

City of Rockingham Election 2025

Candidate Information Session
20 August 2025, 6pm

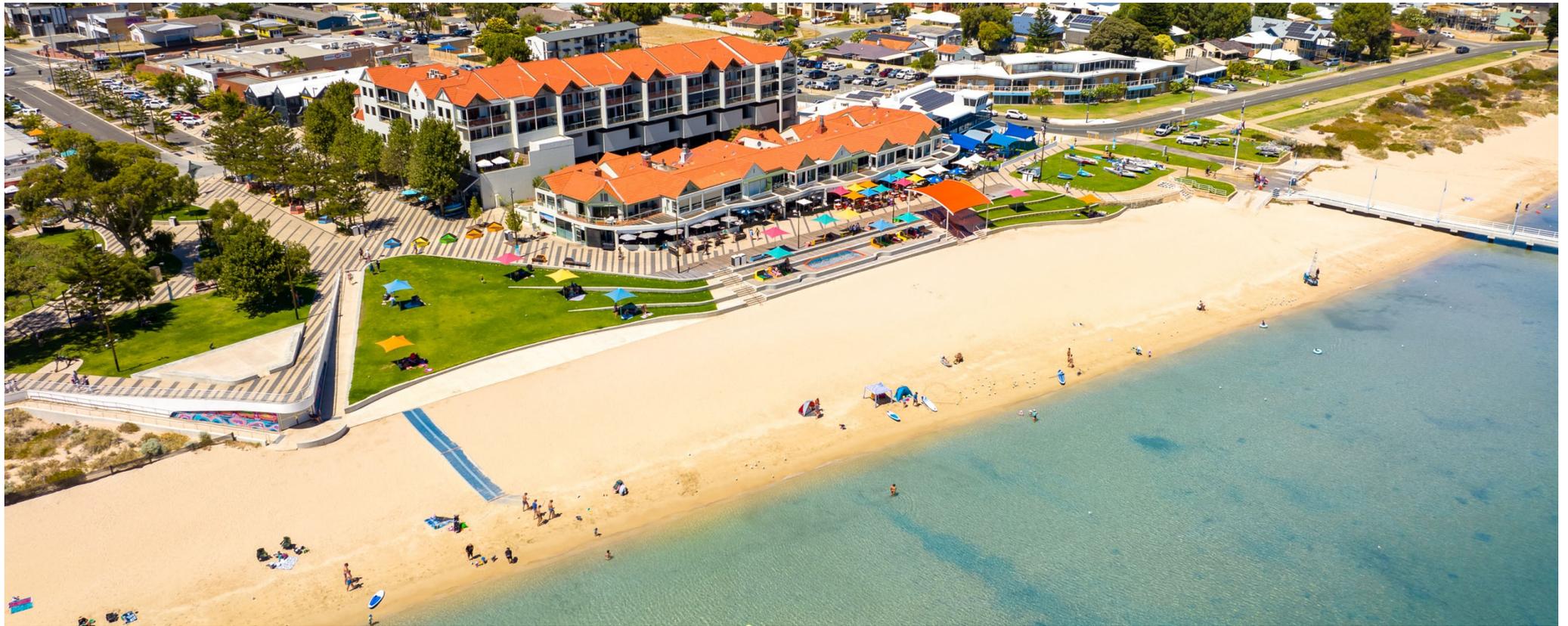


Welcome

- **City of Rockingham, Michael Parker, Chief Executive Officer**
 - About the City of Rockingham
 - About the Organisation and Council
 - 2025 Election at the City of Rockingham
- **WALGA, Felicity Morris, Manager Governance**
 - Understanding local government
 - Roles and responsibilities
 - Council meetings
 - Conflicts of interest
 - Council Plans
 - Support for Council Members
- **WAEC, Kathy Gecan (Returning Officer)**



About the City of Rockingham

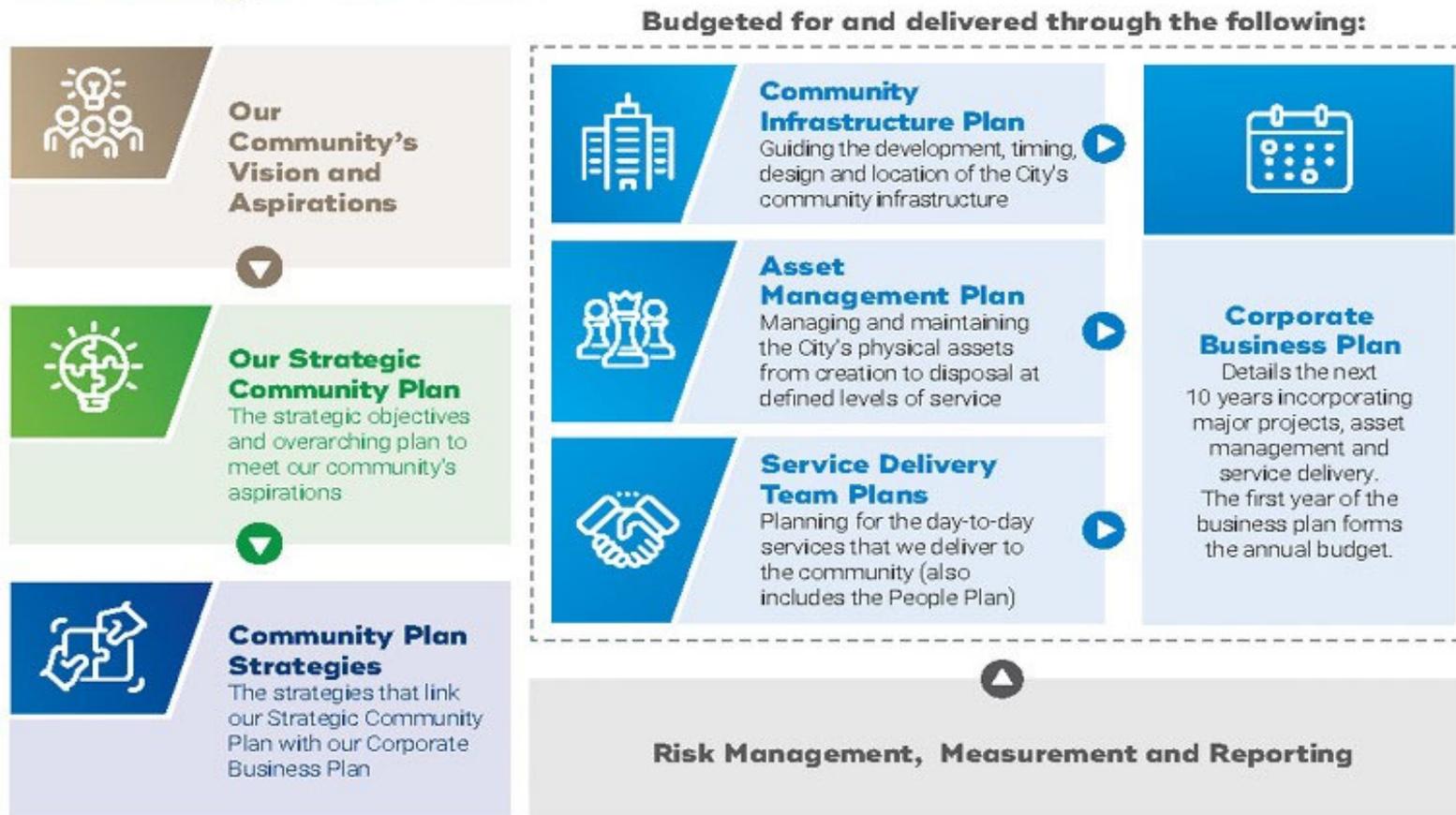


Snapshot of our City

- City of Rockingham has 97,684 electors as of 31 March 2025
- Estimate Resident Population 154,132 residents
- Population forecast for 2046 is 231,559 residents
- Rockingham is the fifth largest local government in WA (population)
- Land area 262 Km²
- City of Rockingham estimated median age 36 years old
- 44,076 jobs located in the City of Rockingham as of 30 June 2024

Strategic Community Plan

Our Strategic Framework



Social Aspiration

A family-friendly, safe and connected community

Outcome	Objective (What needs to be achieved)
Connected community	Provide opportunities for community engagement and participation
Community health and wellbeing	Reinforce a strong sense of safety
	Strengthen community health and wellbeing
Accessible services	Provide healthy lifestyle opportunities
	Adapt services to meet changing community need
Inclusive community	Build connectivity with our diverse community





Natural Environment Aspiration

A place of natural beauty where the environment is respected

Outcome	Objective (What needs to be achieved)
Protection of natural environment	Reduce City's energy and water usage
	Minimise waste
	Mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts
Sustainable natural green spaces	Preserve and enhance biodiversity
	Improve community open spaces
	Improve amenity
	Increase tree canopy

Built Environment Aspiration

A built environment carefully planned for today and tomorrow



Outcome	Objective (What needs to be achieved)
Built infrastructure meets current and future community needs	Plan, build and maintain current and future assets
Plan for sustainable growth	Balance growth while maintaining the identified natural environment
	Create safe community places to live, recreate and work
	Create vibrant coastal foreshore
Accessible and connected	Plan and advocate for transport solutions

Economic Aspiration

A vibrant economy creating opportunities



Outcome	Objective (What needs to be achieved)
Growing the business economy	Actively support and develop local business growth
	Attract and promote new businesses and investment opportunities
Local employment	Support existing and new businesses to increase local employment opportunities
A visitor destination	Promote the City as a place to visit



Leadership Aspiration

Transparent and accountable leadership and governance

Outcome	Objective (What needs to be achieved)
Quality leadership	Ensure accountable and transparent governance
	Promote the City as a place for the future
	Active advocacy for the community
Sustainable local government	Optimise City resources
	Continual improvement

Strategic Challenges

- The City of Rockingham is forecast to grow to 231,559 by 2046
 - Community Infrastructure and facilities to accommodate our high population growth
 - Alternate sources of revenue
 - Our low non-residential / residential rate ratio
 - Climate change and sea level rise
 - Diminishing volunteering levels
 - Low employment self sufficiency
 - Reaping community benefit from AUKUS arrangements.
- 

Strategic Opportunities

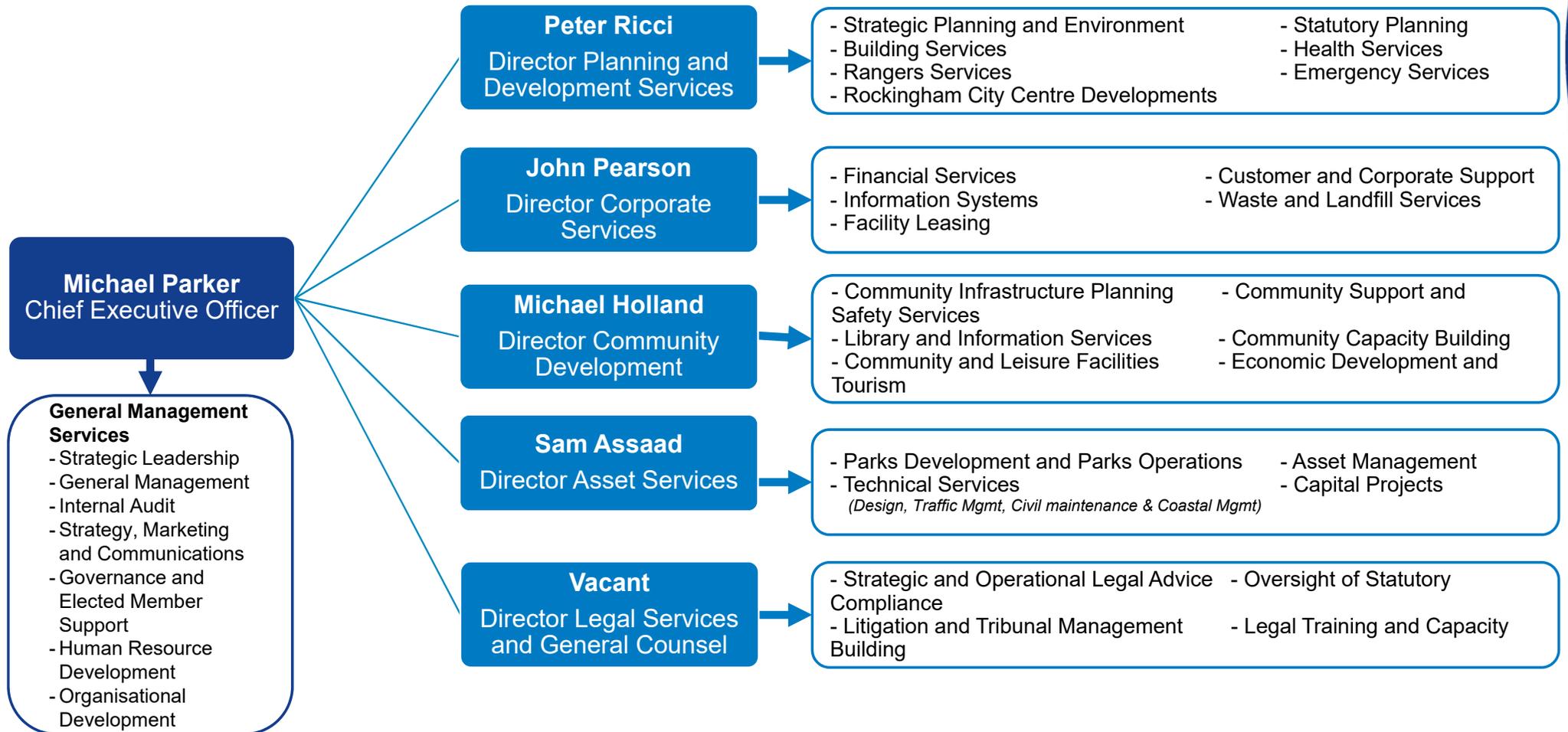
- Rockingham is one of ten Strategic Centres in the metropolitan area
- Defence related investment attraction and employment creation
- Encouraging State Government investment in the region
- Tourism development – e.g. Cape Peron
- Economic Development
- Development and further activation of the Murdoch University Campus and TAFE education precinct
- Reaping community benefit from AUKUS arrangements.



City of Rockingham Council and Organisation

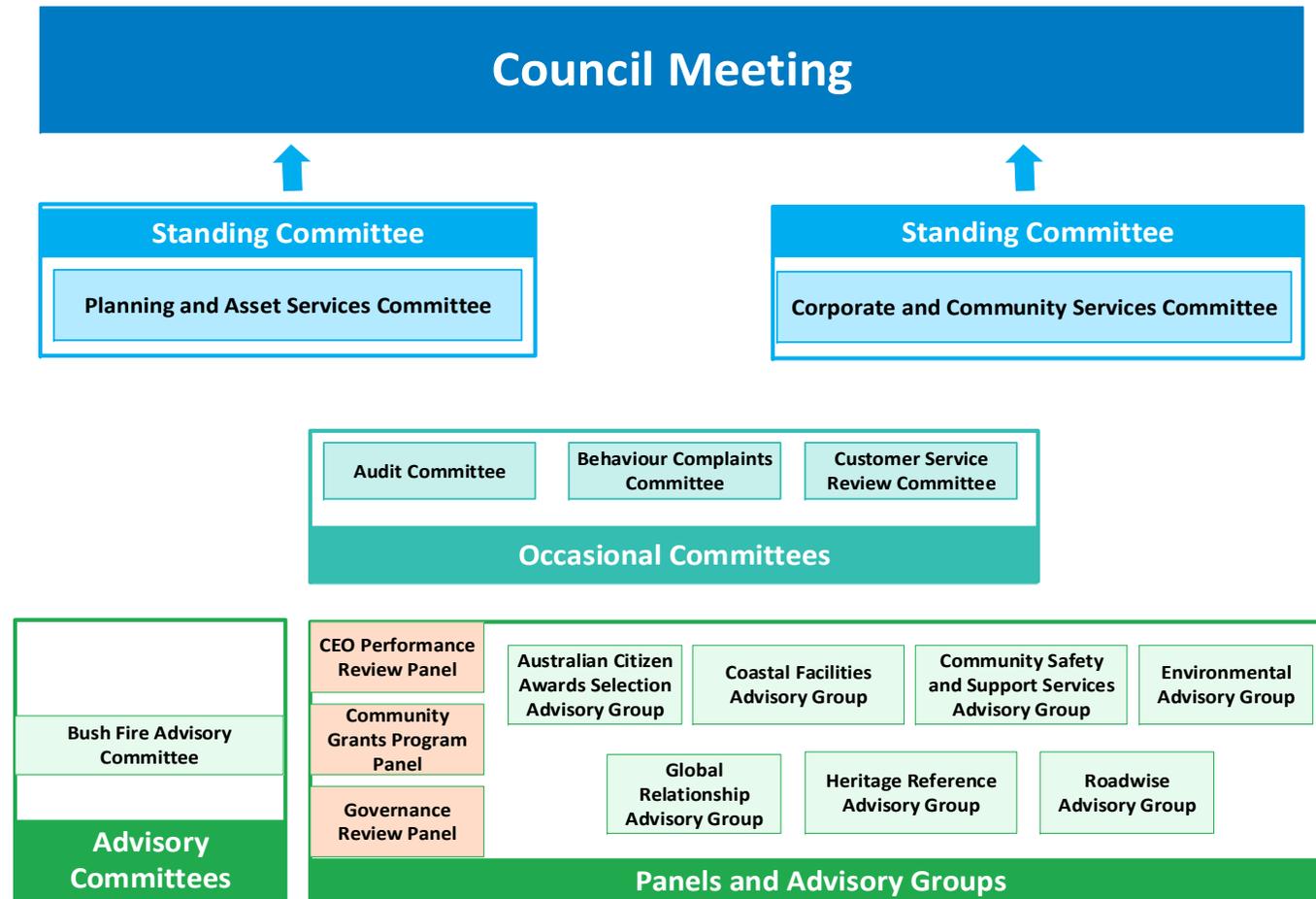


Executive Team and Organisational Structure



Governance and Meeting Framework

- The model shows the reporting structure of Committees, Panels and Groups, ultimately leading to the Council Meeting, which is the peak decision making forum of the City of Rockingham



Council Meetings

Council Meeting

Ordinary Council Meeting*

- The Ordinary Council Meeting is on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 6pm and is open to the public.

** Recess in January*

Special Council Meeting

- Special Council Meetings occur only when needed.
- Ordinary and Special Council Meetings are live streamed, recorded and published via the City Website.

Standing Committee Meetings

Standing Committee	
Planning and Asset Services Committee	
•	Asset Management
•	Strategic Planning and Environment
•	Statutory Planning
•	Building Services
•	Health Services
•	Land and Development Infrastructure
•	Ranger Services
•	Bushfire Services
•	Compliance and Emergency Liaison
•	City Centre Development
•	Technical Services
•	Parks Services
•	Operations and Fleet Services
•	Infrastructure Project Delivery

Standing Committee	
Corporate and Community Services Committee	
•	Community Capacity Building
•	Community Infrastructure Planning
•	Community Safety and Support
•	Community and Leisure Facilities
•	Customer and Corporate Support
•	Economic Development and Tourism
•	Finance
•	General Legal Services
•	Governance and Councillor Support
•	Human Resource Development
•	Library Services
•	Strategy, Marketing and Communications
•	Waste Services

- Composition: Council Members only
 - 6 Council Members on each committee, with deputies and all relevant senior staff in attendance.
- Standing Committees are open to the public
- Each committee considers matters relevant to their areas
- Meetings held monthly, the week prior to the Ordinary Council Meeting

Occasional and Advisory Committee Meetings

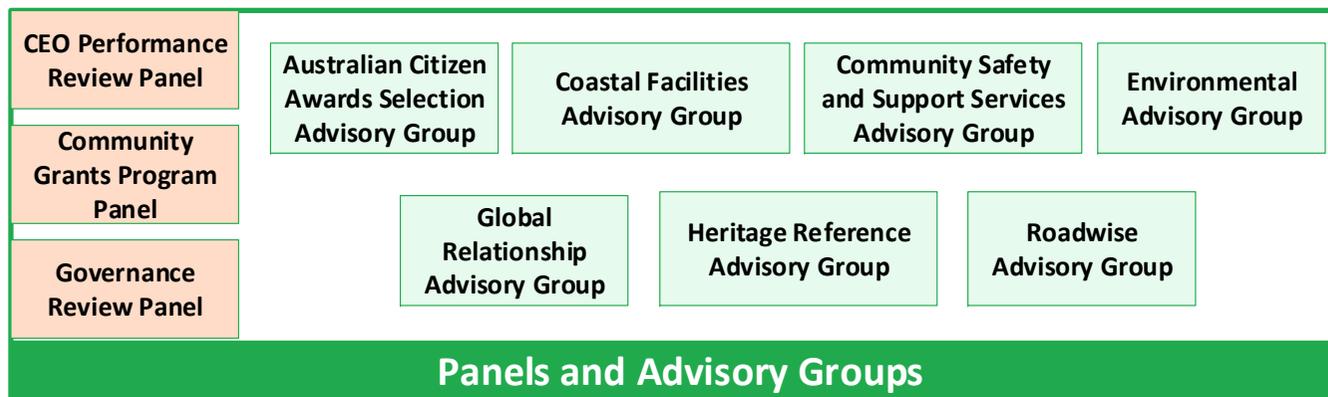


- Composition: Council Members only
- Meetings held on as required basis for specific matters
- Committees consider reports, information bulletins and make recommendations for full Council consideration.



- Composition: Council Members and Community Representatives
- The Minutes and Reports from the Advisory Committee meetings are presented to the relevant Council Standing Committee Meetings.

Panels and Advisory Groups



Panel

- Composition: Council Members, and subject to the purpose of the panel City of Rockingham Officers.
- Panels meet as required with Minutes and Reports presented to the relevant Council Standing Committee Meetings.

Advisory Group

- Composition: Council Members, City of Rockingham Officers and others.
- Groups meet as required may provide recommendations for City Officers to inform Council.

Councillor Engagement Sessions

- Forum for information exchange and strategic discussion between Councillors and relevant staff
- Sessions are generally monthly
- Discussion papers are sent to Councillors along with a program
- Notes are taken for attendance and further requests for information.

Advocacy Position Register

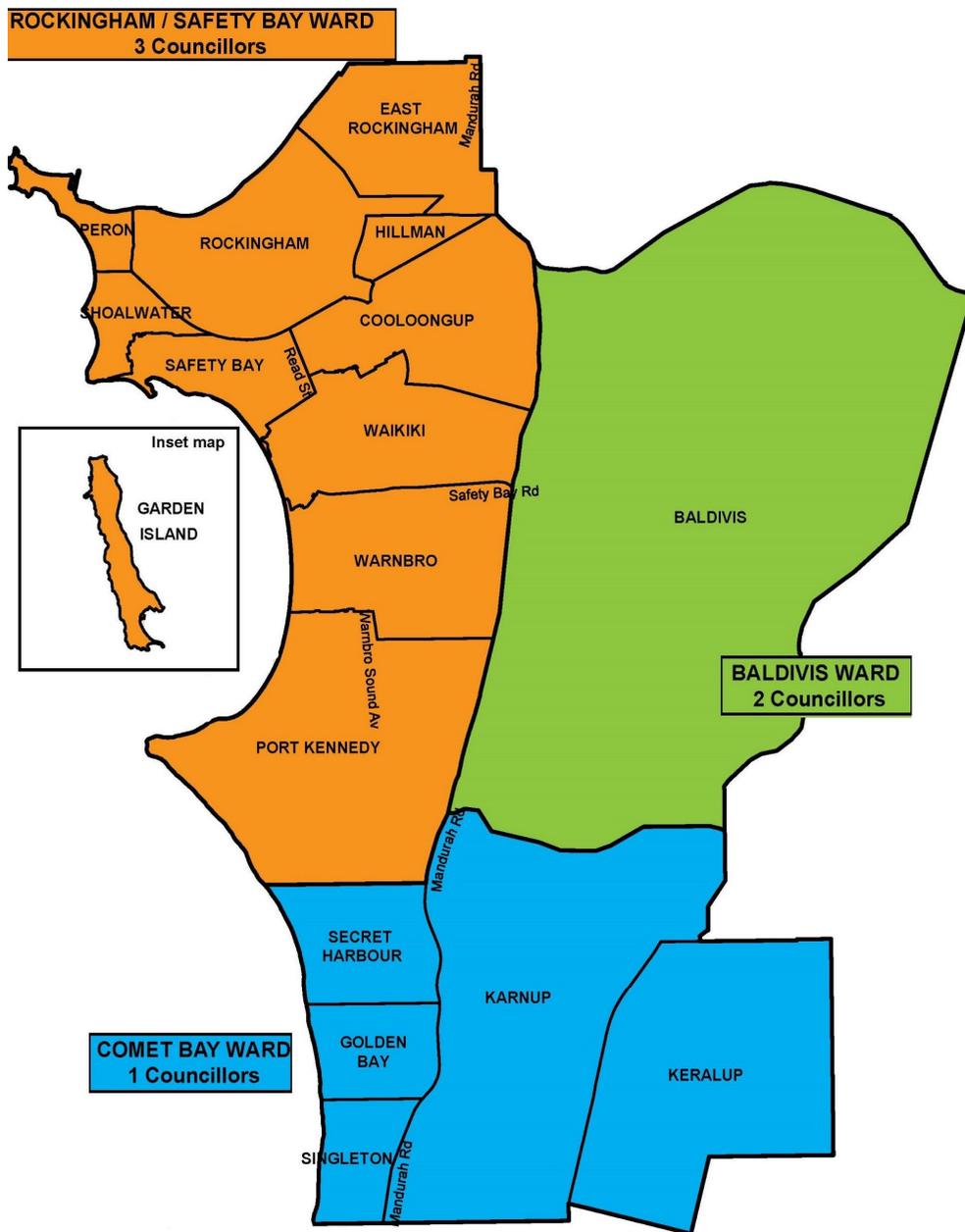
- A register is maintained to record all Council decisions that comprise an advocacy position of the City
- The City could advocate to:
 - State or Federal government Ministers
 - Departments
 - Agencies
 - Not-for-Profits organisations
 - Commercial enterprises responsible for community impacts

Time commitment

- Attend at least the following meetings each month
 - 1 x Councillor Engagement Session (2nd Tuesday of the month)
 - 1 x Committee Meeting (3rd Monday or Tuesday each month)
 - 1 x Council Meeting (4th Tuesday of the month)
 - Panel and Advisory Group Meetings if you are elected to one of these
- Read all relevant documents to the above meetings
- Redirect or put in enquiries on behalf of constituents
- Attend relevant City and Council hosted Civic events such as
 - Citizenship Ceremonies
 - Openings of venues
 - Award ceremonies

City of Rockingham – 2025 Election





City of Rockingham Ward Boundaries and Council Member Representation 2025 Vacancies

Mayoral Election

Baldvis Ward

- 1 Councillor

Comet Bay Ward

- 1 Councillor

Rockingham/Safety bay Ward

- 3 Councillors

4 year term 2025 - 2029

Code of Conduct

- Code of Conduct required under legislation –
Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021
- The Code of Conduct comprises three main parts –
 1. Division 2 – General Principles:
 - These are the overarching guiding behaviours expected.
 2. Division 3 – Behaviours:
 - These are the behaviours enforceable by Council for a breach in conduct.
 - Complaints dealt with by Behaviour Complaints Committee
 3. Division 4 – Rules of Conduct:
 - These are the behaviours enforceable by the Local Government Standards Panel
- Candidates must familiarise themselves with the Code of Conduct

Available on the City's website

Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates

Gift Disclosures by Candidates

Disclosure of electoral gifts

- **Candidates** are required to disclose electoral related gifts with a value of \$300 or more (total or combined) that is given or promised within the disclosure period to the CEO
- All disclosures are to be made on a **LG9A Disclosure of Gifts form** (Available on the City's website)
- A Register of Electoral Gifts will be published on the City's website.

Disclosure period

- Within three days of nomination
 - For gifts received during the disclosure period commencing 18 April 2025.
- Any gift received after nomination is required to be disclosed within three days of acceptance of the gift.
- Penalties apply \$10,000.

Details of the candidate making the disclosure	
Surname:	Other Names:
Details of person making or promising the gift	
Surname:	Other Names:
Address:	
Details of person on whose behalf the gift is made or promised (if other than the person making or promising the gift)	
Surname:	Other Names:
Address:	
Details of the gift (value of which is \$300 or more, or which is one of 2 or more gifts with a total value of \$300 or more)	
Date gift promised or received:	Value of gift:
Description of gift:	
Candidates only:	<i>If you are unable to provide the information required by this form, set out the reasons for not providing it in the space below. (If not applicable enter N/A)</i>
Candidate making the disclosure to complete and sign the declaration below:	
I _____ declare that all information and details provided are true and correct, and no known, relevant information is omitted	
Signature: _____	Date: _____

Note: a disclosure is to be made within 3 days of the receipt (or promise) of the gift, once nominations are made; or within 3 days of nomination, for gifts received (or promised) between the commencement of the period set out in regulation 30B and the day of nomination.

What is an electoral gift?

Electoral gifts - A "gift" means a disposition of property, or the conferral of any financial benefit, made by one person in favour of another.

It can include:

- a gift of money
- a gift which is non-monetary but of value
- a gift in kind or where there is inadequate financial consideration such as the receipt of a discount (where the difference or the discount is worth more than \$300)
- a financial or other contribution to travel
- the provision of a service for no consideration or for inadequate consideration
- a firm promise or agreement to give a gift at some future time.

A "gift" **does not include** a gift by will; a gift from a relative; a gift that does not relate to the candidate's candidature; or the provision of volunteer labour.

Election 2025 Factsheet: Disclosure of Electoral Gifts



The City of Rockingham encourages candidates to inform themselves of the requirements and obligations of election gifts.

Refer to the [Local Government \(Elections\) Regulation 1997 Part 5A – Disclosure of Gifts](#).

What is an Election Gift

A "gift" means a disposition of property, or the conferral of any financial benefit, made by one person in favour of another and is valued at \$300, or the value of multiple gifts from one donor totals \$300 or over.

An Election Gift can include:	
• a gift of money	• a gift which is non-monetary but of value
• the provision of a service for no consideration or for inadequate consideration	• a financial or other contribution to travel
• a firm promise or agreement to give a gift at some future time	• a gift in kind or where there is inadequate financial consideration such as the receipt of a discount (where the difference or the discount is worth more than \$300)
An Election Gift does not include:	
• a gift by will	• a gift from a relative
• the provision of volunteer labour	• a gift that does not relate to the candidate's candidature

Who is required to disclose?

Candidates are required to disclose information about any electoral related gift with a value of \$300.00 or more that is given or promised within the disclosure period.

What is the disclosure period?

The disclosure period commenced 18 April 2025.

Disclosure of an electoral gift is to be made to the City of Rockingham Chief Executive Officer (CEO):

- within 3 days of nomination, for gifts made, received (or promised) between 18 April 2025 and nomination as a candidate; and
- within 3 days of the making, receipt (or promise) of the gift, between nomination and the election.

How to make a disclosure?

A disclosure is made by completing Form 9A and lodging this form with the CEO via email governance@rockingham.wa.gov.au or hand delivered to the City's Administration Centre.

Electoral Gift Register

The City of Rockingham Electoral Gift Register will be maintained via the City's Website.

The Register includes the description of the gift, the date the gift was made received or promised, the value and the name and address of the donor.

The Register will be maintained for the four years following the relevant election and include both successful and unsuccessful candidates disclosures.

Important information for candidates

A candidate MUST NOT receive a gift unless the name and address of the donor is known.

Local Government (Elections) Regulations R30BA Candidates not to receive gifts from unidentified donors

A candidate MUST disclose to the CEO a promised gift or received gift, and MUST make the disclosure within the disclosure period.

Local Government (Elections) Regulations R30B Candidates to disclose gifts s4.59

A candidate MUST ensure the information disclosed is not false or misleading.

Local Government (Elections) Regulations R30B Candidates to disclose gifts s4.59

Further information

Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety
<https://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/local-government/local-governments/council-elections>
Western Australian Electoral Commission
<https://www.elections.wa.gov.au/elections/local>
Telephone: 13 63 06

City of Rockingham
<https://rockingham.wa.gov.au/your-city/council/voting-and-elections>

Election Signage and Advertising

- Any signs on Main Roads controlled by Main Roads Western Australia need to comply with their policy found mainroads.wa.gov.au
- Where signage causes a public safety and traffic safety concerns the City will remove and impound any advertisements.
- Election Advertising Requirements are available via the website
- ❖ Note: electoral material must be authorised as required to avoid penalties under section 4.87

Campaigning

- Holding a stall to campaign in a public place requires a permit from City's Health Services.

Election Advertising Requirements Information Sheet

This is information on the statutory requirements that apply, in relation to certain election advertising signs. All signage must abide by any regulation/policy and must be authorised appropriately.

Any signs on Main Roads controlled by Main Roads Western Australia need to comply with their policy found here [Advertising Signs \(mainroads.wa.gov.au\)](http://Advertising Signs (mainroads.wa.gov.au))

No signage is permitted on local government facilities and reserves (excluding road reserves). Generally a licence is not currently required to erect or install election signage on City controlled road verges.

It is important however to note the City has a range of enforcement powers for advertisements erected or installed in locations that it considers impede public safety and traffic safety.

Public safety and traffic safety concerns generally occur when any advertisements are erected or installed within 30 metres of intersections or impede traffic sightlines in other locations or on roundabouts. In such circumstances, the City will remove and impound any advertisements.

Development Approval Exempt

Development Approval is not required for the temporary erection or installation of an advertisement in accordance with *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* Schedule 2, Part 7, Clause 61, Table Item 9 as follows:

- The advertisement is erected or installed in connection with an election, referendum or other poll conducted under the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* (Commonwealth), the *Referendum (Machinery Provisions) Act 1984* (Commonwealth), the *Electoral Act 1907*, the *Local Government Act 1995* or the *Referendums Act 1983*.
- The primary purpose of the advertisement is for political communication in relation to the election, referendum or poll.
- The advertisement is not erected or installed until the writ or writs have been issued or, for an election, referendum or poll under the *Local Government Act 1995*, until the 38th day before the day on which the election, referendum or poll is to be held.
- The advertisement is removed no later than 48 hours after the election, referendum or poll is conducted.
- The advertisement is not erected or installed within 1.5 m of any part of a crossover or street truncation.

Accordingly, Development Approval will not be required for advertisements erected or installed in connection with the City of Rockingham Local Government Elections. Action will be taken should election signage on private land be considered to be a public safety matter.

The City of Rockingham is not responsible for the content of electoral advertising and complaints should be directed to the Western Australian Electoral Commission.

Parking Local Law

If any vehicles are parked in breach of the *City of Rockingham Parking Local Law 2018*, infringement notices will be issued. Please read the local law with regards to the parking unattached trailers and parking on verges.

Campaigning

If a candidate is intending to hold a stall to campaign in a public place, a permit from City's Health Services is required. Please contact the City's Permit's Officer on 9527 0730 to obtain a permit.

Revised July 2022



www.rockingham.wa.gov.au



Optional Preferential Voting

How to vote under the optional preferential voting system

It is really easy and it is all about choices – your choices. Just imagine there are three candidates. You can:

1 Vote for just one candidate

Just put a number 1 next to the name of that candidate.

SMITH, John

DOE, Jane

CITIZEN, Neville

2 Vote for some

Just put a 1 next to the name of the candidate you like best and a 2 next to your second choice.

SMITH, John

DOE, Jane

CITIZEN, Neville

3 Vote for all

Put a 1 in the box for the candidate you like best and then a 2 for your second choice and a 3 for your third choice. If there are more candidates you just keep numbering if you want.

SMITH, John

DOE, Jane

CITIZEN, Neville

Mayor and Council Member Allowances and Fees

- Determined by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal annually.
- Latest determination 4 April 2025, effective 1 July 2025
- City of Rockingham – Band 1
- Mayor Sitting Fee - \$53,215
- Councillor Sitting Fee - \$35,480
- ICT Allowance - \$3,500
- Mayoral Allowance - \$100,514
- Reimbursement of Travel and Child Care Costs

Training and Development

- Mandatory Training:
 - 5 units – Council Member Essential training
 - ❖ Understanding Local Government
 - ❖ Serving on Council
 - ❖ Conflict of Interest
 - ❖ Meeting Procedures
 - ❖ Understanding Financial Reports and Budgets
- To be completed within 12 months of election
- Training / Professional Development encouraged
 - ❖ Supported by Council Policy – Council Member Professional Development

2025 New Council Member Inductions / Orientations

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
October						
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Council meeting (last with current members)				ELECTION	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Swearing in Ceremony (no meeting)	Induction: Governance and Introduction to Decision making Structure				
27	28	29	30	31		
Induction: GMS and Corporate Services	Special Council meeting – Deputy Mayor and Committees					

2025 New Council Member Inductions / Orientations

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
November						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Councillor Engagement Session	Induction: Planning and Development	Induction: Asset Services overview			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Councillor Engagement Session		Induction: Community Development Services Overview			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Planning and Assets Services Committee meeting	Corporate and Community Development Committee meeting					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Ordinary Council meeting					



Key upcoming Dates

- Enrolment to vote close: 5pm, 22 August 2025
- Candidate Nominations open: 28 August 2025
- Candidate Nominations close: 4pm, 4 September 2025
- Voting packages sent out by the WAEC: Metropolitan mail outs from 17 September 2025

Thank you





WALGA

Influence. Support. Expertise.

Candidate Briefing

Felicity Morris

Manager Governance and Procurement



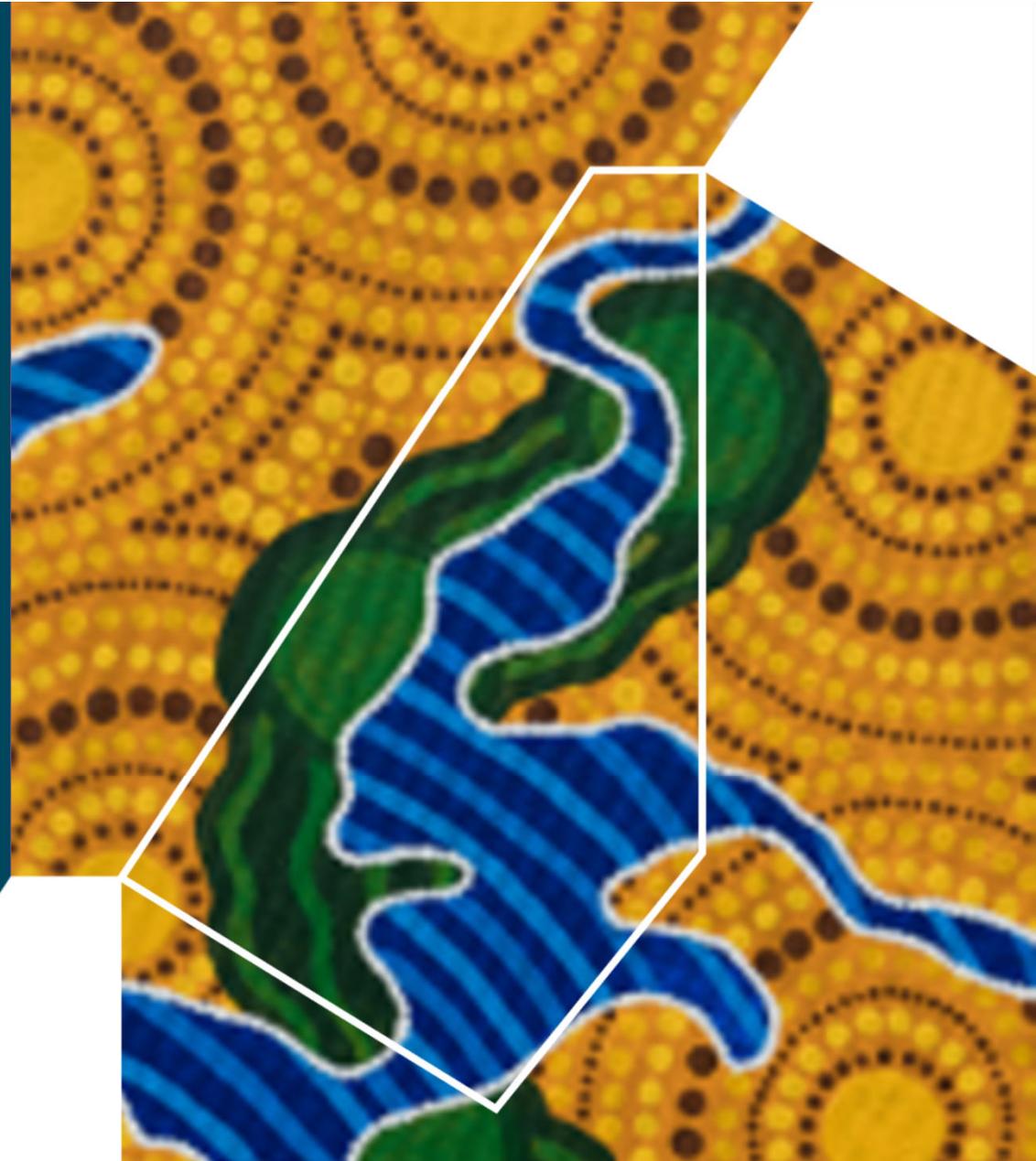
WALGA

Influence. Support. Expertise.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

WALGA acknowledges the continuing connection of Aboriginal people to Country, culture and community. We embrace the vast Aboriginal cultural diversity throughout Western Australia and we acknowledge and pay respect to Elders past and present.

Pictured left: Artwork by Jade Dolman, a young Whadjuk/Ballardong Nyoongar, Eastern Arrernte, Irish woman from Perth.





01

Introduction

Understanding Local Government

Serving on Council

Meeting Procedure

Conflicts of Interest

Financial Reports and Budgets



02

Understanding Local Government



Local Government in WA



139
Councils



1,136
Elected Members



25,500
employees
19,820 Full Time Equivalents (FTE)
Source: WALGA Salary and Workforce Survey



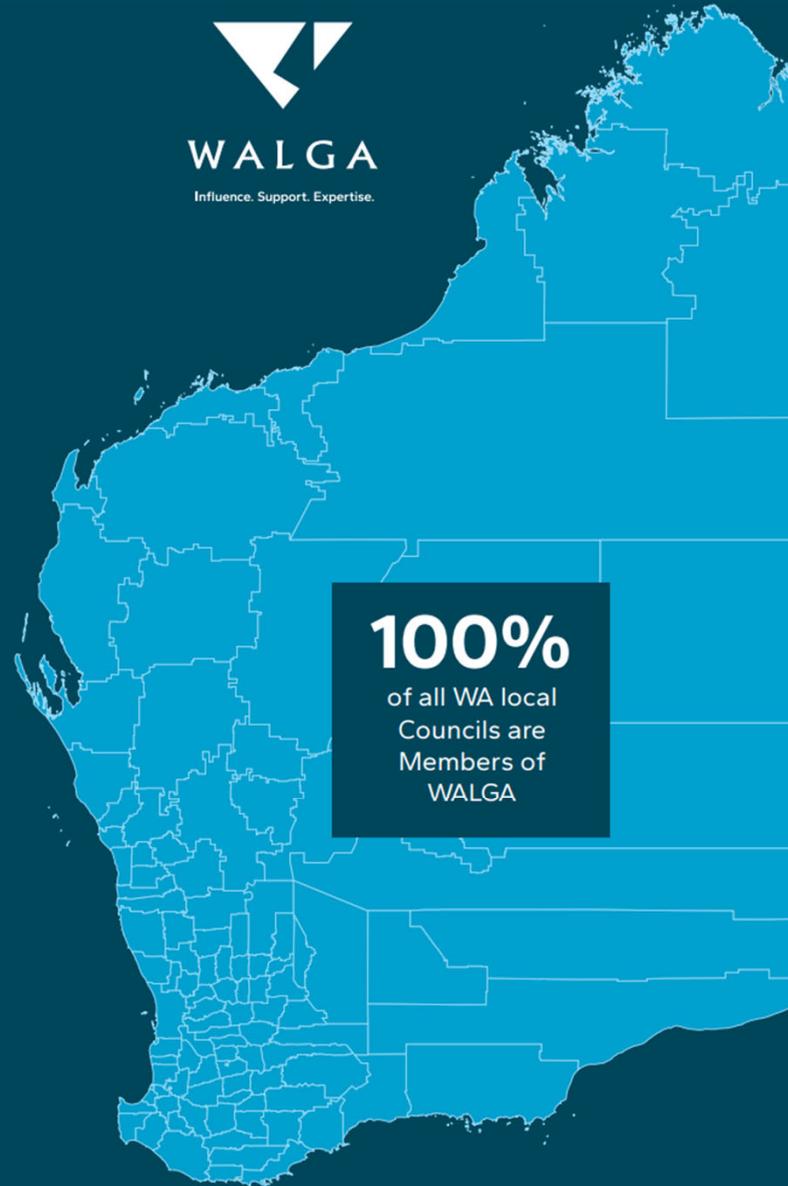
\$4.9bn
expenditure per annum
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics



\$52bn
of assets
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics



87%
of all public roads managed
Source: WALGA Road Asset and Expenditure report



100%
of all WA local
Councils are
Members of
WALGA

Western Australian Local Governments are diverse in:



Land size:
ranging from
less than
1.1² km to over
372,000² km



**Number of
staff employed:**
from **13** to
over **1,389**
per council



Population:
range from
101 to more
than **246,000**
people



**Revenue
received:** which
in 2023-24,
ranged from
\$2.7 million
to just over
\$309 million





Basis for Local Government in WA

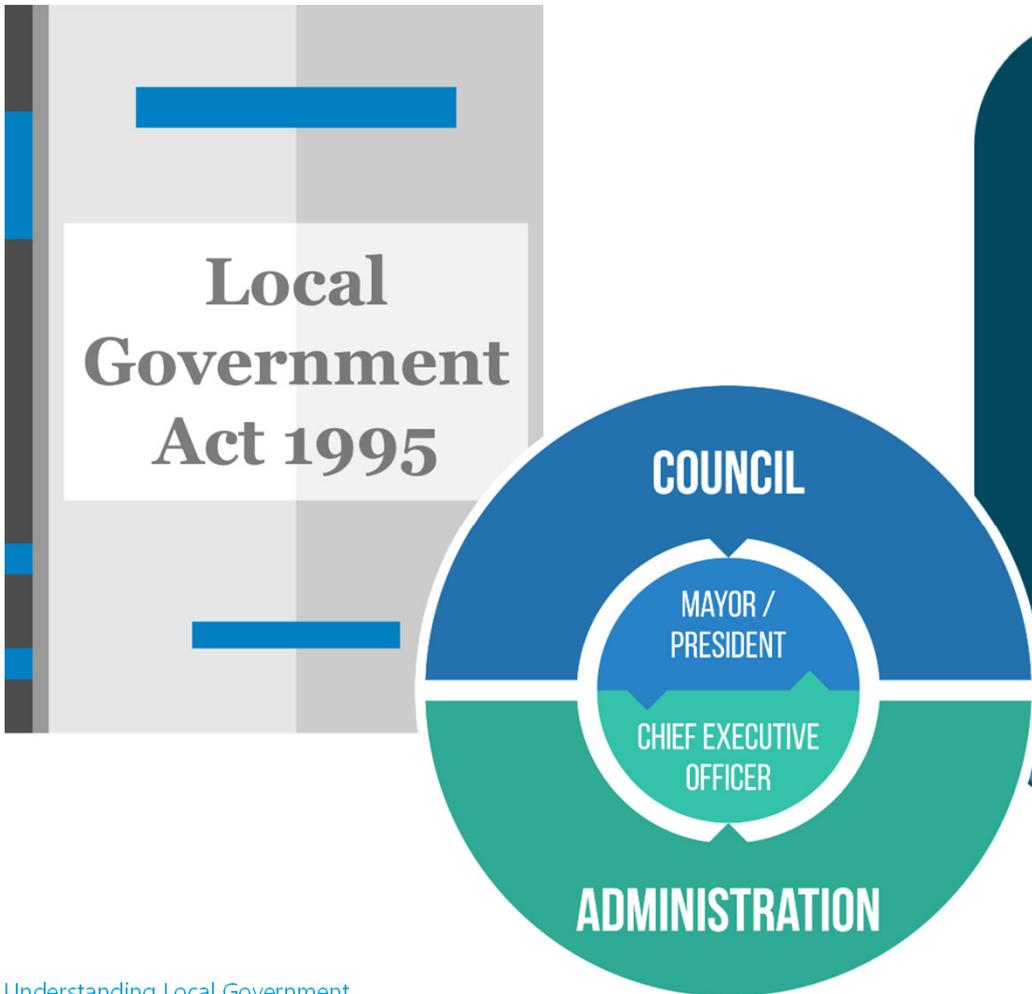
Part IIIB - Local Government

52. Elected local governing bodies

- (1) The Legislature shall maintain a system of local governing bodies elected and constituted in such manner as the Legislature may from time to time provide.
- (2) Each elected local governing body shall have such powers as the Legislature may from time to time provide being such powers as the Legislature considers necessary for the better government of the area in respect of which the body is constituted.



Local Government Act



The Act provides “*general competence powers*” enabling Local Governments to make decisions and do all things necessary or convenient to be done for, or in connection with, performing its functions under this Act, subject to consistency with written and common law



Local Government Services



People Services

Libraries, recreational facilities, services for youth, services for the aged, arts and cultural events, community facilities



Property Services

Local roads, footpaths, parks and gardens, waste services, security services and recycling



Regulatory Services

Land use planning approvals, building permits, swimming pool inspections, animal control, environmental health, parking controls, behaviour in public places



03

Serving on Council



Separate Powers

The bill delivers ... **clearer roles and responsibilities** ... by legislating clearer roles for **council**, the **mayor** or **president**, **council members**, and the **chief executive officer**. This will provide greater clarity ... distinction of strategic and operational functions in local governments.

These amendments emphasise the critical separation between the **council as the governing body**—responsible for establishing policies, making strategic decisions and appointing the chief executive officer—**and the chief executive officer, who is responsible for managing the day-to-day business** of the local government.

... council members **must not** seek to involve themselves in managing the local government’s administration, intervening in the service delivery by the local government or otherwise seeking to perform the role of the chief executive officer.

Hon. Hannah Beazley, Minister for Local Government – 15 August 2024





Role of Council

- Governs the local government's affairs
- Responsible for the performance of the local government's functions
- Determines the services and facilities to be provided by the local government
- Determines the local government's policies
- Plans strategically for the future of the district
- Selects the CEO and reviews their performance
- Provides the CEO with strategic direction



Role of Council – Continued

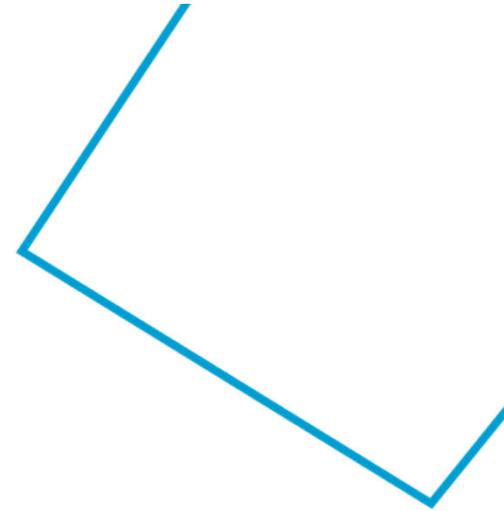
Council must have regard to the following principles:

- The Council's governing role is separate from the CEO's executive role under s.5.41.
- Council respects that separation.

Council must make decisions:

- on the basis of evidence, merits and according to written law.
- taking into account the local government's finances and resources.

Council must have regard to the need to support an organisational culture for the local government that promotes the respectful and fair treatment of the local government's employees.





Role of Councillors

- Represents the interest of electors, ratepayers and residents of the district and takes account of the interests of other persons who work in, or visit, the district.
- Participates in the deliberation and decision-making of the local government at Council and committee meetings.
- Facilitates communication with the community about Council decisions.
- Facilitates and maintains good working relationships with other Councillors, the Mayor or President and the CEO.
- Acts consistently with the role of Council.
- Maintains and develops the requisite skills to effectively perform their role.

Council Members do not exercise powers as individuals, only as members of a Council through collective decision-making.



Role of Mayor or President

- Provides leadership and guidance to the Council and Council Members, including regarding roles and responsibilities.
- Acts as the principal spokesperson for the local government, and carries out civic and ceremonial duties, acting consistently with Council decisions.
- Presides at meetings of the Council, ensuring that meetings are orderly and held in accordance with the Act.
- Promotes, facilitates and supports positive and constructive working relationships among Council Members.
- Liaises with the CEO on the local government's affairs and the performance of its functions.



Role of CEO

- Acts as principal advisor to Council.
- Implements Council's decisions and policies.
- Manages the provision of services and facilities that the Council has determined the local government will provide.
- Liaises with the Mayor/President on the local government's affairs and performance of the local government's functions and speaks on behalf of the local government if the Mayor/President agrees.
- Manages the local government's administration and operations.
- Responsible for the employment, management, supervision, direction and dismissal of other employees.
- Ensures records and documents of the local government are properly kept.
- Performs any other function specified or delegated by the local government or imposed under the Act or any other written law.



The Local Government Entity





Your Role on Council

2.10. Role of councillors

(1) A councillor —

- (a) represents the interests of the electors, ratepayers and residents of the district and takes account of the interests of other persons who work in, or visit, the district; and
- (b) participates in the deliberation and decision-making of the local government at council and committee meetings; and
- (c) facilitates communication with the community about council decisions; and
- (d) facilitates and maintains good working relationships with other councillors, the mayor or president and the CEO; and
- (e) acts consistently with section 2.7(3) to (5); and
- (f) maintains and develops the requisite skills to effectively perform their role.



Your Role on Council

(a) represents the interests of the electors, ratepayers and residents of the district and takes account of the interests of other persons who work in, or visit, the district; and

Declaration by elected member of council

Declaration by elected member

I,

of¹,

having been elected to the office of² mayor/deputy mayor/president/deputy president/councillor of the³

.....,

declare that I take the office upon myself and will duly, faithfully, honestly, and with integrity, fulfil the duties of the office for the people in the district according to the best of my judgment and ability, and will observe the code of conduct adopted by the³ under section 5.104 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.



Your Role on Council

- (b) participates in the deliberation and decision-making of the local government at council and committee meetings; and

Council meetings often deal with:

- Policy and Strategy
- Community Engagement
- Local Laws
- Applications
- Considering capital works and major projects
- Reviewing financial management information
- Determining the scope and delivery of services
- Monitoring performance and compliance





Your Role on Council

(c) facilitates communication with the community about council decisions; and





04

Meeting Procedures



Council Meetings

Formal meetings:

- Ordinary Council meetings
- Special Council Meetings
- Committee Meetings

Informal Meetings:

- Agenda Briefings
- Forums
- Workshops





Council Meetings

Council Meetings are formal meetings that are call, convened and conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act, Regulations and Meeting Procedures Local Laws.

Effective Council Members prepare for meetings:

- Read and consider the information in the agenda
- Identify and disclose conflicts of interest
- Participate in formal debate and decision-making

Public participation and broadcasting

Public Participation

- Public question time
- Deputations
- Public attendance

Recording and Broadcasting

- Meetings required to be livestreamed and / or recorded and made available to the public

What do you think?



True or False?

At a Council meeting, I can exercise my freedom of speech and make any comment that I wish?

Qualified Privilege

An important principle applying to Local Government Council meetings is one of **Qualified Privilege**.



As opposed to **Parliamentary Privilege**, a Council Member has limited defences should they be the subject of a claim for damages based on alleged defamatory statements associated with their role on Council.



Model Code of Conduct

A Council Member:

- Must not act in abusive or threatening manner
- Must not make false or misleading statement
- Must not repeatedly disrupt the meeting
- Must comply with local law
- Must comply with direction of person presiding
- Must cease conduct that has been ruled out of order



05

Conflicts of Interest





Disclosing a Conflict of Interest



s 5.60A



s 5.61



s 5.60B



Code of Conduct cl.22

Participate & Vote:

Participate & Vote:



Conflicts of Interest





06

Understanding Financial Reports and Budgets



Council Plans

A robust strategic planning framework is at the foundation of the purpose of Local Government and aligns with its statutory function of *'providing for the good government of persons in the district.'*

Council Plans:

- ensure community input informs the medium to long term objectives of the Local Government
- are developed to meet specific objectives and measurable outcomes
- identify the resourcing required to deliver the plans
- enable rigorous, achievable and transparent prioritisation within the Local Government's available resources.





Council Plans



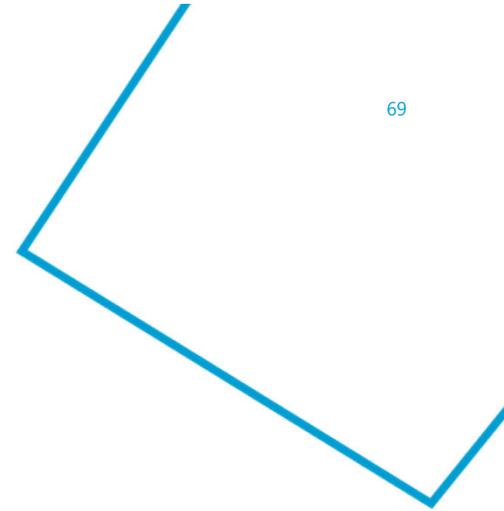


Support for Council Members

- Meeting fees or annual allowances
- Reimbursement of expenses including travel and childcare
- Council Member Superannuation
- Parental Leave provisions
- Mandatory training
- Continuing Professional Development Policy

Advice and guidance

- Your Local Government's CEO | experienced Council Members
- WALGA Governance
- Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety



Thank you

**2025 LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ORDINARY ELECTION
18 OCTOBER 2025**

Kathy Gecan, Returning Officer

Email: LGro_Rockingham@elections.wa.gov.au

Telephone: 0456 260 727

