
- Implementing the City Plan
- Implementing the Integrated Climate Strategy
- Kaurna heritage and voice and cultural mapping of the Park Lands
- Heritage promotion and protection
- Capital Works Program, including New and Significant Upgrades and Renewals
- Maintenance of public realm and city presentation
- Initiatives and projects included or associated with the Economic Development Strategy, Housing Strategy, and the Homelessness Strategy
- Continued delivery of the Adaptive Re-use City Housing Initiative (ARCHI).

\$'(	000	2024	/25 Q2			202	25/26		
Operating Budget	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	
Revenue	-	3,911	-	3,911	-	3,857	-	3,857	
Employee costs	269.8	-	(30,975)	(30,975)	273.2	-	(32,438)	(32,438)	
Materials and other*	-	-	(20,091)	(20,091)	-	-	(21,358)	(21,358)	
Sponsorships**	-	-	(2,183)	(2,183)	-	-	(1,902)	(1,902)	
Depreciation	-	-	(1,787)	(1,787)	-	-	(2,128)	(2,128)	
Finance costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL	269.8	3,911	(55,036)	(51,125)	273.2	3,857	(57,826)	(53,969)	

Program Budget	FTE	Inc.	Ехр.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Office of the Director, City Shaping	3.0	-	(697)	(697)	3.0	-	(715)	(715)
Park Lands, Policy and Sustainability	35.6	79	(7,436)	(7,357)	35.6	46	(7,710)	(7,664)
City Operations	227.9	2,720	(44,336)	(41,616)	230.3	2,935	(47,084)	(44,149)
Kadaltilla	1.3	328	(328)	-	1.3	323	(323)	-
Strategic Projects	2.0	784	(2,239)	(1,455)	3.0	553	(1,994)	(1,441)
TOTAL	269.8	3,911	(55,036)	(51,125)	273.2	3,857	(57,826)	(53,969)

<sup>\*</sup> materials, contracts and other expenses / \*\* sponsorships, contributions and donations

	2024/25	2024/25 (Q2 update)		
Capital Projects	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
New and Upgrade	120	(4,171)	-	(2,582)
Renewal	-	(1,492)	-	(1,559)
TOTAL	120	(5,663)	-	(4,141)

## **City Operations**

City Shaping Portfolio

Strategic Our Environment Plan link Our Places

Ensures our City's assets, including streets, parks and other public spaces, are attractive, clean, well presented and maintained, so we all have a city to enjoy and to be proud of.

#### **Functions supported:**

- Green Waste Recycling and Mulch
- Kerbside Waste Collections and Recycling
- Monuments, Fountains and Public Art
- Park Lands and Open Space Management: Furniture and Fittings; Public Conveniences; Public Lighting; Roads and Footpaths; Stormwater; Tree Management
- Playground and Play Spaces
- Public Litter Bins
- Streets and Footpaths: Furniture and Fittings; Lighting; Public Conveniences; Signage and Line Marking; Stormwater; Streetscapes and Verges; Tree Management

#### Outputs for the year ahead

- Plan and deliver work for all Council's assets i.e. infrastructure, buildings, urban elements, horticulture, arboriculture, cleansing, waste and fleet through planned programs and responsive work
- Deliver on the Strategic Outcome of an increase in canopy cover through an accelerated greening program
- Deliver safer spaces and places in accordance with Council's legislative obligations regarding cleansing, waste collection and processing, building compliance, tree risk management and community lighting
- Deliver the review of plant and fleet resulting in the development of an Asset Management Plan to inform next step development towards Integrated Climate Strategy targets
- Deliver innovative trials across the city to improve customer experience in the City of Adelaide
- Deliver out of hours service to respond to emerging issues within the City of Adelaide
- Delivery of Minor Capital Works to support Councils capital works program
- Deliver on capturing data regarding the future operational impacts of projects handed over to City Operations. Ensuring informed decision-making, resource planning, and long-term sustainability of assets.

The following table provides a view of this Program's budget by both operations and activity:

\$'000		2024/25 (	Q2 update)			202	25/26	
Operating view	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Revenue	-	2,720	-	2,720	-	2,935	-	2,935
Employee costs	227.9	-	(24,759)	(24,759)	230.3	-	(25,828)	(25,828)
Materials and other*	-	-	(17,790)	(17,790)	-	-	(19,128)	(19,128)
Sponsorships**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	(1,787)	(1,787)	-	-	(2,128)	(2,128)
Finance costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	227.9	2,720	(44,336)	(41,616)	230.3	2,935	(47,084)	(44,149)
Activity view								
Associate Director (office)	16.8	12	(2,977)	(2,965)	16.8	18	(3,312)	(3,294)
Mgr., City Maintenance	1.0	-	(200)	(200)	1.0	-	(202)	(202)
Mgr., City Presentation	1.0	-	(190)	(190)	1.0	-	(213)	(213)
Cleansing	48.5	7	(7,309)	(7,302)	48.0	10	(7,517)	(7,507)
Facilities	5.0	-	(3,169)	(3,169)	5.0	-	(3,408)	(3,408)
Horticulture	84.7	2,428	(15,182)	(12,754)	87.1	2,596	(16,409)	(13,813)
Infrastruct. Maintenance	33.0	-	(5,907)	(5,907)	33.0	-	(6,151)	(6,151)
Trades	25.0	253	(5,743)	(5,490)	24.0	261	(5,714)	(5,453)
Waste	2.5	20	(3,116)	(3,096)	3.0	50	(3,491)	(3,441)
Workshops	10.4	-	(543)	(543)	11.4	-	(667)	(667)
TOTAL	227.9	2,720	(44,336)	(41,616)	230.3	2,935	(47,084)	(44,149)

 $^{\star}$  materials, contracts and other expenses /  $^{\star\star}$  sponsorships, contributions and donations

\$'000	2024/25 (Q2 update)		2025/26	
	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Safer City Program	-	(95)	-	(95)
TOTAL	-	(95)	-	(95)

	\$'000   2024/25 (	Q2 update)	2025/26	
Strategic Projects	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Feasibility Studies - Waste and Recycling Collection	-	(100)	-	-
TOTAL	-	(100)	-	-
Capital Projects				
oupliat i rojoots				
New and Ungrade	_	-	_	(150)
New and Upgrade Renewal		- (1,492)	-	(150) (1,559)

## Park Lands, Policy and Sustainability

City Shaping Portfolio

Plan link

Strategic Our Community, Our Environment, Our Economy, Our Places

Establishes clear and integrated policies and plans to shape a well designed, planned and developed City, to protect and enhance our unique Park Lands, and support a welcoming and resilient community that demonstrates environmental leadership.

#### **Functions supported:**

- Adelaide Park Lands Strategy and Planning
- **Economic Development Policy**
- Heritage Management and Promotion
- Housing and Homelessness Strategy
- Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority
- City Planning Policy
- Reconciliation
- Social Policy
- Disability Access and Inclusion
- Sustainability and Climate Action

#### Outputs for the year ahead

- Deliver meaningful climate action, circular economy and sustainability programs and embed environment, social and economic strategic policy objectives into City of Adelaide policy and processes
- Use the City Plan to inform the future urban form of Adelaide and advocacy to the State Government, including a rolling program of Council-led amendments to the State Government's Planning and Design Code
- Deliver heritage action and programs relating to local, state, national and world heritage
- Deliver reconciliation initiatives and maintain meaningful relationships with Kaurna people and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- Deliver Council policies and approaches for climate, homelessness, housing, disability access and inclusion and economic development
- Deliver the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy on behalf of Kadaltilla and maintain Community Land Management Plans for the Adelaide Park Lands.

The following table provides a view of this Program's budget by both operations and activity:

\$'000		2024/25 (	'Q2 update)	1		202	25/26	
Operating view	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Revenue	-	79	-	79	-	46	-	46
Employee costs	35.6	-	(5,113)	(5,113)	35.6	-	(5,387)	(5,387)
Materials and other*	-	-	(863)	(863)	-	-	(886)	(886)
Sponsorships**	-	-	(1,460)	(1,460)	-	-	(1,437)	(1,437)
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finance costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	=
TOTAL	35.6	79	(7,436)	(7,357)	35.6	46	(7,710)	(7,664)
Activity view	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Associate Director (office)	3.0	-	(485)	(485)	3.0	=	(501)	(501)
City Planning and Heritage	17.2	44	(4,034)	(3,990)	17.2	46	(4,185)	(4,139)
Low Carbon and Circular Economy	7.8	35	(1,674)	(1,639)	7.8	<del>-</del>	(1,735)	(1,735)
Park Lands, Policy and Sustainability	7.6	-	(1,243)	(1,243)	7.6	<del>-</del>	(1,289)	(1,289)
TOTAL	35.6	79	(7,436)	(7,357)	35.6	46	(7,710)	(7,664)

 $<sup>^\</sup>star$  materials, contracts and other expenses /  $^{\star\star}$  sponsorships, contributions and donations

	\$'000	2024/25 (	Q2 update)	202	2025/26	
		Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.	
Integrated Climate Strategy - SIS		-	(226)	-	(233)	
City of Adelaide Prize		-	(30)	-	-	
Integrated Climate Strategy - Carbon Neutral		-	(353)	-	(484)	
Integrated Climate Strategy - Sustainability		-	(106)	-	(124)	
Economic Policy		-	(42)	-	-	
Heritage Incentive Scheme		-	(1163)	-	(1,163)	
Heritage Promotion Program		-	(182)	-	(187)	
History Festival		-	(32)	-	(33)	
Homelessness - Social and Affordable Housing		-	(160)	=	(165)	
Homeless and Vulnerable People Project		44	(44)	46	(46)	
NAIDOC Week Celebrations		-	(54)	-	(54)	
Noise Management Program Incentive Scheme		-	(46)	-	(48)	
Safer City Program		-	(197)	-	(254)	
TOTAL		44	(2,635)	46	(2,791)	

#### Strategic and Capital Projects that this Program delivers (cost in addition to the Program Budget):

\$'000	2024/25 (	(Q2 update)	202	25/26
Strategic Projects	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Ехр.
Adaptive Re-use Housing Initiative Program (ARCHI)	250	(250)	303	(606)
City Plan Digital Tool (City of Adelaide Digital Explore - CoADE)	-	-	-	(140)
Implementation of the City of Adelaide Housing Strategy – Vacancy assessment	-	-	-	(200)
Implementation of the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2024-2028	-	(205)	-	(130)
Master Plan for Helen Mayo Park	-	-	250	(250)
National Heritage Management Plan Implementation	-	(100)	-	(100)
Planning and Design Code Amendment Program	-	(240)	-	(100)
Key Biodiversity Area Management Plan for G S Kingston Park / Wirrarninthi (Park 23)	-	-	-	(75)
Social Planning Homelessness and Adelaide Zero Project - Partnership	-	(208)	-	(215)
Tentative List Submission for the World Heritage Bid for Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscape	-	-	-	(178)
Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027 Implementation	-	(140)	-	-
Local Heritage Assessments – 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Buildings	-	(50)	-	-
Homelessness Strategy Implementation	-	(40)	-	-
Historic Area Statement – Code Amendment	-	(112)	-	-
Economic Development Strategy Implementation	-	(106)	-	-
Botanic Creek Rehabilitation	34	(72)	-	-
Heritage Incentive Scheme – State Heritage Buildings	250	(250)	-	-
Evaluation of Park Lands Dry Areas Regulation	-	(115)	-	-
TOTAL	534	(1,888)	553	(1,994)
Capital Projects				
New and Upgrade	120	(4,171)	-	(2,432)
Renewal	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	120	(4,171)	-	(2,432)

Note: Some of the new and upgrade budget reflected in 2024/25 income and expenditure has been retimed into 2025/26 and is incorporated in the 2025/26 income and expenditure.

## Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority

City Shaping Portfolio

Strategic Our Environment Plan link

To be the trusted voice on the Adelaide Park Lands which actively conserves, promotes, and enhances the environmental, economic, cultural, recreational, and social importance value of the Adelaide Park Lands.

#### **Functions supported:**

- Advocacy, advice and policy governance
- Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy
- Stakeholder and intergovernmental relations
- Brand and Marketing

#### Outputs for the year ahead

- Promote the cultural values of the Park Lands including Kaurna culture, heritage, and wellbeing
- Maintain and improve climate resilience and the landscape values of the Park Lands
- Treat the Park Lands holistically with an adaptive future focused approach
- Function as the peak advisory body for policy, development, heritage, and management of the Park Lands based on sound data and evidence.

The following table provides a view of this Subsidiary's budget by both operations and activity:

\$'000	2024/25 (Q2 update)				2025/26			
Operating view	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Revenue	-	328	-	328	-	323		323
Employee costs	1.3	-	(175)	(175)	1.3		(180)	(180)
Materials and other*	-	-	(138)	(138)	-		(143)	(143)
Sponsorships**	-	-	(15)	(15)	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finance costs	=	-	-	-	=	-	-	-
TOTAL	1.3	328	(328)	-	1.3	323	(323)	-
Activity view								
Kadaltilla	1.3	328	(328)	-	1.3	323	(323)	_
TOTAL	1.3	328	(328)	-	1.3	323	(323)	-

<sup>\*</sup> materials, contracts and other expenses / \*\* sponsorships, contributions and donation

Operating Activities that this Subsidiary delivers (cost embedded in the Program Budget):

\$'000	2024/25 (0	Q2 update)	202	5/26
	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
N/A	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-

N/A OTAL Capital Projects	\$'000	\$'000 2024/25 (Q2 update)			5/26
TOTAL  Capital Projects		Inc. Exp.		Inc.	Exp.
N/A		-	-	-	-
TOTAL		-	-	-	-
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade		-	_	-	-
Renewal		-	-	-	-
TOTAL		-	-	-	-

## **Corporate Services Portfolio**

(including Subsidiaries)

The Corporate Services Portfolio provides effective and efficient services and insights to strengthen and grow our organisational capability, and support a culture of accountability, transparency, and innovation.

The Portfolio contains: Finance and Procurement; Governance and Strategy; Information Management; and People Programs.

This Portfolio includes Council subsidiaries: Adelaide Central Market Authority; and the Adelaide Economic Development Agency.

#### **Key Focus areas**

- Update of the Long Term Financial Plan
- Continuous improvement of community engagement
- Cybersecurity uplift
- Workforce planning
- Transition to One Market (Adelaide Central Market)
- Support visitor economy, jobs and investment in the city

\$'00	\$'000 2024/25 Q2					2025/26			
Operating Budget	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	
Revenue	-	152,172	-	152,172	<del>-</del>	163,096	-	163,096	
Employee costs	165.8	-	(14,212)	(14,212)	166.5	-	(18,525)	(18,525)	
Materials and other*	-	-	(28,119)	(28,119)	-	-	(26,615)	(26,615)	
Sponsorships**	-	-	(3,749)	(3,749)	-	-	(3,346)	(3,346)	
Depreciation	-	-	(1,064)	(1,064)	-	-	(2,022)	(2,022)	
Finance costs	-	-	(7)	(7)	-	-	(6)	(6)	
TOTAL	165.8	152,172	(47,151)	105,021	166.5	163,096	(50,514)	112,582	

Program Budget	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Office of the COO	5.0	-	(1,014)	(1,014)	5.0	-	(974)	(974)
Finance and Procurement	28.8	138	(4,821)	(4,683)	28.8	142	(4,853)	(4,711)
Governance and Strategy	23.3	-	(6,056)	(6,056)	23.3	-	(5,925)	(5,925)
Information Management	35.0	31	(14,001)	(13,970)	35.0	38	(15,227)	(15,189)
People^	28.8	-	(4,660)	(4,660)	28.8	-	(5,082)	(5,082)
Corporate Activities <sup>+</sup>	3.0	142,243	3,264	145,507	3.0	152,743	2,692	155,435
ACMA	9.8	5,343	(5,880)	(537)	9.8	5,645	(6,282)	(637)
AEDA	31.6	4,417	(12,455)	(8,038)	31.6	4,528	(13,134)	(8,606)
Strategic Projects	0.5	-	(1,528)	(1,528)	1.2	-	(1,729)	(1,729)
TOTAL	165.8	152,172	(47,151)	105,021	166.5	163,096	(50,514)	112,582

 $^{\star}$  materials, contracts and other expenses /  $^{\star\star}$  sponsorships, contributions and donations

+includes Rates Revenue, Corporation grants (e.g. Financial Assistance Grants), vacancy management Target, and capital overhead.

^ includes 10.0 FTE Graduates allocated in business units across the Administration

\$'00	\$'000 2024/25 (Q2 update) 2			2025/26	
Capital Projects	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.	
New and Upgrade	3,954	(4,257)	-	(2,195)	
Renewal	-	(3,632)	-	(1,960)	
TOTAL	3,954	(7,889)	-	(4,155)	

### Finance and Procurement

Corporate Services Portfolio

Strategic
Plan link
Our Corporation

Ensures public resources are effectively managed to enable the delivery of Council's priorities and strategic plans, funding a long-term financially sustainable approach to delivery of services and infrastructure, and creating significant public value through sustainable procurement practices.

#### **Functions supported:**

- Procurement, Purchasing and Contract Management
- Financial Planning, Analysis and Reporting
- Ratings and Receivables

#### Outputs for the year ahead

- Deliver on the 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget
- Refine modelling for the 2025/26 update of the Long Term Financial Plan
- Implement findings of the 2025 rating review
- Undertake Phase 1 of the debtors and receipting system review
- Comprehensive review of Treasury Policy
- Comprehensive review of Future Fund Reserve Policy.

The following table provides a view of this Program's budget by both operations and activity:

\$'000		2024/25 (	'Q2 update)			202	25/26			
Operating view	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)		
Revenue	=	138	-	138	-	142	-	142		
Employee costs	28.8	-	(4,087)	(4,087)	28.8	-	(4,090)	(4,090)		
Materials and other*	-	-	(734)	(734)	-	-	(763)	(763)		
Sponsorships**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Finance costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL	28.8	138	(4,821)	(4,683)	28.8	142	(4,853)	(4,711)		
Activity view										
Associate Director (office)	1.0	_	(288)	(288)	1.0	-	(283)	(283)		
Financial Planning and Reporting	13.0	<del>-</del>	(1,984)	(1,984)	13.0	-	(2,044)	(2,044)		
Procurement and Contract Management	7.8	<del>-</del>	(1,063)	(1,063)	7.8	-	(1,103)	(1,103)		
Rates and Receivables	7.0	138	(1,486)	(1,348)	7.0	142	(1,423)	(1,281)		
TOTAL	28.8	138	(4,821)	(4,683)	28.8	142	(4,853)	(4,711)		

 $^{\star}$  materials, contracts and other expenses /  $^{\star\star}$  sponsorships, contributions and donations

\$'000	2024/25 (Q2 update)		202	5/26
	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
N/A	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-

	\$'000	2024/25 (0	Q2 update)	202	5/26
Strategic Projects N/A TOTAL Capital Projects		Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
N/A		-	-	-	_
TOTAL		-	-	-	-
Canital Projects		_	_	_	_
New and Upgrade		-	-	-	-
Renewal		-	-	-	-
TOTAL		-	-	-	-

## **Governance and Strategy**

Corporate Services Portfolio

Strategic Our Corporation Plan link

The Governance and Strategy program is responsible for enabling robust, transparent and effective governance and risk management processes, and working collaboratively to create, maintain and integrate well researched strategies, polices, and plans which guide decision making and support our city and our community to thrive.

#### **Functions supported:**

- Business Planning and Reporting
- Community Engagement
- Compliance and Freedom of Information
- Council Governance and administration
- Corporate Governance
- Enterprise Risk
- Grants and Partnership Management
- Legal Services
- Policy Governance
- Project Delivery and Performance
- Research and Insights
- Security and Emergency Management
- Strategic and Service Planning

#### Outputs for the year ahead

- Provide advice and coordination on risk, legal services, insurance, council and corporate governance, emergency management, strategic and corporate planning, policy, research, project and grant management and community engagement
- Provide high-level support and advice to ensure Council Members fulfill their roles and responsibilities
- Monitor and maintain an appropriate suite of insurance and perform claims management
- Coordinate the delivery of the Business Plan and Budget and Strategic Plan
- Coordinate a review of Community Engagement approach
- Coordinate and support organisational research
- Deliver initiatives which support an organisational approach to risk management, internal audits and controls and legislative compliance, including the strategic internal audit plan
- Deliver Council's Resident and City User Profile surveys
- Deliver Council and Corporate reporting services
- Deliver agenda management for Council and Committee meetings
- Deliver Project Management, Policy Governance and Grant internal systems.

The following table provides a view of this Program's budget by both operations and activity:

\$'000		2024/25 (	'Q2 update)	I		20.	25/26	
Operating view	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Revenue	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-
Employee costs	23.3	-	(3,031)	(3,031)	23.3	-	(3,010)	(3,010)
Materials and other*	-	-	(3,025)	(3,025)	-	-	(2,915)	(2,915)
Sponsorships**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finance costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	23.3	-	(6,056)	(6,056)	23.3	-	(5,925)	(5,925)
Activity view								
Associate Director (office)	1.0	-	(343)	(343)	1.0	_	(255)	(255)
Corporate Governance	5.2	-	(3,183)	(3,183)	5.2	-	(3,074)	(3,074)
Council Governance	5.1	-	(1,110)	(1,110)	5.1	-	(1,133)	(1,133)
Legal Governance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Project Management Office	5.0	-	(258)	(258)	5.0	-	(262)	(262)
Strategy and Insights	7.0	-	(1,162)	(1,162)	7.0	-	(1,201)	(1,201)
TOTAL	23.3	-	(6,056)	(6,056)	23.3	-	(5,925)	(5,925)

\* materials, contracts and other expenses / \*\* sponsorships, contributions and donations

\$'000	2024/25 (Q2 update)		202	5/26
	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
N/A	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-

	\$'000	2024/25 (	Q2 update)	202	5/26
Strategic Projects		Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
ESCOSA review		-	(40)	-	-
TOTAL		_	(40)	-	-
Capital Projects					
New and Upgrade			_	_	_
Renewal		-	-	-	_
TOTAL		-	-	-	_

## **Information Management**

Corporate Services Portfolio

Strategic Our Corporation Plan link

To enable delivery of customer focused services to our community IM delivers integrated technology solutions that improve access to information, streamline processes, safeguard our information and systems, and encourage collaboration across the organisation.

#### **Functions supported:**

- Archives and Civic Collection Management
- Corporate Records Management
- Cybersecurity
- Projects and partnering
- Service Desk
- Technology, Infrastructure and Platforms

#### Outputs for the year ahead

- Provide a customer-centric business partnering service with advice and guidance consistent with our enterprise architecture principles
- Support the delivery of business outcomes and making data-driven decisions through accessible and userfriendly systems, processes, and data
- Design and implement strategic and operational planning processes to ensure the ongoing management and safekeeping of corporate information and data assets
- Digitise records and archival materials to manage, find and store the backlog materials physically stored in the organisation more effectively
- Manage collecting and preserving historical and culturally significant Archive materials and artifacts
- Support and deliver enterprise records management systems and guidance
- Provide simple, modern, and efficient customer focussed service delivery capability
- Design and implement activities and initiatives from the cybersecurity roadmap to uplift the organisation's maturity in cyber resilience
- Deliver the planned initiatives of the business systems roadmap and data analytics roadmap.

The following table provides a view of this Program's budget by both operations and activity:

\$'000 2024/25 (Q2 update)			I	2025/26				
Operating view	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Revenue	-	31	-	31	-	38	-	38
Employee costs	35.0	-	(4,657)	(4,657)	35.0	-	(5,461)	(5,461)
Materials and other*	-	-	(8,406)	(8,406)	-	-	(8,535)	(8,535)
Sponsorships**	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Depreciation	-	-	(939)	(939)	-	-	(1,231)	(1,231)
Finance costs	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
TOTAL	35.0	31	(14,002)	(13,971)	35.0	38	(15,227)	(15,189)
Activity view								
Associate Director (office)	10.0	8	(1,420)	(1,412)	13.0	8	(2,055)	(2,047)
Project Delivery	11.0	-	(2,603)	(2,603)	10.0	-	(2,576)	(2,576)
Service Desk	6.0	23	(8,811)	(8,788)	5.0	30	(9,278)	(9,248)
Technology,								
Infrastructure and Platforms	8.0	-	(1,168)	(1,168)	7.0	_	(1,318)	(1,318)
TOTAL	35.0	31	(14,002)	(13,971)	35.0	38	(15,227)	(15,189)

\* materials, contracts and other expenses / \*\* sponsorships, contributions and donations

\$'000	2024/25 (Q2 update)		202	25/26
	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Business Systems Roadmap	-	(1,600)	-	(1,600)
TOTAL	-	(1,600)	-	(1,600)

	\$'000 2024/25 (	\$'000 2024/25 (Q2 update)		
Strategic Projects	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Cyber Security Enhancement	-	(85)	-	(110)
Contact Centre Software Replacement	-	(450)	-	-
TOTAL	-	(535)	-	(110)
Capital Projects				
New and Upgrade	-	(233)	_	-
Renewal	-	(3,615)	-	(1,660)
TOTAL	-	(3,848)	-	(1,660)

## **People**

Corporate Services Portfolio

Strategic Our Corporation Plan link

Strengthens our organisation's capability to lead and deliver essential services for our community, corporate services for our organisation, and brilliant experiences in our City, by cocreating an environment where our people thrive, live our values, reach their potential, and learn and grow.

#### **Functions supported:**

- Human Resource Management
- Internal Communications and Connection
- Organisational Development
- Payroll
- Safety and Wellbeing

#### Outputs for the year ahead

- Provide a customer centric business partnering service which provides expert advice and guidance consistent with terms and conditions of employment and applicable work health and safety, payroll and industrial relations legislation
- Design and implement initiatives which support an organisational environment and culture which is engaged, diverse and inclusive
- Support the delivery of business outcomes and the making of data driven workforce decisions through the availability of accessible and user-friendly workforce management systems, processes, and data
- Design and implement strategic and operational workforce planning processes to support the development of employees and enable the identification of future workforce needs
- Design and implement attraction and retention strategies and initiatives that strengthen CoA's employer brand and position CoA as an employer of choice
- Design and implement safety and wellbeing systems, processes and initiatives which provide a holistic approach to workplace safety and wellbeing
- Support knowledge share and connections across the organisation through internal communication channels and initiatives.

The following table provides a view of this Program's budget by both operations and activity:

\$'000 2024/25 (Q2 update)				2025/26				
Operating view	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Revenue	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-
Employee costs ^	28.8	-	(3,491)	(3,491)	28.8	-	(3,846)	(3,846)
Materials and other*	-	-	(1,169)	(1,169)	-	-	(1,236)	(1,236)
Sponsorships**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finance costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	28.8	-	(4,660)	(4,660)	28.8	-	(5,082)	(5,082)
Activity view								
Associate Director (office)	3.0	-	(576)	(576)	3.0	-	(596)	(596)
People Experience	15.8	-	(2,249)	(2,249)	15.8	-	(2,613)	(2,613)
People Safety and Wellbeing	4.0	-	(768)	(768)	4.0	-	(774)	(774)
People Services	6.0	-	(1,067)	(1,067)	6.0	-	(1,099)	(1,099)
TOTAL	28.8	-	(4,660)	(4,660)	28.8	-	(5,082)	(5,082)

 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}$  materials, contracts and other expenses /  $^{\star\star}$  sponsorships, contributions and donations

 $<sup>{}^{\</sup>blacktriangle}$  includes 10.0 FTE Graduates allocated in business units across the Administration

\$'000	\$'000 2024/25 (Q2		2025/26	
	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Graduate Employment Program	-	(841)	-	(1,122)
TOTAL	-	(841)	-	(1,122)

	\$'000 2024/25	(Q2 update)	2025/26	
Strategic Projects	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Aboriginal Employment and Inclusion Coordinator	-	-	-	(34)
Talent Attraction and Retention	-	-	-	(121)
TOTAL	<del>-</del>	-	-	(155)
Capital Projects				
New and Upgrade	<u>-</u>	_	-	-
Renewal	-	-	-	-

## **Adelaide Central Market Authority**

Corporate Services Portfolio

Strategic
Plan link
Our Economy

Oversees the strategy, management and operation of the Adelaide Central Market as a commercially sustainable, diverse and iconic fresh produce market.

#### **Functions supported:**

- Market Operations (incl. Security, Cleaning, waste)
- Commercial Leasing
- Property management
- Trader engagement and support
- Customer Service and Visitor Information
- Events and Activations
- Marketing, Social Media, Website Management
- Media and Public Relations
- ACMA Board governance and support
- Online Market Operations
- Market Precinct partnerships

#### Outputs for the year ahead

- Ensure customer experiences are at the heart of all decisions every day
- Enable and partner with our traders to support them in the delivery of an exceptional shopping experience
- Implement the retail leasing strategy and transition to One Market, including securing new tenancies
- Plan and deliver programs that address the current and emerging needs of our customers and traders
- Take a responsible and sustainable approach to our business in pursuing positive long-term financial results
- Contribute to the economic, social and cultural wellbeing of our precinct and community.

The following table provides a view of this Subsidiary's budget by both operations and activity:

\$'000		2024/25 (	Q2 update)		2025/26			
Operating view	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Revenue	-	5,343	-	5,343	-	5,645	-	5,645
Employee costs	9.8	-	(1,580)	(1,580)	9.8	-	(1,776)	(1,776)
Materials and other*	-	-	(4,262)	(4,262)	-	-	(4,461)	(4,461)
Sponsorships**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	(36)	(36)	-	-	(42)	(42)
Finance costs	-	-	(1)	(1)	-	-	(3)	(3)
TOTAL	9.8	5,343	(5,879)	(536)	9.8	5,645	(6,282)	(637)
Activity view								
ACMA Operations	6.8	5,257	(5,245)	12	6.8	5,558	(5,449)	109
Market Expansion	3.0	-	(399)	(399)	3.0	-	(600)	(600)
Online Market Platform	-	86	(235)	(149)	-	87	(233)	(146)
TOTAL	9.8	5,343	(5,879)	(536)	9.8	5,645	(6,282)	(637)

<sup>\*</sup> materials, contracts and other expenses / \*\* sponsorships, contributions and donations

\$'000	2024/25 (Q	2 update)	202	5/26
	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
N/A	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-

trotogio Projecto		2024/25 (	Q2 update)	2025/26	
Strategic Projects		Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Adelaide Central Market Expansion Operational Preparedness		-	(220)	-	(939)
TOTAL		-	(220)	-	(939)
Capital Projects					
•					
New and Upgrade		-	-	-	(1,225)
Renewal		-	-	-	-

## Adelaide Economic Development Agency

Corporate Services Portfolio

Strategic
Plan link
Our Economy

Accelerate economic growth in the CoA by attracting investment, supporting businesses to grow, funding festivals, growing the visitor economy, supporting residential growth, managing Rundle Mall and marketing the city as a destination and 'magnet city'.

#### **Functions supported:**

- Business Support and Investment
- Economic Data and Insights
- Event and Festival Sponsorship
- Marketing the City
- Precinct Group Funding
- Residential Growth
- Rundle Mall Management, Activations and Marketing
- Funding for strategic partnerships
- Visitor Economy
- Visitor Information Services

#### Outputs for the year ahead

- Rundle Mall management, marketing, attraction of new brands, activation and implementation of the Rundle Mall Events and Marketing Strategy
- Provision of sponsorship to event organisers and strategic partner organisations
- Events and data that stimulate thinking about the City's economy and investment into the economy
- Initiatives that increase the number of workers in the City by supporting businesses to grow or locate in the City
- Marketing campaigns that position the City as a place to work, invest and visit
- Provision of Visitor Information Services, including the opening of a new Visitor Experience Centre
- Increasing tourism products to grow the visitor economy

The following table provides a view of this Subsidiary's budget by both operations and activity:

\$'000		2024/25 (	Q2 update)	1	2025/26				
Operating view	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	
Revenue	-	4,417	-	4,417	-	4,528	-	4,528	
Employee costs	31.6	-	(4,676)	(4,676)	31.6	-	(4,769)	(4,769)	
Materials and other*	-	-	(4,436)	(4,436)	-	-	(4,967)	(4,967)	
Sponsorships**	-	-	(3,249)	(3,249)	-	-	(3,346)	(3,346)	
Depreciation	-	-	(88)	(88)	-	-	(48)	(48)	
Finance costs	-	-	(6)	(6)	-	-	(4)	(4)	
TOTAL	31.6	4,417	(12,455)	(8,038)	31.6	4,528	(13,134)	(8,606)	
Activity view									
General Manager AEDA (office)	2.0	-	(572)	(572)	2.0	-	(546)	(546)	
Business and Investment	7.0	-	(2,618)	(2,618)	7.0	-	(2,787)	(2,787)	
Marketing	8.0	-	(1,917)	(1,917)	8.0	-	(2,144)	(2,144)	
Rundle Mall Management	9.6	4,398	(4,391)	7	9.6	4,518	(4,518)	-	
Visitor Economy	5.0	19	(2,957)	(2,938)	5.0	10	(3,139)	(3,129)	
TOTAL	31.6	4,417	(12,455)	(8,038)	31.6	4,528	(13,134)	(8,606)	

 $^{\star}$  materials, contracts and other expenses /  $^{\star\star}$  sponsorships, contributions and donations

	\$'000	2024/25 (	Q2 update)	202	25/26	
		Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.	
Adelaide Fashion Week		-	(310)	-	(489)	
Business Growth - Business Support		-	(172)	-	(232)	
Data and insights		-	(198)	-	(412)	
Event and Festival Sponsorship		-	(1,932)	-	(1,990)	
General Marketing		-	(408)	-	(420)	
Main streets Development Grants / Precinct Activation		-	(184)	-	(190)	
Strategic Partnerships		-	(1,109)	-	(1,142)	
Visitor Growth – Tourism Projects		-	(180)	=	(198)	
TOTAL		-	(4,493)	-	(5,487)	

	\$'000    2024/25 (	2025/26		
Strategic Projects	Inc.	Exp.	Inc.	Exp.
Rundle Mall Live Music Program	<del>-</del>	(100)	-	(100)
Tourism and Business attraction	-	(133)	-	(150)
Partner Marketing – Winter Focus	-	-	-	(75)
City Brand Development	-	-	-	(100)
Investment Attraction Program	-	-	-	(100)
Commercial Events Funding Program	-	(500)	-	-
TOTAL	-	(733)	-	(525)
Capital Projects				
New and Upgrade	3,954	(4,024)	-	(970)
Renewal	-	=	-	(300)
TOTAL	3,954	(4,024)	-	(1,270

# Office of the Chief Executive / Office of the Lord Mayor

Supports the CEO to lead a sustainable, successful organisation, to make well informed decisions to deliver on Council's priorities, and to foster productive partnerships both with industry, and local government and other government bodies through the delivery of effective intergovernmental relations.

Supports the Lord Mayor and Council Members to foster productive relationships with peak bodies, other government bodies and the community, to deliver our strategic plan, and fulfill our Capital City leadership responsibilities.

#### **Functions supported:**

#### Advocacy, partnerships and intergovernmental relations

- Capital city oversight
- Civic protocols and events
- Communication and public relations
- Executive support and administration
- Lord Mayor and Council administration

#### Outputs for the year ahead

- Participate and advocate to Federal, State and Local Governments
- Manage stakeholder relationships that support City, Community and Civic development
- Facilitate strong connections through Civic Events, Forums, Local, National and International partnerships
- Ensure that the organisation is providing transparent and professional advice and delivering statutory requirements
- Provide high-level administrative support and appropriate advice to ensure the Lord Mayor, Council Members and Executive fulfill their roles and responsibilities.

The following table provides a view of this Program's budget by both operations and activity:

\$'000		2024/25 (	'Q2 update)	Ī		202	25/26	
Operating view	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)	FTE	Inc.	Exp.	Total (net)
Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Employee costs	10.3	-	(1,808)	(1,808)	10.3	-	(1,853)	(1,853)
Materials and other*	-	-	(1,289)	(1,289)	-	-	(1,336)	(1,336)
Sponsorships**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finance costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	10.3	-	(3,097)	(3,097)	10.3	-	(3,189)	(3,189)
Activity view								
Office of the Chief Executive	4.0	-	(1,457)	(1,457)	4.0	-	(1,501)	(1,501)
Civic Events, Partnerships, and Other Events	-	-	(482)	(482)	-	-	(496)	(496)
Lord Mayor's Office Administration	6.3	-	(1,158)	(1,158)	6.3	-	(1,192)	(1,192)
TOTAL	10.3	-	(3,097)	(3,097)	10.3	-	(3,189)	(3,189)

 $^{\star}$  materials, contracts and other expenses /  $^{\star\star}$  sponsorships, contributions and donations

## Capital Works

Council owns and is responsible for the management, operations and maintenance of a diverse asset portfolio that provides services and facilities for city users.

To ensure existing assets are maintained, renewed and upgraded, and that we identify appropriate opportunities for new assets, capital projects are assessed and prioritised with asset sustainability and the organisation's capacity to deliver in mind. Whilst capital projects can be funded by borrowings, we consider asset depreciation, cost of the life of an asset and responsible borrowing capacity.

\$'000	2024/25 Q2 Budget	2025/26 Budget
New and Upgrade	64,747	39,179
Renewal	56,296	67,937
TOTAL	121,043	107,116

A detailed breakdown of our Capital Works Program is provided on the following pages We categorise our capital projects expenditure to provide a better understanding of what is being delivered as:

#### **NEW AND UPGRADE**

Works of a capital nature that are either introducing new assets or significantly upgrading existing assets. Usually by extending an asset or increasing the level of service the asset provides.

These projects are identified through Council's Strategies and Plans and defined as:

- complex in nature
- installation of new infrastructure
- upgrades to existing infrastructure

Note: Some projects have been retimed from 2024/25 and will continue to be delivered into 2025/26

#### **RENEWALS**

Works of a capital nature that are replacing an existing asset like for like or like for modern equivalent.

These projects are grouped against multiple categories and are directly aligned to maintenance service levels contained within Council's Asset Management Plans.

## New and Upgrade

Past FY(s) Budget Expenditure on projects including, New and Upgrade, and Renewal

components that occurred in previous financial years up to 2025/26.

Actual spend for financial years prior to 2024/25 and budgeted allocation for 2024/25.

**New and Upgrade** 2025/26 New and Upgrade budget component.

**Renewal** 2025/26 Renewal budget component. These are also included in the Renewal

table on the following page.

WoP Budget Whole of Project cost (New and Upgrade, and Renewal), which is the

anticipated budget required to deliver the entire project, regardless of financial

year project delivered in.

	Past	2025/26 Budget		W-D	
\$'000	FY(s) Budget	New and Upgrade	Renewal	WoP Budget	
City Community					
City Culture	:	:			
Aquatic Centre Community Playing Field – Denise Norton Park / Pardipardinyilla (Park 2)	3,589	5,658	-	9,247	
Christmas Decorations – City Wide	-	200	-	200	
Community Sports Building Redevelopment – Golden Wattle Park / Mirnu Wirra (Park 21 West)*>	235	4,313	680	5,908	
Community Sports Building Redevelopment – Mary Lee Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27B)*>	831	3,493	200	5,124	
Community Sports Building Redevelopment – Concept Design	-	100	-	6,000	
Public Art Action Plan Deliverables	-	450	-	450	
Minor Works Building – Security Upgrades	-	50	-	450	
Place of Courage **>	10	190	-	200	
Regulatory Services					
Additional Park Safe Vehicle^	-	67	-	67	
City Infrastructure					
Infrastructure					
Adelaide Park Lands Trail – Sir Donald Bradman Drive**	50	1,200	-	1,250	
Belair-City Bikeway/Adelaide Park Lands Trail – Glen Osmond Road**	50	1,300	-	1,350	
Brown Hill Keswick Creek (Financial Contribution)	2,266	320	-	5,600	
Franklin Street Pedestrian Crossing	-	120	-	620	
James Place Upgrade*	66	1,000	434	1,500	
Main Street Revitalisation – Gouger Street (Detailed Design & Construction) >	837	2,209	1,629	27,058	
Main Street Revitalisation – Hindley Street (Construction) >	1,929	480	1,000	30,195	
Main Street Revitalisation – Hutt Street (Detailed Design & Construction) <sup>&gt;</sup>	410	465	430	21,319	
Main Street Revitalisation – Melbourne Street (Detailed Design & Construction)*	154	1,850	-	13,451	
Main Street Revitalisation – O'Connell Street (Detailed Design)	1,059	612	388	23,614	
Traffic Signal Safety Upgrade – Morphett Street and Franklin Street Intersection	-	270	-	270	

	Past FY(s) Budget	2025/26 Budget		WoP
\$'000		New and Upgrade	Renewal	Budget
Traffic Signal Safety Upgrade – Morphett Street and Grote Street Intersection	-	255	-	255
Peacock Road Cycle Route**	50	500	-	550
School Safety Implementation Project <sup>&gt;</sup>	100	150	-	1,055
West Pallant Street Improvements <sup>&gt;</sup>	81	33	-	749
Strategic Property and Commercial				
Central Market Arcade Redevelopment Options	3,173	300	-	3,473
Central Market Arcade Redevelopment Major Project	30,918	1,000	-	31,918
Flinders Street Housing – Concept Planning	-	250	-	250
UPark Central Market – Parking Guidance System	-	300	-	900
UPark Central Market – Car Park Hardware	-	190	-	190
City Shaping				
City Operations				
Accelerated Greening Water Truck	-	150	-	150
Park Lands, Policy and Sustainability				
City Public Realm Greening Program <sup>&gt;</sup>	3,468	2,232	-	5,700
London Road Depot Electrification – Stage 1	-	200	-	200
Corporate Services				
Adelaide Central Market Authority (ACMA)				
Christmas Decorations – One Market	-	175	-	350
Federal Hall Trade Waste and Water Connections <sup>^</sup>	-	50	-	50
Market Expansion Capital Works – Ground Floor	-	1,000	-	1,000
Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA)				
Christmas Decorations – Rundle Mall	-	200	-	200
Rundle Mall Sound System	99	770	300	1,169
Corporate Activities				
2025/26 Project Delivery Costs	-	7,077	-	7,077
Total New and Upgrade Program		39,179	5,061	

<sup>\*</sup>partially grant funded \*\*fully grant funded ^income generating >some/all budget retimed from 24/25

## Renewals

	\$'000	2025/26 Budget
Buildings		15,115
Lighting & Electrical		4,960
Park Lands & Open Space		1,600
Plant, Fleet & Equipment*		3,715
Transport**		24,489
Urban Elements		3,624
Water Infrastructure		8,536
Delivery Resources		5,898
Total Renewal Program		67,937

<sup>\*</sup>includes IT \*\*includes bridges, roads, footpaths, kerb and water table, and traffic signal

## Our Resources and Budget

Resource Plan 2024-2028

How we Budget

Financial Framework and Indicators

Rates, Borrowings, Fees and Charges

**Detailed Financial Overview** 

Financial Statements

#### Resource Plan 2024-2028

Council's Strategic Plan 2024 – 2028 includes a four year Resource Plan, which with the Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP), Asset Management Plans and City Plan has informed the development of this business plan and budget.

The Resource Plan supports the delivery of the Strategic Plan and outlines the financial and nonfinancial resources required to deliver our objectives and actions over the next four years.

#### Financial

The financial aspect of the Resource Plan is based on principles to ensure that Council has the capacity to be financially sustainable in the medium and long term.

Financial sustainability also helps to ensure intergenerational equity so that costs associated with expenditure are equitably spread over time relevant to the communities that will draw benefit. Financial principles include but are not limited to:

- Fees and charges are equitable and respond to the community's needs
- Ensuring an effective rating system
- Considering new and different revenue streams
- Using borrowings to fund new and upgraded capital projects
- Fund operations and expenses from within the operating budget.

Council's LTFP has assumed existing service levels will be maintained, while seeking efficiency improvements in line with appropriate planning, measures and benchmarks. The four-year financial view embedded in the Resource Plan is taken from Council's adopted LTFP and provides the funding for the Strategic Plan.

This period sees significant investment in Council priorities, including upgrades to main streets, partnerships with the State Government on major projects, strategic property developments and ongoing delivery of core services. Rates will continue to be an important source of revenue, accounting for approximately 60% of total annual revenue. In line with the LTFP, over the four-year period Council assumes growth in future rate income aligned to CPI, in addition to rates from new properties, assumed at 1% per annum.

Factors that could impact Council's finances over the next four years include increased cost of goods and services used by the Local Government sector (measured through the Local Government Price Index), having a stronger focus on renewals and maintenance, changing service and infrastructure needs with a growing population, and interest rate impacts on Council's borrowings.

#### **Infrastructure and Property**

Asset Management Plans (AMPs) help Council to manage the assets that provide services and facilities for our community. The AMPs provide guidance for the effective management of Council's assets and are reviewed every three years to ensure we deliver the required levels of services and meet strategic and legislative requirements. The AMPs then inform Council's yearly Capital Works Program, as identified in the Business Plan and Budget.

The Resource Plan outlines the need to manage infrastructure (capital) expenditure in a way which avoids disruptive adjustments to activities, programs and event raising efforts.

Over the life of the plan, the capital expenditure for Council is forecast to be approximately \$300m (which is subject to an increase or decrease depending on each yearly review, through the Business Plan and Budget process).

The Strategic Property portfolio that Council manages seeks to address strategic objectives for growth in the City, while providing additional net revenue. It promotes a partnership approach to acquire or repurpose property assets with the private sector and other tiers of government.

#### Resources

We also need to ensure we have appropriate resourcing from a people perspective so that we can deliver on the Strategic Plan and be responsive to emerging challenges. Workforce planning enables the corporation to attract, develop and retain the skills, knowledge and experience required to meet our strategic objectives and create a high performing culture. A focus on efficiencies and continuous improvement will enable resourcing numbers to be maintained at current levels over the four-year period.

Delivery of the Strategic Plan will also be facilitated by integrated technology solutions that improve access to information, streamline processes, and safeguard information and systems. The Business Systems Roadmap sets out the program of works over the next four years with a focus on four key themes – customers at the centre, secure and reliable, data driven, and seamless.

## How we Budget

Councils are often referred to as 'long-term businesses' with ongoing service provision obligations and long-life assets. From an overall community perspective, it is important that council rates are set at levels as low as sustainably possible while:

- providing the standard and breadth of services that ratepayers value
- ensuring that council has robust, longterm asset management
- financing and operational plans which allow management of assets efficiently and effectively over the long term, so as to sustain the delivery of those services and minimise their lifetime cost.

The LTFP is used as a base to guide Council's financial planning and includes a range of assumptions. In building the 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget the core assumptions from the LTFP were:

- Continue budget repair
- Rates revenue in line with forecast inflation (excludes growth from new developments)
- Fees and charges in line with forecast inflation
- Salaries and wages forecasts based on enterprise agreements; once expired, Wage Price Index (WPI) for SA applied
- Other revenue and expenditure growth, in general, in line with forecast inflation
- Interest rates relative to market expectations
- Capital renewal expenditure in line with Infrastructure and Asset Management Plans
- Capital enhancements (new and upgrade)
   in line with the Council decision to fund the
   Central Market Arcade Redevelopment,
   Main Street upgrades (\$15m per year) in
   addition to other items identified as a
   priority.

For 2025/26, to make sure that the budget repair required is done in a financially sustainable manner, Council also used the following principles to guide the Business Plan and Budget build:

- Continue to deliver a minimum of the current suite of services and asset maintenance, indexed in line with Consumer Price Index (CPI)
- Fees and charges reflect the cost of services provided
- Maintain an operating surplus
- Capitalise on external funding, fast-tracking projects that attract such funding, recognising the potential need for increased borrowings in order to respond to external funding opportunities
- Adjust rate revenue after consideration of all other budget components and use growth in rate revenue to partly fund servicing new rateable properties and to service new borrowings
- Capital renewal expenditure will be based on Asset Management Plans (AMPs)
- Changes to services, assets or maintenance requiring an increase in operating costs are to be funded from the adjustment of priorities, rate revenue or other revenue increases and/ or through savings
- Borrowings will be used to fund new and upgrade projects and not used to fund operations, expenses or renewal projects
- Short term borrowings will be used to fund the Asset Renewal Repair Fund, to ensure the increased spending required through the AMPs can be spread over a longer period to meet community expectation and their capacity to pay is managed over time through sustainable rate increases.

# Financial framework and indicators

The budget process began by maintaining the 2024/25 Operating Budget throughout the year, updating the Base Budget to incorporate permanent changes to inform the following year's budget. The various parts of the organisation then built upon the Base Budget, from the ground up, to develop the budget required to deliver the same services at the same levels for the 2025/26 year. This effectively sets the required 2025/26 Base Budget, consistent with the approach of previous years.

Identified service changes, strategic projects and operating initiatives, based on delivering the priorities of Council within the Strategic Plan and associated Strategies were developed and presented to Council for endorsement and inclusion in the Budget. At the same time, revenue assumptions, particularly for Rates and Fees and Charges, were developed independently and applied to the revenue components within the Budget.

Council has also committed to a capital program of \$107.116m of which \$39.179m will deliver new and upgraded infrastructure. To do so, Council may have to utilise borrowings.

Council is budgeting to generate an operating surplus of \$8.541m in the 2025/26 financial year. This operating surplus enables funding of Council's commitment of 1.5% rates revenue for upgrade of community buildings in the Park Lands, service borrowings for agreed capital projects, and accounts for future service and maintenance necessitated by growth from new developments.

Funding Pathway		Expenditu	ıre
	Operation	ns (\$000's)	
Rates	154,908	Services	172,492
Fees and Charges	88,118	Strategic Projects	7,146
Grants and Subsidies	5,206	Renewal or replacement of existing assets	67,937
Other	1,047		
	Net Capit	al (\$000's)	
Borrowings	28,956	New income generating assets	1,000
Capital Grants and Proceeds	8,018	New Community assets	38,179
Proceeds from the sale of assets	500		

## **Operating Budget**

Council's operating budget provides for ongoing service delivery to the community across our community and corporate services and strategic projects to deliver on specific objectives. These costs are traditionally funded via Rates Revenues or other Fees and Charges. Grants and subsidies assist with this ongoing service delivery.

## **Capital Budget**

Council's capital budget provides for projectbased delivery of new/upgraded assets as well as renewal/replacement of existing city assets. Renewal costs are funded via cashflows generated from operations and new/upgraded costs are funded from operational cashflows and borrowings.

Borrowings are mainly utilised for major infrastructure projects and major city shaping projects such as the Main Street Upgrades and the Aquatic Centre Community Playing Field, or commercially focused projects with a financial return on investment.

# **Implications for Future Years**

In developing the Business Plan and Budget, borrowings have been considered in relation to the budget principles and the maximum borrowing indicators as defined by our prudential limits specified in our Treasury Policy. All borrowing terms and conditions will be in accordance with the Treasury Policy and where possible, known costs for projects and other known variables have been included in the Business Plan and Budget in alignment with Council decisions.

Borrowings at the end of 2024/25 will be impacted by the timing of cash inflows and cash outflows, and timing of when projects are delivered. The projected year-end position, monitored through the quarterly review forecast process, flows through to form the 2025/26 opening balance for borrowings. Any impact affecting the year-end balance of borrowings and the cumulative funding position will be considered to ensure that borrowings remain within our current Prudential Borrowing Limits.

Financial indicators for 2025/26	Target	2024/25 Q2 Budget	2025/26
OPERATING SURPLUS RATIO Expresses the operating surplus as a percentage of operating revenue.	0%-20%	3.9%	3.4%
<b>NET FINANCIAL LIABILITIES</b> Expresses the financial liabilities as a percentage of operating income.	Less than 80%	13%	34%
ASSET RENEWAL FUNDING RATIO  Expresses expenditure on asset renewals as a percentage of forecast expenditure required as per the asset management plans.	90%-110%	93.0%	93.5%
ASSET TEST RATIO Expresses borrowings as a percentage of saleable property assets.	Maximum 50%	7%	15.6%
INTEREST EXPENSE RATIO Interest expense as a percentage of General Rates Revenue (less Landscape Levy)	Maximum 10%	2.0%	1.5%
<b>LEVERAGE TEST RATIO</b> Expresses total borrowings relative to General Rates Revenue (less the Landscape Levy).	Maximum 1.5 years	0.14	0.32
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATIONS RATIO  Expresses operating income as a percentage of operating expenditure plus expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets.	Greater than 100%	110%	103%
BORROWINGS Expresses borrowings as a percentage of the Prudential Borrowing Limit (50% of saleable property assets).	Within Prudential Limits	13%	31%
BORROWINGS Expresses Borrowings (Gross of Future Fund) as a percentage of the Prudential Borrowing Limit (50% of Saleable Property Assets).	Within Prudential Limits	35%	52%

# Rates, Borrowings, Fees and Charges

#### **Rate Structure**

Our Rating Structure is developed in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*. Key considerations include:

- The taxation principles of equity, benefit, ability-to-pay, efficiency and simplicity have been identified and applied as guiding principles to our Rating Policy
- Our commitment to maintaining a transparent and equitable rating system.
   Accordingly, we undertake to manage the Rating Policy to ensure the greatest level of equity for ratepayers by maintaining a nonpunitive rating structure
- Our continuing practice of identifying and valuing all land in the Council area. Once identified, each separate occupation of land will be assessed for rateability
- A Differential General Rate will be applied to all rateable land in accordance with Section 147 of the Local Government Act 1999 (SA).
   Differentiation factors previously endorsed by Council are 'Residential', 'Non-Residential' and 'Vacant Land' land uses
- Residential properties identified as predominately used for short stay accommodation will incur the nonresidential differential rate of Commercial-Other
- The application of a Differential General
  Rate is generally intended to alter the
  amount payable for particular land uses and
  approximate the benefit principle. For
  2025/26, and consistent with prior years, it is
  expected non-residential rates will represent
  approximately 75% of general rates revenue
- To protect ratepayers from large movements in property valuations a 10% cap on annual increases in general rates payable specific to individual ratepayers will be applied, subject to specific criteria
- A \$100 per household rebate for pensioners

Differential rates are allocated through varied Rates in the Dollar by the following categories: Residential, Non-Residential and Vacant Land. Further to this, separate rates will continue to be levied for the purposes of managing and marketing the Rundle Mall Precinct, and to recover funds on behalf of Landscape SA.

The Rating Policy by which Council raises rates and information on our rate in the dollar, is available at cityofadelaide.com.au/rates

## **Statement on Expected Rate Revenue**

The 2022 Local Government reforms resulted in financial regulation changes requiring councils in South Australia to consistently show a statement on expected rate revenue. For the City of Adelaide, this information is provided on the following page. Approximately 75% of the City of Adelaide's rateable properties are non-residential (i.e., commercial), which results in a skewed average rateable amount, when compared to suburban and regional Local Governments.

Please note: These figures represent a considered estimate of Expected Rate Revenue based on the most current information available at the time of going out to consultation on the Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget. This information is updated regularly and therefore these figures may be subject to confirmation at the time of actual adoption of the 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget.

Expected Rates Revenue (\$000's)	2024/25 (as adopted)	2025/26 (estimated)	Change
General Rates Revenue			
General Rates (existing properties)	143,988	156,002	5.6%
General Rates (new properties)	3,772	1,926	1.3%
General Rates revenue (GROSS)	147,760	157,928	6.9%
Less: Mandatory Rebates (a)	(6,116)	(6,435)	
Total	141,644	151,493	7.0%

The percentage relates to the change in the total amount of General Rates revenue to be collected from all rateable properties, not from individual rateable properties (i.e. individual rates will not necessarily change by this figure).

Other Rates (including service charges)	2024/25 (as adopted)	2025/26 (estimated)	Change
General Rates Revenue (net of rebates)			
Regional Landscape Levy	1,873	1,881	0.4%
The Regional Landscape Levy is a State	tax, it is not retained by cou	ncil.	
Rundle Mall Management Levy	4,066	4,188	3.0%
The Rundle Mall Management Levy is co	ollected for the manageme	nt and marketing of the R	undle Mall Precinct
	\$147,583	\$157,562	6.8%
Less: Discretionary Rebates	(4,151)	(3,093)	
Includes the special discretionary rebat	e of 10% cap on general ra	tes payable (excluding gr	owth)
Expected Total Rates Revenue (b)	141.559	152.588	7.8%

Expected Total Rates Revenue (b)	141,559	152,588	7.8%
Reconciliation to the Financial Stateme	nts		
Expected Total Rates Revenue	141,559	152,588	7.8%
Regional Landscape Levy	1,873	1,881	0.4%
Fines and Interest on overdue rates	886	399	(54.9)
Building Upgrade Finance	41	41	-
Total Rates Revenue	144,359	154,908	7.3%

Summary of rateable properties	2024/25 (as adopted)	2025/26 (estimated)	Change
Number of rateable properties	27,024	27,375	1.3%
Estimated average General Rates per rateable property	5,468	5,769	5.5%

The average per rateable property is calculated on all rateable properties from the different land use categories, and are therefore not reflective of the \$ rate or % change that an individual ratepayer will experience.

#### **Notes**

- (a) Councils are required under the Local Government Act 1999 (SA) to provide a rebate to qualifying properties under a number of categories: Health Services 100 per cent; Community Services 75 per cent; Religious purposes 100 per cent; Public Cemeteries 100 per cent; Royal Zoological Society of SA 100 per cent; Educational purposes 75 per cent. The rates which are foregone via Mandatory Rebates are redistributed across the ratepayer base (i.e. all other ratepayers are subsidising the rates contribution for those properties who receive the rebate).
- (b) Expected Total Rates Revenue excluding the Regional Landscape Levy as per the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011. This does not tie back to the Financial Statements as it excludes other items such as Fines and Interest on overdue rates.

Expected Rate	Total	expected re	venue	Rateable	properties	Average per rateable property		operty	Ratein	
Revenue (\$000's)	24/25	25/26	change	24/25	25/26	24/25	25/26		change	the \$ 25/26
Land Use (General Rates	- GROSS)									
Residential	\$36,401	\$38,913	6.9%	16,995	17,216	\$2,142	\$2,260	(c)	\$118	0.111646
Commercial - Shop	\$21,289	\$22,758	6.9%	2,399	2,430	\$8,874	\$9,365	(c)	\$491	0.136813
Commercial - Office	\$47,942	\$51,250	6.9%	3,871	3,921	\$12,385	\$13,070	(c)	\$685	0.136813
Commercial - Other	\$36,561	\$39,084	6.9%	3,446	3,491	\$10,610	\$11,196	(c)	\$587	0.136813
Industry - Light	\$558	\$597	6.9%	100	101	\$5,580	\$5,888	(c)	\$308	0.136813
Industry - Other	\$4	\$4	6.9%	1	1	\$4,000	\$4,221	(c)	\$221	0.136813
Vacant Land	\$983	\$1,051	6.9%	51	52	\$19,275	\$20,340	(c)	\$1,066	0.223293
Other	\$4,023	\$4,301	6.9%	161	163	\$24,988	\$26,369	(c)	\$1,381	0.136813
	-									
Total Land Use (gross)	\$147,761	\$157,928	6.9%	27,024	27,375	\$5,468	\$5,769	(c)	\$301	
Grand Total (gross)	\$147,761	\$157,928	6.9%	27,024	27,375	\$5,468	\$5,769	(c)	\$301	

The general rate increase is based on net rates, which is gross rates less rebates applied.

#### Notes

(c) Average per rateable property calculated as General Rates for category, including any fixed charge or minimum rate (if applicable) but excluding any separate rates, divided by number of rateable properties within that category in the relevant financial year.

#### Adopted valuation method

Council has the option of adopting one of two valuation methodologies to assess the properties in its area for rating purposes:

Capital Value – the value of the land and all improvements on the land;

Annual Value – a valuation of the rental potential of the property.

Council adopts the use of Annual Value as the basis for valuing land within the council area. This method is considered consistent with the equity, ability to pay, efficiency and simplicity principles of taxation. The majority of residential and non-residential properties in the City are leased (i.e. are not owner occupied), therefore it is a suitable valuation measure considering the ability to pay according to the income earning potential of the property.

#### **Borrowings**

Borrowing is undertaken in accordance with our Treasury Policy. This Policy guides our decision making in relation to funding our operations in the context of cash flow, budgeting, borrowings and investments. It is an important financial management tool and as such, links closely to our overall strategic management plans in the terms of:

- Strategic planning for the future of the City of Adelaide, covering short, medium and long term spending and investment issues
- Current and estimated future revenues and the ability to increase revenue through rating, user charges, additional grant funds or business activities
- Intergenerational equity considerations in terms of the ratepayers who contribute to and benefit from the related expenditure
- Current and future funding needs for both operating and capital expenditures
- Potential movements in interest rates
- Any other strategic imperative that is linked to revenue and expenditure capacities.

## **Fees and Charges**

City of Adelaide's fees and charges are reviewed each year in conjunction with the development of the Business Plan and Budget. The review ensures that fees:

- Reflect (or move progressively toward) the cost of the services provided
- Are comparable with market rates, where appropriate
- Take into account benefit derived by users of community facilities
- Are consistent with directions articulated through our existing policies or plans
- Are consistent with our Financial Principles and related parameters

Fees and charges are consistently and fairly determined, in recognition of our policy direction, ratepayers' expectations and relevant legislation.

Statutory Fees, set by the State Government, will be updated in line with the State Government Gazette and included in the Fees and Charges Schedule available online and for public inspection at Council's Customer Centre, 25 Pirie Street.

Section 188 of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* provides the legal context for fees and charges:

- Fees and charges are determined by resolution of Council either as a direct resolution, through a by-law or via delegation
- A council is unable to fix or vary fees or charges prescribed under other Acts
- In respect of fees for the use of facilities, services or works requests, a council need not fix fees or charges by reference to the cost to the council
- Council is required to keep the list of fees and charges on public display and provide updates where fees and charges are varied during the year.

Council, like any other organisation or household, has experienced a significant increase in costs in recent years and needs to respond accordingly.

Council recognises the need to repair its budget position if it is to invest in the required public infrastructure and delivery of services, which align to the Strategic Plan, that our community needs both now and into the future.

As such, Council has reviewed its fees and charges, and has changed 2 fee types, and increased and introduced 11 new fees, in line with other capital city and Adelaide metropolitan councils and consistent with increased costs to deliver services and meet inflation.

As a base position, Council is increasing fees by 3.0% in 2025/26 to meet rising costs and inflation. Fees reviewed include:

- A change to Parklet fees to simplify the model and introduce quarterly invoicing.
- Introduction of a daily charge for major road closures instead of a once-off fee
- Inclusion of Park Lands lease fees to provide consistency with other fees and charges
- Introduction of an application fee for Private Laneway Parking arrangements, once-off fee
- Introduction of an annual permit fee, ladder usage
- Introduction of animal impound fees recovery
- Introduction of fees for City Archives sales of digital maps and reports, cost recovery
- Introduction of Commercial watercraft fees on the River Torrens
- Introduction of a River Torrens permit licence fee
- Introduction of a new fee for Council documents, rates and rating information
- Introduction of a new fee for education institutions for Court, Green and Piste usage
- Change to Rundle Mall Zone B sizing and associated fee
- Introduction of Rundle Mall fee for decals and roaming fees.

A complete list of Council's fees and charges for 2025/26 is available online from July 2025.

# **Detailed Financial Overview**

Income (\$'000s)	2024/25 Q2 Budget	2025/26 Budget	Variance
Rates Revenues	144,359	154,908	10,549
Statutory Charges	16,893	17,809	916
User Charges	68,271	70,309	2,038
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions	6,568	5,206	(1,362)
Investment Income	715	171	(544)
Reimbursements	150	181	31
Other Income	956	695	(261)
Total Income	237,913	249,279	11,366

#### Rates revenue - \$154.908m

In 2025/26 Council has determined that rates revenue increase of 5.6% is required (plus growth) compared to 2024/25. This increase incorporates an inflation assumption of 3.0%, 2.2% associated with the Asset Renewal Repair Fund introduced in the 2024/25 Long Term Financial Plan to fund the annual increase of \$14.9 million associated with the recently adopted Infrastructure Asset Management Plans (AMPs) over 3 financial years, and 0.4% to fund the gradual return of the Asset Renewal Funding Ratio (ARFR) to 100% over an 8 year period.

Property revaluations have been undertaken for the purposes of rating; the result of this valuation will be finalised prior to the adoption of the Business plan and Budget and the Rate in the Dollar adjusted accordingly. This ensures Council generates the required level of rates revenue only.

Council anticipates 1.3% growth in revenue from new developments and additions.

For the Rundle Mall Separate Levy, the revenue generated is used to directly advertise, promote and manage the Rundle Mall Precinct. The expected revenue for 2025/26 will, on average, increase in line with the inflation assumption of 3.0%.

# Statutory charges - \$17.809m

Statutory charges are fees for the provision of regulatory services. They are associated with the granting of a permit or license or with the regulation of an activity, including Development Act fees, parking fines and dog registration fees. Most fees are set by State Government legislation and administered by Council.

# User charges - \$70.309m

User charges income is received from individuals, sporting groups and various other bodies that utilise user pay services and hire or lease Council-owned property. Fees have in general increased by 3.0%. Council also receives income from commercial aspects of the business through the operation of the UParks and Town Hall. The commercial revenue budgets have been based on historical performance overlayed with current market conditions and projections of activity.

# Grants, subsidies and contributions - \$5.206m

Grants, subsidies and contributions are income received from Federal and State governments. Operating grants, subsidies and contribution income has decreased due to a higher level of once-off grants received in 2024/25 associated with Strategic Projects of \$1.874m including resilient flood planning and Heritage Incentive Scheme. In addition to these operating grants, the City is also expecting to receive capital grants and subsidies to fund the construction or purchase of new or upgraded assets. These are capital in nature and presented in a separate section of the Financial Statements.

#### Investment Income - \$0.171m

Investment income is income derived from an asset, such as interest on bank accounts and investment properties. The 2025/26 budget has decreased by \$0.544m due to the positive cash position in 2024/25.

#### Reimbursement - \$0.181m

Reimbursement income consists of all reimbursements paid to Council by insurance companies, ratepayers, developers and other tiers of government.

# Other income - \$0.695m

Other income is comprised of income from commissions, and other miscellaneous receipts, and varies from year to year.

Expenses (\$'000s)	2024/25 Q2 Budget	2025/26 Budget	Variance
Employee Costs	83,584	90,793	(7,209)
Materials, Contracts & Other Expenses	79,842	78,390	1,452
Sponsorships, Contributions and Donations	7,110	6,332	778
Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment	57,202	64,506	(7,304)
Finance Costs	808	717	91
Total Expenses	228,546	240,738	(12,192)

## Employee costs - \$90.793m

Employee costs include base salary and all relevant on-costs, such as superannuation and work cover, as well as agency labour costs. The budget covers recurrent labour, project labour and externally funded labour. Employee costs are budgeted at \$90.793m. The comparative increase of \$7.209m primarily results from a high level of vacancies in the 24/25 Q2 Budget. The \$90.672m assumes little to no vacant roles.

As a result of the expansion of services delivered to our community, an additional 5.1 FTE from 761.0 to 766.1, have been included in the 2025/26 budget.

Employee costs for 2025/26 also include the combined application of increases aligned with Enterprise Agreements, level changes required under the Enterprise Agreement and 0.5% increase in Superannuation Guarantee Charge.

## Materials, contracts and other - \$78.390m

Materials cover many different expenses of Council including utility payments for water and electricity, library books, and consumable materials. Contracts cover costs such as contractors, waste collection, equipment hire, software license fees and consultants.

Other Expenses include audit and legal fees, communication expenses, insurance and registration, levies paid to other organisations, elected member allowances, advertising, fringe benefits tax, training and travel expenses.

Materials, contracts and other expenses are budgeted to decrease by \$1.452m from \$79.842m. This is largely due to the use of external providers for temporary labour of \$3.000m. Offsetting this decrease is the expansion of services delivered to our community including new strategies, maintenance, and greening.

The existing expenditure base is generally indexed by 3.0% (forecast CPI) with additional increases for expenditure imposed on Council such as waste management, gas, security services and operating leases.

# Sponsorships, Contributions and Donations - \$6.332m

Sponsorships, contributions and donations are paid to community groups and organisations. As Council considers a strategic view to partnerships, our funding allocation for 2025/26 has decreased by \$0.778m from \$7.110m largely due to once-off funding allocated in 2024/25.

#### Depreciation - \$64.506m

Depreciation is a non-cash expense that recognises the systematic allocation of the service potential (cost or replacement value) of an asset over its useful life. Over the long term, depreciation represents the minimum amount which, on average, Council needs to allocate each year towards asset replacement. This is a different concept from maintenance expenditure, which is the amount Council needs to spend each year to ensure that its assets last as long as planned. Depreciation is increasing by \$7.304m from the 2024/25 budgeted depreciation. This is a result of the revaluation of assets and the completion of key projects.

#### Finance costs - \$0.717m

Finance costs include interest payable on borrowings and finance leases and other banking charges. Council is budgeting for a decrease of \$0.091m in 2025/26 largely due to the impact of finance leases.

Note – Borrowings associated with the construction of new assets are capitalised against the assets during the construction phase.

# **Financial Statements**

#### Cash flow statement

Proceeds from borrowings (new drawdowns) show \$28.956m to be provided in 2025/26. This is a result of the delivery of new and upgraded capital program in 2025/26 offset by proceeds from surplus assets.

#### **Balance sheet**

Total Assets are projected to rise to \$2,162.679m in 2025/26. This is an increase of \$32.233m, largely the result of the capital expenditure program, contributed assets and revaluation of assets.

Total borrowings are projected to increase by \$28.956m to \$49.329m as at June 2026. This level of borrowings is within Council's Prudential Borrowing limits. Please see the financial indicator section for more information.

The Future Fund Reserve is a result of strategic property sales. This fund is to be utilised to purchase or construct income generating assets. The Future Fund is projected to decrease to \$31.988m in 2025/26 as the result of the construction of income generating assets.

# **Uniform Presentation of Finances**

# Operating surplus / (deficit)

The operating surplus or deficit indicates the extent to which income is sufficient, or insufficient, to fund the cost of services. A surplus indicates Council is raising enough operating income to cover its operating expenses whereas a deficit indicates it is not.

# Net outlays on existing assets

This is expenditure that returns the service potential of existing assets back towards their original level. Consistent negative outlays on existing assets indicate that, overall, existing assets may be deteriorating as expenditure on their renewal or replacement is less than the rate of depreciation.

#### Net outlays on new and upgraded assets

Outlays on new and upgraded assets indicate the net cost to Council of acquiring or creating new assets. Outlays on new or upgraded assets will increase depreciation and maintenance expenses in future periods.

# Net lending / (borrowing) for financial year

Net lending, if a positive result, indicates that Council will reduce its level of borrowings over the period. Net borrowings, if a negative result, means Council is required to borrow additional funds increasing the level of net borrowings over the period.

# Statement of Comprehensive Income

\$'000s	2024/25 Q2 Budget	2025/26 Budget
Income		
Rates Revenues	144,359	154,908
Statutory Charges	16,893	17,809
User Charges	68,271	70,309
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions	6,568	5,206
Investment Income	715	171
Reimbursements	150	181
Other Income	956	695
Total Income	237,913	249,279
Expenses		
Employee Costs	83,584	90,793
Materials, Contracts and Other Expenses	86,952	84,722
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	57,202	64,506
Finance Costs	808	717
Total Expenses	228,546	240,738
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	9,367	8,541
Asset Disposal & Fair Value Adjustments	-	-
Amounts Received Specifically for New or Upgraded Assets	10,128	8,018
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	19,495	16,559
Changes in Revaluation Surplus - I,PP&E	-	-
Total Other Comprehensive Income	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	19,495	16,559

# **Statement of Financial Position**

\$'000s	2024/25 Q2 Budget	2025/26 Budget
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	800	800
Trade & Other Receivables	19,740	20,683
Inventories	804	804
Other Current Assets	27,000	0
Total Current Assets	48,344	22,287
Non-Current Assets		
Financial Assets	839	755
Equity Accounted Investments in Council Businesses	4,386	4,706
Investment Property	3,165	3,196
Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment	2,073,713	2,131,735
Total Non-Current Assets	2,082,103	2,140,392
TOTAL ASSETS	2,130,446	2,162,679
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and Other Payables	24,059	21,939
Provisions	16,875	17,381
Other Current Liabilities	5,077	5,264
Total Current Liabilities	46,011	44,584
Non-Current Liabilities		
Trade and Other Payables		
Provisions	16,066	15,732
Borrowings	20,373	49,329
Other Non-Current Liabilities	2,048	2,109
Total Non-Current Liabilities	34,241	22,658
TOTAL LIABILITIES	118,739	134,412
Net Assets	2,011,708	2,028,267
EQUITY		
Accumulated Surplus	806,424	824,283
Asset Revaluation Reserves	1,171,995	1,171,995
Future Fund Reserve	33,288	31,988
Total Council Equity	2,011,708	2,028,267

# Statement of Changes in Equity

\$'000s	2024/25 Q2 Budget	2025/26 Budget
Balance at the end of previous reporting period	1,992,213	2,011,708
a. Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year	19,495	16,559
b. Other Comprehensive Income	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	19,495	16,559
Balance at the end of period	2,011,708	2,028,267

# **Statement of Cash flows**

\$'000s	2024/25 Q2 Budget	2025/26 Budget
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Receipts		
Operating Receipts	256,487	248,336
Payments		
Operating Payments to Suppliers and Employees	(176,879)	(173,592)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities	79,608	74,744
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Receipts		
Amounts Received Specifically for New/Upgraded Assets	5,773	8,018
Proceeds from Surplus Assets	18,500	-
Sale of Replaced Assets	500	500
Payments		
Expenditure on Renewal/Replacement of Assets	(56,296)	(67,937)
Expenditure on New/Upgraded Assets	(64,427)	(38,859)
Capital Contributed to Equity Accounted Council Businesses	(320)	(320)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities	(96,270)	(98,598)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities		
Receipts		
Proceeds from Borrowings	20,373	28,956
Payments		
Repayment from Borrowings	-	<del>-</del>
Repayment of Lease Liabilities	(4,989)	(5,102)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities	15,385	23,854
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash Held	(1,277)	-
plus: Cash and Cash Equivalents at beginning of period	2,077	800
Cash & Cash Equivalents at end of period	800	800

# **Uniform Presentation of Finances**

\$'000s	2024/25 Q2 Budget	2025/26 Budget
Income		
Rates Revenues	144,359	154,908
Statutory Charges	16,893	17,809
User Charges	68,271	70,309
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions	6,568	5,206
Investment Income	715	171
Reimbursements	150	181
Other Income	956	695
Total Income	237,913	249,279
Expenses		
Employee Costs	83,584	90,793
Materials, Contracts and Other Expenses	86,952	84,722
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	57,202	64,506
Finance Costs	808	717
Total Expenses	228,546	240,738
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	9,367	8,541
Net Outlays on Existing Assets		
Capital Expenditure on Renewal and Replacement of Existing Assets	(56,296)	(67,937)
Finance lease payments for right of use assets on existing assets	(4,989)	(5,102)
add back Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	57,202	64,506
add back Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets	500	500
Net Outlays on Existing Assets	(3,583)	(8,033)
Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets		
Capital Expenditure on New and Upgraded Assets	(64,747)	(39,179)
add back Amounts received specifically for New and Upgraded Assets	5,773	8,018
add back Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets	18,500	0
Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets	(40,474)	(31,161)
Net Lending / (Borrowing) for Financial Year	(34,690)	(30,653)

# Essential Services Commission SA (ESCOSA) Advice to Local Government

City of Adelaide Response

**ESCOSA Findings Report** 

# City of Adelaide response

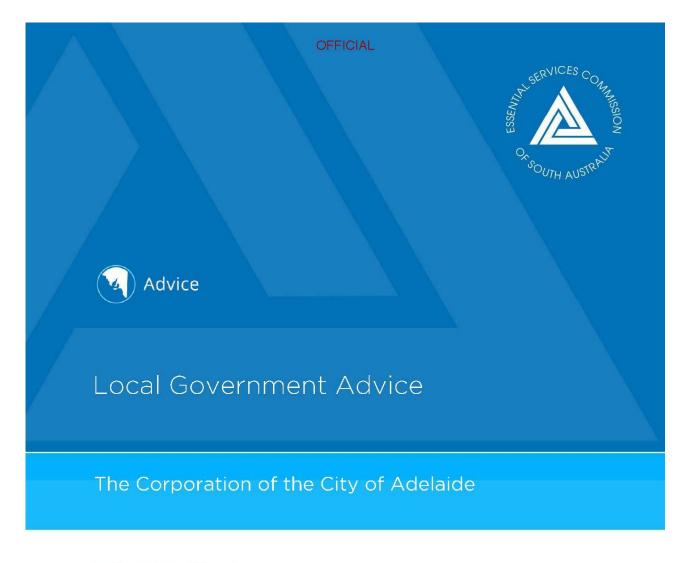
In 2022, changes were made to the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* which introduced the Local Government Advisory Scheme. The purpose of scheme is to review and provide advice to councils on their financial sustainability and management of assets. These reviews are undertaken by the Essential Services Commission of South Australia (ESCOSA). Further information on the scheme and the work ESCOSA undertake, including their findings reports on reviewed councils, can be found on their website at <a href="mailto:escosa.sa.gov.au">escosa.sa.gov.au</a>.

In 2024/25, ESCOSA undertook their review of the City of Adelaide, providing their final report to Council in February 2025 with seven recommendations:

ESCOSA Recommendations	City of Adelaide Response	
<b>Analyse</b> the implications for long-term financial sustainability and timely renewal of assets before considering any rate freeze or valuation freeze in the future and disclose the analysis to ratepayers.	Existing Council Practice. Already managed through existing Council practices for strategic planning, developing the annual business plan and budget and quarter review processes.	
Improve the disclosure of cost savings targets or productivity improvements in its Long-Term Financial Plans and Annual Business Plans (as appropriate), to provide evidence of constraining cost growth and achieving efficiency across its operations and service delivery.		
<b>Consider</b> undertaking a detailed review, with its community, of the potential alternative options and the risk implications, from both the financial and service provision perspectives, of the proposed financing of its capital expenditure program.		
<b>Upgrade</b> its Asset Management Plans to more accurately reflect formal asset valuations, condition assessments, remaining useful lives and corresponding depreciation schedules, incorporate this information into the Asset Management Plans and include these expenditure forecasts in the annual budget and annual Long-Term Financial Plan update.		
<b>Consider</b> providing more clarity around the risks (and develop mitigation strategies) if the Council's expectations regarding its operational performance do not materialise and/or its financial strategy becomes stressed.	<b>Noted.</b> City of Adelaide notes this recommendation.	
<b>Consider</b> the Future Fund applying a greater emphasis on asset disposals with the proceeds used to repay borrowings, or reduce the need for them, rather than the purchase of assets for commercial operations.	Contrary to Council policy. The Future Fund is used to offset debt, and fund purchase of revenue generating assets which increase City of Adelaide revenues	
<b>Develop</b> a comprehensive and transparent strategy for its commercial assets, addressing for each class of assets and for each individual asset how to optimise value for ratepayers, including: in-depth analysis in its Long-Term Financial Plan of the Council's approach to revenue generation from commercial operations and whether asset rationalisation would improve financial outcomes for ratepayers. This analysis could include whether the Council continues to own each asset, whether it operates each asset or leases it out for private operation and the extent to which any ratepayer subsidisation is appropriate and if so, why. (refer 5.1.3.2 User Charges); publication of separate financial statements for each of the Council's commercial operations, clearly identifying the allocation of costs to each asset and the asset values attributed to each separately (refer 5.1.3.2 User Charges), and completion of the proposed review of the Rundle Street UPark and addressing the approved option in the Long-Term	Existing commercial in confidence. This does not acknowledge the existing City of Adelaide Property Strategy which due to the commercial nature of our assets, is held in confidence and therefore is not publicly available.	

Financial Plan (refer 4.1 Changes to operating performance).

# **ESCOSA Findings Report**



February 2025

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Local Government Advice: The Corporation of the City of Adelaide
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# The Corporation of the City of Adelaide

#### **OVERVIEW**

The Essential Services Commission finds the Corporation of the City of Adelaide's current financial performance mostly **sustainable** and projected financial performance **potentially unsustainable**, taking into account that the Council has an estimated \$150.0 million of funding requirements needed to implement its Asset Management Plans, proposes three significant asset renewals during a period of construction cost escalation, is reliant on as yet unsecured grants and is forecast to reach the council-set prudential borrowing limits.



# Past 10 years Operated Unsustainably

#### FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE





**Projected**Potentially Unsustainable

#### RISKS IMPACTING SUSTAINABILITY

- ▲ The Council lacks a strategy for the capital renewal liabilities for its extensive commercial assets, combined with a lack of transparency regarding whether the assets each deliver a net positive or net negative result for ratepayers.
- ▲ The Council's revenue includes a relatively high proportion of user charges. The Council must hold the assets and cover the expenses associated with providing these services, which are only sustainable if a suitable return is made on each of these more commercially orientated operations.
- △ The Council is proposing to engage in significantly more capital expenditure than it has historically. This represents a considerable financial, practical and logistical challenge.
- △ There is a risk of a higher borrowings requirement and higher rates if the Council is unable to secure external grant funding and/or it has underestimated the costs of its proposed capital program.
- ⚠ Replacement costs for Adelaide Bridge and Torrens Weir were derived prior to COVID and could be understated as a result of market, price and supply chain changes since that time.

#### **KEY FACTS**

- ▶ Population was 27,901 as of 30 June 2023.
- ► The Council covers 15.6 square kilometres.
- ▶ 26,725 rateable properties as of 30 June 2023.
- ▶ \$125.0 million of rate income in 2022-23.
- ▶ Value of assets held in 2022-23 was \$1.9 billion.

The Essential Services Commission is an independent statutory authority with functions in a range of essentia services including water, sewerage, electricity, gas, rail and maritime services, and also has a general advisory function on economic matters. For more information, please visit <a href="www.escosa.sa.gov.au">www.escosa.sa.gov.au</a>.

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Local Government Advice: The Corporation of the City of Adelaide

# 1 Executive summary

The Essential Services Commission of South Australia (Commission) finds the Corporation of the City of Adelaide's (Council) current financial performance and position mostly sustainable and projected financial performance potentially unsustainable. The Essential Services Commission has set out in this advice various findings and recommendations aimed at assisting the Council to improve its performance in the future, along with general advice as to behavioural changes which will improve its approach to asset and cost management.

If these are considered seriously and, as a result, either implemented (or not adopted for good reason), then the Commission's view is that the Council should be able to move to a better position. Continued focus and successful delivery by the Council on the matters raised in this advice should allow it to further improve its future potential position.

At the same time, the Commission has recognised areas in which the Council has already started improving its practices, and where it has existing strengths. Those include achieving an \$8.5 million operating surplus, as reported in its 2023-24 financial reports, its community and stakeholder engagement work and its transparency around matters such as the annual review and disclosure of inflation assumptions, as well as its estimated average annual changes in land use categories and resultant revenues. The Council is encouraged to maintain and build on those improvements and strengths.

#### 1.1 Context

As South Australia's capital city, Adelaide is the centre of economic activity for the state, with rates income strongly supplemented by user charges from commercial activities and extensive daily visitation by non-ratepayers.

Over the 10 years to 2022-23, the Council accumulated an operating deficit of \$24.6 million, generally reflecting a below-breakeven performance over the period. The Council recorded operating deficits in four of the last six years to 2022-23, and its average annual operating surplus ratio was negative 1.2 percent over the 10 years to 2022-23. The Commission also acknowledges the Council has recently begun improving its operating surplus ratio (0.5 percent for 2021-22, 0.8 percent for 2022-23 and 3.6 percent for 2023-24). However, this should also be considered in context of the Council's proposal to engage in significantly more capital expenditure than it has historically. This represents a considerable financial, practical and logistical challenge.

That operating performance has been materially driven by the Council's previous decisions in relation to the setting of rates: the Council decided to freeze the rate in dollar from 2013-14 to 2023-24, and to freeze property valuations for five years from 2018-19. Those periods included the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath. While likely intended to benefit ratepayers in the short run, the decisions had a direct impact on the Council's — and hence ratepayers' – long-term financial position. It is not clear on the materials available to the Commission that the long-term risks and impacts of the decisions were explained to ratepayers and the community at the time they were taken.

The direct effects of the decision were to:

reduce available rate revenue, requiring greater reliance on more variable user charges revenue streams (commercial operations) that are demand dependent, increasing revenue risk at a time when demand was constrained due to COVID-19-related impacts in the economy and in society, and

Local Government Advice: The Corporation of the City of Adelaide

lessen the Council's capability to provide services, due to difficulties in funding the necessary asset maintenance and renewal programs, leading to infrastructure erosion and an underspend on the renewal and replacement needs of its asset stock.<sup>1</sup>

Of note, the underspend on asset renewals relative to its Asset Management Plans was created during a period in which construction costs were generally lower, and logistics were generally easier, than is now the case. As a result, the impact of the underspend is having to be addressed at a time of general construction cost escalation, with longer lead times, and in circumstances where the Council is also needing to undertake three significant asset renewal projects: the Adelaide Bridge (on King William Road near the Festival Centre), the Torrens Weir and the Rundle Street carpark.

Further, the successful delivery of the Council's Long-Term Financial Plan is reliant on being awarded grant funding to manage its current challenges, whereas the Council does not appear to recognise the opportunity to improve the financial contribution of its commercial assets. If the anticipated funding does not eventuate, then unless the Council shifts its focus to value extraction or some other mitigating actions, either rates will need to increase or community services/service levels will need to be reduced. Ultimately, significant reliance on contingent events such as grant funding creates both short and long-term risks for the community.

The Commission's advice, given the nature of the Council's operations, is that it needs to be able to identify and mitigate risks such as these in a more robust, timely and transparent fashion. This will require it to review and consider its current practices, processes and controls in the short term, to identify opportunities for improvement, to embed effective change for the long term.

Ultimately, it is the community and ratepayers who bear and will continue to bear the burden of these prior decisions and the resultant current operating performance of the Council.

#### 1.2 Challenges

With that background, the Council faces considerable challenges over the period of the Long-Term Financial Plan. The three main risks the Council's financial strategy faces are:

- 1. Low to medium confidence levels in the cost estimates for critical capital projects.
- 2. Reliance on unsecured grant financing.
- 3. Increasing exposure to interest rate and financial structure risk, as debt levels increase.

Additionally, the Council has no financial cushion. Its Long-Term Financial Plan is designed so that each year cash inflows and outflows net out to zero, resulting in cash reserves remaining at \$0.8 million throughout the Long-Term Financial Plan. Further, for periods of the Long-Term Financial Plan, the Council is at its own prudential borrowing limit, which is set at 50.0 percent of saleable property assets. That is, the Council has no contingency, while operating close to what it considers, its financial limits, despite the clear risks.

This situation can be attributed to the history of rates and valuation freezes, which have led to deferral and compression of asset renewal and replacement and an issue of intergenerational inequity in terms of the underspend on asset renewals.

Between 2013-14 and 2022-23, the Council averaged 73.9 percent on its asset renewal funding ratio, whereas the suggested LGA target range for the ratio is 90.0 to 110.0 percent (LGA SA Financial Indicators Paper, p. 9). The IAMP-based method is the current industry standard whereby asset renewal/replacement expenditure is divided by the recommended expenditure in the IAMP (or AMP). Ideally, this will show the extent to which a council's renewal or replacement expenditure matches the need for this expenditure, as recommended by the plan.

To effectively take on and overcome those challenges, the Council will need to realise behavioural change in its approach to financial sustainability. While it is presently making progress on that front, as evidenced by its decision to cease its rates freezing policy and its acknowledgment of the importance of asset renewal, there remain key areas in which behavioural change could deliver material benefits for the Council and hence its ratepayers and community.

For example, seeking to mitigate the risks associated with the Council's grant funding reliance in its Long-Term Financial Plan, improving its focus on the profitability of commercial assets and developing and maintaining a stronger focus on cost management and productivity gains, are some of the more challenging but necessary behavioural changes.

As shown below in the discussion of each of those areas, the Council is more recently showing welcome signs of positive change in that regard; however, embedding, maintaining and building on that behaviour will need to be an ongoing focus for the Council. Effective change delivery will underpin the Council's future success and sustainability for the benefit of its ratepayers and community and assist in mitigating the risk of rate increases needing to be higher than those forecast in the Long-Term Financial Plan.

#### 1.3 Commercial assets

The Council has a range of commercial operations, including off-street car parking (UPark), on-street car parking, property management and the North Adelaide Golf Course. The Commission is unable to form a view about how well the Council is managing the commercial assets, due to a lack of clear strategy for the holdings and a lack of financial information about asset classes and individual assets.

The Council's asset stock per rateable property is high at \$68,224 in 2022-23. While the commercial assets generate revenues, they also generate a stream of future liabilities, risks for ratepayers and management risks.

A comprehensive strategy for commercial assets that focuses on asset classes and each asset individually would help the Council to ensure it is delivering optimal value for ratepayers. The proceeds of any resultant asset rationalisation could assist in renewing the Council's core operating assets, particularly in the context of the Council's forthcoming expenditure on asset renewals and replacement of three major assets.

A greater focus on transparency around the performance of its commercial operations by separating them out from the overall accounts would assist in discussions with the community.

#### 1.4 Cost and revenue management

A challenge for the Council is to continually seek to improve the quality and reliability of the information upon which it bases its Strategic Management Plan, ensuring that cost estimates are accurate and complete and that the Long-Term Financial Plan is well aligned with relevant Asset Management Plans.

In terms of Asset Management Plans, the Commission notes that the Council reviews asset lives in conjunction with asset class revaluations every four to five years. While this is not an unreasonable practice, the Council has confirmed that, up until 2023-24, its asset values were not annually indexed through desktop valuations between those four to five yearly revaluations. Given, for example, the effects of changes in inflation, failing to index annually can result in out-of-date asset valuations, which in turn may lead to inaccurate depreciation charges being used for strategic planning purposes, project costing and rate setting.

At a time when the Council is facing significant asset renewal, consistently understanding the cost associated with asset consumption and the implications that this can have for the operating surplus

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and asset renewals ratios is relevant. The change in the Council's behaviour in moving to annual indexation is therefore a positive sign and one that should be maintained.

The Commission notes indications of improvement in the Council's strategic planning and governance, with a more comprehensive and appropriate updating of Asset Management Plans being completed in 2024. The Council has also begun to address its asset renewals, with the introduction of the Asset Renewal Repair Fund to fund the \$14.9 million annual increase required under those Asset Management Plans.

An area that would benefit from a greater focus by the Council is whether its approach to forecasting growth in rateable properties remains appropriate. Growth forecasts are a critical element of the Strategic Management Plan, as they impact asset need and usage, forecast growth in average rates per property and expected rates income growth. The Council's current forecast annual average growth in rateable properties is one percent for the 10 years to 2033-34, whereas actual growth was 2.5 percent in the 10 years to 2022-23. It is not clear from the materials available to the Commission why the Council expects a significant slowdown in growth. If the Council's actual property growth trends more towards the historical level, then its rates income will be higher than it is assuming under the one percent growth assumption. The Council might be underestimating its rates revenue for the forecast period.

#### 1.5 Grant funding

The 2024-25 Long-Term Financial Plan shows an estimated renewal expenditure for the Torrens Weir of \$40.0 million allocated across the 2028-29 and 2029-30 financial years, with \$60.0 million allocated for the Adelaide Bridge across the 2027-28 and 2028-29 financial years. These cost estimates were developed prior to COVID-19 and have since been inflated to 2024-25 dollars. The Council has advised the Commission that it has low to medium confidence in those estimates, reflecting post-COVID market changes. The implication is that the actual costs might be materially higher than those which have been assumed in the Long-Term Financial Plan.<sup>2</sup>

At the same time, the Long-Term Financial Plan assumes it will need to fund 33.0 percent of the renewal cost for the Torrens Weir and 75.0 percent of renewal cost for the Adelaide Bridge, with the remainder funded by grants that are yet to be secured.

Further, the Council's Asset Management Plan for buildings forecasts expenditure of \$60.0 million for the Rundle Street carpark asset to be renewed on a like-for-like basis across 2029-30 and 2030-31; however, the 2024-25 Long-Term Financial Plan only allocates \$15.0 million, with the funding for the difference not being specified.

If the Council is unable to fulfill its external funding strategy of using grants funding programs, then it risks a greater burden shifting to its ratepayers, unless it takes steps to generate revenue in other ways, such as by rationalising its commercial operations or generating more revenue from them, while also becoming more efficient and productive across all its activities.

#### 1.6 Summary

While the Commission has above focussed on three key areas in which behavioural changes will assist the Council, as explained in the rest of this advice, other specific areas should assist the Council in its future intentions to return to financial sustainability.

The Council advises that it is currently working through options for the Torrens Weir, Adelaide Bridge and Rundle Street carpark which will consider full replacement, extension of life or upgrade. This may result in a lesser requirement; however, for full transparency, the Council has included the 2024-25 costs for full like-forlike replacement.

The Council has a range of sound practices in its strategic planning and asset management, including:

- regularly reviewing inflation forecasts in its budget and forward projections
- exploring funding sources from the State Government to assist in the renewal and maintenance of the Park Lands
- identifying and disposing of assets that have reached the end of their useful lives or are excess to requirements, to reduce debt and exposure to future liabilities, and
- reporting in its Annual Business Plan the estimated average annual change for its categories of land use, together with the quantum of annual revenue it expects to collect from these different categories of rates.

To further strengthen the Council's sustainability, the Commission recommends that the Council:

- 1. **Analyse** the implications for long-term financial sustainability and timely renewal of assets before considering any rate freeze or valuation freeze in the future and disclose the analysis to ratepayers.
- 2. **Improve** the disclosure of cost savings targets or productivity improvements in its Long-Term Financial Plans and Annual Business Plans (as appropriate), to provide evidence of constraining cost growth and achieving efficiency across its operations and service delivery.
- Consider undertaking a detailed review, with its community, of the potential alternative options
  and the risk implications, from both the financial and service provision perspectives, of the
  proposed financing of its capital expenditure program.
- 4. **Consider** the Future Fund applying a greater emphasis on asset disposals with the proceeds used to repay borrowings, or reduce the need for them, rather than the purchase of assets for commercial operations.
- 5. Upgrade its Asset Management Plans to more accurately reflect formal asset valuations, condition assessments, remaining useful lives and corresponding depreciation schedules, incorporate this information into the Asset Management Plans and include these expenditure forecasts in the annual budget and annual Long-Term Financial Plan update.
- 6. **Consider** providing more clarity around the risks (and develop mitigation strategies) if the Council's expectations regarding its operational performance do not materialise and/or its financial strategy becomes stressed.
- 7. Develop a comprehensive and transparent strategy for its commercial assets, addressing for each class of assets and for each individual asset how to optimise value for ratepayers, including:
- ▶ in-depth analysis in its Long-Term Financial Plan of the Council's approach to revenue generation from commercial operations and whether asset rationalisation would improve financial outcomes for ratepayers. This analysis could include whether the Council continues to own each asset, whether it operates each asset or leases it out for private operation and the extent to which any ratepayer subsidisation is appropriate and if so, why. (refer 5.1.3.2 User Charges)
- publication of separate financial statements for each of the Council's commercial operations, clearly identifying the allocation of costs to each asset and the asset values attributed to each separately (refer 5.1.3.2 User Charges), and
- completion of the proposed review of the Rundle Street UPark and addressing the approved option in the Long-Term Financial Plan (refer 4.1 Changes to operating performance).

# 2 About the advice

# 2.1 Background

The State Parliament has tasked the Essential Services Commission of South Australia (the **Commission**), South Australia's independent economic regulator and advisory body, to provide advice on material changes proposed by local councils in relation to elements of their Strategic Management Plans (**SMPs**), and on the proposed revenue sources, including rates, which underpin those plans.<sup>3</sup>

A primary purpose of the Local Government Advice Scheme (**Advice** or **the Scheme**) is to support councils to make financially sustainable strategic decisions in their annual business plans and budgets, in the context of their Long-Term Financial Plans (LTFP) and Infrastructure and Asset Management. Plans (IAMP). It also that Lamber are commonly referred to as Asset Management Plans (AMP). The LTFP and the IAMP are both required as part of a council's SMP. Financial sustainability encompasses intergenerational equity, program (service level) and rates stability in this context. The other main purpose is for the Commission to consider ratepayer contributions in the context of all revenue sources, as outlined in the LTFP. In addition, the Commission has discretion to provide advice on any other aspect of a council's LTFP or IAMP it considers appropriate, having regard to the circumstances of that council.

The first cycle of the scheme extends over four years from 2022-23 to 2025-26, and the Commission has selected 17 councils for advice in the third year (2024-25) of the Scheme, including the Corporation of the City of Adelaide.

This report provides the Local Government Advice for the Council in 2024-25.

The Council is obliged under the *Local Government Act 1999* (**LG Act**) to publish this advice and its response, if applicable, in its 2025-26 Annual Business Plan (**ABP**) (including any draft ABP) and in subsequent plans until the next cycle of the Scheme. <sup>10</sup> The Council is not compelled under the LG Act to follow the advice

The Commission thanks the Council for meeting with Commission staff and for providing information to assist the Commission in preparing this advice.

## 2.2 The Commission's approach

In providing the Advice for the Council, the Commission has followed the approach it previously explained in the Framework and Approach — Final Report (F&A).<sup>11</sup>

- <sup>3</sup> Amendments to the LG Act (s122(1c) to (1k) and (9)) specify the responsibilities for the Commission and local councils for the Local Government Scheme Advice. The Commission must provide advice to each council in accordance with the matters outlined in s122(1e), (1f) and (1g).
- Commonly referred to as asset management plans.
- The objectives of the advice with reference to a council's LTFP and IAMPs are presented under LG Act, s122(1g). LG Act s122(1) specifies the requirements of a council's SMP, including the LTFP and IAMPs.
- 6 'Intergenerational equity' relates to fairly sharing services and the revenue generated to fund the services between current and future ratepayers.
- Commission, Framework and Approach Final Report, August 2022, pp. 2-3, available at www.escosa.sa.gov.au/advice/advice-to-local-government.
- 8 LG Act s122(1f)(a) and (1g)(a)(ii).
- <sup>9</sup> LG Act s122(1f)(b) and (1g)(b).
- 10 LG Act s122(1h).
- Commission, Framework and Approach Final Report, August 2022, available at www.escosa.sa.gov.au/advice/advice-to-local-government.

Local Government Advice: The Corporation of the City of Adelaide

The Commission has considered the Council's SMP documents (set out in the box below), with a particular focus on its performance and outlook against three financial indicators: the Operating Surplus Ratio (OSR), the Net Financial Liabilities Ratio (NFLR) and the Asset Renewal Funding Ratio (ARFR). Analysis of these three indicators captures financial and service sustainability, in addition to cost control and affordability risk. 13

- ► City of Adelaide Long-Term Financial Plan 2024-25 to 2033-34 (October 2024)
- ▶ City of Adelaide Long-Term Financial Plan 2023-24 to 2032-33 (September 2023)
- ▶ City of Adelaide Annual Business Plan and Budget 2024-25 (June 2024)
- ▶ City of Adelaide Annual Business Plan and Budget 2023-24 (June 2023)
- ► City of Adelaide Annual Business Plan and Budget 2022-23 (June 2022)
- City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024-28 (December 2023)
- City of Adelaide Annual Report 2022-23 (October 2023)
- ► City of Adelaide Annual Report 2021-22 (October 2022)
- ► City of Adelaide Annual Report 2020-21 (August 2021)
- City of Adelaide Buildings Asset Management Plan (August 2024)
- City of Adelaide Transportation Asset Management Plan (August 2024)
- City of Adelaide Urban Elements Asset Management Plan (August 2024)
- City of Adelaide Water Infrastructure Asset Management Plan (August 2024)
- City of Adelaide Park Lands and Open Space Asset Management Plan (August 2024)
- City of Adelaide Public Lighting and Electrical Infrastructure Asset Management Plan (August 2024)
- City of Adelaide Future Fund & Investment Policy (January 2022)
- ▶ City of Adelaide Acquisition & Disposal of Land & Assets Policy (January 2022), and
- ► City of Adelaide State of the City (December 2023).

The Commission notes that most of the Council's infrastructure asset base is covered by its existing AMPs (with condition assessments and asset valuations for those assets).

Given that the Commission must, in providing its advice, have regard to the objective of councils maintaining and implementing their IAMPs and LTFPs, 14 it has also considered the Council's

Local Government Act 1999 (LG Act) s122(1g)(a)(i).

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The three financial indicators are specified in the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011. Since 2011, each council has been required to refer to these three indicators in its plans, annual budget, mid-year budget review and annual financial statements. The councils can adopt their own target range for each ratio, but the Commission has adopted the previously suggested Local Government Association (LGA) target ranges as a basis for its analysis, which were established and agreed during the development of the LGA Financial Sustainability Papers (2006-2011).

The F&A listed 29 analytical questions that the Commission has answered in assessing the Council's performance against these indicators to determine affordability, cost control and other sustainability risks.

performance in that context. Findings regarding the content of the Council's AMPs, and the alignment between its LTFP and AMPs, <sup>15</sup> are discussed in section 5.

The Commission has also reviewed the Council's template data, which include its 2024-25 LTFP forecasts for 2024-25 to 2033-34, as well as its 2023-24 LTFP forecasts, historical financial data, the number of rateable properties and Council staff (Full Time Equivalent (FTE)) numbers from 2013-14 onwards. The charts and tables in the Advice are primarily sourced from these datasets. In addition, the Commission has reviewed the Council's audit committee reports and other public information as appropriate.

The Commission has reported estimates in nominal terms, for consistency with the Council's plans and actual rate levels, and it has compared estimated inflation impacts to these trends as a guide to identifying 'real' rather than 'inflationary' effects. In the charts, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) line shows the cumulative growth in the CPI (Adelaide) series from 2013-14, and then projections of this series from 2024-25 based on the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) (Australia-wide) inflation forecasts (to the December quarter 2026), and the midpoint of the RBA target range (2.5 percent) from 2026-27 and thereafter.

Finally, in formulating this Advice, the Commission has had regard to all discussions and engagement with the Council, including the face-to-face onsite meeting at the Council offices and the individual circumstances of the Council, consisting of:

- ▶ its location as an Urban City Centre Council
- ▶ its income level (\$215.5 million), and
- ▶ the size of its rates base (around 26,725 ratepayers 18).

Throughout this Advice the Commission has identified key points and assigned the following risk category to those points.

<sup>15</sup> As required under s122(1b) of the LG Act.

<sup>16</sup> The Council's results for the 2023-24 financial year, relied on at the time of preparing this advice, were audited.

<sup>17</sup> Sourced from the Local Government Grants Commission (including data reported by the Office of the Valuer-General) and the Council's data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Based on the estimated number of property assessments on 30 June 2023.

# 3 Council profile

The City of Adelaide is classified as an 'Urban – Capital City'. <sup>19</sup> It is both a local government body and a statutory capital city (as defined in the *City of Adelaide Act, 1998*) at the centre of a metropolitan area of 1.45 million residents. The Council comprises approximately 15.6 square kilometres and has an estimated resident population of 27,901 (at 30 June 2023)<sup>20</sup> and approximately 26,725 rateable properties (at 30 June 2023). <sup>21</sup> The Council was formed in 1840 and was the first municipality authority in Australia. <sup>22</sup>



Figure 1: Council Area

The City of Adelaide is characterised by the following attributes:

- Nearly 400,000 people visit the city on an average day.<sup>23</sup> Of this group 46.0 percent come into the city for reasons other than work or study, 20.0 percent for work, 18.0 percent for study, 13.0 percent are tourists, and nine percent are city residents<sup>24</sup>
- ► An established commercial and residential area, covering 15.6 square kilometres and a population density of 1,792 person per square kilometre<sup>25</sup>
- ▶ Its largest employment sector is Health Care and Social Assistance, followed by Professional, Scientific and Technical Services<sup>26</sup>, and Accommodation and Food Services.

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According to the Australian Classification of Local Governments (ACLG), determined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), which classifies all Australian councils based upon population and population density within 22 different categories.

Refer to Australian Bureau of Statistics, Data by region, available at https://dbr.abs.gov.au/region.html?lyr=lga&rgn=40070

Refer to the Department of Infrastructure and Transport - Local Government Grants Commission, 2022-23 Database Reports, available at: <a href="https://www.dit.sa.gov.au/local-government/grants-commission/publications#database">https://www.dit.sa.gov.au/local-government/grants-commission/publications#database</a>

Refer to the City of Adelaide website available at <a href="https://www.cityofadelaide.com.au/about-council/your-council/past-lord-mayors-and-mayors/">https://www.cityofadelaide.com.au/about-council/your-council/past-lord-mayors-and-mayors/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> City of Adelaide, 2023-24 Annual Report, page 8.

City of Adelaide, 2022 City User Profile Survey, page 5
 https://d31atr86jnqrq2.cloudfront.net/docs/12279-CoA-City-User-Profile-2022-Full-Report.PDE
 Footnote 19 applies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Footnote 19 applies.

- ► A higher level of properties that are rented (residential) or leased (commercial) compared to other South Australian councils, and
- ► A median population age of 32 years.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>27</sup> Footnote 19 applies.

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# 4 Material plan amendments in 2024-25

This section sets out and generally describes the 'material' amendments to the Council's plans. The more detailed analysis of those amendments forms the basis of the Commission's advice and is set out in subsequent sections.

The Council has made several amendments to its 2024-25 budget and forward projections compared with 2023-24, partly to account for changes in inflation and partly for other revenue and spending initiatives. The material amendments to its main financial forecasts are listed in the table below (in nominal terms).<sup>28</sup>

To ensure a comparable analysis of estimates between the 2023-24 and 2024-25 LTFPs, the Commission has reviewed the nine overlapping years' statistics, 2024-25 to 2032-33, and identified material amendments accordingly.

Table 1: Historical and forecast financial items

Selected Financial Item	Sum of 2024-25 to 2032-33 estimates in 2023-24 LTFP (\$ million)	Sum of 2024-25 to 2032-33 estimates in 2024-25 LTFP (\$ million)	Change in 2024-25 estimates (\$ million)	Change in 2024-25 estimates (%)
Total Operating Income	2,331.3	2,554.9	+223.6	+9.6
Grants, subsidies and contributions operating income	42.2	87.1	+44.9	+106.6
Rates	1,459.6	1,572.6	+113.0	+7.7
User Charges	671.2	714.5	+43.3	+6.5
Total Operating Expenses	2,308.9	2,393.2	+84.3	+3.7
Finance Costs	50.3	73.3	+23.0	+45.7
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment expenses	603.9	623.5	+19.5	+3.2
Borrowings - Non Current	1,112.5	1,409.6	+297.1	+26.7
Trade and other payables	168.4	240.0	+71.6	+42.5
Capital expenditure on renewal of assets <sup>29</sup>	594.0	795.2	+201.1	+33.9

This table shows only selected financial items to demonstrate the material amendments made by the Council in its 2023-24 estimates. It excludes various financial items, and individual items do not sum to totals.

The capital expenditure estimates are based on the 2024-25 LTFP estimates provided by the Council to the Commission (in an Excel template).

#### 4.1 Changes to operating performance

The Council has forecast in its 2024-25 LTFP an increase in total operating income of \$223.6 million (or 9.6 percent) across the nine year comparative period to 2032-33, compared to the 2023-24 LTFP (as shown in the table above). This reflects a range of changes to its income forecasts, notably:

- ▶ 7.7 percent increase in rates income,
- ▶ 6.5 percent increase in user charges, and
- ▶ 106.6 percent increase in grants, subsidies and contributions.

The forecast 7.7 percent increase in rate revenue partially reflects the Council increasing its CPI projection in its 2024-25 LTFP, but also accounts for additional factors, such as an increase in rates to fund the Asset Renewal Repair Fund (ARRF). The Council says it has introduced the ARRF to finance the forecast \$150.0 million funding requirement to implement its revised AMPs it adopted in June 2024. By contrast, the 2023-24 LFTP rate revenue increase was in line with the Council's CPI forecast (excluding growth) at that time.

Forecast user charges from the Council's commercial operations increased by a cumulative \$43.3 million (6.5 percent) over the nine year comparative period. In the 2023-24 LTFP, income associated with Rundle UPark was removed due to a decision to not provide for the renewal of Rundle UPark (due for renewal in 2030-31). The Council determined to remove that income while it evaluated the asset to determine its feasibility for operation, or redevelopment, aiming to address community needs and optimise revenue potential.<sup>30</sup> The 2024-25 LTFP includes part of the renewal cost of Rundle UPark (to extend its useful life) and reinstates the associated income and expenditure.<sup>31</sup>

The forecast of grants, subsidies and contributions increased by \$44.9 million (106.6 percent) as a result of the Council's assumption that it would receive grant funding in 2027-28 to 2029-30 for significant renewals of the Adelaide Bridge and Torrens Weir. However, the Council has also advised that this funding had not been secured at the time that the 2024-25 LTFP was drafted.

Forecast operating expenses have also increased, with finance expenses increasing by a cumulative \$23.0 million (45.7 percent), due to the Council using debt (alongside rate increases) to co-fund significant asset renewals and the ARRF. Forecast depreciation expenses also increased by a cumulative \$19.5 million (3.2 percent). The Council's historical and projected operating performance are discussed further in section 5.1.

#### 4.2 Indexation adjustments

In the 2024-25 LTFP, the Council stated that it used the South Australian Centre for Economic Studies' (SACES) projected CPI for its 2024-25 Business Plan and Budget.<sup>32</sup> The 2023-24 LTFP uses Deloitte Access Economics as the source data for its projected CPI 2.5 percent<sup>33</sup>. The 2024-25 LTFP forecast is higher than the previous year's CPI forecast as shown in the following table:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> City of Adelaide Council, 2023-24 to 2032-33 Long-Term Financial Plan, page 15.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> City of Adelaide Council, 2024-25 to 2033-34 Long-Term Financial Plan, page 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> City of Adelaide Council, 2024-25 to 2033-34 Long-Term Financial Plan, page 11.

<sup>33</sup> City of Adelaide Council, 2023-24 to 2032-33 Long-Term Financial Plan, page 11

Table 2: Indexation adjustments

Forecast CPI in each year	2023-24 LTFP	2024-25 LTFP <sup>34</sup>	
2024-25	2.6%	3.3%	
2025-26	2.5%	3.0%	
2026-27	2.5%	2.5%	
2027-28 and onwards	between 2.3% and 2.5%	2.5%	

The revised 2024-25 LTFP forecast, although higher, is not significantly different from the forecast average annual growth in the CPI from 2024-25 to 2033-34 which is estimated to be 2.6 percent based on the RBA forecasts for the CPI (Australia-wide).

It would appear that the updated inflation assumptions drive the forecast increase of up to 2.3 percent per annum by 2032-33 in cost and revenue estimates,<sup>35</sup> compared with the same estimates in the 2023-24 LTFP. Of note, however, the Council has adjusted its operating income forecasts by amounts higher than its adjusted inflation forecasts (increase of 9.6 percent on 2023-24 estimates<sup>36</sup>).

The Council's assumptions for indexation in its 2024-25 LTFP are transparent and based on an annual review of forecasts. The Commission considers that such annual reviews of assumptions reflect best practice and supports the Council continuing to do so.

#### 4.3 Increase to capital expenditure estimates

The 2024-25 LTFP indicates an increase in capital expenditure for renewal of assets by \$201.1 million for the period from 2024-25 to 2032-33, compared to the previous year's LTFP. The increase is partly due to the Council creating the ARRF to fund the average annual capital expenditure increase of \$14.9 million, which is associated with the recently adopted AMPs.<sup>37</sup>

The Council has also included two large intergenerational renewals in its capital expenditure forecasts: the Adelaide Bridge and Torrens Weir. The Council's estimated renewal expenditure for the Torrens Weir is \$40.0 million (allocated across the 2028-29 and 2029-30 financial years) and \$60.0 million for the Adelaide Bridge (allocated across the 2027-28 to 2028-29 financial years).<sup>38</sup>

Those forecast costs were derived prior to COVID-19 and have since been escalated to reflect 2024-25 dollars; <sup>39</sup> however, the Council has advised that it has a low-medium confidence level in its estimates <sup>4041</sup> and the Commission is concerned that even the escalated costs could be underestimated.

The 2024-25 LTFP has also allocated  $$15.0 \text{ million}^{42}$  towards the asset renewal of the Rundle UPark across 2029-30 and 2030-31, with further detailed structural assessments required to understand the extent of the works required. However, the buildings AMP forecasts expenditure of \$60.0 million across

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<sup>34</sup> City of Adelaide Council, 2024-25 to 2033-34 Long-Term Financial Plan, page 37.

The set of nine years forecast in both the 2023-24 and 2024-25 LTFP projections.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Based on the overlapping forecast period in both LTFPs (2023-24 to 2032-33 and 2024-25 to 2033-34).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> City of Adelaide, 2024-25 to 2033-34 Long-Term Financial Plan, page. 5.

<sup>38</sup> City of Adelaide, 2024-25 to 2033-34 Long-Term Financial Plan, page. 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> The Torrens Weir has been indexed to \$44.7 million and the Adelaide Bridge has been indexed to \$65.6 million in the 2024-25 LTFP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> City of Adelaide, Email to the Commission, 11 November 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Footnote 2 applies.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 42}$   $\,$  This figure has been indexed to \$17,138 million in the 2024-25 LTFP

that same period for the Rundle UPark asset to be renewed on a like-for-like basis. Asset renewal funding gaps of this nature are highly risky; the Council should seek to understand the nature and scope of the gap, its implications and the need to and means by which it might avoid future gaps. The Council's capital expenditure outlook is discussed further in section 5.3.

#### 4.4 Increase in total liabilities

The Council's forecast cumulative total liabilities are \$369.0 million (21.5 percent) higher than forecast in the previous year's plan (for the period from 2024-25 to 2032-33).

Within this, the Council's forecast cumulative current liabilities increased by \$72.2 million (19.7 percent), mostly due to an increase in trade and other payables of \$71.6 million (42.5 percent) for the period from 2024-25 to 2032-33. The Council's forecast cumulative non-current liabilities increased by \$296.9 million (22.0 percent) compared to the previous year's LTFP, predominantly due to long-term borrowings increasing by \$297.1 million (26.7 percent) to fund increased capital works for that same period.

The Council's borrowings and net financial liabilities are forecast to be higher in the 2024-25 LTFP than the previous year's LTFP for 2024-25 to 2032-33. As a result, the Council's NFLR forecast is an average rate of 73.0 percent for the period. This is compared to an average NFLR of 53.8 percent in the previous LTFP (for the period from 2024-25 to 2032-33). The Council's net financial liabilities outlook is discussed further in section 5.2.

#### 5 Financial sustainability

#### 5.1 Operating performance

#### 5.1.1 **Key points**



igtriangle The Council's policy decision to freeze both the rate in the dollar and property valuations for differing periods historically caused it to become more reliant on less certain forms of user charge revenue through its commercial operations, increasing revenue risk. Over the 10 years to 2022-23, the Council accumulated an operating deficit of \$24.6 million and an annual average ARFR of 73.9 percent, signifying an underspend on asset renewals.



While the Council has now ceased these policies, its revenue remains more reliant on user charges than other councils. The Council must hold the assets and cover the expenses associated with providing these services. Because it does not publish separate accounts for commercial operations, it is not possible to assess their profitability and therefore the extent to which each asset either lessens or increases costs for ratepayers. The associated financial sustainability risk could be reduced through the sale of assets and exiting the market for these services that could be provided by the private sector, if there is genuine demand for them at prices that provide a suitable commercial return.



While the Council is forecasting an operating surplus in each of the ten years to 2033-34, that is based on increasing rates revenue and an assumption of significant grant funding, rather than considering whether any rationalisation of the Council's commercial operations is appropriate, along with significantly improving the productivity of its core operations. As it stands, the only contingency in place if the grant funding does not occur, and/or the costs associated with the Council's considerable asset renewal program increase by more than forecast, is higher rates rises, either as a direct contribution or to finance additional debt.

#### **Operating Surplus Ratio** 5.1.2

The operating surplus ratio (OSR) is defined as: Operating Surplus (Deficit) ÷ Total Operating Income. The general target is to achieve, on average over time, an operating surplus ratio of between zero and 10 percent.

The Council experienced some volatility in its operating performance between 2013-14 to 2022-23 and, in the three years to 2019-20, reported operating deficits of \$17.4 million, \$21.2 million and \$18.3 million respectively. Over the 10-years to 2022-23, the Council accumulated a \$24.6 million operating deficit, generally reflecting a below breakeven performance. Notwithstanding this, the Commission notes the Council has started to improve this performance achieving an \$8.5 million operating surplus in 2023-24. Historical growth in operating income averaged 2.3 percent per annum from 2013-14 to 2022-23, below the annual inflation growth of 2.6 percent over this period (see Figure 3).43 The rate of growth in operating expenses averaged 2.8 percent per annum (see Figure 3).

The OSR<sup>44</sup> fluctuated over the historical period and was negative (below the LGA-suggested target range) in four of the 10 years to 2022-23 (see Figure 2). On average, the OSR was negative 1.2 percent

<sup>43</sup> CPI (all groups). Average annual growth in the Local Government Price Index (LGPI) published by the SACES was similar (at 2.5 percent). Available at https://www.adelaide.edu.au/saces/economic-and-socialindicators/local-government-price-index

Local Government Association of South Australia, Financial Sustainability Information Paper 9 - Financial Indicators Revised, May 2019, p. 6.

over the period from 2013-14 to 2022-23, indicating that the Council was generally not operating sustainably.

Operating surplus ratio

Budget type Historical Forecast

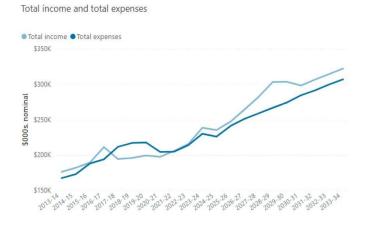
10% Upper target 10% (LGA)

10% Lower target 0% (LGA)

-10%

Figure 2: Operating surplus ratio - historical and forecast

Figure 3: Total income and expenses - historical and forecast



The main reason for this performance is the Council's decision to freeze the rate in the dollar (from 2013-14 to 2023-24) and to freeze property valuations for five years from 2018-19, while expenses continued to increase. The revenue risk implications of these polices were exacerbated through COVID-19, as the Council's revenue from user charges declined sharply, due to less demand for these services. It is not clear what analysis the Council did to understand the cost-benefit trade-off and risks of the policy; however, the main outcome of the policy was the creation of an underspend on asset renewals and replacements needs of its asset stock, which will have long-term impacts on the Council and the community.

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#### 5.1.3 Income

The Council's main income streams are discussed in further detail below.

## 5.1.3.1 Rates Income

In 2022-23, income from rateable properties accounted for 58.0 percent of the Council's total income. The Council's decision to freeze the rate in the dollar from 2013-14 to 2023-24 and to freeze property valuations for five years from 2018-19 contributed to the Council's average annual increase in rate revenue of 3.5 percent from 2013-14 to 2022-23 (when the growth in number of rateable properties averaged 2.5 percent and CPI growth averaged 2.6 percent).

The Council is projecting average annual rates per property growth of 2.8 percent to 2033-34, slightly above the forecast long-term inflation of 2.6 percent, which will represent a real increase in rates. That average annual growth is also projected to be higher than the expected expense per property growth of 2.4 percent for the same period (rates are discussed in more detail in section 6). This largely reflects the Council ceasing with its rate in the dollar and property valuation freezing policy and seeking to gain additional funding to address the forecast \$150.0 million funding requirement to implement its revised AMPs.

This is indicative of the type of action the Commission supports the Council considering, to allow it to deliver future financial sustainability for the benefit of ratepayers and community and assist in mitigating the risk of rate increases needing to be higher than ought to be the case.

However, if the Council were to use its revenue-raising powers excessively to manage its financial strategy, it would risk reputational damage, low community trust and concerns regarding perceived competency at both community level and across South Australia. There is also the fact that the Council's proposed financial strategy comes after implementing one which resulted in an underspend on its asset renewals relative to its AMPs, the effects of which are being felt now - and will continue to be felt into the future.

This suggests that the Council's revenue raising powers can only partially offset financial management risks. This leaves the options of reducing the scope of the capital program and/or selling off assets to provide a financial cushion, as the asset renewal of core services progresses. The former is complicated by the fact that the Council has forecast \$150.0 million in funding requirements to implement its revised AMPs and two critical renewal projects for core services, with the latter possible if the Council has business operations that will be of interest to the commercial sector. This seems plausible (refer to user charges section), with asset sales not only generating revenue, but also reducing future asset renewals.

# 5.1.3.2 User Charges

In 2022-23, income from user charging services accounted for 31.1 percent of the Council's total operating income. Excluding the Adelaide Aquatic Centre, which ceased operations on 1 August 2024, 45 four of these services contributed 81.8 percent of the user charges income. 46 These are property leases, North Adelaide Golf Course charges, on-street parking fees and off-street parking fees (UPark – refer section 5.3 for discussion of asset renewal expenditure required for the off-street car parking operation).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> The Adelaide Aquatic centre closed its operation on 1 August 2024, with the State Government intending to build a new \$135.0 million facility, that will be owned and operated by the State. The Council has committed up to \$20.0 million towards demolishing the existing facility and reinstating park lands and community sports grounds.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> City of Adelaide, 2022-23 Annual Report, note 2 pg. 72.

The Council identifies these four services as commercial operations, including them in the Strategic Property and Commercial function within its 2024-25 Business Plan and Budget.

Annual budgeted operating income and expenses for Strategic Property and Commercial are provided in the Business Plan and Budget, with an operating profit of approximately \$23.1 million projected. The income relates to user charges, but the manner in which the expenses have been derived for each of the four functions outlined above is not clear in the materials available to the Commission. It is therefore not possible to assess the performance of each commercial operation, the adequacy of the allocation of costs to the business operations and the extent to which it may or may not be subsidised by ratepayers.

Overall, the Commission considers there would be merit in separate financial statements being prepared for each of these services (and any subsequent commercial operations entered), clearly identifying any cost/asset allocation approaches adopted and the asset values attributed to each separately. This would reflect sound internal financial practices with the Council and would allow for a complete financial picture of these services to be available to ratepayers.

Further, as the commercial operations could generally be provided by the private sector, in the Commission's view each of them should be capable of functioning without subsidisation from general rates, while also not accruing excessive or unduly low rates of return, extracting monopoly rents or discouraging potential competitors. These factors broadly reflect the Council's existing competitive neutrality obligations, a central component of which is separated accounts.<sup>47</sup>

The Commission also notes that the Council has stated that debt may be required to fund significant renewals, such as the Rundle UPark. <sup>48</sup> Similar consideration applies to the property leasing and North Adelaide Golf Course operations, albeit at a lesser scale. This may be an opportune time for the Council to consider the optimal strategy for ratepayers - should it continue to operate the businesses within the Council, lease or sell the assets and/or operations to the private sector. Decisions made on that front will have direct impacts on user charges.

For example, if the Council proceeds with any asset rationalisation, the proceeds could offset any rates rises and debt required to fund the Council's forecast \$150.0 million funding requirement to fund its AMPs, or the cost of the Torrens Weir or Adelaide Bridge (see Section 5.3).

## 5.1.3.3 Adelaide Park Lands

In addition to the business operations included in the Strategic Property and Commercial function, the Council also provide services via the Adelaide Park Lands. During the 2024-25 budget planning and budget process, the Council made a commitment to invest 1.5 percent of rates revenue to upgrade buildings within the park lands, equating to \$25.2 million in today's dollars over the life of the LTFP. 49

# 5.1.3.4 Statutory Charges

In 2022-23, income from statutory charges accounted for 5.6 percent of the Council's total operating income. In recent years, the Council has waived or frozen the rate on several fees and charges. The intent of these decisions was to provide targeted support to the community and stakeholders during a particular period, most notably throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>50</sup> The fees associated with permits

For further information on competitive neutrality and associated matters, refer the Department of Premier and Cabinet website available at <u>Competitive Neutrality I Department of the Premier and Cabinet</u>

<sup>48</sup> City of Adelaide, 2024-25 to 2033-34 Long-Term Financial Plan, p. 26.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> City of Adelaide, 2024-25 to 2033-34 Long-Term Financial Plan, p. 16.

<sup>50</sup> City of Adelaide, 2024-25 Business Plan and Budget, April 2024, p. 7, available at: https://d31atr86jngrq2.cloudfront.net/docs/business-plan-budget.pdf

for Outdoor Dining and Park Lands rentals were reintroduced in the 2023-24 Business Plan and Budget after being waived for five years.<sup>51</sup>

As noted above, while there may be sound short-term reasons for such decisions, they will necessarily have longer-term consequences. The Council should therefore ensure that it always considers such longer-term impacts when making decisions of that nature and should make its reasoning clear to ratepayers and the community.

## 5.1.4 Expenditure

The growth in operating expense from 2013-14 to 2022-23 was 2.8 percent, slightly above the average annual inflation of 2.6 percent over this period. <sup>52</sup> During that period, there was an average annual increase in depreciation charges of five percent, an increase of 2.5 percent for 'materials, contracts and other' expenses and an increase of 1.7 percent for employee expenses (see the changes by expense type in Figures 4 and 5). The predominant reason for depreciation growing at a much faster rate than the other expenses categories was the growth in the Council's asset base (infrastructure, property, plant and equipment), which increased at four percent over the same period. <sup>53</sup>

Looking ahead, the Council has forecast higher average expense growth, at 3.5 percent per annum which is above the RBA-based forecast of average annual inflation of 2.6 percent over the same period.<sup>54</sup> This appears to reflect a worsening of the Council's cost control, relative to past performance (with average annual growth of 2.8 percent in the 10 years to 2022-23).

Employee numbers are forecast to increase to 761 FTEs in 2024-25, up from 716 in 2023-24,<sup>55</sup> with employee expenses forecast to increase by an average of 2.6 percent per annum over the period to 2033-34. 'Materials, contracts and other' expenses are forecast to increase by an average of 2.8 percent per annum, from 2024-25 to 2033-34. The Commission notes that these forecasts broadly align with the RBA's forecast rate of CPI over the same period of 2.6 percent. Depreciation and finance costs are increasing at 3.7 percent and 37.7 percent per annum over the same period, which is causing the Council's total expenses to increase by 3.5 percent per annum from 2024-25 to 2033-34.

55 Based on the Council's Financial Reporting template provided to the Commission.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> City of Adelaide, 2023-24 Business Plan and Budget, April 2024, p. 59.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> CPI (All groups). Average annual growth in the LGPI published by the South Australian Centre for Economic Studies was similar (at 2.5 percent). Available at <a href="https://www.adelaide.edu.au/saces/economic-and-social-indicators/local-government-price-index">https://www.adelaide.edu.au/saces/economic-and-social-indicators/local-government-price-index</a>

Based on the annual average growth rate between 2013-14 and 2022-23.

The forecast average annual growth in the CPI from 2024-25 to 2033-34 is estimated to be 2.6 percent based on the RBA forecasts for the CPI (Australia-wide) to December 2026 (and the Commission's calculations of average annual percentage growth) and the midpoint of the RBA's target range (2.5 percent) from 2026-27.

Figure 4: Expenses by category - historical and forecast

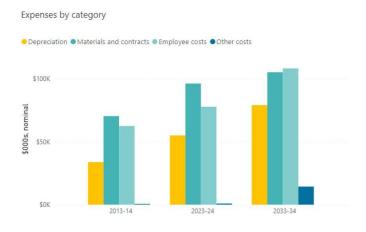
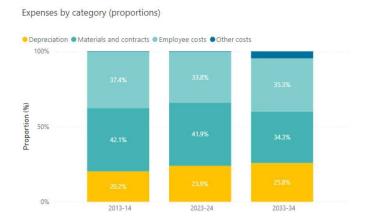


Figure 5: Expenses by category - proportions



Incorporating the growth in number of rateable properties, the total forecast expenses per property increases by an average of 2.4 percent per annum over the period (see Figure 6): a slight real terms reduction (based on current inflation projections). At the same time, average total income per property is forecast to increase by 2.5 percent (nominally), below forecast inflation.

Expenses per property

Budget type Historical Forecast CPI (Adelaide)

\$10,000

\$50,000

\$50,000

\$50,000

\$50,000

\$50,000

\$50,000

\$50,000

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Figure 6: Expense by rated property - historical and forecast

# 5.1.5 Commission's recommendations on operating performance

Overall, the forecast growth in income and expenses broadly align for the 10 years to 2033-34. The Commission notes that, if the growth forecasted in the Council's expense categories is exceeded, there is a risk that ratepayers could incur unexpected higher rate increases.

In that context, the Commission has observed that the latest available comprehensive set of asset condition assessments and valuations, upon which the Council's AMPs, asset renewal costs and depreciation profiles are based, appear to be out of date.

Further, the Council has advised that, up until 2023-24, it did not apply indexation annually to asset valuations between these comprehensive assessments. The risk inherent in such a practice is that the Council's already-challenging asset renewal plans understate the true costs associated with them, with the annual depreciation charge therefore also understated. This would mean that the forecast operating surplus would be overstated and expose the Council, ratepayers and the community to future financial risks.

The Commission notes that the Council has recently introduced the good practice of indexing asset valuations in 2023-24 to some of its assets classes and will continue to roll out this practice to various other classes in 2024-25 and 2025-26.<sup>56</sup> This should be supplemented, however, with much more robust understanding and consideration within the Council of the importance of asset condition assessments.

Having regard to these risks, coupled with the Council's existing expenses projections that suggest a worsening in its cost control (as explained above), the Commission advises that the Council should adopt a stronger focus on cost control and productivity improvement, and reflecting this in its future strategic planning.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> City of Adelaide, Email to the Commission, 27 November 2024.

Therefore, the Commission recommends that the Council:

- Analyse the implications for long-term financial sustainability and timely renewal of assets before considering any rate freeze or valuation freeze in the future and disclose the analysis to ratepayers.
- 2. Improve the disclosure of cost savings targets or productivity improvements in LTFPs and ABPs (as appropriate), to provide evidence of constraining cost growth and achieving efficiency across its operations and service delivery.

#### 5.2 Net financial liabilities

#### 5.2.1 **Key points**



A Net cash flows after operating and investing (that is, capital-related) activities averaged \$2.7 million per annum between 2013-14 and 2022-23 and decrease to average annual negative \$15.2 million from 2024-25 to 2033-34.



Between 2013-14 and 2022-23 the NFLR averaged 29.1 percent. It is projected to be within the LGA target range from 2024-25 to 2033-34, but trending towards the upper limit and reaching the Council's own prudential limits for a number of years. This reflects the use of higher debt levels to finance the Council's capital expenditure program.



If the Council is unable secure external grant funding, and/or it has underestimated the costs of the capital program, it might be necessary to increase debt or further defer asset renewal and replacement.

The NFLR is defined as: Net financial liabilities ÷ Total operating income. This ratio measures the extent to which a council's total operating income covers, or otherwise, its net financial liabilities. The suggested LGA target range is between zero and 100.0 percent of total operating income, but possibly higher in some circumstances. 57

The Council's NFLR trended between negative 5.4 and positive 57.0 percent between 2013-14 and 2022-23 (see Figure 7). This is mostly within the suggested LGA target range for the indicator of between zero and 100.0 percent (averaging 29.1 percent over this period).

The Council has forecast its NFLR to be positive throughout to 2033-34 and to remain within the suggested LGA target range. 58 The annual average forecast for the NFLR from 2024-25 to 2033-34 is 74.1 percent, reaching a high of 88.6 percent in 2030-31.59

The Council's calculation of NFLR excludes calculations of long-term lease liabilities. The Commission has included long-term lease liabilities in its calculation of NFLR (see Figure 8). The Commission's analysis shows that net financial liabilities get very close to total income towards the end of the forecast period. Under that analysis, the Council's net financial liabilities are forecast to increase from \$85.9 million in 2024-25 to \$268.3 million in 2033-34 (see Figure 8), more than a three-fold increase.<sup>60</sup> The main driver of this is a near four-fold rise in borrowings to \$225.7 million by 2033-34 (see Figure 9).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> LGA SA Financial Indicators Paper, pp. 7-8.

The Council's NFLR was 21.7 percent in its reported 2023-24 financial results

The Commission has included the Council's lease liabilities in its calculation but notes that the Council excluded this category in its 2024-25 LTFP.

The Council's lease liabilities have been included in the net financial liabilities figure.

Figure 7: Net financial liabilities ratio - historical and forecast

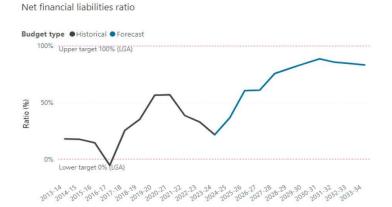
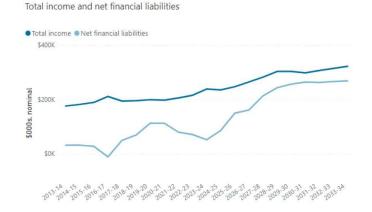


Figure 8: Total income and net financial liabilities - historical and forecast

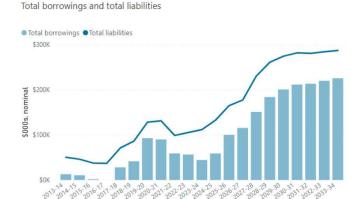


The steady increase in borrowings in the Council's 10-year forecast (see Figure 9) is partly associated with its \$14.9 million per annum capital expenditure for new and upgraded projects. <sup>61</sup> In addition, the Council has stated that significant renewals (Torrens Weir, Adelaide Bridge and Rundle UPark) are likely to be funded by a component of debt. <sup>62</sup>

<sup>61</sup> City of Adelaide, 2024-25 to 2033-34 Long-Term Financial Plan, p. 14. Available at: https://ouradelaide.sa.gov.au/draft-long-term-financial-plan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> City of Adelaide, 2024-25 to 2033-34 Long-Term Financial Plan, p. 14

Figure 9: Total borrowings and total liabilities - historical and forecast



The Council's renewal forecasts associated with the Torrens Weir and Adelaide Bridge assume a like-for-like asset renewal of the existing structures. The Council is preparing further analysis to provide more detailed information on potential options and costs. Its estimated renewal expenditure for the Torrens Weir is \$40.0 million allocated for the 2028-29 and 2029-30 financial year and \$60.0 million for the Adelaide Bridge allocated in 2027-28 and 2028-29.63 64

The Council has advised the Commission that it has a low to medium confidence level in these estimates. <sup>65</sup> Should the Council be faced with higher replacement costs for these two projects, unless it can secure commensurately higher grants, the burden on ratepayers would increase, either directly or through covering increased debt servicing costs. Alternatively, the Council might decide to defer elements of asset renewal and replacement, which could impact service standards.

Further, the Council is assuming in its LTFP that it funds 33.0 percent of the renewal for the Torrens Weir and 75.0 percent of the renewal for the Adelaide Bridge.<sup>66</sup> The remainder proposed to be funded by yet-to-be-secured grants.<sup>67</sup>

The three main risks the Council's financial strategy faces are:

- 1. Low to medium confidence levels in the cost estimates for critical capital projects.
- 2. Reliance on unsecured grant financing.
- 3. Increasing exposure to interest rate and financial structure risk, as debt levels increase.

Additionally, the Council has no financial cushion. Its LTFP is designed so that each year cash inflows and outflows net out to zero, resulting in cash reserves remaining \$0.8m throughout the LTFP (see Figure 10). Further, for periods of the LTFP, the Council is at its own prudential borrowing limit, which is set at 50.0 percent of the Council's saleable assets.<sup>68</sup> That is, the Council has no contingency, while operating close to what it considers, its financial limits, despite the clear risks.

<sup>63</sup> City of Adelaide, 2024-25 to 2033-34 Long-Term Financial Plan, p. 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> The Torrens Weir has been indexed to \$44.7 million and the Adelaide Bridge has been indexed to \$65.6 million in the 2024-25 Long-Term Financial Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> City of Adelaide, Email to the Commission, 11 November 2024.

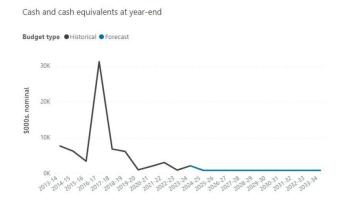
<sup>66</sup> City of Adelaide, 2024-25 to 2033-34 Long-Term Financial Plan, p. 14.

<sup>67</sup> City of Adelaide, 2024-25 to 2033-34 Long-Term Financial Plan, p. 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>68</sup> City of Adelaide, 2024-25 to 2033-34 Long-Term Financial Plan, p. 24.

This situation can be attributed to the Council's history of rates and valuation freezes, which have led to deferral and compression of asset renewal and replacement and an issue of intergenerational inequity.

Figure 10: Cash and cash equivalents at year end - historical and forecast



These risks could lead to increased borrowings and interest risk exposure. Also, as borrowings increase, interest rates on debt levels can rise because of greater debt exposure within the financial structure. This could result in further cost escalation.

### 5.2.2 The Commission's recommendations on financial liabilities

The Commission considers that the Council should undertake a detailed review, with its community, of the potential alternative options and the risk implications, from both the financial and service provision perspective, of the proposed financing of its capital expenditure program. The Commission also suggests this include the role that asset sales can have in managing the Council's transition towards more effective asset management strategies and their implementation, which is discussed in the subsequent section of this advice.

In this respect, the Commission notes the potential role of the Council's Future Fund in this process, provided this is focused on asset disposal, rather than the purchase of assets for commercial operations, given the Council's anticipated financial exposure. It also notes that the Council undertook a Strategic Property review to consider the acquisition and disposal of assets, and that the proceeds from disposals could also be used to repay borrowings or reduce the need for them. In that context, the Council's 2024-25 LTFP has factored in the proceeds from the sale of surplus assets of \$18.5 million in 2024-25. The Commission, however, notes this is relatively minor in comparison to the Council's commercial operations (refer to user charges in section 5.1.3.2).

The Commission recommends that the Council develop a strategy to optimise the value to ratepayers of the Council's commercial assets, taking into consideration any subsidies, the profitability and future liabilities of each asset.

Finally, the Commission notes the Council does not fully disclose the assumptions underpinning its borrowing forecasts in its LTFP (such as loan facilities and/or terms, if applicable) although the Commission notes that the Council is in the process of reviewing its Treasury policy, which will include how borrowings will be utilised.<sup>69</sup> The Council does undertake the good practice of disclosing its interest rate assumptions for its borrowing facilities, along with sensitivity analysis through a 10 year forecast of the Council's interest expense ratio and leverage test ratio.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> City of Adelaide, Email to the Commission, 11 November 2024.

For the Council to achieve and maintain financial sustainability, the Commission recommends that the Council:

- 3. **Consider** undertaking a detailed review, with its community, of the potential alternative options and the risk implications, from both the financial and service provision perspectives, of the proposed financing of its capital expenditure program.
- 4. Consider the Future Fund applying a greater emphasis on asset disposals with the proceeds used to repay borrowings, or reduce the need for them, rather than the purchase of assets for commercial operations.

# 5.3 Asset renewals expenditure

# 5.3.1 Key points

Between 2013-14 and 2022-23, the net ARFR averaged 73.9 percent, with an average annual spend of \$26.8 million per annum (below its asset renewal requirements).

The Council's forecast \$150.0 million funding requirement required to implement its recently adopted AMPs is being addressed at a time of construction cost escalation, long lead times and three significant asset renewal projects.

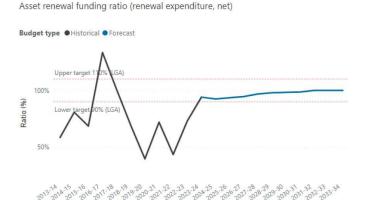
In 2024 the Council separated and adopted six AMPs.

A long-term consequence of the Council's policy of freezing the rate in the dollar and property valuations for varying periods of time is an underspend on its asset renewals and replacement needs relative to its AMPs. This is illustrated by the fact that, between 2013-14 and 2022-23, the Council averaged 73.9 percent on its ARFR<sup>70</sup> (under the 'IAMP-based' net expenditure approach),<sup>71</sup> (see Figures 11 and 12). The Council's net spending on renewal and replacement of assets averaged \$26.8 million each year over the period.

The IAMP-based method is the current industry standard whereby asset renewal/replacement expenditure is divided by the recommended expenditure in the IAMP (or AMP). Ideally, this will show the extent to which a Council's renewal or replacement expenditure matches the need for this expenditure, as recommended by the plan. The suggested LGA target range for the ratio is 90.0 to 110 percent (LGA SA Financial Indicators Paper, p. 9).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> The quoted averages for the ratio are based on 'net asset renewal expenditure' (taken from the Council's cash flow statements) (after the sale of replaced assets) rather than 'gross asset renewal expenditure'.

Figure 11: Asset renewal funding ratio (renewal expenditure net) – historical and projected



Between 2013-14 and 2022-23, alongside its rating policy, the Council also chose to allocate nearly half, approximately \$254.4 million, of its capital expenditure towards new and upgraded assets, requiring future ratepayers to bear the cost of the renewal expenditure foregone and the potential intergenerational inequity caused.

The Council's recently adopted AMP's<sup>72</sup> identified that an average annual increase in funding of \$14.9 million was required for the 10 year life of its 2024-25 LTFP (approximately \$150.0 million over the term of the plan in 2024 dollar terms). To manage this, and the asset renewal of Torrens Weir, Adelaide Bridge and the Rundle UPark, its LTFP includes less capital expenditure on new/upgraded assets.

Over the 2024-25 to 2033-34 period, capital expenditure on new/upgraded assets is forecast to be 16.6 percent of capital expenditure. The Council has also introduced the ARRF to fund the \$14.9 million per year needed. This will be financed through rate increases, either explicitly, or implicitly, through covering the costs associated with any required borrowings.

Going forward, from 2024-25 to 2033-34, the ARFR (under the 'IAMP-based' net expenditure approach) is forecast to be within the appropriate range, at an average of 97.2 percent (see Figure 11). Average annual spending on renewal or replacement of assets is projected to increase to \$88.2 million (in nominal terms) (see Figures 12 and 15).

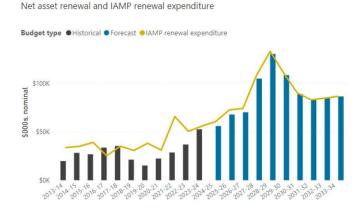
That is, the Council's intention is to fundamentally change its approach towards asset stewardship — which would be a positive and appropriate change in behaviour. The Commission notes the Council has started to improve its approach achieving an ARFR of 94.0 percent in 2023-24 financial results.

At the same time, the Commission also notes that this change is being initiated at a time when the Council is proposing to undertake significantly more capital expenditure than it has historically. Between 2013-14 and 2023-24, the Council's average annual capital expenditure was in the region of \$53.0 million, while for the 2024-25 to 2033-34 period it is forecast to almost double to annual average of \$105.7 million (see Figure 15).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> In 2024, the Council reverted to individual AMPs for the following asset classes: buildings, lighting and electrical, park lands and open spaces, transport, urban elements and water infrastructure. These individual AMPs were adopted by the Council in 2024.

Figure 12: Net asset renewal and IAMP renewal expenditure - historical and projected



Further, its approach to its AMPs, asset valuation and asset condition assessments, may heighten the risk that it faces.

In 2024, the Council reverted to individual AMPs for the following asset classes: buildings, lighting and electrical, park lands and open spaces, transport, urban elements and water infrastructure. These AMPs were adopted by the Council in 2024 and provide a breakdown of the assets within each respective asset class and the proposed capital works that will be fed into the Council's LTFP. Some of these AMPs, however, do not appear to be based upon current asset valuations and asset condition assessments.

The Council reviews asset lives, so asset condition, in conjunction with asset class revaluations every four to five years. The Commission notes that some of the valuations of these assets were carried out some time  $aqo^{73}$ , for example:

- Roads, valued as at 30 June 2024.
- ► Kerb and water table, valued as at 30 June 2024.
- Footpaths, valued as at 30 June 2022.
- ► Traffic signals, valued as at 30 June 2020.
- ▶ Bridges, valued as at 30 June 2024.
- ▶ Buildings, valued as at 30 June 2021.
- ▶ Land excluding park lands and lands under roads, valued as at as at 1 July 2020.
- ▶ Park lands & open space, stage 2 sports fields and water features valued as at 30 June 2023.
- Urban elements, valued as at 30 June 2021.
- ▶ Public lighting & electrical, valued as at 30 June 2020.
- Public art, valued as at 30 June 2022.

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<sup>73</sup> The revaluation dates are based on the City of Adelaide's 2023-24 Annual Report, General Purpose Financial Statements Note 7 (pp. 28, 29 and 30).

- ▶ Stormwater drainage, valued as at 30 June 2024.
- ► Ticket machines, valued as at 30 June 2022.

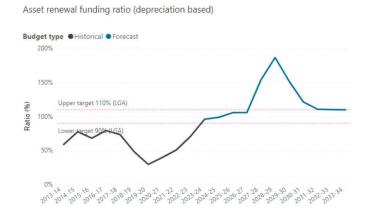
The Council also confirmed that up until 2023-24, its asset valuations were not indexed through desktop valuations on an annual basis between revaluations. The Commission notes that the Council is implementing this strategy going forward, which is a positive step. The Commission also considers that undertaking a comprehensive revaluation every four to five years could be too long a time interval between revaluations and asset condition assessments, given the current the macroeconomic environment and the challenges of the Council's asset renewal program.

Overall, the Commission considers that the recently published set of AMPs produced by the Council may benefit from being updated as soon as possible, to more accurately reflect detailed engineering studies of asset valuation and condition, and the implications of this for the Council's ambitious asset renewal program. The Commission also considers there to be benefit in reflecting the outcome of this in a revised LTFP, to fully understand the implications for the Council's baseline financial strategy and the potential benefits of alternative approaches (see previous section).

The Commission also notes that the Council's approach to understanding the value and condition of its asset stock may be causing its depreciation expense to be lower than suggested - if it were based upon the current cost of the Council's assets, at any given time. In addition, this could cause an overstatement of the Council's operating surplus ratio.

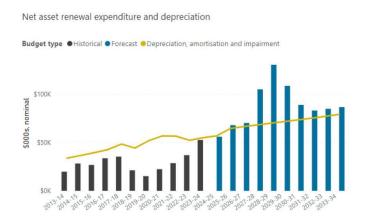
The Council's approach to asset valuation and condition results regarding the depreciation charges, both historically and forecast, could also impact the reliability of the depreciation-based ARFR.<sup>74</sup> Historically (between 2013-14 to 2022-23) the annual average value was 59.4 percent which is below the recommended minimum level (for IAMP-based ratio) of 90.0 percent (see Figures 15 and 16). It is projected to track above the recommended range (for the IAMP-based ratio) of 90.0 -110.0 percent, averaging 125.2 percent per annum to 2033-34 (see charts below).

Figure 13: Asset renewal funding ratio (depreciation based) - historical and projected



Where asset renewal/replacement expenditure is divided by depreciation expenses.

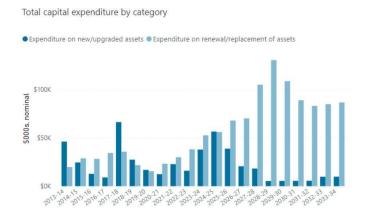
Figure 14: Net asset renewal expenditure and depreciation - historical and forecast



Finally, the Commission also notes that the Council's asset stock per rateable property was \$68,224 in 2022-23 (see Figure 16) but also notes that this is likely based upon outdated asset valuations, which impacts the forward-looking projections in the LTFP. This is high relative to other councils and is likely to be challenging for the Council to effectively manage over the longer term.

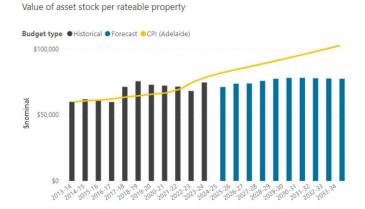
The Commission notes the Council will need to assess the risk of maintaining its current level of infrastructure in the context of the stream of future liabilities associated with each asset. This, again, points to the need for the Council to keep its knowledge of the value of the assets it holds and their condition up to date and understand the risks (and develop mitigation strategies) if the Council's expectations regarding its operating surpluses do not materialise and/or its financial strategy becomes stressed.

Figure 15: Total capital expenditure by category – historical and projected



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Figure 16: Value of asset stock per rateable property – historical and projected



These factors may create risk for the Council, and represent a considerable financial, practical and logistical challenge, alongside the challenge of rapidly developing a behaviour that places greater emphasis and value on asset renewal.

Successful risk mitigation and delivery of change will require close attention and management by the Council, and this should be articulated in future LTFP and AMPs.

# 5.3.2 The Commission's recommendations re asset renewals expenditure

The Commission recommends the Council consider the following regarding its approach to its AMPs and asset information. The objective of the recommendations is to support the behavioural change and information needed to assist it in achieving its challenging asset renewal program, and understanding and mitigating the associated risks, as well as those associated with the accompanying financial strategy.

The Commission recommends that the Council:

- Upgrade its AMPs to more accurately reflect formal asset valuations, condition assessments, remaining useful lives and corresponding depreciation schedules, incorporate this information into the AMPs and include these expenditure forecasts in the annual budget and annual LTFP update.
- Consider providing more clarity around the risks (and develop mitigation strategies) if the Council's expectations regarding its operational performance do not materialise and/or its financial strategy becomes stressed.

## 5.3.3 The Commission's recommendations on commercial assets

The Council holds extensive commercial assets that have been discussed in several sections of this Advice. The Commission recommends that the Council:

- Develop a comprehensive and transparent strategy for its commercial assets, addressing for each class of assets and for each individual asset how to optimise value for ratepayers, including:
  - ▶ in-depth analysis in its LTFP of the Council's approach to revenue generation from commercial operations and whether asset rationalisation would improve financial outcomes for ratepayers. This analysis could include whether the Council continues to own each asset, whether it operates each asset or leases it out for private operation and the extent to which any ratepayer subsidisation is appropriate and if so, why. (refer 5.1.3.2 User Charges)
  - publication of separate financial statements for each of the Council's commercial operations, clearly identifying the allocation of costs to each asset and the asset values attributed to each separately (refer 5.1.3.2 User Charges), and
  - completion of the proposed review of the Rundle Street UPark and addressing the approved option in the LTFP (refer 4.1 Changes to operating performance).

# 6 Advice on current and projected rate levels

# 6.1 Key points

- The Council maintained the rate in the dollar at the same level for the ten years to 2023-24 and held property valuations at 2019 levels until the 2022-23 budget. As a result, the Council's rate revenue per property growth averaged 0.9 percent over this period.
- The forecast rate increase between 2024-25 to 2033-34 is 2.8 percent per property per annum, which is generally in line with the RBA inflation forecast over the period.
- Affordability risk among the community for the further rate increases appears to be moderate, based on a range of factors including an assessment of the economic resources available to the community and community feedback.

The Council maintained the rate in the dollar at the same level for the ten years to 2023-24 and held property valuations at 2019 levels until the 2022-23 budget. As a result, growth in average rate revenue per property averaged 0.9 percent, or \$42 per annum over the past 10 years, <sup>75</sup> reaching an estimated \$4,675.66 per property in 2022-23 (see Figure 17). This is, however, below CPI growth of 2.6 percent per annum over the same period, <sup>76</sup> resulting in average rates per rateable property decreasing in real terms.

Figure 17: Average rates revenue per property - historical and projected



The Council remains more reliant on its rate base for its operating sustainability as that source is more certain than is its income from user charges, although the Commission notes that the Council's rates revenue is a lesser proportion compared to other suburban and regional local councils. Rates revenue accounts for 58.0 percent of operating income in 2022-23, compared with 52.2 percent of income in 2013-14 (see Figure 18).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> From 2013-14 to 2022-23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> CPI Adelaide (All groups). Average annual growth in the LGPI published by the South Australian Centre for Economic Studies was similar (at 2.5 percent). Available at <a href="https://www.adelaide.edu.au/saces/economic-and-social-indicators/local-government-price-index">https://www.adelaide.edu.au/saces/economic-and-social-indicators/local-government-price-index</a>

The Commission notes that, in the Council's 2024-25 ABP, it has recorded a total of 27,024 rateable properties, of which 16,995 (62.9 percent) are residential and 9,716 (36.0 percent) properties are classified as commercial.<sup>77</sup>

The Council expects to receive around 71.6 percent of its rate revenue from commercial operations, which have a higher rate in the dollar, relative to the residential sector (around 22.5 percent higher in 2024-25). In the 2024-25 LTFP Roadmap document the Council noted that it had considered increasing its rate revenue, as well a shift in the rate burden from business to residential.<sup>78</sup>

Figure 18: Income proportions (%)

# 6.2 Proposed rate increases for 2024-25

The Council adopts a differential general rate applicable to all rateable land in accordance with section 147 of the LG Act. The differential rates in the dollar are based on the following categories: Residential, Non-Residential and Vacant Land. The Council expects that approximately 75.4 percent of general rates revenue will come from non-residential rates, similar to previous years.<sup>79</sup>

In 2024-25, the Council undertook valuations of rateable properties, which increased property values. As a result, the Council reduced the rate in the dollar to only collect the required level of rate revenue consistent with its financial strategy (rates and income are discussed further section 5.1.3 above). As a result, rate revenue has increased by 5.9 percent plus one percent in growth in revenue from new developments and additions.

As noted above, the Council has 16,995 residential rateable properties. Rate revenues from those properties contributes 24.6 percent of total rate revenue. The average residential rate per property is expected to increase to \$2,142 per property from \$2,090 per property in 2023-24 (an increase of \$52 or 2.5 percent).

'Commercial – shop' rates increased to \$8,874 per property from \$8,510 per property (an increase of \$365 or 4.3 percent). 'Commercial – office' rates increased to \$12,385 per property from \$11,055 per

<sup>77</sup> The Council also has a small number of rateable properties (313 in total or one percent of total rateable properties) that are classified as either industry, vacant land or other.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> City of Adelaide, 2024-25 Long-Term Financial Plan road map, slide 32.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> City of Adelaide, 2023-24 Business Plan & Budget, p. 56

property (an increase of \$1,330 per property or 12 percent). 'Commercial – other' rates increased to \$10,610 per property from \$9,846 per property (an increase of \$764 or 7.8 percent).

The Commission notes that, in 2024-25, the Council changed how it rates properties that are used as, or made available for, short-stay accommodation for more than 90 days in the previous financial year. Going forward, these properties will be rated as 'Commercial — other'. The Council does not state how many properties will be impacted by the change or the expected increase in rate revenue it expects to receive.

Other than 'general rates' income, the Council collects the Regional Landscape Levy on behalf of Green Adelaide and is forecasting to collect \$1.9 million (net of rebates) in 2024-25.80 In addition, it applies a separate rate for the Rundle Mall Management levy. These funds are collected on rateable land in Rundle Mall Precinct for the purpose of managing and marketing the Rundle Mall Precinct.

The Commission notes that, in its 2024-25 ABP, the Council adopted the good practice of reporting the estimated average annual change for its categories of land use, together with the quantum of annual revenue it expects to collect from these different categories of rates. This provides greater clarity and transparency to its ratepayers.

# 6.3 Projected further rate increases

Between 2024-25 and 2033-34, the average rate per property across all categories is forecast to increase from \$5,362 to \$6,862<sup>81</sup> a cumulative increase of \$1,500 per property. This equates to a 2.8 percent average annual increase (between 2024-25 and 2033-34), just above the RBA-based forecast average inflation of 2.6 percent per annum.<sup>82</sup>

## 6.4 Affordability risk

On balance, the affordability risk for the community in respect of these further increases appears to be low to moderate. As stated previously, the Council has not increased the rate in the dollar in 10 years and froze property valuations for five years (from 2018-19). In addition, it waived outdoor dining permits and park land events fees for five years, with the stated aim of supporting businesses and the community.

The Council's community consultation processes appear comprehensive and transparent, and it regularly seeks community feedback on proposed projects and initiatives. <sup>83</sup> The Council has used a range of approaches to inform its community on its proposed plans and, as a result, receives a high level of engagement. <sup>84</sup> In general, the majority of respondents agreed with the approach of the draft 2024-2025 to 2033-2034 LTFP (73.0 percent of the respondents were ratepayers).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>80</sup> City of Adelaide, 2024-25 Business Plan & Budget, p. 85.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>81</sup> This includes rates growth of 3.8 percent expected each year.

The forecast average annual growth in the CPI from 2024-25 to 2033-34 is estimated to be 2.6 percent based on the RBA forecasts for the CPI (Australia-wide) to December 2026 (and the Commission's calculations of average annual percentage growth) and the midpoint of the RBA's target range (2.5 percent) from 2026-27.

<sup>83</sup> See City of Adelaide, Public Consultation Policy, available at https://d31atr86jngrq2.cloudfront.net/docs/policy-public-communication-consultation.pdf

The Council sought community engagement through online and written submissions and quick poll on Our Adelaide website; (in total over 70 submissions were received by the Council). Available at <a href="https://ouradelaide.sa.gov.au/draft-long-term-financial-plan">https://ouradelaide.sa.gov.au/draft-long-term-financial-plan</a>

# 6.4.1 The Commission's advice regarding affordability risk

Overall, the Commission notes the Council's relative average socio-economic indexes for areas (SEIFA) economic resources ranking for the Council area is low.<sup>85</sup> However the population mix is somewhat different to other typical metropolitan councils, due to its student population that reside within the City of Adelaide. The Commission does not regard the Council as deriving a rates affordability risk from its socio-economic profile.

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The Corporation of the City of Adelaide area is ranked 5<sup>th</sup> among 71 South Australian 'local government areas' (including Anangu Pitjantjatjara and Maralinga Tjarutja Aboriginal community areas and 'unincorporated SA') on the Australian Bureau of Statistics SEIFA Index of Economic Resources (2021), where a lower score (e.g., 1) denotes relatively lower access to economic resources in general, compared with other areas, available at <a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/people-and-communities/socio-economic-indexes-areas-seifa-australia/2021">https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/people-and-communities/socio-economic-indexes-areas-seifa-australia/2021</a>

# 7 The Commission's next advice and focus areas

In the next cycle of the scheme, the Commission will review and report upon the Council's:

- ▶ ongoing performance against its current LTFP estimates
- the identification of opportunities for cost savings, including the disposal of assets that are surplus to requirements to reduce debt and exposure to future liability streams
- ▶ progress on meeting its capital expenditure plans for identified costs
- greater reporting transparency, including more in-depth discussions in its LTFP of its approach to revenue generation from user charges and to rates, and how these relate to asset/service rationalisation
- greater transparency on the performance of its commercial operations
- current AMPs that are aligned to the Council's budget and LTFP, and
- progress in keeping to its projections for rate increases.

# 8 Appendix: Glossary of terms

Item	Explanation	
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics	
AMP	Asset management plan (also called an IAMP)	
ARFR	Asset Renewal Funding Ratio	
	Since 2013, the asset renewal funding ratio has been defined as:	
	Asset Renewal Expenditure ÷ IAMP Renewal Expenditure	
	Where IAMP Renewal Expenditure is that required according to the IAMP.	
Commission	Essential Services Commission, established under the Essential Services Commission Act 2002	
CPI	Consumer Price Index (Adelaide, All Groups)	
Council	The Corporation of the City of Adelaide	
ESC Act	Essential Services Commission Act 2002	
F&A	Local Government Advice: Framework and Approach – Final Report	
FTE	Full Time Equivalent	
IAMP	Infrastructure and asset management plan (also called an AMP)	
LG Act	Local Government Act 1999	
LGA SA Financial Indicators Paper	Local Government Association of South Australia, Financial Sustainability Information Pa per 9 - Financial Indicators Revised May 2019	
LTFP	Long-term financial plan	
NFLR	Net Financial Liabilities Ratio	
	Net Financial Liabilities are defined as: Total Liabilities LESS Current Assets (Cash and Cash Equivalents) LESS Current Assets (Trade and Other Receivables) LESS Current Assets (Other Financial Assets) LESS Non-Current Assets (Financial Assets - excluding equity accounted investments in council businesses)  The net financial liabilities ratio is: Net financial liabilities ÷ Total Operating Income	
OSR	Operating Surplus Ratio	
	The Operating Surplus (Deficit) is defined as: Total Operating Income LESS Total Operating Expenses	

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Item	Explanation	
	The Operating Surplus Ratio is defined as: Operating Surplus (Deficit) ÷ Total Operating Income	
Regulations	Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011	
RBA	Reserve Bank of Australia	
SACES	The South Australian Centre for Economic Studies	
SEIFA	Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas	
SMP	Strategic management plan	
Advice or the Scheme	Local Government Advice Scheme	

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# Adelaide Central Market Authority

Draft Business Plan and Budget 2025/26





# **ACMA OVERVIEW**

# **OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSES**

The objectives and purposes as outlined in the ACMA Charter are to:

- Oversee the management and operation of the Market
- Be responsible for maintaining and enhancing the iconic standing of the Market for the benefit of all stakeholders
- Be responsible for the Market being recognised locally and internationally as a vibrant, diverse and unique fresh produce market community that is commercially sustainable for traders and the City of Adelaide
- Contribute to the development of the wider Market district
- Be financially self-sufficient in terms of its operations





# STRATEGIC PLAN

The 2023-2028 Adelaide Central Market Authority Strategic Plan was developed by the ACMA Board in consultation with key stakeholders. Adopted by Council in May 2023 and in its third year of implementation, the ACMA Strategic Plan is based on the essential pillars that are Our Customers, Our Traders, Our Business, Our Community and Our Market.

# **BUSINESS PLAN**

This Business Plan 2025/26 outlines the proposed actions within the strategic pillars and associated measures to progress the delivery of the Strategic Plan. It was endorsed by the ACMA Board on 20/02/2025.

# **BUDGET**

All actions have been budgeted for in the Operating Budget and through Strategic Project or Capital requests when in relation to Market expansion readiness.

## **OUR PURPOSE**

To be a world leading food and produce market that shares an enduring connection with our community.

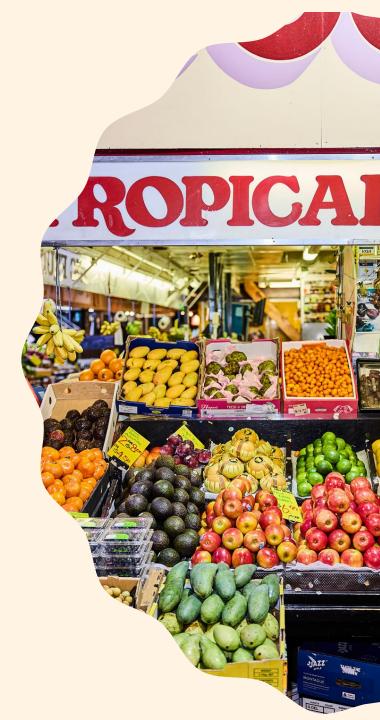
# **OUR PLAN**

To operate sustainably as a thriving team of Traders, Board and Management who create unique, diverse and memorable customer experiences that enhance our precinct, city and state.

## **OUR AMBITION**

To grow the market by attracting more residents, visitors and workers who shop regularly.





# STRATEGIC PILLARS

## **OUR CUSTOMERS**

We will keep customer experiences at the heart of all decisions, every day.

- 1.1 Know our customer
- 1.2 Engage our customer
- 1.3 Deliver extraordinary customer experience

# **OUR TRADERS**

We will work with our traders to support them in the delivery of an exceptional shopping experience.

- 2.1 Support Trader success
- 2.2 Maintain & Grow Trader advocacy

## **OUR BUSINESS**

We will take a responsible and sustainable approach to our business in pursuing positive long-term financial results.

- 3.1 Ensure our Market is financially self sufficient
- 3.2 Deliver Retail & Leasing Strategy
- 3.3 Deliver Marketing Strategy
- 3.4 Ensure the Market remains safe & secure environment
- 3.5 Treat Traders as business partners
- 3.6 Deliver brilliant basics
- 3.7 Focus on people and capability

# **OUR COMMUNITY**

We will make a valuable contribution to the economic, social and cultural wellbeing of our precinct and community.

- 4.1 Connect with our community
- 4.2 Contribute to the wider Market precinct

## **OUR MARKET**

We will deliver infrastructure and programs that address the current and emerging needs of our customers and traders.

- 5.1 Ensure quality outcomes for our Market
- 5.2 Review technology systems to inform decision making



# **Alignment of Strategic Goals**

ACMA priorities are consistent with the strategic goals set out in the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024-28. The actions within each ACMA Strategic pillar align with the following CoA objectives and outcomes:

	An interesting and engaging place to live, learn and visit	Our Customers	Our Community	
Our Community	An inclusive, equitable and welcoming community where people feel a sense of belonging	Our Customers	Our Community	
Our Environment	A sustainable city where climate resilience is embedded in all that we do	Our Community	Our Market	
Our Economy	Adelaide's unique experiences and opportunities attract visitors to our city	Our Customers	Our Traders	
Our Places	Create safe, inclusive and healthy places for our community	Our Customers	Our Business	
	Exceptional Customer Service	Our Customers		
	Financial Sustainability	Our Business		
Our Corporation	People Engagement	Our Business		
	Strategy, Value and Efficiency	Our Business		
	Technology and Information	Our Customers	Our Business	Our Market



It is a key action and aspiration of the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024-28 to continue to support ACMA in its delivery of the Charter and Business Plans. (Our Economy, Strategic Plan 2024-2028)

# Adelaide Central Market Authority

Detailed Business Plan 2025/26





# **Our Customers**

We will keep customer experiences at the heart of all decisions, every day

# **1.1 KNOW OUR CUSTOMERS**

Initiatives (as per Strategic Plan 2023/28)	Actions/Milestones	Measures	
1.1.1 Customer Experience Tracker • Identify customer experience to	Identify customer experience trends and satisfaction level through surveys	<ul> <li>Monthly tracking and biannual reporting</li> <li>Action feedback as needed</li> <li>82% or more Market satisfied visitors</li> <li>Monitor and report general customer trends</li> </ul>	
	Report on customer trends	Share information with traders and Board	
1.1.2 Customer Journey  Evolve customer journey analysis to understand why customers haven't visited recently, bring more people to the Market and keep them coming back.	Identify shopper segments	<ul> <li>Annual survey or research delivered with segmentation update</li> </ul>	
	Continue Customer perception and construction Impact research - reporting at each stage of building	<ul><li>Retain over 82% satisfaction</li><li>Share information with traders</li></ul>	
<b>1.1.3 Customer Insights</b> Leverage customer feedback from socials and Market Stall to drive customer advocacy.	<ul> <li>Continue to improve customer service digital tools and manage customers' feedback</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Respond to customer complaints in timely manner.</li> <li>Inform traders when feedback is relevant to their stall</li> <li>Track monthly visitation and customer feedback to The Market Stall</li> </ul>	
<b>1.1.4 Trading Hours</b> Align trading hours to customer preferences.	<ul> <li>Investigate options for One Market trading hours</li> </ul>	Establish new hours for Market expansion	





# **Our Customers**

We will keep customer experiences at the heart of all decisions, every day

# **1.2 ENGAGE OUR CUSTOMERS**

Initiatives (as per Strategic Plan 2023/28)	Actions/Milestones	Measures
1.2.1 Market Vibrancy  Elevate events and activations to drive Market vibrancy and celebrate cultural diversity.	Incorporate multicultural celebrations into event calendar	Minimum 3 events or activations with multicultural focus per annum
	<ul> <li>Manage and promote Producer in Residence stall as an incubator program for a diverse range of new and emerging food businesses</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Producer in Residence occupancy &gt;95% and minimum of 40% new businesses activating PIR</li> </ul>
	Develop and implement post residency survey for ongoing improvements	80% Response to survey by PIR businesses
		At least 120 musical performance per year
	Maintain weekly program of entertainment	At least 60 family entertainment activations per year
	Finalise music strategy for Market Expansion	Deliver prior to opening and on budget
	Finalise Christmas decorations design and order for Market Expansion (year 1)	Deliver prior to opening and on budget
<b>1.2.2 Connected Customer</b> Develop roadmap to connect with customers for entire journey, home to market to home.	Continue to work with CoA to improve car park experience and precinct wayfinding	Customer Experience survey results
	Grow direct marketing database	Market Lovers database growth 5%
	Update existing Digital Strategy	Increase reel and video content by 10%
1.2.3 Customer Service	Market Stall staff training and development	100% attendance at CoA courses
Expand Customer Service Desk offerings.	Investigate interactive map for the Market     Expansion	Scope options Q2
CENTA	,	





# **Our Customers**

We will keep customer experiences at the heart of all decisions, every day

# 1.3 DELIVER EXTRAORDINARY CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

Initiatives (as per Strategic Plan 2023/28)	Actions/Milestones	Measures
<b>1.3.1 In Market</b> Create compelling common areas for customers to play and stay.	<ul> <li>Detailed Design parents room &amp; storeroom *subject to CoA capital funding</li> <li>Gouger Toilets Refresh</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Project delivered to scope</li> <li>Improve accessibility and functionality</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Deliver additional cooling in common areas</li> <li>Market Hall Furniture &amp; Playroom</li> <li>Equipment</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Scope project in Q2</li><li>Design and ordered by EOFY</li></ul>
<b>1.3.2 Unique Experiences</b> Create an enjoyable and unique shopping experience.	Events and activations to be reviewed, updated and delivered as per the annual Marketing Plan.	<ul> <li>Event program updated to incorporate new elements and ideas balanced with the 'tried and tested' model.</li> <li>20 unique traders per annum participate in Market Trail</li> <li>90% ticket sales achieved per event</li> <li>Community Kitchen activated at least 15 times per year</li> </ul>
1.3.3 Online Market	Regular activity review to track trends	<ul> <li>Monthly activity analysis included in GM report</li> </ul>
Implement continuous improvements including personalised customer engagement journey; delivery and click & collect processes; customer rewards and leveraging online customer insights to address needs.	Develop Marketing plan for new and loyal customers	<ul><li>Customer retention over 60%</li><li>Maintain New Customers &gt; 500</li></ul>
	Annual review and viability of program	Measure customer satisfaction through annual survey





# **Our Traders**

**Market Authority** 

We will work with our traders to support them in the delivery of an exceptional shopping experience

# **2.1 SUPPORT TRADER SUCCESS**

Initiatives (as per Strategic Plan 2023/28)	Actions/Milestones	Measures
2.1.1 Unique Product  Traders to identify unique products and showcase provenance stories.	<ul> <li>Trader improvement on social media focusing on unique products. Share content with ACMA to enable media and PR opportunities.</li> <li>Trader improvements on labelling and signage to identify origin of produce.</li> <li>PIR offers promoted</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Feature one unique product a month through ACMA social media and Market Lovers newsletter</li> <li>Develop social media guide for traders</li> <li>Retail Design Guidelines is used to traders and implemented</li> <li>Feedback from PIR stalls re engagement</li> </ul>
2.1.2 Unique Experiences  Traders to treat each customer as special, every time and share expert produce knowledge with Customers.	Traders to provide excellent customer service and share expert knowledge with customers	Customer experience survey results and     Market Stall customer feedback
2.1.3 Customer Experience Encourage 'story telling' at point of sale, highlighting the stalls history and tradition.	<ul> <li>Provide traders with an opportunity to spend time with a retail visual merchandiser to identify key areas for improvement, when required</li> </ul>	Positive Trader and customer feedback.
	<ul><li>Encourage spruiking where possible</li><li>Support tastings and demonstrations</li></ul>	Promote in Market Talk - 1 per quarter
	Encourage conversion of event customers to shoppers via marketing activities	Surveys from Event participation
2.1.4 Visitor Revenue  Encourage traders to find opportunities to cater for tourists. Promote trader connection with event	<ul> <li>Support trader after hours events</li> <li>Include trader in event programs</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>4 traders events supported in kind by up to 20 hours per trader of staff time and promotion support</li> <li>Trader involvement - 5 per event</li> </ul>
CUSTOMERS.  CENTRAL  Adelaide Central	Encourage ATDW sign ups	Include in Market Talk 3 times per year and take up of 1:1 sign up sessions



## **Our Traders**

We will work with our traders to support them in the delivery of an exceptional shopping experience

#### 2.2 MAINTAIN AND GROW TRADER ADVOCACY

Initiatives (as per Strategic Plan 2023/28)	Actions/Milestones	Measures
<b>2.2.1 Trader Skills</b> Support trader engagement in business trends, retail and commercial business skills including marketing training needs as identified by traders.	Deliver online module component of the Trader Sustainability Program guiding traders to make business decisions about food waste, energy efficiency, sustainable purchasing, customer engagement and sustainable fit-out.	90% of new traders and those renewing leases successfully complete the online module.
<b>2.2.2 Profile Leaders</b> Utilise traders as ambassadors for general marketing activity.	<ul> <li>Create opportunities through the use of ACMA's creative, PR agencies and digital channels</li> </ul>	Min media coverage featuring traders 1 per quarter
	Develop brand licencing program for Market traders	<ul> <li>Communication of program to new and existing traders</li> </ul>
<b>2.2.3 Leverage Adelaide Central Market Brand</b> ACM Brand licensing program	<ul> <li>Incorporate brand licencing program into the Retail Design Guidelines</li> <li>Investigate 'Market Made' brand assets for Trader use</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Brand licensing program incorporated into new trader induction program and lease renewals.</li> <li>Exploration and proposal of 'Market Made' brand program undertaken</li> </ul>





We will take a responsible and sustainable approach to our business in pursuing positive long-term financial results

#### 3.1 ENSURE THE MARKET IS FINANCIALLY SELF SUFFICIENT

Initiatives (as per Strategic Plan 2023/28)	Actions/Milestones	Measures
<b>3.1.1 Financial</b> Work with CoA Finance to update ACMA Long	<ul> <li>Annual financial results meet budget</li> <li>Financial audit performed at least once per</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>As per budget and business plan</li> <li>Financially self-sufficient operationally</li> </ul>
Term Financial Plan. Identify cost efficiencies and revenue generating opportunities.	Waste contract renewal	<ul> <li>New waste contractor to be awarded by October 2025</li> <li>Cost efficiency vs previous contract</li> </ul>
3.1.2 Governance	<ul><li>ACMA Board strategic planning</li><li>AGM</li></ul>	Compliance with Charter
Manage Market and oversight of ACMA Strategic Plan in accordance with Charter, Council's	Administer Board of Management and Committees	Min biannual Governance subcommittee     meeting
Strategic Plan and Headlease.	Regular reporting to CoA CEO and Council	Governance plan reviewed annually
3.1.3 Lease Revenue  Perform annual market rent reviews.  Reduce close to open time for stalls during	<ul> <li>13 renewals FY 25/26.</li> <li>4 fit outs (delivered through CoA Infrastructure)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Leasing occupancy above 96%</li> <li>Total income generated as per budget</li> <li>RDM engage for all new Leases</li> </ul>
renovations  Maintain strong leasing occupancy	Continue the leasing of Market Expansion tenancies in line with CoA Strategic Plan	Tenancies leased or under offer in the     Market Expansion





We will take a responsible and sustainable approach to our business in pursuing positive long-term financial results

#### **3.2 DELIVER RETAIL & LEASING STRATEGY**

3.2 DELIVER RETAIL & LEA	SINGSIKATEGI	
Initiatives (as per Strategic Plan 2023/28)	Actions/Milestones	Measures
3.2.1 Retail Mix	Actively curate and seek traders to	<ul> <li>Deliver Market Expansion Stage 2 Leasing Campaign as per Leasing Strategy</li> </ul>
Establish a holistic market review and future strategy to solidify the market as the destination	<ul> <li>stimulate market mix</li> <li>Continue to contribute significantly to total volume of spend in the city</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>High satisfaction rate in customer survey (diversity/variety criteria).</li> </ul>
for food and produce. Attract and retain traders.		<ul> <li>65% of Market Expansion leased by or under offer Q4</li> </ul>
		Retail Design Manager engaged
<b>3.2.2 Fitout Upgrades</b> Develop design and display guidelines for tenancies, Producer in Residence and casual	Implement new Retail Design Guidelines	<ul> <li>Annual measure of stalls benefiting from fitout incentive program, as per incentive program and within leasing framework</li> </ul>
leasing. Encourage tenancy upgrades through incentive program	Review Producer in Residence Stall for upgrade and update guidelines	Producer and customer feedback





**Market Authority** 

We will take a responsible and sustainable approach to our business in pursuing positive long-term financial results

#### **3.3 DELIVER MARKETING STRATEGY**

Initiatives (as per Strategic Plan 2023/28)	Actions/Milestones	Measures
<b>3.3.1 Marketing Purpose</b> Ensure the market is recognised locally and internationally as a leading, vibrant, diverse and unique fresh produce market community.	<ul> <li>Using research data, develop an annual comprehensive, multi-channel, cost effective and actionable Marketing Plan</li> <li>Deliver brand campaigns outside the Market boundary (i.e. Gluttony partnership)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Exceed \$1.5M ASR media coverage</li> <li>Customer insights and trader feedback</li> <li>Full allocation of CMMF funds</li> </ul>
3.3.2 Tourism  Identify opportunities to drive tourist visitations.	Collaboration with CoA and SATC to engage with tourism visitors and operators	<ul> <li>Collaborate on 2 major city events (i.e. Illuminate Adelaide, Adelaide Fringe, Tasting Australia, Tour Down Under)</li> <li>Deliver as per Marketing Plan</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Investigate tourism products i.e. tour operators</li> </ul>	Business case delivered to Board

#### 3.4 ENSURE THE MARKET REMAINS A SAFE AND SECURE ENVIRONMENT

Initiatives (as per Strategic Plan 2023/28)	Actions/Milestones	Measures
3.4.1 Security	M 22 C 2 2 2 1	Number of incident reports
Maintain market security standards and seek	<ul> <li>Monitor performance of security provider to contract</li> </ul>	Security call outs reduced
opportunities for improvement.		Training for staff
3.4.2 Partnerships		Report on number of incidents.
Strengthen relationships with emergency services.	Proactively share security, health and best	Regular meetings with SAPOL - quarterly
Collaborate with CoA to identify security trends in the city.	practice trends	<ul> <li>Attendance CoA Safety and risk Committee meetings - monthly</li> </ul>
CENTRA  Adelaide Central		, ,



We will take a responsible and sustainable approach to our business in pursuing positive long-term financial results

#### **3.5 TREAT TRADERS AS BUSINESS PARTNERS**

Initiatives	A sti sus /B#il setsus s	Manager
(as per Strategic Plan 2023/28)	Actions/Milestones	Measures
3.5.1 Trader Groups  Continue to develop representative committee	Meetings in line with ACMA Charter	<ul> <li>Regular TRC meetings and 2 all trader meetings p/a, 1 TRC and Board meeting per year</li> </ul>
formats to deliver best outcome for market, including traders.	Seek regular feedback from traders	TRC consultation with their allocated trade groups
3.5.2 Communication	<ul> <li>Provide resources and industry news to assist traders</li> </ul>	• Trader communications open rate over 70%
Develop strategy for communications and trader		<ul> <li>Minimum 2 trader resources or industry news sent per quarter</li> </ul>
updates to achieve highest engagement.	Review delivery methods for communication	<ul> <li>Trader participation in surveys equal or superior to previous FY (depending on surveys)</li> </ul>





We will take a responsible and sustainable approach to our business in pursuing positive long-term financial results

#### **3.6 DELIVER BRILLIANT BASICS**

Initiatives (as per Strategic Plan 2023/28)	Actions/Milestones	Measures
3.6.1 General Cleanliness  Maintain market cleanliness standards and seek opportunities for improvement.	<ul> <li>Ongoing inspections completed</li> <li>Lease inspections upon renewals</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Contractor compliance with contract conditions</li> <li>100% inspections upon renewals with improvements plans included in lease agreements</li> </ul>
3.6.2 Brilliant Basics	<ul> <li>Review market rules annually to include minimum standards</li> <li>Ongoing inspections completed and remodial activities undertaken</li> </ul>	Minimal or no negative customer feedback     Decrease in post and related feedback

Ensure traders comply with lease conditions including cleaning and waste management, maintenance and repair and pest control.

- remedial activities undertaken
- Actively liaise with traders and ensure compliance
- Deliver preventative and reactive (as required) pest control programs

- Decrease in pest and related feedback
- 6 big cleans per year





We will take a responsible and sustainable approach to our business in pursuing positive long-term financial results

### 3.7 FOCUS ON PEOPLE AND CAPABILITY

Initiatives (as per Strategic Plan 2023/28)	Actions/Milestones	Measures
<b>3.7.1 Employee Experience</b> Retain and attract key talent. Maintain and grow employee engagement.	<ul> <li>Performance &amp; Development Conversations (PDC) feedback.</li> <li>Employee advocacy</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>100% PDC completed</li> <li>Employee retention</li> <li>Maintain and grow culture survey engagement score</li> </ul>
3.7.2 Team Capability  Develop Workforce Plan for Market Expansion.  Embed role and decision clarity.	<ul> <li>Access to professional development and upskilling</li> <li>Implement appropriate resourcing to manage increase in service levels</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Employee retention</li> <li>Market expansion activities are delivered</li> </ul>





# **Our Community**

We will make a valuable contribution to the economic, social and cultural wellbeing of our precinct and community

#### **4.1 CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY**

Initiatives (as per Strategic Plan 2023/28)	Actions/Milestones	Measures
4.1.1 Reconciliation Action Plan Engage with and recognise the Kaurna	Deliver market initiatives from CoA     Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).	<ul> <li>Deliver market activations and initiatives to exceed RAP actions</li> <li>Meet biannually with CoA Reconciliation Officer</li> </ul>
community and all First Nations as traditional owners.	Explore opportunity for an Arts and Culture for Market Expansion	• Scoping in Q1
<b>4.1.2 Community Engagement Plan</b> Connect with the broader community to ensure the market continues to be inclusive and welcoming to all.	Develop and deliver initiatives from annual Community Engagement Plan	• Deliver plan
<b>4.1.3 Sustainability Strategy</b> Encourage socially responsible and sustainable initiatives and measures to support our local businesses, traders and customers.	<ul> <li>Implement Sustainability Strategy 2024-27</li> <li>Develop Trader Sustainability Program in accordance with the GISA Leap Grant</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Deliver at least 6 actions from the Sustainability Strategy</li> <li>Implementation of Trader Sustainability Program and allocation of grant funding</li> </ul>
<b>4.1.4 Education Programs</b> Enhance connection with education providers and schools.	Continue to develop school database	<ul><li>Annual survey for school feedback</li><li>Number of student visitations: 7000+</li></ul>





## **Our Community**

We will make a valuable contribution to the economic, social and cultural wellbeing of our precinct and community

#### **4.2 CONTRIBUTE TO THE WIDER MARKET PRECINCT**

Initiatives (as per Strategic Plan 2023/28)	Actions/Milestones	Measures
<b>4.2.1 District Strategy</b> Develop a yearly plan for precinct connection and collaboration.	<ul> <li>Identify and plan yearly priorities, including:         <ul> <li>Key stakeholders and proposed programs</li> <li>Safety considerations</li> <li>B2B opportunities</li> </ul> </li> <li>Provide advocacy through the delivery of Gouger Street Upgrade project</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Consultation with AEDA &amp; CoA Market district Placemaking coordinator</li> <li>Annual review and Inclusion in the Community Plan</li> </ul>
<b>4.2.2 Collaboration</b> Foster collaboration with a focus on innovation and community engagement.	<ul> <li>Ongoing participation at precinct meetings and other meetings</li> <li>Provide Market updates and information to key stakeholders as relevant</li> <li>Support precinct initiatives and events when aligned</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Meeting attendance</li> <li>Lunar New Year &amp; Christmas support and collaboration</li> </ul>
<b>4.2.3 Street Presence</b> ACMA to explore opportunities to create on street	<ul> <li>Continue to seek opportunities for additional street signage for improved customer experience</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Increase signage during Victoria Square / Tarntanyangga events</li> </ul>
signage including CBD to Market and approaching streets.	Increase brand visibility	Plan delivered for Market Facade signage and Additional precinct signage
<b>4.2.4 Activate Frontages</b> Encourage traders to activate Gouger and Grote Street frontages.	Develop plan to activate Market Expansion laneway and make improvements	Scoping in Q3/4
	Collaborate with CoA and traders to activate street frontages	At least one activation integrated into event program





## **Our Market**

**Market Authority** 

We will deliver infrastructure and programs that address the current and emerging needs of our customers and traders

#### **5.1 ENSURE QUALITY OUTCOMES FOR OUR MARKET**

Initiatives (as per Strategic Plan 2023/28)	Actions/Milestones	Measures
	<ul> <li>Wayfinding audit</li> <li>Enhance amenities with consideration for bike racks for UPark (advocate)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Development of One Market Wayfinding strategy and operational framework (ICD)</li> <li>Market Stall Customer feedback</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Allow adequate storage area to ensure operational capabilities and efficiencies for traders</li> </ul>	Design Dry / Cool storage level one delivered (subject to CoA Funding)
<b>5.1.2 Operational Requirements</b> Provide 'fit for purpose' spaces.	Ensure Market Expansion services allow tenancies to be adapted over time such as grease trap, power, exhaust etc	<ul> <li>Tenants secured for Market expansion</li> <li>Federal Hall leased out following Waste &amp; Water Connections</li> <li>Delivery of Market preparedness project such as bin housing system, signage and casual mall furniture</li> </ul>
<b>5.1.3 Car Parking</b> Improve the customers car parking experience.	<ul> <li>Collaborate with CoA UPark to undertake regular reviews of car parking arrangements to assess pricing and offers, layout and operation</li> <li>Wayfinding and ease of access</li> <li>Expand discount / offers on Friday nights (*subject to CoA funding)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Monitor and report on customer experience survey results</li> <li>Awareness results from customer survey</li> </ul>
<b>5.1.4 Market Expansion-Construction Phase</b> Maintain market vibrancy and business as usual trading for customers and traders throughout construction	<ul> <li>Advocate for traders and customers throughout all project phases.</li> <li>Implement communications strategy including stakeholder and community relations.</li> <li>One Market approach for planning purposes.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Min weekly meetings with CoA project Manager and/or Builder</li> <li>All potential disruptions communicated in advance to traders</li> <li>Monitor and report on Construction Impact research (annually)</li> </ul>



## **Our Market**

We will deliver infrastructure and programs that address the current and emerging needs of our customers and traders

#### 5.2 REVIEW TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS TO INFORM DECISION MAKING

Initiatives	STSTEINIS TO INFORM DECISION MAKING	
(as per Strategic Plan 2023/28)	Actions/Milestones	Measures
<b>5.2.1 Business Systems</b> Implement improved technology to streamline	Delivery of tenancy coordination for Market Expansion	Automated processes for resource and time efficiencies
practices and create highest levels of efficiency as possible.	Expand people counters for the Market     Expansion	People counters working prior to One     Market opening





# Adelaide Central Market **Authority**

Draft Budget 2025/26





## **Overview**

#### **Program Plan**

Oversees the strategy, management and operation of the Adelaide Central Market as a commercially sustainable, diverse and iconic fresh produce market.

#### **Functions supported:**

- Market Operations (incl. Security, Cleaning, waste)
- Commercial Leasing
- Property management
- Trader engagement and support
- Customer Service and Visitor Information
- Events and Activations
- Marketing, Social Media, Website Management
- Media and Public Relations
- ACMA Board governance and support
- Online Market Operations
- Market Precinct partnerships

#### Outputs for the year ahead

- Ensure customer experiences at the heart of all decisions every day
- Enable and partner with our traders to support them in the delivery of an exceptional shopping experience
- Implement retail leasing strategy and transition to One Market, including securing new tenancies
- Plan and deliver programs that address the current and emerging needs of our customers and traders
- We will take a responsible and sustainable approach to our business in pursuing positive long-term financial results
- Contribute to the economic, social and cultural wellbeing of our precinct and community



## **Budget**

ACMA is in a transitional phase, preparing for One Market which will result in an expanded retail footprint, additional leasing revenue and efficiencies of scale for operations.

The ACMA Budget has been built from zero-base to ensure efficient delivery of actions outlined in the proposed ACMA Business Plan. In its last financial year before the expansion, the budget is built with stability in mind, to maintain visitation and grow customer experience. In parallel, it combines the requirement to invest in future operations and revenue generating activities.

The budget received ACMA Board approval on 20 February 2025 for submission to Council, as a draft budget for consultation purposes.

#### <u>Assumptions</u>

- ACMA Management Team 9.8 FTE, with provision for One Market resourcing: 7.8 ongoing, 2 fixed term contract (equates to 1.30% of the City of Adelaide's total FTE count).
- High volume of leases due for renewal: over 18% of existing Market floor, with 66 new leases to be achieved in the next 2 years.
- Assumes no change in trading hours this financial year.
- One off costs to prepare for Market expansion to be funded through Strategic Projects and Capital budgets.





## Finance Summary 2025/26

### **Strategic projects**

Adelaide Central Market Expansion Operational Readiness - \$938,937

### **Capital projects - New & Upgrade Expenditure**

- One Market Christmas Decorations \$175,000 (+ \$175,000 FY26/27)
- Adelaide Central Market Federal Hall Trade Waste and Water Connections \$50,000
- Market Expansion Readiness Capital Works Ground Floor \$1,000,000

## Renewal expenditure - part of Buildings Asset Management Plan

- Market Floor Fire Compliance Items -Stage 2 of 2
- Market Floor Tenant Stall Renewals
- Roof sheeting Replacement (construction)
- Installation of Automatic Exhaust System
- Basement Remediation (Federal Hall)

Total \$8,300,000

Note: All new capital and renewal works to be delivered by CoA Infrastructure, except Market Expansion readiness project, delivered by ACMA.



# **Budget 2025/26**

\$'000		2024/25 Q2		Proposed 2025/26				
Operating Budget	FTE	Income	Expenditure	Total (Net)	FTE	Income	Expenditure	Total (Net)
Revenue	-	5,343	-	5,343	-	5,645	-	5,645
Employee Costs	9.8	-	(1,580)	(1,580)	9.8	-	(1,776)	(1,776)
Materials and other *	-	-	(4,263)	(4,263)	-	-	(4,461)	(4,461)
Sponsorships**	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Depreciation	-	-	(36)	(36)	-	-	(42)	(42)
Finance Costs	-	-	(1)	(1)	-	-	(3)	(3)
TOTAL	9.8	5,343	(5,880)	(537)	9.8	5,645	(6,282)	(637)
Activity View								
ACMA Operations	6.8	5,257	(5,246)	11	6.8	5,558	(5,449)	109
Market Expansion	3.0	-	(399)	(399)	3.0	-	(600)	(600)
Online Market Platform	-	86	(235)	(149)	-	87	(233)	(146)
TOTAL	9.8	5,343	(5,880)	(537)	9.8	5,645	(6,282)	(637)

<sup>\*</sup> materials, contracts and other expenses / \*\* sponsorships, contributions and donations



# **Project Budgets**

## **Strategic Projects and Capital Projects**

\$'000	2024/25 Q2		Propose	Proposed 2025/26	
Strategic Projects	Income	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	
Adelaide Central Market Expansion Operational Preparedness	-	(220)	-	(939)	
TOTAL	-	(220)	-	(939)	

*****	Past Financial	2025/26 Budget		Whole of
\$'000	Year(s) Budget	New and Upgrade	Renewal	Project Budget
Capital - New and Upgrade				
Christmas Decorations - One Market	-	(175)	-	(350)
Federal Hall Trade Waste and Water Connections^	-	(50)	-	(50)
Market Expansion Capital Works - Ground Floor	-	(1,000)	-	(1,000)
Capital - Renewal				
ACMA Renewals*		-	(8,300)	
TOTAL		(1,225)	(8,300)	

^income generating \*delivered by CoA Infrastructure



# AEDA

# **Business Plan** & Budget

FY 2025/26







# Acknowledgment of Country

Adelaide Economic Development Agency tampendi, ngadlu Kaurna yertangga banbabanbalyarnendi (inbarendi). Kaurna meyunna yaitya mattanya Womma Tarndanyako. Parnako yailtya, parnuko tappa purruna, parnuko yerta ngadlu tampendi. Yellaka Kaurna meyunna itto yailtya, tappa purruna, yerta kuma burro martendi, burro warriappendi, burro tangka martulyaiendi. Kumarta yaitya miyurna iyangka yalaka ngadlu tampinthi.

The Adelaide Economic Development Agency acknowledges that we are located on the traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We also extend that respect to visitors of other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations.

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# Adelaide Economic Development Agency

The Adelaide Economic Development Agency Charter identifies the objectives and purposes of the Agency as:

- To accelerate economic growth in the City of Adelaide by attracting investment and supporting businesses, festivals and events, as well as visitor, student and residential growth.
- To promote the City of Adelaide as a destination and 'magnet city' to increase its visitation and use by residents, workers, visitors and the community.
- To position the Rundle Mall as the State's premier retail and commercial shopping precinct to sustain retail, business and economic viability.
- To ensure that the Agency operates within the terms of it's Charter and the Council's Strategic Plan.

The AEDA Board adopted the AEDA Strategic Plan FY 2024/25 - 2028/29 at its meeting in October 2024. The Plan articulates the approach the Agency will adopt in responding to its obligations under its Charter and the responsibilities assigned to it in the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan and Economic Development Strategy.

The Plan seeks to align, where possible, the measurements identified in the City of Adelaide's Strategic Plan and Economic Development Strategy to the goals of the Agency. To ensure alignment, this practice will continue to be applied to this business plan, noting many of the measures adopted by Council are significantly influenced by external factors and macroeconomic conditions.

This Business Plan and Budget identifies AEDA's priorities in 2025/26 and addresses the Agency's obligations under section 6.2 of the AEDA Charter to produce an annual business plan and budget for the ensuing financial year.



AEDA supports the economic growth in the city (postcodes 5000 and 5006).



Rundle Mall levy area.

# The Board

AEDA is a Section 42 Subsidiary under the Local Government Act 1999 (SA), and in all things acts through the Board. The Board has responsibility to manage the business and other affairs of the subsidiary, ensuring that AEDA acts in accordance with the Local Government Act 1999 and the AEDA Charter.

The AEDA Board oversees the business of the Agency. The skills-based Board includes expertise and experience across the hospitality, property development, placemaking, business development, investment, technology, events and tourism sectors. Council is represented on the Board by the Lord Mayor.

The work of the Board is supported by an Advisory Committee that provides a two-way mechanism for city businesses, mainstreet associations and other stakeholders to exchange information and raise matters that are within AEDA's functions and powers.



Steve Maras (Chair)



Jim Kouts (Deputy Chair)



Dr Jane Lomax-Smith AM (Lord Mayor)



Jaimee Charlton



Denise von Wald



Emma Kardachi



James Black



Tim Last



Matt Poblocki

# Structure and Funding of the Agency

The Agency consists of 31.6 FTEs led by a General Manager. Three senior staff members report to the General Manager with respective responsibilities for marketing and visitor economy, 'Rundle Mall' and business growth, investment attraction and event sponsorship.

AEDA is funded through an appropriation from the City of Adelaide, and from funds raised through the Rundle Mall Differential Separate Rate. The rate is levied by Council on ratable land in the Rundle Mall Precinct. Funds from the separate rate will be expended specifically and only to support the delivery of the marketing plan, actions and operation of the Rundle Mall Precinct and not the broader city.



# Economic Outlook

The AEDA Strategic Plan FY 2024/25 — 2028/29 provides an overview of the city's economic performance and outlook as of October 2024. It noted:

- · The city's rate of economic growth and increase in jobs has outpaced South Australia during the Covid recovery period.
- Significant construction activity has led to higher vacancy rates, despite decade high net absorption levels caused by firms moving into the city or expanding.
- Slowing of household spending, with Deloitte suggesting that private spending in South Australia will, in part, be constrained by relatively weak state population growth.
- Record numbers of international students, but the outlook is less certain. Since then commencements have declined in response to changing Australian Government policy.
- Strong recovery in visitor numbers keeping room occupancy levels at similar levels despite a significant increase in new hotel rooms, however, operators in the sector predict significant challenges in the near term.

Adelaide's economy is influenced and shaped by broader economic factors. Since the release of AEDA's strategic plan, the Reserve Bank of Australia released its Statement of Monetary Policy. In summary, the RBA suggests:

- The recovery in Australia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth is expected to come a little later than previously forecast, but household spending is still expected to increase as real incomes rise in response to tax cuts and easing inflation.
- Growth in Australia's major trading partners is expected to be moderate, but the bank revised and increased its 2025 forecast after an economic stimulus package was announced in China.
- · Labour market conditions are tight and are expected to continue to ease gradually.
- Inflation is expected to return to the 2-3 per cent target range in 2025.

Although the outlook for 2025-26 is uncertain, this business plan is framed within the following context:

- The sectors within the city that have comparative strengths such as healthcare, professional services, technology and public administration will underpin demand for commercial space, pushing down Adelaide's overall vacancy rates (although still elevated compared to the long term average).
- The creation of Adelaide University will have flow-on opportunities relating to increased research activity and a greater focus on commercialization.
- Headwinds for the retail sector, coupled with cost of living pressures, continued growth in online shopping and the opening of Burnside Shopping Centre's expansion within Rundle Mall's primary catchment area.
- Continued high levels of construction activity headlined by the new Women's and Children's Hospital, Lot Fourteen's Innovation Centre and the Central Market Arcade Development.
- Slowing population growth and restrictive visa policies could limit workforce expansion, with broader implications for economic activity and consumption. However the new Adelaide University and the further development of Lot Fourteen provide a unique platform to attract international students and researchers, fostering a pipeline of skilled workers.
- Although there has been very good post-Covid recovery in visitor expenditure with metropolitan Adelaide now capturing nearly 60 per cent, of State tourism spend, there is expected to be a plateauing of consumer spend.

# State of the City Snapshot

Gross	Total Growth as of 2022/23 YE June	5.7% Annual Growth
Regional Product	\$23.9bn	Higher growth rate than State economy Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research. Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id (informed decisions)
	Total Growth as of 2024 YE December	4.6% Annual Growth
Consumer Expenditure	\$4.18bn	Source: Spendmapp by Geografia
	Total Growth as of 2024 YE December	1.25% Annual Growth
Registered Businesses	12,717	157 more businesses than 2023 Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics
	Total Growth as of 2023 YE June	7.2% Annual Growth
Workforce	169,940	National Institute of Economic and Industry Research. Compiled and presented in economy. id by .id.
	Est. Resident Population as of 2022/23 YE June	
Residental Population	27,901	Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics
	Enrolments State-wide as of September 2024	29,477 Commencements
International Students	55,340	Source: StudyAdelaide

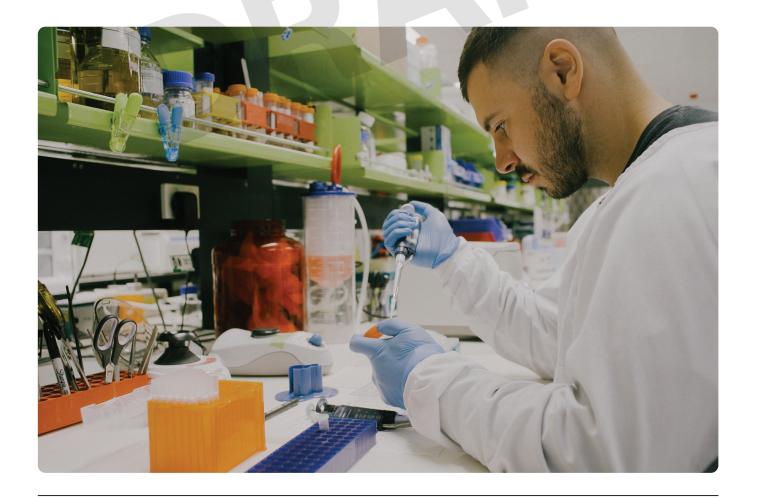
Down from 19.3 per cent in January 2024 As of January 2025 Total stock (sq m): 1,570,376 Total occupied: 1,312,932 Net absorption (sq m): 51,647 (past 12 months) 16.4% Net absorption (sq m): 22,606 (past 6 months) Office Vacancy Rates Source: Property Council of Australia As of January 2025 Historic low (10-year low) Residential Vacancy Rates Source: SQM as of Q12025 or January 2025 Main-street Fallen from 13.5 per cent in Q1 2024 or January 2025 Shop Vacancy Source: City of Adelaide Despite a continued Change in room supply increase in the supply of Change in room demand hotel rooms, the number of nights booked with city accommodation providers has exceeded levels seen in previous years Source: STR Hotel Occupancy Hotel rooms ave. Hotel rooms ave. Hotel rooms in Hotel rooms in city city end of 2023 (7,395) monthly demand monthly demand end of 2024 Rates 2023 (151,480) 2024 (162,206) (7,687)

# Strategies and Actions

The AEDA Strategic Plan FY 2024/25 - 2028/29 proposes that in line with Council's priorities, the Agency will increase emphasis on:

- Increased marketing and promotion of the city with a consistent brand that underpins AEDA's marketing activities, supporting investment, and visitor attraction (linked to Goal Two of Council's Economic Development Strategy).
- Continuation of support for events and festivals, identifying new tourism products and experiences that provide a reason for
  people to come to Adelaide and extend their stay, as well as increased promotion to intrastate markets and working with
  others to highlight Adelaide interstate (linked to Goal Two of Council's Economic Development Strategy).
- Enhancing Adelaide as a centre for education and collaboration (linked to Goal Three of Council's Economic Development Strategy), employing more people, and developing a more targeted and proactive investment attraction.
- Developing Rundle Mall as South Australia's premier retail destination (through new activations), a refresh of marketing activity, brand attraction and laneway activation.

Collectively, these interventions, in addition to business-as-usual activities, will assist Council to progress towards its Strategic Plan aspirations of increasing foot traffic across the city, increasing spend in the city, increasing the number of jobs and delivering marketing and promotion strategies to share Adelaide's attributes.





## **Activate Rundle Mall and Precincts**

Rundle Mall, the State's premier retail and commercial shopping precinct, energises city life and enriches the Adelaide experience.

#### **AEDA Strategic Plan Goal**

#### 2025/26 Proposed Actions

- 1. Rundle Mall strengthens its reputation as the state's premier shopping precinct and evolving entertainment and dining destination to increase visitation and spend.
- 1. Refine the Rundle Mall brand and launch a new brand campaign focused on the core strategy of "Shop, Explore, and Experience".

Other key actions include:

- Delivering targeted marketing activities aligned with the "Shop, Explore, and Experience" strategy.
- Implementing an events and festivals strategy that reinforces Rundle Mall's brand positioning, reflects the vision to "Energise Adelaide's City Life", and supports the goal to "Enrich the City's Economy."
- Create initiatives that elevate brand positioning, enhance market competitiveness, and promote Rundle Mall as the state's leading experiencedriven retail, dining, and entertainment precinct.
- 2. Create and commence the delivery of a new Rundle Mall Christmas Strategy aligned with the Rundle Mall vision and brand, complementing the City of Adelaide and Adelaide Central Market Authority Christmas strategies.
- 3. Extend Rundle Mall's activity beyond standard shopping hours by delivering activations in dining hotspots like James Place, hosting night markets in the Mall, and by promoting extended trading campaigns during key events such as festival season, AFL Gather Round, and other exclusive CBD events and festivals.
- 4. Deliver the City Sounds live music program.
- 5. Commence planning for the Rundle Mall 50th anniversary celebrations.
- 2. Rundle Mall evolves and regenerates with new capital investment.
- 1. Grow the appeal of Rundle Mall's outdoor experience by advocating for new artistic installations, lighting, and shading/greening initiatives.
- Advocate for the City of Adelaide to prioritise and progress completion of its Rundle Mall laneway strategy following the Charles Street and James Place projects, while supporting business continuity through targeted marketing activities throughout construction periods.
- 3. AEDA's relationship with Rundle Mall stakeholders and levy payers is strengthened through effective partnerships, advocacy and management of the Rundle Mall program.
- 1. Forge brand partnerships and implement targeted PR and marketing initiatives to elevate the Rundle Mall experience, enhance its brand identity, and attract new tenants.
- 2. Manage a Rundle Mall Concession and Commercial Management Program that reinforces the Mall's brand and place positioning while optimising revenue to fund other marketing, events, and activations.
- 4. Adelaide's destination and liveability status is enhanced through activated laneways, arcades, precincts and neighbourhoods across the city.
- 1. Leverage South Australia's events calendar, including the Fringe Festival, Adelaide Festival, WOMAD, SALA, Tasting Australia and Illuminate Adelaide, to enhance Rundle Mall's music, food, wine, arts, and cultural offerings. AEDA will support creative industries, including fashion, artisan producers, and makers, to deliver unique experiences and boost business profitability.
- 2. Deliver ADL Fashion Week.
- 3. Continue to support precinct-level activity through the Mainstreet Development Program.

2025/26 Operational Measures	AEDA Strategic Plan Measures
Total expenditure in Rundle Mall grows by at least three per cent.  Engage with at least eight new brands to promote Rundle Mall as a premium location to grow their business.  Rundle Mall visitation remains above 52 million.	Increase in spending across the city.  CoA Strategic Plan  \$150 million of capital investment committed to in the Precinct.  AEDA KPI
3 new major brand partnerships.  Concession income exceeds budget.	Improvement to Rundle Mall Business Sentiment.  AEDA KPI
ADL Fashion Week delivered.	Increase foot traffic in key and emerging precinct year on year by 1.5 per cent.  CoA Economic Development Strategy

# City Brand and Marketing

The voice of the city to consumers through Experience Adelaide and to businesses as the Adelaide Economic Development Agency.

#### **AEDA Strategic Plan Goal**

#### 2025/26 Proposed Actions

- 1. The Adelaide brand clearly articulates what makes our city distinctive and this brand position underpins all AEDA's marketing activity.
- 1. Create a consistent Adelaide brand identity that links all destination marketing and is consistent with the State brand.
- Work with precincts to boost their identity and find ways to ensure local area marketing and branding initiatives are developed and executed in a way that links to the overall city brand.
- 2. City stakeholders actively participate in marketing campaigns.
- Regular programmed engagement with stakeholders on latest marketing activity results, and upcoming plans so they can participate and support where relevant.
- 2. Develop a mechanism for city businesses to buy into co-operative campaigns to increase reach and awareness of the city, and increase booking revenue (in addition to business-as-usual promotion).
- 3. Visitors to Adelaide and residents can easily discover what's on across the city.
- 1. Deliver marketing campaigns that result in increased visitation by families, children and young adults, reinforcing the City's reputation as a retail, cultural, activity and entertainment centre.
- 2. Distribute weekly Experience Adelaide newsletter to its database of 144,000 subscribers.
- 4. Knowledge of Adelaide as a place to invest and grow a business is increased.
- 1. Provide prospective investors or firms, across key sectors, information about the strengths of Adelaide as an investment destination.
- 5. The AEDA brand is known, well-regarded and considered best in class in Australia within the business community.
- 1. Run business events that provide insights into Adelaide's economy, stimulate thinking about opportunities and enable businesses to use the information provided to inform their decision making.
- 2. Leverage the skills, networks and independence of the AEDA Board to expand the reach and impact of AEDA.



2025/26 Operational Measures	AEDA Strategic Plan Measures
Brand identity created.	Increase in the brand health metric for Adelaide as a destination to visit to 7.5/10.  AEDA KPI
At least two co-operative campaigns delivered.	Deliver marketing and promotion strategies to share Adelaide's unique attributes and emerging opportunities.  CoA Strategic Plan
Increase Experience Adelaide newsletter metrics to 36 per cent + open rate and 1.9 per cent click through rate.	Increase in foot traffic in key and emerging precincts annually in line with the Council's <i>Economic Development Strategy.</i> CoA Strategic Plan
	An increase in the number of new business and investment into the city.  CoA Strategic Plan
Provide at least three industry briefing events.	Improvement to AEDA Brand Sentiment.  AEDA KPI



# Growing the Visitor Economy

Visitors have an enjoyable, vibrant and dynamic city experience so they return again and become advocates for Adelaide as a great place to visit.

#### AEDA Strategic Plan Goal

#### 2025/26 Proposed Actions

- 1. Adelaide is viewed as an increasingly desirable place to visit.
- Encourage investment in new and expanded tourism products and experiences, providing new reasons that attract a diverse range of national and international visitors.
- 2. Ensure the Experience Adelaide website, e-marketing and social media channels provide equitable promotion of each content pillar (Attractions & Experiences, What's On, Eat & Drink, Trip Planning, Shopping), and each city neighborhood.
- 3. Expand destination marketing to new audiences.
- 2. Adelaide has a diverse range of tourism products and experiences that provide more reasons for people to visit and stay longer.
- 1. Support delivery of events and festivals through the Events and Festivals Sponsorship Program.
- 2. Continue support for Business Events Adelaide to stimulate economic impact including mid week demand for accommodation.
- 3. Work with institutions and operators along North Terrace to develop and market the precinct as a highly desirable visitor experience.
- 4. Support and build the capability of city businesses to develop new commissionable products and experiences.

- 3. Comprehensive information is provided to visitors on things to see and do in Adelaide.
- Open a contemporary visitor experience centre supported by technology that enhances pre-trip planning, wayfinding while in the city and connection with products and experiences.
- 2. Enhance online information about events and activities occurring in Adelaide.
- 3. Develop product knowledge of staff and volunteers so the information they provide through AEDA's visitor services is relevant and up to date.
- 4. Provide services such as the Adelaide Greeters, Town Hall Tours and cruise welcoming programs.
- 4. AEDA plays a pivotal role as a connector and central point for the visitor economy.
- 1. Work with the SATC and metropolitan councils to develop a Destination Management Plan for the Greater Adelaide region.
- 2. Deliver visitor economy information that provides insights to tourism operators and potential investors via face to face forums, monthly e-news and customised data.

2025/26	Operational	Measures
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#### **AEDA Strategic Plan Measures**

Increase the number of people who visit the city annually to 2.5 million by 2028 through local, interstate and international visitation.

CoA Economic Development Strategy

At least 30 events and festivals supported through sponsorship.

Maintain value of business event delegates.

Work with existing firms and new entrants to develop at least 10 bookable experiences.

An enhanced year-round event calendar, with experiences found throughout the city.

Grow as Australia's Festival Capital.

Grow the number and scale of business events hosted each year.

Grow the number of 4 and 5-star, and boutique hotel beds, to support international visitors.

Increase the number of airport arrivals and demand for city accommodation compared to 2023.

CoA Economic Development Strategy

Visitor Experience Centre opened.

At least 45,000 people provided with information through AEDA's visitor information services.

Invest in Adelaide Visitor Information Centre tourism assets to increase visitation and improve visitor experience.

CoA Economic Development Strategy

Destination Management Plan completed

Deliver economic data and insights to our business community.

CoA Strategic Plan

## Investment and Business Growth

An environment that attracts investment, supports emerging businesses and existing businesses to grow and increases the city's population.

#### **AEDA Strategic Plan Goal**

#### 2025/26 Proposed Actions

- 1. Growth in industry sectors that build on and extend the City's economic strengths.
- 1. Identify and target companies with the potential to establish, or grow, a city presence by:
  - Collaborating with state government on initiatives to attract inbound investment.
  - Delivering initiatives for sectors including health and technology (VFX, Gaming, FinTech, AI, Climate-Tech) by working with innovation hubs and research institutions.
  - Directly targeting firms in industries that are large occupiers of commercial office space that can either expand or relocate into the city (business/professional/financial services).
  - · Working with city-based firms to support their growth.
  - Proactively seek new investment opportunities including housing, retail brands, technology, tourism and professional services.
  - Assisting companies with their due diligence on investing in the city by providing data, information and customised property searches.
- 2. Work with institutional investors and developers to identify opportunities to increase the residential product mix in the City.
- 2. Street level retail and hospitality activity that contribute to vibrant precincts and mainstreets.
- 1. Support and promote precinct level activity to increase visitation and spend across the City of Adelaide.
- 2. Continue to invest in a program of events, festivals, activities and marketing that increase the number of people coming into the city, thereby increasing demand for retail and hospitality sectors.
- 3. Continue funding for Renew Adelaide to activate vacant shopfronts.
- 3. Businesses are supported to grow.
- Build on arrangements with organisations funded through the Strategic
  Partnerships Program to increase the number of students, increase and
  capitalise on business events, support a culture of entrepreneurship, activate
  vacant shopfronts and commercial spaces, enhance Adelaide's festival sector,
  and foster business growth.
- 2. Support emerging and small businesses to scale through initiatives that support business growth.
- 4. Data and insights deliver useful information to City businesses and prospective investors.
- 1. Design and deliver industry briefings regarding city data and trending topics of value to city businesses.
- 2. Disseminate key and timely data and insights to stakeholders.
- 5. Adelaide's reputation as a centre for health and education is strengthened.
- 1. Work with the biomedical sector to identify and progress opportunities.
- 2. Work with innovation places to increase the value proposition that Adelaide provides for entrepreneurs, the creative sector and technology-based businesses
- 3. Progress activity with entities including Lot Fourteen, Biomed City, the higher education sector and other organisations to enhance the City's capital city and central business district role.

	2025/26 Operational Measures	AEDA Strategic Plan Measures
	Work with at least 75 inbound/expanding companies, with an aim to identify an additional 2,000 new city-based jobs.	Increase city contribution to Gross State Product.
	Work with Council and the development sector to facilitate/support an additional three residential developments in the city.	Grow the proportion of workers in emerging industry sectors.
		Increase the number of new businesses and investment in the city.
		CoA Economic Development Strategy
		Activate and upgrade precincts to stimulate investment, visitation and maximise opportunities.
		CoA Economic Development Strategy
	Provide/support at least 8 programs to support emerging industries and the scaling up of businesses.	Increase the size and number of city-based medium-sized businesses.
	businesses.	Scaling-up of microbusinesses to small and medium enterprises.
		Growth by upscaling micro, small and medium enterprises into larger businesses.
		CoA Economic Development Strategy
	Increase the number of users of the data and insights component of the AEDA website.	Deliver economic data and insights to our business community.
		CoA Strategic Plan
		A city which leads in innovation and research through our world-class universities and ecosystems of innovation, entrepreneurism, creative and high-technology sectors.

CoA Economic Development Strategy

creative and high-technology sectors.

### Governance and Operations

#### **AEDA Strategic Plan Goal**

#### 2025/26 Proposed Actions

- Effective and transparent governance, reporting and processes.
- 1. Identify opportunities to streamline the Board and Advisory Committee selection processes.
- 2. Develop a reporting process that aligns with the AEDA Strategic Plan 2024/25-2028/29, which has been adopted by the Board.
- 3. Include a risk and emerging challenges section in the General Manager's report to each Board meeting.
- 4. Identify opportunities on which to seek the input of the Advisory Committee.
- 5. Clearly differentiate agenda items for which a decision is sought from the Board and those that are being workshopped to gain early Board input.
- 6. Board members to identify opportunities to utilize their networks to progress the objects of the Agency.
- 2. Establish an approach to funding that supports multi-year forward planning.
- 1. Work with the City of Adelaide to identify, implement and secure multi-year funding mechanisms to enable forward planning and timely and effective responses to emerging issues and opportunities.
- 3. AEDA is a destination of choice for people wanting to pursue a career in economic development and growing the city economy.
- 1. Ensure staff can develop their professional expertise and careers by ensuring AEDA's programs are impactful, contemporary and based on leading practices.
- 2. Identify opportunities to raise AEDA's profile through speaking and sponsorship opportunities at relevant industry events.
- 3. Identify ways to better recognize the contribution volunteers make to AEDA and the City.
- 4. AEDA is a prime economic development agency that effectively partners with the private sector, government and not for profit organisations to grow Adelaide's economy.
- 1. Work with industry groups and key business leaders to develop programs of activity that deliver mutual benefits.
- 2. Promote AEDA Board and Advisory Committee knowledge and networks to Council to progress shared goals, advocacy and initiatives.
- 3. Keep abreast of the directions and activities of Adelaide Central Market Authority (ACMA) and Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority, providing input and collaboration where AEDA can add value.
- 4. Collaborate with the State Government on opportunities to enhance economic growth in the City.
- 5. Engagement mechanisms that deliver on-ground intelligence to inform priorities and practice.
- Develop improved mechanisms to ensure the needs of all businesses, including small business, are considered in the development and implementation of AEDA's programs.
- 2. Undertake periodic scans of the on-ground business environment, capturing small and large businesses, a spread of industry sectors and government agencies to stay across of emerging issues and opportunities.

### 2025/26 Operational Measures

### **AEDA Strategic Plan Measures**

Opportunities and issues identified in the Board's annual governance review are addressed.

Opportunities and issues are identified in annual governance review and are addressed.

AEDA KPI

An approach to funding that supports multi-year planning is applied.

An approach to funding that supports multi-year planning is applied.

AEDA KPI

City of Adelaide Culture Survey results.

AEDA KPI

Delivery of Agency priorities through Strategic Partnerships.

AEDA KPI

Regular information on qualitative and quantitative business needs and opportunities are provided to the Board.

AEDA KPI

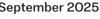
# Appendix 1. Budget Summary

AEDA Income Summary	2024/25 Q2 Budget	2025/26 Proposed Budget
\$000's		
Contribution from City of Adelaide — Operating Budget	\$8,039	\$8,607
Strategic Project Funding	\$733	\$525
Rundle Mall Levy	\$4,017	\$4,138
Rundle Mall Supplementary Revenue	\$380	\$380
Visitor Experience Centre	\$19	\$10
Other Revenue	-	-
Total income	\$13,188	\$13,660
AEDA Expenditure Summary	2024/25 Q2 Budget	2025/26 Proposed Budget
\$000's		
Business, Investment and Residential Growth	\$2,941	\$2,970
Visitor Growth	\$3,748	\$3,321
Brand and Marketing	\$2,108	\$2,326
Rundle Mall Marketing and Activations	\$2,466	\$2,605
Rundle Mall Admin   Operations	\$1,925	\$1,913
Strategic Projects	(accounted in above)	\$525
Total Expenditure	\$13,188	\$13,660
Strategic Projects	2024/25 Q2 Budget	2025/26 Proposed Budget
\$000's		
Addressing Tourism Product Gaps	\$133 	\$150
Commercial Events Fund	\$500	\$0
Rundle Mall Live Music Program	\$100	\$100
SATC Partner Marketing - Winter Focus	-	\$75
City Brand Development	-	\$100
Investment Attraction Program	-	\$100
Total Strategic Projects	\$733	\$525

Rundle Mall Finance Summary	2024/25 Q2 Budget	2025/26 Draft Budget
\$000's		
Rundle Mall Levy Income	-\$4,017	-\$4,138
Rundle Mall Supplementary Revenue	-\$380	-\$380
Admin   Operations Expenditure	\$1,925	\$1,912
Marketing   Activations	\$2,466	\$2,606
Rundle Mall Admin   Operations Expenditure	2024/25 Q2 Budget	2025/26 Draft Budget
\$000's		
Security Retainer	\$308	\$318
Employee Costs	\$1,276	\$1,315
Business & Investment Support	\$149	\$90
Utilities, Storage Rent, Licences, Insurance, Depreciation	\$191	\$189
Total Expenditure	\$1,925	\$1,912
Rundle Mall Marketing   Activations Expenditure	2024/25 Q2 Budget	2025/26 Draft Budget
\$000's		
Major Events & Activations (e.g. Christmas and ADL Fashion Week)	\$1,680	\$2,087
Marketing Services	\$519	\$415
Rundle Mall Assets Branding	\$70	\$77
Research & Insights	\$65	\$12
Placemaking & Vibrancy Opportunities	\$111	\$O
Other Expenditure	\$21	\$15
Total Strategic Projects	\$2,466	\$2,606

### Appendix 2. Rundle Mall Activations Calendar

Month	Activity – Events, Activations & Promotions
July 2025	Brand campaign (cont.)
	Winter in Rundle Mall (cont.)
	NAIDOC Week
	<ul> <li>British &amp; Irish Lions vs Aust/NZ Invitational XV</li> </ul>
	Retailer support campaign
August 2025	Brand campaign (cont.)
	Winter in Rundle Mall (cont.)
	Daffodil Day
	<ul> <li>Gathered Market in the Mall</li> </ul>
	Retailer support campaign



- September 2025 Spring fashion launch campaign in Rundle Mall
  - · Father's Day retail support
  - FruChoc Appreciation Day activations
  - Gathered Market in the Mall
  - Retailer support campaign

### October 2025

- Spring fashion in Rundle Mall (cont.)
- ADL Fashion Week event support
- October long weekend trading hours support
- School holidays
- Retailer support campaign

### November & December 2025

- · Christmas decorations
- Black Friday weekend (Friday 28 November) activations
- · Gathered Market in the Mall November x1
- Gathered Christmas Market in the Mall December x2
- · Choirs and music performances
- Activations to support extended trading hours
- · Vibrancy in the Mall in the lead-up to Christmas
- Boxing Day event and activations to launch sales in the city
- School holidays
- Retailer support campaign







### Month Activity – Even

### Activity - Events, Activations & Promotions

### January 2026

- Brand campaign (to support a successful Christmas campaign)
- Retailer support for January sales
- School holidays
- · Australia Day support for exclusive trading hours
- Retailer support campaign

### February 2026

- · Lunar New Year activations
- Valentine's Day retail support
- · LIV Golf player signing & activations
- MallFest to support Fringe and Adelaide Festival
- Retailer support campaign

### March 2026

- MallFest activity (cont.)
- · Long weekend trading hours support
- Retailer support campaign

#### April 2026

- Brand campaign
- AFL Gather Round
- · Easter (Friday 3 to Monday 6 April)
- ANZAC Day trading hours support
- Retailer support campaign

### May 2026

- Brand campaign (cont.)
- Food & wine activation
- Mother's Day retail support
- Retailer support campaign

### June 2026

- Brand campaign (cont.)
- · Winter in Rundle Mall
- Retailer support for June sales
- · King's Birthday public holiday trading hours support
- Gathered Market in the Mall
- Retailer support campaign



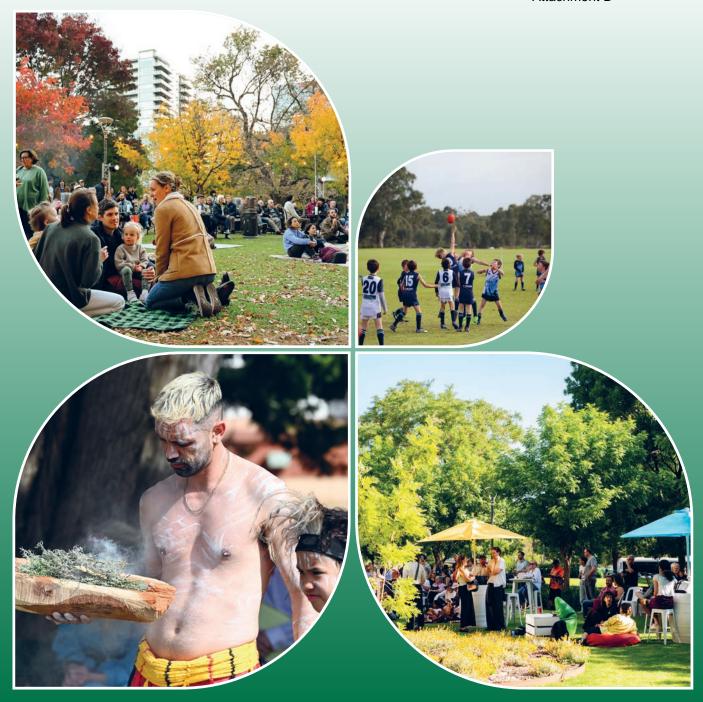




<sup>\*</sup>Please note that this table is contingent upon the completion of the Rundle Mall Marketing and Events Strategy, which is expected by mid-March. The table will be updated accordingly and prior to formal endorsement in June 2025.



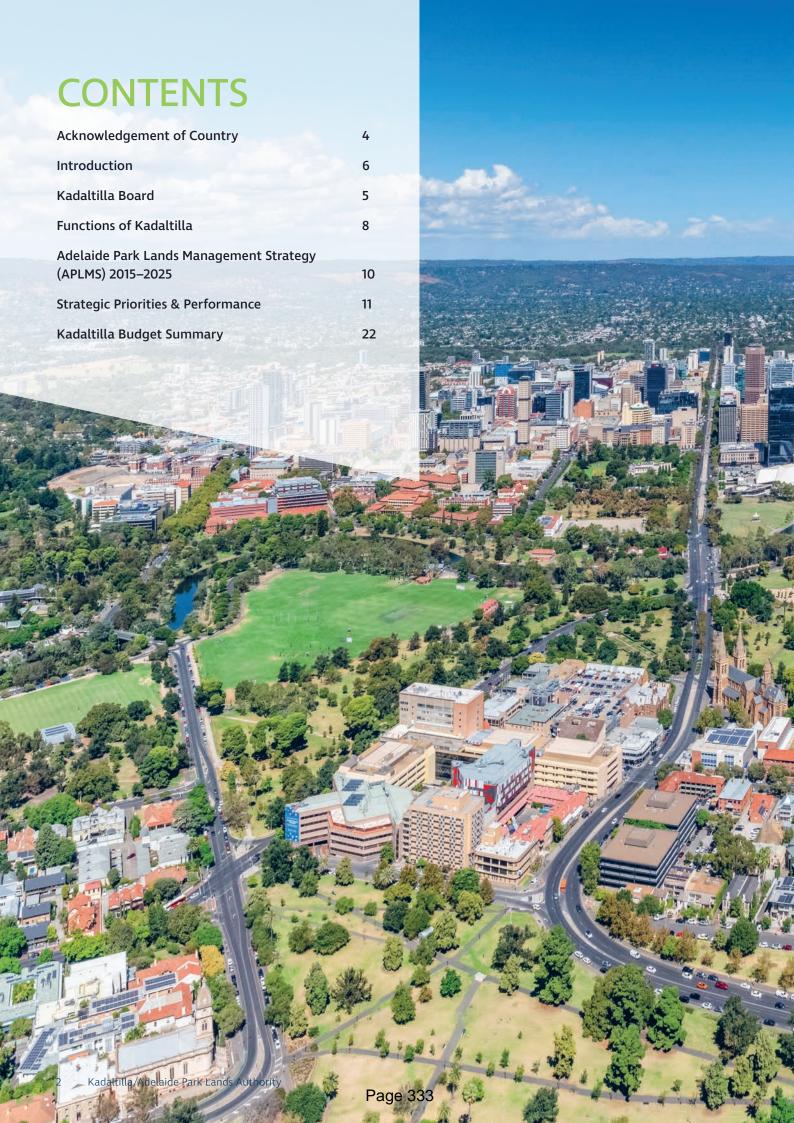


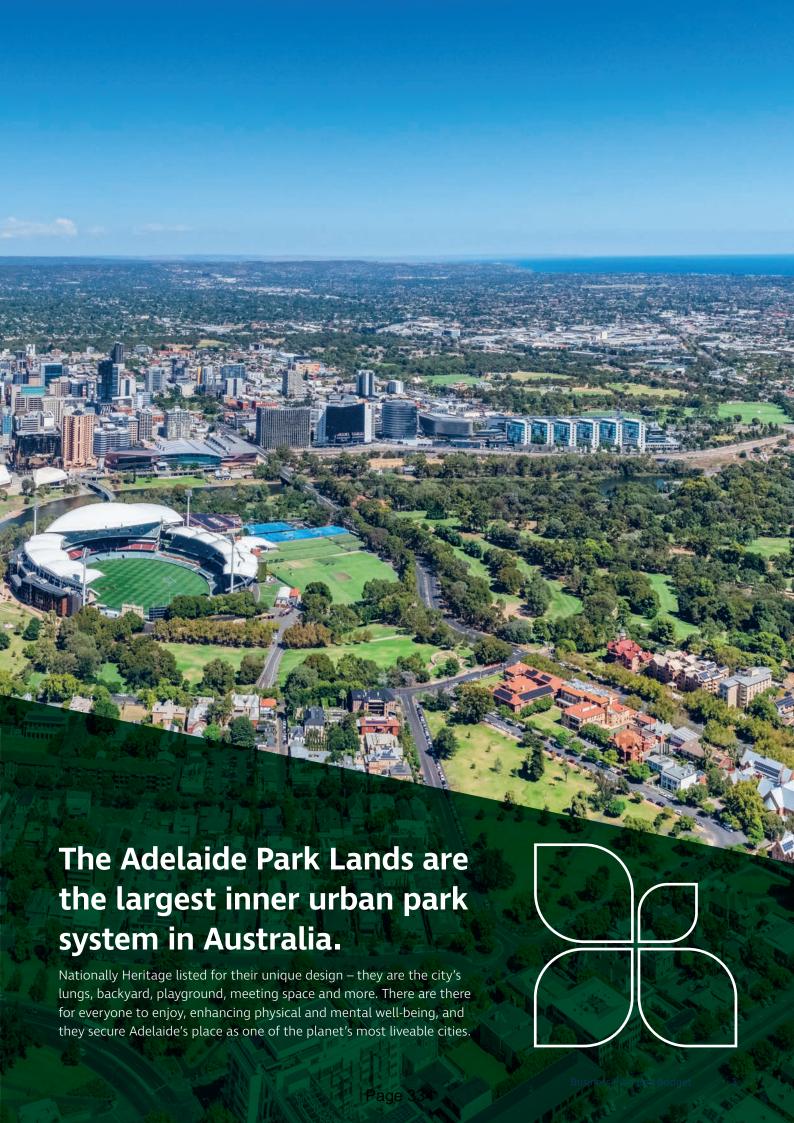


Kadaltilla/Adelaide Park Lands Authority

# Business Plan & Budget 2025/26







# Acknowledgement of Country

The Kadaltilla/Adelaide Park Lands Authority (Kadaltilla) acknowledges the Kaurna people as the traditional owners of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. Kadaltilla recognises and respects the cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship which the Kaurna people have with the land and acknowledges that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.

Kadaltilla extends that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations.

Kadaltilla is the principal advisor to both the City of Adelaide and the State Government on the protection, management, enhancement and promotion of the Adelaide Park Lands.

Kadaltilla is a traditional Kaurna word meaning Green place/Green lands/Parklands.

### Introduction

The City of Adelaide and the Government of South Australia are committed to protecting and enhancing the Adelaide Park Lands for the benefit of all South Australians.

The Kadaltilla/Adelaide Park Lands Authority (Kadaltilla) is the principal advisory body to both the City of Adelaide and the State Government on the protection, management, enhancement, and promotion of the Adelaide Park Lands.

Kadaltilla is established pursuant to section five of the *Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005 (SA)* and operates as a subsidiary of the City of Adelaide, pursuant to section 42 of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*. Kadaltilla acts in accordance with its Charter and the *Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005 (SA)*.

The City of Adelaide and the Government of South Australia, are committed to ensuring that Kadaltilla delivers benefit for the future of Adelaide's Park Lands as a defining feature of Adelaide.

## Annual Business Plan and Budget Overview

Kadaltilla is required to prepare an Annual Business Plan and Budget consistent with the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy and the Strategic Plan and Charter of Kadaltilla. Kadaltilla must consult with and obtain approval from the City of Adelaide for its Annual Business Plan and Budget.

The Annual Business Plan and Budget must:

- · Identify the performance targets of Kadaltilla
- Set the performance measures that are to be used to monitor and assess performance and achievement of targets
- Specify the financial and other resource and internal processes required to achieve the performance targets.



### Kadaltilla Board

### **About Us**

Kadaltilla operates as a subsidiary of the City of Adelaide, pursuant to section 42 of the *Local*Government Act 1999.

Kadaltilla and its Board are the same entity.

The Board is responsible for managing the business of Kadaltilla and acting in accordance with the Charter and all relevant legislation.

The Board is skills based including expertise across biodiversity/ environment, recreation/open space, cultural heritage, landscape design/park management, tourism/events, indigenous culture/reconciliation, financial and local government.

The Board comprises a Presiding Member (the Lord Mayor), and four other members appointed by Council and five members appointed by the Minister for Planning.

The Board receives administrative support from the City of Adelaide.



**Dr Jane Lomax-Smith AM** Lord Mayor Presiding Member



**Ms Allison Bretones** 



Ms Justyna Jochym



Ms Mitzi Nam



**Mr Craig Wilkins** 



**Ms Elinor Walker** Deputy Presiding Member



Mr Ashley Halliday



Ms Stephanie Johnston



**Councillor Keiran Snape** 



Mr Ben Willsmore

### **Functions of Kadaltilla**

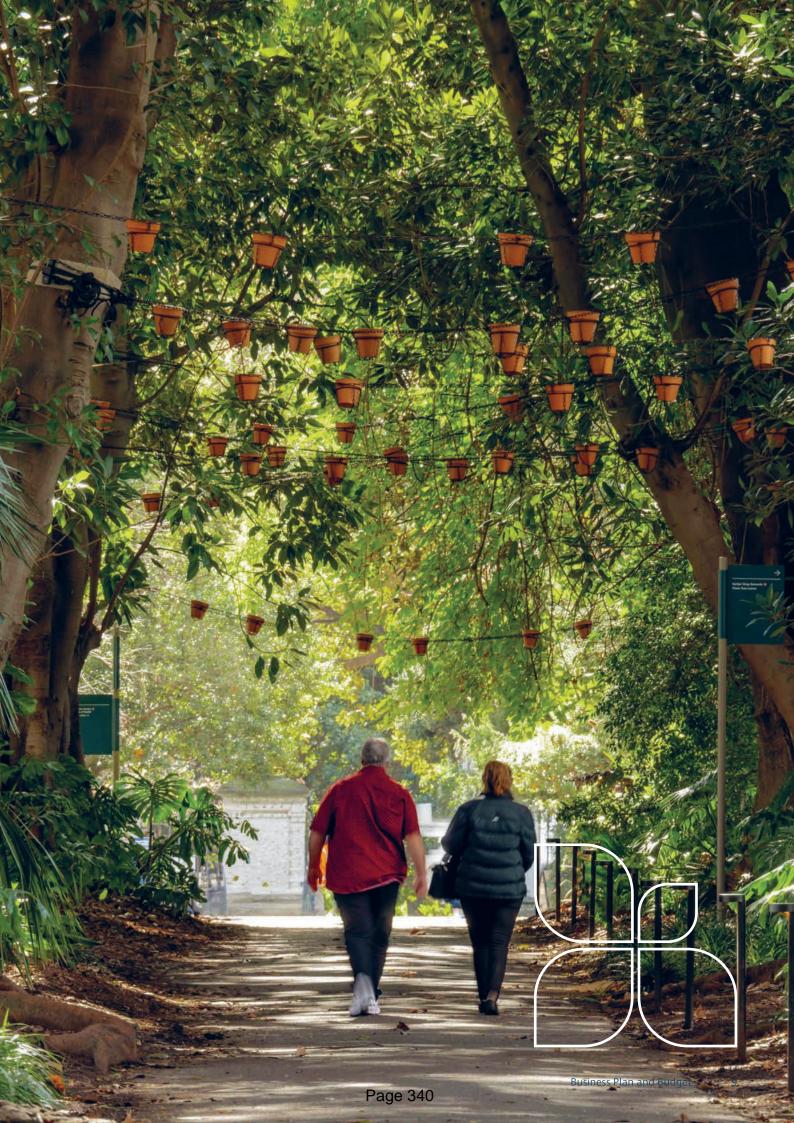
Kadaltilla is established to undertake the following functions, set out in section nine of the *Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005 (SA)* and its Charter:

- To undertake a key policy role with respect to the advocacy and promotion of the values of the Park Lands and their management and protection.
- To prepare and, as appropriate, to revise, the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy in accordance with the requirements of the Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005.
- To provide comments and advice on any management plan prepared by the City of Adelaide or a State Authority under the *Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005* or the *Local Government Act 1999* that relates to any part of the Adelaide Park Lands, and to monitor and, as appropriate, to provide comments, advice, or reports in relation to, the implementation or operation of any such plan.
- To provide comments or advice in relation to the operation of any lease, licence, or other form of grant of occupation of land within the Adelaide Park Lands.
- On the basis of any request, or on its own initiative, to provide advice to the City of Adelaide or to the Minister on policy, development, heritage or management issues affecting the Adelaide Park Lands.
- To promote public awareness of the importance of the Adelaide Park Lands and the need to ensure that they are managed and used responsibly.
- To ensure that the interests of South Australians are taken into account, and that community consultation processes are established and undertaken, in relation to the strategic management of the Adelaide Park Lands.
- To promote and administer the Adelaide Park Lands Fund.
- To undertake or support other activities that will protect or enhance the Adelaide Park Lands, or in any other way promote or advance the objects of the Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005 (SA).









### Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy – Towards 2036

### **Executive Summary**

### Partnering to preserve and celebrate our precious Adelaide Park Lands

The Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy

– Towards 2036 (APLMS) has been developed by
Kadaltilla in accordance with the requirements of
the Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005 (SA) to prepare a
Management Strategy to determine the Adelaide Park
Lands directions and priorities.

### Vision

Located on Kaurna Yarta, the Adelaide Park Lands support our environment, provide connections to nature and offer places for people to participate in events, cultural experiences, sporting and recreational activities. We will work together to enhance and protect the Adelaide Park Lands for future generations.

### Goals

### Goal 1 - Places and Spaces

Places of activity, creativity and tranquillity for everyone that support our changing lifestyles, health and wellbeing; offer diverse landscapes and natural beauty and provide a range of sport, recreational, sensory and stimulating experiences.

#### Goal 2 - Connections and Networks

A system of connected and legible places and spaces enabling safe movement via paths and trails linking the city to the suburbs, hills and coast.

### Goal 3 – Natural Systems, Cultural Landscapes and Climate Resilience

Places that thrive in the face of a changing climate and celebrate Adelaide's unique natural and cultural heritage.



### Strategic Priorities & Performance

Kadaltilla has adopted a Strategic Plan 2023–2028 with the following purpose and guiding principles:

### Purpose

To be the trusted voice on the Adelaide Park Lands which actively conserves, promotes, and enhances the environmental, economic, cultural, recreational, and social importance value of the Adelaide Park Lands.

### **Guiding Principles**

- Preserve and strengthen the integrity of the Adelaide Park Lands
- Promote the values of the Park Lands as Adelaide's defining feature, and an internationally unique asset
- Partner with Council and the State Government to advocate the benefits of the Adelaide Park Lands
- Advise Government at all levels on the management and usage of the Adelaide Park Lands for the benefit of all South Australian's

The 2025/26 activities of Kadaltilla align with the performance targets and measures 2023–2028 set out in Kadaltilla's Strategic Plan (as per reference number in the following tables).



### Cultural Value

Promote the cultural values of the Park Lands including Kaurna culture, heritage and wellbeing.

APLMS Outcome	Ref.	Performance Objectives 2023–2028	Performance Initiatives 2023–2028	Performance Measures 2023–2028	Activities 2025/26	Resources 2025/26
Goal 3 – Natural Systems, Cultural Landscapes and Climate Resilience	1.1	Seek Kaurna cultural authority in everything we do	Partner with Kaurna culture authority	Each matter that comes before Kadaltilla considers Kaurna culture	Kadaltilla and the City of Adelaide's employees will ensure that each matter that comes before Kadaltilla considers Kaurna culture. Strengthen Kadaltilla's engagement with Kaurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation (KYAC) and the Kaurna community.	Board operational allocation
Goal 3 – Natural Systems, Cultural Landscapes and Climate Resilience	1.2	Assist with Kaurna cultural mapping	Support Kaurna cultural mapping progress	Kaurna cultural mapping completed and used to inform Kadaltilla considerations by 2024	Phase 1 of the Kaurna Voices Cultural Mapping Project was completed in 2024/25 and Phase 2 is planned for progression in 2025/26. While timelines are subject to further confirmation and resource alignment, Phase 2 will build on the foundational work completed during Phase 1.	Board operational allocation
Goal 1 – Places and Spaces	1.3	Advocate for the featuring of the Adelaide Park Lands in relevant promotional campaigns	Develop specialist branding and promotion of Kadaltilla and the Park Lands	Adelaide Park Lands featured in relevant promotional campaigns	The Adelaide Park Lands are marketed using available means including website, social media, and brochures. Increased financial support for Adelaide Park Lands-related related marketing and sponsorship opportunities.	\$6,317 (a \$15,000 marketing budget bid has been submitted and is subject to Council decision)
Goal 3 – Natural Systems, Cultural Landscapes and Climate Resilience	1.4	Champion the development of World Heritage listing nomination	Regularly review World Heritage listing submission progress	State Government support for World Heritage listing submission by 2026	Continue to progress opportunities for World Heritage Listing with Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Councils subject to a City of Adelaide budget bid	Subject to a separate City of Adelaide budget bid in 2024/25

### **Environmental Performance**

Maintain and improve climate resilience and the landscape values of the Park Lands.

APLMS Outcome	Ref.	Performance Objectives 2023–2028	Performance Initiatives 2023–2028	Performance Measures 2023–2028	Activities 2025/26	Resources 2025/26
Goal 3 – Natural Systems, Cultural Landscapes and Climate Resilience	2.1	Define, protect, and enhance landscape values and design qualities	Establish performance principles for the Adelaide Park Lands	Landscape values of the Adelaide Park Lands have been defined, protected and enhanced	The landscape values of the Adelaide Park Lands were defined during the APLMS review in 2024/25. Ongoing advice will be provided in 2025/26 on protecting and enhancing these landscape values and design qualities, in alignment with the Heritage Management Plan.	Board operational allocation
Goal 3 – Natural Systems, Cultural Landscapes and Climate Resilience	2.2	Promote ecologically sustainable initiatives and monitor tree canopy cover, biodiversity, and environmental sustainability and design quality	Regularly review tree canopy cover, biodiversity, and environmental sustainability in the Adelaide Park Lands	Ecologically sustainable initiatives promoted, and tree canopy cover, biodiversity, and environmental sustainability and design quality are regularly reviewed	Tree canopy cover, biodiversity, and environmental sustainability data and insights will be included in the digital APLMS.	Subject to a separate City of Adelaide budget proposal in 2025/26
Goal 3 – Natural Systems, Cultural Landscapes and Climate Resilience	2.3	Consider climate resilience in everything we do	Undertake a climate impact assessment of the Adelaide Park Lands	Deliver a climate impact assessment of the Adelaide Park Lands	Commencement of a climate impact assessment for the Adelaide Park Lands.	Subject to a separate City of Adelaide budget proposal in 2025/26
Goal 3 – Natural Systems, Cultural Landscapes and Climate Resilience	2.4	Research the impact of climate change on the Adelaide Park Lands	Develop a better understanding of environmental values and trends	Environmental values and trends presented to Kadaltilla	Environmental values and trends data and insights will be included in the digital APLMS.	Board operational allocation
Goal 1 Places and Spaces	2.5	Increase the accessibility of evidence-based information	Regular online Adelaide Park Lands updates (inclusive of events, trends, gardens and botanical features and items dealt with at Kadaltilla)	Customers are well-informed through regular online Adelaide Park Lands updates	Update Kadaltilla's website so that it's easier to navigate and find information relating to the Board and the Adelaide Park Lands.	Board operational allocation
Goal 3 – Natural Systems, Cultural Landscapes and Climate Resilience	2.6	Improved irrigation and water management across the Adelaide Park Lands	for alternative recycled water	Reduction in use of bore water and increase in use of recycled water	Deliver the Adelaide Park Lands Strategic Water Investigation.	Subject to a separate City of Adelaide budget allocation in 2024/25

### Management and Protection

Treat the Park Lands holistically with an adaptive future focused approach.

APLMS Outcome	Ref.	Performance Objectives 2023–2028	Performance Initiatives 2023–2028	Performance Measures 2023–2028	Activities 2025/26	Resources 2025/26
Charter	3.1	Monitor delivery of priority projects in the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy	Regular review progress of the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy priority projects	Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy priority projects implemented	Continuously monitor and assess the progress of priority projects within the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy.	Board operational allocation
Charter	3.2	Advocate for and establish Funding Mechanisms to support delivery of the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy	Identify funding opportunities for priority projects in the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy	Funding secured for priority projects in the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy	Investigate funding opportunities for priority projects in the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy.	Board operational allocation
Charter	3.3	Review State Government Management Plans	Partner with the State Government to advise on management plans for areas of Adelaide Park Lands controlled by State Government	Advice provided to the State Government for the preparation of management plans for areas of Adelaide Park Lands controlled by State Government	Connect with the State Government to advise on management plans for areas of Adelaide Park Lands controlled by State Government	Board operational allocation
Goal 3 – Natural Systems, Cultural Landscapes and Climate Resilience	3.4	Advocate for progression of State Heritage Listing by the State Government	Continued support provided for the State Heritage listing	State Heritage listing progressed by the State Government	Continue to monitor progress and pursue opportunities for State Heritage listing	Board operational allocation
Goal 3 – Natural Systems, Cultural Landscapes and Climate Resilience	3.5	Assess ark Lands including economic, environmental and cultural significance	Undertake an assessment of economic, environmental and cultural significance of the Adelaide Park Lands	Board Members are well informed through regular updates	Assess the economic, environmental, social and cultural value of the Adelaide Park Lands.	Subject to a separate City of Adelaide budget proposal in 2025/26



### Expert Advice

Function as the peak advisory body for policy, development, heritage, and management of the Park Lands based on sound data and evidence.

APLMS Outcome	Ref.	Performance Objectives 2023–2028	Performance Initiatives 2023–2028	Performance Measures 2023–2028	Activities 2025/26	Resources 2025/26
Charter	4.1	Provide advice on plans, projects, and policies for the Adelaide Park Lands	Regularly review all plans, projects, and policies for the Adelaide Park Lands to ensure they have undergone review by Kadaltilla where appropriate	Advice of Kadaltilla is endorsed and adopted	Identify items requiring consideration by Kadaltilla. Forward agenda maintained by Kadaltilla/ Adelaide Park Lands Authority Advisor. Convene and support Kadaltilla meetings, workshops and field trips. Members remunerated in accordance with the provisions of Kadaltilla's Charter and Council's specific determination on fees.	\$254,554 (comprising \$74,204 for Kadaltilla sitting fees and \$180,350 for salaries and associated on-costs)
Charter	4.2	Engage with City of Adelaide and State Government including input into State Government initiatives	Partner with Council and the State Government to increase the accessibility of Kadaltilla	State Government engages with Kadaltilla on State Government initiatives	Connect with the State Government to increase the accessibility of Kadaltilla.	Board operational allocation
Goal 1 – Places and Spaces	4.3	Review leasing and licensing and event management policies together with other relevant Park Lands use policies	section on the Kadaltilla portal	Kadaltilla makes policy submissions on State and Local Government matters where deemed necessary	Policies section created and managed on the Kadaltilla portal. Reporting of lease, license, and events on Adelaide Park Lands, as required.	Board operational allocation
Goal 2 – Connections and Networks	4.4	Strengthen Kadaltilla's engagement with the City of Adelaide, State Government, and adjoining Councils	Strategic stakeholder engagement on Adelaide Park Lands related matters	The City of Adelaide, State Government, and adjoining Councils actively engage with Kadaltilla	Strategic stakeholder engagement on Adelaide Park Lands related matters	Board operational allocation
Charter	4.5	Increase the profile of the Kadaltilla Board	Create and maintain a social media profile detailing the business of Kadaltilla	The public is aware and informed of business of Kadaltilla	Build brand identity and management of a social media profile	\$20,000



### Governance

The City of Adelaide governance support enables Kadaltilla to meet legislative requirements and obligations arising from its Charter.

APLMS Outcome	Ref.	Performance Targets 2023–2028	Performance Measures 2023–2028	Activities 2025/26	Resources 2025/26
Charter	5.1	Maximise utilisation of skills, known and enthusiasm of Kadaltilla through effective meetings that foster dialogue and the development of shared thinking	Appointments to Kadaltilla are based on skills and expertise set out in Part 2, Division 2, Section 6 of the Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005 (SA)	Formal and informal opportunities to provide advice and expertise on Adelaide Park Lands (such as meetings, workshops and Kadaltilla portal).	Board operational allocation
Charter	5.2	Develop a high level of knowledge and understanding of the Adelaide Park Lands amongst Members through regular site visits and briefings	Undertake at least one Adelaide Park Lands field trip per year to facilitate greater understanding of Adelaide Park Lands projects, facilities and landscapes	Field trip(s) to be scheduled as part of the Kadaltilla forward agenda.	\$3,000
Charter	5.3	Seek early input into issues relating to the Adelaide Park Lands to ensure Kadaltilla advice is timely and relevant	Number of submissions reviewed by Kadaltilla	Kadaltilla Advisor to be represented in Adelaide Park Lands Advisory Group (APLAG) meetings to ensure relevant issues are identified and sent to Kadaltilla in a timely manner.	Board operational allocation
Charter	5.4	Monitor developments subsequent to Kadaltilla advice	Assessment of outcome for alignment with Kadaltilla advice	Quarterly external scan of developments subject to Kadaltilla advice.	Board operational allocation
Charter	5.5	Advocate for the value of Kadaltilla as a proactive, accountable, independent, skillsbased Board that advises on Park Lands management and protection	Receive at least two State presentations on Park Lands planning and management related matters per year	Advice provided to Council and/or the State Government on strategic matters relating to the Adelaide Park Lands. Advice provided to the Minister responsible for the Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005 (SA).	Board operational allocation
Charter	5.6	General purpose accounts are operational	Council's accounting procedures met	General purpose accounts are maintained by the City of Adelaide.	Within Council operational allocations
Charter	5.7	Annual Business Plan and Budget is in place for Kadaltilla	Annual Business Plan and Budget prepared in accordance with legislative and Charter requirements	Prepared by the City of Adelaide as part of internal processes. Subject to consultation with, and approval from, the Council.	Board operational allocation



APLMS Outcome	Ref.	Performance Targets 2023–2028	Performance Measures 2023–2028	Activities 2025/26	Resources 2025/26
Charter	5.8	Kadaltilla makes appropriate use of available finances provided by the Council	Quarterly finance reports adopted and presented to the Council Council's external auditor and Audit Committee is satisfied the requirements are met Kadaltilla financial management is in accordance with legislative and Charter requirements	Financial updates provided as required. Council's external auditor and Audit Committee performs the necessary tasks.	Within Council operational allocations
Charter	5.9	The Adelaide Park Fund is operational and maintained by Kadaltilla	Monies are received and expended according to the provisions of Kadaltilla's Charter	The Adelaide Park Lands Fund is operational and administered by the City of Adelaide on behalf of Kadaltilla.	Within Council operational allocations
Charter	5.10	Host an Annual Community Forum	A public forum is held by the end of October each year at a place and time determined by resolution of the Board	Notice of annual community forum made public at least 21 days prior. Forum documents and reports publicly available. Forum conducted in a place accessible to the public to discuss business of a general nature aimed at reviewing the progress and direction of Kadaltilla.	\$6,000
Charter	5.11	Kadaltilla's Annual Report is prepared detailing achievement of the aims and objectives of the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy, Strategic Plan, and Business Plan and Budget	Kadaltilla's Annual Report is prepared in accordance with legislative and Charter requirements Submitted to Council by 30 September in each Financial Year	Prepared by the Kadaltilla Advisor as part of internal administrative processes. Subject to consultation with, and approval from, the Council. Incorporated in the City of Adelaide's Annual Report. Copy provided to Minister responsible for the Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005 (SA).	Board operational allocation

APLMS Outcome	Ref.	Performance Targets 2023–2028	Performance Measures 2023–2028	Activities 2025/26	Resources 2025/26
Charter	5.12	The Council provides administrative support to the Board for the purpose of undertaking day-to-day management of the Board including, but not limited to, the exercise of Kadaltilla's Functions, powers and duties and the preparation for and attendance at meetings of the Board and implementation of the decisions of the Board	Council ensures that a senior officer manages the business of the Board at a strategic level, and provides the Board with suitable administrative support	Annual progress reports on the Strategic Plan, Business Plan, Budget, and Annual Report will be provided. Coordinate and initiate key matters for Board consideration, ensuring timely implementation of decisions. Efficiently manage and maintain the Board's assets and resources. Perform duties and exercise powers in accordance with the Local Government Act 1999 (SA) and other legislative requirements, as directed by the Board. Financial outcomes to be achieved in alignment with the Board's adopted plans and budgets.	\$5,420
Charter	5.13	Kadaltilla is insured according to the requirements of the Local Government Mutual Liability Scheme	The Local Government Mutual Liability Scheme insures Kadaltilla	Insurance for Kadaltilla is maintained by the City of Adelaide.	\$27,318



### Kadaltilla Budget Summary

Income Summary	2025/26 Budget	2024/25 Budget
City of Adelaide Contribution	\$322,609	\$328,402
Total Income	\$322,609	\$328,402
Income Summary		
Employee Costs	\$180,350	\$175,362
Kadaltilla/Park Lands Authority (sitting fees)	\$74,204	\$72,043
Brand and Marketing	\$26,317	\$25,550
Insurance, Audit and Legal	\$22,168	\$21,447
External Advice	\$5,150	\$5,000
Sponsorships (eg Adelaide Park Lands Art Prize)	\$0	\$15,000
Kadaltilla Operations	\$14,420	\$14,000
Total Expenditure	\$322,609	\$328,402







### **Asset Accounting Policy Review**

Strategic Alignment - Our Corporation

**Public** 

### Agenda Item 6.4

Friday, 16 May 2025

Audit and Risk Committee

**Program Contact:** 

Nicole Van Berkel, Acting Associate Director Finance & Procurement

**Approving Officer:** 

Anthony Spartalis, Chief Operating Officer

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report seeks feedback from the Audit and Risk Committee on the updated Asset Accounting Policy (renamed Fixed Asset Accounting Policy), prior to presenting to Council for Adoption.

The Asset Accounting Policy (the Policy) objective is to ensure that accounting treatment for non-current assets complies with the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA), Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 (SA),* SA Model Financial Statements of the relevant financial year, and Australian Accounting Standards.

Council adopted the current Policy in September 2020, and a scheduled review has been conducted. The current Policy is shown here Link 1.

The review recommends no substantive amendments but has clarified and simplified wording of the current policy and proposes changing the policy name to *Fixed Asset Accounting Policy* to better reflect its scope.

The proposed Fixed Asset Accounting Policy with tracked changes is shown in **Attachment A** and the proposed revised Fixed Asset Accounting Policy is shown in **Attachment B**. A table of the key changes and comments for both Policies is included in **Attachment C**.

### RECOMMENDATION

### THAT THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL

### THAT COUNCIL

- Notes the updated Fixed Aset Policy (formerly "Asset Accounting Policy") with amendments shown as track changes, as contained in Attachment A to Item 6.4 on the Agenda for the Audit and Risk Committee held on 16 May 2025
- Adopts the updated Fixed Asset Accounting Policy (formerly "Asset Accounting Policy") as contained in Attachment B to Item 6.4 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee held on 16 May 2025.
- Notes the table summarising changes made to the Fixed Asset Accounting Policy (formerly "Asset Accounting Policy") as contained in Attachment C to Item 6.4 on the Agenda for the Audit and Risk Committee held on 16 May 2025.
- 4. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to make minor, typographical, syntactical and technical updates to the Fixed Asset Accounting Policy (formerly "Asset Accounting Policy") as contained in Attachment B to Item 6.4 on the Agenda for the Audit and Risk Committee held on 16 May 2025 to finalise the document.

### **IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS**

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Corporation Create, maintain and integrate plans and policies that reflect, and guide decision making and support our city and our community to thrive.	
Policy	This report proposes minor changes to the existing Asset Accounting Policy. The review recommends no substantive amendments but has clarified and simplified wording of the current policy and proposes changing the policy name to Fixed Asset Accounting Policy to better reflect its scope.	
Consultation	Not as a result of this report	
Resource	Not as a result of this report	
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Accounting for non-current assets correctly requires adherence to specific legislation, regulations and standards, including:  • Local Government Act 1999 (SA)  • Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 (SA)  • Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) 13 Fair Value Measurement  • AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements  • AASB 116 Property, Plant & Equipment  • AASB 136 Impairment of Assets	
Opportunities	Not as a result of this report	
24/25 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report	
Proposed 25/26 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	
24/25 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

- The Asset Accounting Policy (the Policy) as shown in <u>Link 1</u> is scheduled to be reviewed every two years.
   The Policy was first developed and introduced in 2020.
- 2. The Policy will now be scheduled for review every four years in line with the term of Council.
- 3. The purpose of this Policy is to define how the City of Adelaide ensures accounting treatment for non-current assets complies with the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*, *Local Government (Financial Management)*Regulations 2011 (SA), SA Model Financial Statements of the relevant financial year, and Australian Accounting Standards.
- 4. The name and policy wording has been updated to Fixed Asset Accounting Policy (formerly Asset Accounting Policy) to reflect coverage only of the accounting treatment for non-current assets.
- 5. Accounting for non-current assets correctly requires adherence to specific legislation, regulations and standards, including:
  - 5.1 Local Government Act 1999 (SA)
  - 5.2 Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 (SA)
  - 5.3 Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) 13 Fair Value Measurement
  - 5.4 AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements
  - 5.5 AASB 116 Property, Plant & Equipment
  - 5.6 AASB 136 Impairment of Assets
- 6. Other City of Adelaide guidelines and policies also align with this policy, and include:
  - 6.1 Fixed Asset Accounting Guidelines
  - 6.2 Acquisition & Disposal of Land & Assets Policy
  - 6.3 Asset Management Policy (including Asset Management Plans)
- 7. The Fixed Asset Accounting Policy incorporates all the relevant legislation, regulations, standards, guidelines and policies.
- 8. The review recommends no substantive amendments but has clarified and simplified wording of the current policy, aligning the policy to current processes and proposes changing the policy name to Fixed Asset Accounting Policy to better reflect its scope.
- 9. The updated Policy with tracked changes can be viewed at Attachment A, and without tracked changes at Attachment B.
- 10. Changes made to the Asset Accounting Policy are summarised in a table of key changes and comments at Attachment C.

### DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

<u>Link 1</u> – Asset Accounting Policy (2020)

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A - Asset Accounting Policy - Tracked changes

**Attachment B** - Fixed Asset Accounting Policy (formerly Asset Accounting Policy) - Revised no tracked changes **Attachment C** - Fixed Asset Accounting Policy (formerly Asset Accounting Policy) - Table of key changes and

comments



### **FIXED ASSET ACCOUNTING POLICY**

<u>May 2025</u>

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#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to outline the approach to be used by the City of Adelaide (CoA) when accounting for non-current assets including the treatment of capital expenditure, depreciation, revaluations, disposals and acquisition and to ensure that the accounting treatment used complies with the *Local Government Act 1999*, *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* and Australian Accounting Standards.

#### **STATEMENT**

The City of Adelaide is committed to:

- Ensuring compliance with all Australian Accounting Standards, the Local Government Act 1999 (SA), and the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 (SA)
- Ensuring that all assets are managed efficiently in accordance with relevant Asset Management Plans (AMP's)
- Ensuring all processes undertaken in relation to this policy are documented and defensible to external audit
- Providing guidance, clarity, and consistency with regards to the treatment of non-current assets which
  will provide greater understanding and accuracy of Councils capital requirements.

The City of Adelaide will adopt these principles in developing and maintaining consistent asset accounting policies and practices.

#### **REFERENCES**

- Local Government Act 1999 (SA)
- Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 (SA)
- Fixed Asset Accounting Guidelines (City of Adelaide)
- Portable and Attractive Assets Register (City of Adelaide)
- South Australia Model Financial Statements

#### Australian Accounting Standards

- AASB 13 Fair Value <u>Measurement</u>
- AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements
- AASB 116 Property, Plant & Equipment
- \_\_AASB 136 Impairment of Assets
- Acquisition & Disposal of Land & Assets Policy (City of Adelaide)
- Asset Management Policy (City of Adelaide)
- Asset Management Plans

#### **SCOPE**

This policy applies to all CoA non-current assets in relation to their treatment for financial purposes.

Council's non-current assets include:

Land

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City of Adelaide Fixed Asset Accounting Policy

#### CITY OF ADELAIDE

- Buildings
- Park Land and Open Space
- Infrastructure
- Plant and Equipment
- Library Books
- Civic Collection
- Equipment, Furniture and Fittings.

This policy does not apply to intangible assets, receivables, leases, inventory, or investments.

#### **ASSET RECOGNITION**

Australian Accounting Standard AASB 116 states that the cost of an item of property, plant and equipment shall be recognised as an asset (and capitalised) if and only if:

- It is probable that the future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the entity (CoA) and
- The cost of the item can be reliably measured.

All assets are to be initially recognised at cost where the cost exceeds the recognition threshold as set by Council.

Cost is determined as the amount of cash or cash equivalents paid or the fair value of the consideration given to acquire an asset at the time of acquisition or construction.

For assets acquired by Council at no cost or for nominal consideration, cost will be determined as the fair value as at the date of acquisition.

### **CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**

Expenditure directly attributable to the cost of an asset will be capitalised and may comprise:

- \_\_\_The purchase price, including import duties and any non-refundable taxes, less any trade discounts or rebates
- Any costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management
- The cost of dismantling, removing, and relocating the item and restoring the site on which it was located
- Initial delivery, insurance, and other handling costs
- Employee costs arising directly from the <u>construction or</u> purchase of an asset
- Costs of site preparation
- Installation and assembly costs
- Costs of commissioning
- Professional fees
- Project overhead allocation
- Detailed design costs.

Any additional expenditure incurred after an asset has been recognised will be capitalised only when the expense results in a renewal or upgrade of the asset's underlying service potential.

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Page | 2

City of Adelaide Fixed Asset Accounting Policy

#### **NON-CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**

Expenditure not directly attributable to the cost of an asset will be expensed and may comprise:

- Costs of opening a new facility
- Advertising and promotion
- Software maintenance and licence agreement charges
- General administration and overhead costs
- Feasibility and research studies
- Master plans, concept plans and other investigations to determine if a capital project will be undertaken
- Inspection costs.

Additionally, any expenditure incurred that is below the recognition threshold or that is not incidental to the acquisition of an asset will be expensed.

#### **GROUPED ASSETS**

Where Council purchases numerous units of the same item, consideration should be given to recognising and aggregating the individual units into a grouped asset. The material value of the grouped assets can then be depreciated over the estimated useful lives which better reflects the benefits being realised.

#### **NETWORK ASSETS**

Where Council purchases numerous units of differing but interconnected items, such as for a drainage or IT hardware system, consideration should be given to recognising and aggregating the individual units into a networked asset, noting that in the absence of aggregation, the removal of a network asset may mean the entire system does not function to full capacity. The material value of the network assets can then be depreciated over the estimated useful lives which better reflects the benefits being realised.

# PORTABLE and ATTRACTIVE ASSETS (MINOR ASSETS)

Portable and attractive assets are tangible items with a value below the CoA's recognition threshold but are susceptible to theft or loss due to their portable nature, size and attractiveness for personal use or resale.

Examples of items that meet these criteria include:

- Laptop computers
- Tablets
- Mobile phones
- Cameras
- TV's
- DVDs
- Printers
- Power tools.

Portable and attractive assets <u>may be</u> expensed in the financial year in which they are acquired. However, in order to identify and maintain physical control all items should be recorded on the "Portable and Attractive Assets Register" as they are acquired.

A stocktake of the register should be performed on a rolling category approach and any anomalies followed up promptly.

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#### **SPARE PARTS**

Minor items of spare parts are typically carried as inventory and expensed when utilised for repairs and maintenance of an asset.

However, major spare parts will be recognised as an asset when the following criteria are met:

- Item exceeds the recognition threshold
- Benefits will be obtained for more than one year
- The spare part can only be used in connection with an asset that is already recorded in the asset register.

#### **WORK IN PROGRESS**

All the project costs incurred in realising an asset are to be accumulated and disclosed in a separate asset balance sheet account known as Work in Progress (WIP).

Each project should be separately identified in the WIP account to enable costs to be easily allocated.

Once the project is completed the total costs should be transferred from WIP to the applicable asset class.

At CoA, a "Project Handover <u>Workflow</u>" is required as formal evidence that the project has been completed and the capitalisation of WIP can occur. Handover should <u>be completed</u> no later than six months after practical completion. <u>Additionally, CoA aims to achieve a KPI of finalising at least 70% of handovers within 10 weeks of practical completion</u>.

An annual review of WIP will be conducted at end of year to ensure that all expenditure is of a capital nature and for ongoing projects.

#### **MAINTENANCE, RENEWALS, and UPGRADES**

After initial recognition, the condition of assets will start to deteriorate, and the level of service supported by those assets will begin to decline.

Council assets are maintained through annual capital programs and asset management plans.

This will include expenditure on:

- Maintenance: to ensure asset continues to operate at normal capacity until the end of its useful life
- Renewal: restoring an assets service potential and extending the useful life of the asset beyond that which had originally been intended
- Upgrade: existing assets are enhanced to enable a higher level of service to be achieved.

# **RECOGNITION (CAPITALISATION) THRESHOLD**

For the CoA, assets with an economic life in excess of one year will only be capitalised where the cost of acquisition exceeds the <u>current</u> recognition threshold of \$5,000.

Items of property, plant, and equipment with a total value of less than \$5,000 will be treated as an expense in the year of acquisition unless they have been identified as belonging to a grouped or networked asset category.

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#### **REVALUATIONS**

All material asset classes are to be revalued <u>regularly</u>, at <u>intervals not exceeding five years</u>, to ensure the carrying values are not materially different from the<u>ir</u> fair values.

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If any item of an asset class is revalued, the entire class to which that item belongs must also be revalued.

A desktop revaluation will be performed annually between revaluations for the following asset classes:

- Lighting & Electrical
- Transportation
- Water Infrastructure
- Park Lands and Open Space

Land and Buildings are valued at Market Value; and Urban Elements are short life assts, as such it is not deemed appropriate to perform an annual indexation. Plant, Fleet & Equipment assets are valued at cost.

#### DEPRECIATION

Each asset in Council's asset register, excluding those deemed to have an unlimited useful life, will be depreciated separately to reflect the different useful lives of each asset.

The CoA uses the straight-line depreciation method as it best reflects the uniform consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets. Under the straight-line method, the allocation of depreciation expense will be consistent over the useful life of the asset, unless the fair value, residual value or useful life of the asset is amended.

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values of all asset classes should be reviewed annually.

#### COMPONENTISATION

Assets that are made up of significant parts (components) which in turn have different useful lives must be separately depreciated.

## **IMPAIRMENT**

Assets that are subject to depreciation are to be reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may no longer be recoverable.

As per Australian Accounting Standard AASB <u>136</u> Council is required at reporting date to assess whether any assets are impaired. The indicators of impairment can include:

- Economic performance
- Obsolescence
- Significant change to the asset's original use.

An impairment loss is recognised as an expense immediately in profit or loss unless that asset is carried at a revalued amount. For revalued assets, the impairment loss shall be treated as a revaluation decrease to the extent that it offsets any revaluation surplus previously recognised for that class of asset, and movement recognised in the Statement of Other Comprehensive Income.

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Green assets (such as trees) will not be revalued. They will be depreciated until fully expensed, however remain recorded in the asset management system for maintenance purposes only.¶

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# REVALUATION PROGRAM¶

The CoA has a 10 year rolling revaluation program for all major asset classes.¶

Refer to Attachment A: 10 Year Revaluation Program¶

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# DERECOGNITION

An asset is to be derecognised from CoA's asset register and recorded as a disposal when the asset no longer provides civic, strategic, commercial or community value in line with the Acquisition and Disposal of Land and Assets Policy.

A gain or loss on disposal will be recognised in the Financial Statements as the difference between the consideration received by Council (if any) and the carrying amount of the asset disposed.

## **DEFINITIONS**

Item	Definition
Assets	<u>Present economic resource</u> controlled by Council as a result of past transaction or
	other past events.
Assets – Current	Assets that are expected to be consumed, realised, sold, or disposed of within 12
	months.
Assets – Non-Current	Assets that are not expected to be consumed, realised, sold, or disposed of within
	12 months.
Carrying Amount	The cost of an asset less the depreciation and any impairment losses accumulated
	since the asset was acquired.
Depreciation	The systematic allocation of the depreciable amount of an asset over its useful life.
Fair Value	The amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable,
	willing parties in an arm's length transaction.
Grouped Asset	A grouped asset combines homogenous assets that provide the same type of
	service but where individually, fall below the recognition threshold. When
	considered in aggregate, the grouped assets are of a material value and should be
	recognised as an asset.
Impairment	A decline in the service potential of an asset such that the carrying amount of an
	asset exceeds its recoverable amount.
Network Asset	Network assets are a chain of interconnected, but different assets that rely on each
	other to provide the one service, but where individually, fall below the recognition
	threshold. When considered in aggregate, the network assets are of a material
	value and should be recognised as an asset.
Practical Completion	The point at which the assets constructed within a capital project are available for
	<u>use.</u>
Recognition Threshold	The recognition threshold is the amount of expenditure below which an item is
	recorded as an expense rather than an asset.
Recoverable Amount	The higher of an asset's fair value less the cost to sell and its value in use.
Useful life	The period over which the asset is expected to be available for use by Council.

# **ADMINISTRATIVE**

Roles and Responsibilities

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The asset is scrapped¶

The asset is destroyed, lost, or stolen  $\P$ 

The asset is retired or decommissioned¶

Control over the asset is transferred to another entity.¶

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Council is responsible for implementing this policy. However, various corporate programs will be responsible for providing data and assistance throughout the process of determining whether funds expended should be capitalised and an asset created or expensed.

All Finance and Infrastructure staff and Program Managers are responsible for familiarising themselves with the content of this policy and its application.

## **REVIEW**

The standard review period for this policy will be every <u>four</u> years from the effective date, however, may occur sooner if there is a change in legislation, accounting standards or other relevant information.

The <u>Team Leader</u> Financial <u>Planning & Reporting</u> is responsible for the review of this policy.

#### **Next Review**

This <u>Policy document</u> will be reviewed every **4** years in line with the term of council, unless legislative or operational change occurs beforehand. The next review is required in **2029**.

#### **REVIEW HISTORY**

Review	Authorising Body	TRIM Ref	Date/ Decision ID	Description of Edits
2	Council	ACC2025/TBC	TBC	The review recommended no substantive amendments but has clarified and simplified wording of the current policy and proposes changing the policy name to Fixed Asset Accounting Policy to better reflect its scope.
1	Council	ACC2020/19263	8-9-20 20476	New Policy

#### CONTACT

For further information contact the Finance and Procurement Program.

City of Adelaide 25 Pirie Street, Adelaide, SA GPO Box 2252 ADELAIDE SA 5001 +61 8 8203 7203 <a href="mailto:customer@cityofadelaide.com.au">customer@cityofadelaide.com.au</a> **Deleted:** Strategic

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# FIXED ASSET ACCOUNTING POLICY

May 2025 Council

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to outline the approach to be used by the City of Adelaide (CoA) when accounting for non-current assets including the treatment of capital expenditure, depreciation, revaluations, disposals and acquisition and to ensure that the accounting treatment used complies with the *Local Government Act 1999, Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* and Australian Accounting Standards.

#### **STATEMENT**

The City of Adelaide is committed to:

- Ensuring compliance with all Australian Accounting Standards, the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*, and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 (SA)*
- Ensuring that all assets are managed efficiently in accordance with relevant Asset Management Plans (AMP's)
- Ensuring all processes undertaken in relation to this policy are documented and defensible to external audit
- Providing guidance, clarity, and consistency with regards to the treatment of non-current assets which will provide greater understanding and accuracy of Councils capital requirements.

The City of Adelaide will adopt these principles in developing and maintaining consistent asset accounting policies and practices.

# **REFERENCES**

- Local Government Act 1999 (SA)
- Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 (SA)
- Fixed Asset Accounting Guidelines (City of Adelaide)
- Portable and Attractive Assets Register (City of Adelaide)
- South Australia Model Financial Statements

## **Australian Accounting Standards**

- AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement
- AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements
- AASB 116 Property, Plant & Equipment
- AASB 136 Impairment of Assets
- Acquisition & Disposal of Land & Assets Policy (City of Adelaide)
- Asset Management Policy (City of Adelaide)
- Asset Management Plans

# **SCOPE**

This policy applies to all CoA non-current assets in relation to their treatment for financial purposes.

Council's non-current assets include:

Land

- Buildings
- Park Land and Open Space
- Infrastructure
- Plant and Equipment
- Library Books
- Civic Collection
- Equipment, Furniture and Fittings.

This policy does not apply to intangible assets, receivables, leases, inventory, or investments.

#### **ASSET RECOGNITION**

Australian Accounting Standard AASB 116 states that the cost of an item of property, plant and equipment shall be recognised as an asset (and capitalised) if and only if:

- It is probable that the future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the entity (CoA) and
- The cost of the item can be reliably measured.

All assets are to be initially recognised at cost where the cost exceeds the recognition threshold as set by Council.

Cost is determined as the amount of cash or cash equivalents paid or the fair value of the consideration given to acquire an asset at the time of acquisition or construction.

For assets acquired by Council at no cost or for nominal consideration, cost will be determined as the fair value as at the date of acquisition.

#### **CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**

Expenditure directly attributable to the cost of an asset will be capitalised and may comprise:

- The purchase price, including import duties and any non-refundable taxes, less any trade discounts or rebates
- Any costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management
- The cost of dismantling, removing, and relocating the item and restoring the site on which it was located
- Initial delivery, insurance, and other handling costs
- Employee costs arising directly from the construction or purchase of an asset
- Costs of site preparation
- Installation and assembly costs
- Costs of commissioning
- Professional fees
- Project overhead allocation
- Detailed design costs.

Any additional expenditure incurred after an asset has been recognised will be capitalised only when the expense results in a renewal or upgrade of the asset's underlying service potential.

#### **NON-CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**

Expenditure not directly attributable to the cost of an asset will be expensed and may comprise:

- Costs of opening a new facility
- Advertising and promotion
- Software maintenance and licence agreement charges
- General administration and overhead costs
- Feasibility and research studies
- Master plans, concept plans and other investigations to determine if a capital project will be undertaken
- Inspection costs.

Additionally, any expenditure incurred that is below the recognition threshold or that is not incidental to the acquisition of an asset will be expensed.

#### **GROUPED ASSETS**

Where Council purchases numerous units of the same item, consideration should be given to recognising and aggregating the individual units into a grouped asset. The material value of the grouped assets can then be depreciated over the estimated useful lives which better reflects the benefits being realised.

#### **NETWORK ASSETS**

Where Council purchases numerous units of differing but interconnected items, such as for a drainage or IT hardware system, consideration should be given to recognising and aggregating the individual units into a networked asset, noting that in the absence of aggregation, the removal of a network asset may mean the entire system does not function to full capacity. The material value of the network assets can then be depreciated over the estimated useful lives which better reflects the benefits being realised.

## **PORTABLE and ATTRACTIVE ASSETS (MINOR ASSETS)**

Portable and attractive assets are tangible items with a value below the CoA's recognition threshold but are susceptible to theft or loss due to their portable nature, size and attractiveness for personal use or resale.

Examples of items that meet these criteria include:

- Laptop computers
- Tablets
- Mobile phones
- Cameras
- TV's
- DVDs
- Printers
- Power tools.

Portable and attractive assets may be expensed in the financial year in which they are acquired. However, in order to identify and maintain physical control all items should be recorded on the "Portable and Attractive Assets Register" as they are acquired.

A stocktake of the register should be performed on a rolling category approach and any anomalies followed up promptly.

#### **SPARE PARTS**

Minor items of spare parts are typically carried as inventory and expensed when utilised for repairs and maintenance of an asset.

However, major spare parts will be recognised as an asset when the following criteria are met:

- Item exceeds the recognition threshold
- Benefits will be obtained for more than one year
- The spare part can only be used in connection with an asset that is already recorded in the asset register.

# **WORK IN PROGRESS**

All the project costs incurred in realising an asset are to be accumulated and disclosed in a separate asset balance sheet account known as Work in Progress (WIP).

Each project should be separately identified in the WIP account to enable costs to be easily allocated.

Once the project is completed the total costs should be transferred from WIP to the applicable asset class.

At CoA, a "Project Handover Workflow" is required as formal evidence that the project has been completed and the capitalisation of WIP can occur. Handover should be completed no later than six months after practical completion. Additionally, CoA aims to achieve a KPI of finalising at least 70% of handovers within 10 weeks of practical completion.

An annual review of WIP will be conducted at end of year to ensure that all expenditure is of a capital nature and for ongoing projects.

## **MAINTENANCE, RENEWALS, and UPGRADES**

After initial recognition, the condition of assets will start to deteriorate, and the level of service supported by those assets will begin to decline.

Council assets are maintained through annual capital programs and asset management plans.

This will include expenditure on:

- Maintenance: to ensure asset continues to operate at normal capacity until the end of its useful life
- Renewal: restoring an assets service potential and extending the useful life of the asset beyond that which had originally been intended
- Upgrade: existing assets are enhanced to enable a higher level of service to be achieved.

# **RECOGNITION (CAPITALISATION) THRESHOLD**

For the CoA, assets with an economic life in excess of one year will only be capitalised where the cost of acquisition exceeds the current recognition threshold of \$5,000.

Items of property, plant, and equipment with a total value of less than \$5,000 will be treated as an expense in the year of acquisition unless they have been identified as belonging to a grouped or networked asset category.

#### **REVALUATIONS**

All material asset classes are to be revalued regularly, at intervals not exceeding five years, to ensure the carrying values are not materially different from their fair values.

If any item of an asset class is revalued, the entire class to which that item belongs must also be revalued.

A desktop revaluation will be performed annually between revaluations for the following asset classes:

- Lighting & Electrical
- Transportation
- Water Infrastructure
- Park Lands and Open Space

Land and Buildings are valued at Market Value; and Urban Elements are short life assts, as such it is not deemed appropriate to perform an annual indexation. Plant, Fleet & Equipment assets are valued at cost.

#### **DEPRECIATION**

Each asset in Council's asset register, excluding those deemed to have an unlimited useful life, will be depreciated separately to reflect the different useful lives of each asset.

The CoA uses the straight-line depreciation method as it best reflects the uniform consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets. Under the straight-line method, the allocation of depreciation expense will be consistent over the useful life of the asset, unless the fair value, residual value or useful life of the asset is amended.

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values of all asset classes should be reviewed annually.

## **COMPONENTISATION**

Assets that are made up of significant parts (components) which in turn have different useful lives must be separately depreciated.

# **IMPAIRMENT**

Assets that are subject to depreciation are to be reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may no longer be recoverable.

As per Australian Accounting Standard AASB 136 Council is required at reporting date to assess whether any assets are impaired. The indicators of impairment can include:

- Economic performance
- Obsolescence
- Significant change to the asset's original use.

An impairment loss is recognised as an expense immediately in profit or loss unless that asset is carried at a revalued amount. For revalued assets, the impairment loss shall be treated as a revaluation decrease to the extent that it offsets any revaluation surplus previously recognised for that class of asset, and movement recognised in the Statement of Other Comprehensive Income.

# **DERECOGNITION**

An asset is to be derecognised from CoA's asset register and recorded as a disposal when the asset no longer provides civic, strategic, commercial or community value in line with the Acquisition and Disposal of Land and Assets Policy.

A gain or loss on disposal will be recognised in the Financial Statements as the difference between the consideration received by Council (if any) and the carrying amount of the asset disposed.

# **DEFINITIONS**

Item	Definition		
Assets	Present economic resource controlled by Council as a result of past transaction or		
	other past events.		
Assets – Current	Assets that are expected to be consumed, realised, sold, or disposed of within 12		
	months.		
Assets – Non-Current	Assets that are not expected to be consumed, realised, sold, or disposed of within		
	12 months.		
Carrying Amount	The cost of an asset less the depreciation and any impairment losses accumulated		
	since the asset was acquired.		
Depreciation	The systematic allocation of the depreciable amount of an asset over its useful life.		
Fair Value	The amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable,		
	willing parties in an arm's length transaction.		
Grouped Asset	A grouped asset combines homogenous assets that provide the same type of		
	service but where individually, fall below the recognition threshold. When		
	considered in aggregate, the grouped assets are of a material value and should be		
	recognised as an asset.		
Impairment	A decline in the service potential of an asset such that the carrying amount of an		
	asset exceeds its recoverable amount.		
Network Asset	Network assets are a chain of interconnected, but different assets that rely on each		
	other to provide the one service, but where individually, fall below the recognition		
	threshold. When considered in aggregate, the network assets are of a material		
	value and should be recognised as an asset.		
Practical Completion	The point at which the assets constructed within a capital project are available for		
	use.		
Recognition Threshold	The recognition threshold is the amount of expenditure below which an item is		
	recorded as an expense rather than an asset.		
Recoverable Amount	The higher of an asset's fair value less the cost to sell and its value in use.		
Useful life	The period over which the asset is expected to be available for use by Council.		

# **ADMINISTRATIVE**

**Roles and Responsibilities** 

Council is responsible for implementing this policy. However, various corporate programs will be responsible for providing data and assistance throughout the process of determining whether funds expended should be capitalised and an asset created or expensed.

All Finance and Infrastructure staff and Program Managers are responsible for familiarising themselves with the content of this policy and its application.

#### **REVIEW**

The standard review period for this policy will be every four years from the effective date, however, may occur sooner if there is a change in legislation, accounting standards or other relevant information.

The Team Leader Financial Planning & Reporting is responsible for the review of this policy.

#### **Next Review**

This Policy document will be reviewed every **4** years in line with the term of council, unless legislative or operational change occurs beforehand. The next review is required in **2029**.

# **REVIEW HISTORY**

Review	Authorising Body	TRIM Ref	Date/	Description of Edits
			Decision ID	
2	Council	ACC2025/TBC	TBC	The review recommended no substantive amendments but has clarified and simplified wording of the current policy and proposes changing the policy name to <i>Fixed Asset Accounting Policy</i> to better reflect its scope.
1	Council	ACC2020/19263	8-9-20	New Policy
			20476	

#### **CONTACT**

For further information contact the Finance and Procurement Program.

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# **Table of Key Changes and Comments to Asset Accounting Policy**

No	Page	Item	Change/Comment		
1		Global updates	Grammatical and language changes updated throughout the document to support full review		
2	1	Asset Accounting Policy	Updated to "Fixed Asset Accounting Policy" (note: global changes made throughout document where applicable)		
3	1	References	Heading changed to "Other Useful Documents" with order of bullet points list changed to group between documents and relevant legislation		
4	1	Fixed Asset Guidelines	Updated to "Fixed Asset Accounting Guidelines" (note: global changes made throughout document where applicable)		
5	1	AASB 13 Fair Value	Updated to "AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement" (note: global changes made throughout document where applicable)		
6	1	References	Added additional related documents "Acquisition & Disposal of Land & Assets Policy", "Asset Management Policy" and "Asset Management Plans"		
7	2	Definitions	Section moved from page 6 to page 2 and heading changed to "Glossary". All other sections in the original policy have been moved down one page.		
8	2	Assets	Amended "Future economic benefit" to "Present economic resource"		
9	2	Fixed Overhead	Removed		
10	2	Practical Completion	Added "The point at which the assets constructed within a capital project are available for use"		
11	3	Scope	Amended "Furniture and Fittings" to "Equipment, Furniture and Fittings" and "Intangible Asset" to "Intangible Assets"		
12	3	Capital Expenditure	Added new bullet point "Any costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management".		
			Added new bullet point "Project overhead allocation"		
			Amended "Employee costs arising directly from the purchase of an asset" to "Employee costs arising directly from the construction or purchase of an asset".		
			Removed section beginning "For assets being constructed by council"		
13	5	Portable And Attractive Assets (Minor Assets)	Amended "Portable and attractive assets are expensed in the financial year in which they are acquired" to "Portable and attractive assets may be expensed in the financial year in which they are acquired"		
14	6	Work in Progress	Amended "All the project costs incurred in realising an asset are to be accumulated and disclosed in a separate asset account known as Work in Progress or WIP" to "All the project costs incurred in realising an asset are to be accumulated and disclosed in a separate		

No	Page	Item	Change/Comment		
			asset balance sheet account known as Work in Progress (WIP)."		
15	6	Work In Progress	Amended "At CoA, a "Project Handover Communication Form" is required as formal evidence that the project has been completed and the capitalisation of the WIP balance can occur. Handover should take place no later than six months		
			after practical completion has occurred" to "At CoA, a "Project Handover Workflow" is required as formal evidence that the project has been completed and the capitalisation of WIP can occur. Handover should be completed no later than six months after practical completion. Additionally, CoA aims to achieve a KPI of finalising at least 70% of handovers within 10 weeks of practical completion"		
16	6	Work In Progress	Removed section "Costs disclosed in the WIP account should be reviewed in line with the quarterly budget review process to ensure that only costs able to be capitalised are included"  Replaced with		
			"An annual review of WIP will be conducted at the end of year to ensure that all expenditure is of a capital nature and for ongoing projects."		
17	7	Recognition (Capitalisation) Threshold	Amended "For the CoA, assets with an economic life in excess of one year will only be capitalised where the cost of acquisition exceeds the recognition thresholds established by Council – currently \$5,000" to "For the CoA, assets with an economic life of more than one year will only be capitalised where the cost of acquisition exceeds the recognition threshold of \$5,000."		
18	7	Revaluations	Amended "All material asset classes are to be revalued on a regular basis" to "All material asset classes are to be revalued regularly, at intervals not exceeding five years"		
			Added "A desktop revaluation will be performed annually between revaluations"  Removed section "Green assets (such as trees) will not be revalued.  They will be depreciated until fully expensed, however remain in the asset management system for maintenance purposes only"		
19	7	Revaluation Program	Entire section removed including Appendix		
20	7	Depreciation	Amended "Each asset in Council's asset register, excluding land assumed to have an unlimited useful life" to "Each asset in Council's asset register, excluding those deemed to have an unlimited useful life"		
21	8	Impairment	Updated "As per Australian Accounting Standard AASB 116" to "As per Australian Accounting Standard AASB 136"		

No	Page	Item	Change/Comment
22	8	Impairment	Removed section "An impairment loss will be recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount."  Replaced with "An impairment loss is recognised as an expense immediately in profit or loss unless that asset is carried at a revalued amount. For revalued assets, the impairment loss shall be treated as a revaluation decrease to the extent that it offsets any revaluation surplus previously recognised for that class of asset, and movement recognised in the Statement of Other Comprehensive Income."
23	8	Derecognition	Amended "An asset is to be derecognised from CoA's asset register and recorded as a disposal whenever the following occurs" to "An asset is to be derecognised from CoA's asset register and recorded as a disposal when the asset no longer provides civic, strategic, commercial or community value in line with the Acquisition and Disposal of Land and Assets Policy"
24	8	Derecognition	Bullet points removed

# Internal Audit Progress Report

Strategic Alignment - Our Corporation

**Public** 

# Agenda Item 6.5

Friday, 16 May 2025

Audit and Risk Committee

**Program Contact:** 

Rebecca Hayes, Associate Director Governance & Strategy

Approving Officer:

Anthony Spartalis, Chief Operating Officer

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on Council's Internal Audit Plan, outlining the findings and recommendations of internal audits completed and the progress of any agreed actions. The Audit and Risk Committee (the Committee) last received an Internal Audit Progress Report at its meeting in February 2025.

In addition to providing an update on the progress of the Internal Audit Plan 2024/2025, the report also details the Council's current Internal Audit Actions. Details contained in the report and associated links include information about:

- Extensions granted by the Chief Executive Officer for the completion date of Internal Audit Actions
- Internal Audit Actions that have been completed since the last Internal Audit Progress Report to the Committee in February 2025
- · The number and status of Overdue Actions and
- A summary of the status of all Internal Audit Actions.

Twenty-five actions have been completed since February 2025.

Currently there are 64 outstanding actions, of which 51 are in progress and 13 are overdue.

The Internal Audit Plan has been developed in consideration of Council's key strategic risks and critical priorities.

# RECOMMENDATION

# THAT THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

- 1. Notes the progress of the Internal Audit Plan as outlined in Item 6.5 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee held on 16 May 2025.
- 2. Notes the progress of the completion of Internal Audit Actions as outlined in Item 6.5 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee held on 16 May 2025.

# **IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS**

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Corporation  Internal audit is an essential component of a good governance framework. It is a mechanism that enables Council to receive assurance that internal controls and risk management approaches are effective, that it is performing its functions legally, effectively and efficiently, and to advise how it can improve performance.
Policy	Not as a result of this report
Consultation	Not as a result of this report
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Not as a result of this report
Opportunities	Internal audit focuses largely on compliance, risk management and improvement opportunities. As such audits suggest a range of improvement opportunities related to the area being reviewed, enhancing functions and services aligning Council processes to best practice standards.
24/25 Budget Allocation	\$250,000 is budgeted for external consultancy support in accordance with the 2024/25 internal audit program.
Proposed 25/26 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
24/25 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

Audit and Risk Committee – Agenda - Friday, 16 May 2025

# DISCUSSION

# **Background**

- 1. The role of Internal Audit is to provide independent assurance that the Council's risk management, governance and internal controls processes are operating effectively.
- 2. The Audit and Risk Committee (the Committee) receives all Internal Audit reports. It reviews and monitors Council's responsiveness to findings and recommendations of the Internal Auditor (currently KPMG), other external providers and in-house advice.

# **Internal Audit Plan Update**

- 3. The Internal Audit Plan (the Plan) is a risk-based program developed with the Council's Executive and Strategic Risk and Internal Audit Group (SRIA). A status update on the 2024-25 plan is provided at <a href="link 1">link 1</a>.
- 4. Since the Committee received its last update at the February 2025 meeting, seven internal audit reviews have been completed by KPMG and in-house:
  - 4.1. Penalty and Infringement Compliance
  - 4.2. Electric Vehicles Transition for Workshop Operations
  - 4.3. TechOne Post Implementation Review
  - 4.4. PCI Compliance (presented to SRIA on 15 May 2025)
  - 4.5. Penetration Testing (presented to SRIA on 15 May 2025)
  - 4.6. Site Contamination (presented to SRIA on 15 May 2025)
  - 4.7. Legislative Compliance (presented to SRIA on 15 May 2025)
- 5. The following internal audits have been scoped:
  - 5.1. UPark Operations
  - 5.2. Council Administration Expenses

# **Internal Audit Actions**

- 6. Recommendations arising from the Internal Audit and Strategic Reviews are reported to SRIA.
- 7. Recommendations and agreed actions, responsibilities and timeframes for implementation are recorded in the Council's process mapping and management software, Process Manager.
- 8. The implementation status of recommendations is tracked and reported to the Committee.

# 9. Completed Actions

- 9.1. Twenty-five internal audit recommendations from previous Audits have been completed since February 2025. Sixty-four recommendations are in progress.
- 9.2. Five overdue actions have now been completed. All completed recommendations are detailed in <u>link</u> <u>2.</u>

# 10. Extensions

- 10.1. All requests for an extension of a due date for completion of an Internal Audit Action requires the approval of the Chief Executive Officer. This process ensures that there is appropriate accountability before an extension is granted.
- 10.2. Since the last report to the Committee on 21 February 2025, three actions have been approved for an extension. Those actions and the rationale for their extensions are detailed in <a href="link 3">link 3</a>.

## 11. Overdue Actions

- 11.1. Six additional actions have become overdue since the last update to the Committee.
- 11.2. Those overdue actions are detailed in link 4.
- 11.3. Five overdue actions have been completed since February 2025, and they were:
  - 11.3.1. I00737 Voters Roll Review
  - 11.3.2. I00793 Community Safety
  - 11.3.3. I00795 Community Safety

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- 11.3.4. I00799 Community Safety
- 11.3.5. I00809 Community Safety
- 12. Overdue actions are linked to the following internal audits:
  - 12.1. Asset Inspection two overdue actions that are now proposed to be completed by 30 April 2026 and 30 June 2026, respectively.
  - 12.2. Review of the Adelaide Economic Development Agency one overdue action that is now proposed to be completed by 30 June 2025.
  - 12.3. Community Safety two overdue actions that are now proposed to be completed by 30 June 2025.
  - 12.4. Post Audit Implementation Review one overdue action that is now proposed to be completed by 31 December 2025.
  - 12.5. Local Government Security Framework two overdue actions that are now proposed to be completed by 30 June 2025 and 31 December 2025, respectively.
  - 12.6. Legislative Compliance one overdue action that is now proposed to be completed by 30 September 2025.
  - 12.7. Data Protection & Privacy five overdue actions that are proposed to be completed by 30 September 2025.
  - 12.8. Six of the overdue are risk rated High, three are Moderate, two are Low and two are Improvement Opportunities.
- 13. The status of the overdue actions is set out in link 5.
- 14. A summary of the status of actions is shown in the below table, with the complete document able to be accessed via <u>link 6</u>

Risk	Definition	Overdue	In Progress	
High	Issues represent a control weakness which could have or is having major adverse effect on the ability to achieve project objectives	6	8	14
Moderate	Issues represent a control weakness which could have or is having a moderate effect on the ability to achieve process objectives.	3	21	24
Low	Issues represent a minor control weakness, with minimal but reportable impact on the ability to achieve project objectives	2	14	16
N/A	Improvement Opportunity	2	8	10
	Total	13	51	64

# DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- Link 1 Internal Audit Plan 2024-2025 Status Update
- <u>Link 2</u> Completed recommendations
- Link 3 Internal Audits approved for extension
- Link 4 Overdue actions
- Link 5 Status of overdue actions
- Link 6 Agreed Actions Progress Report

# **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

- END OF REPORT -