



City of Rockingham

MINUTES

Corporate and Community Development Committee

Held on Tuesday 9 December 2025 at 5:00pm
City of Rockingham Council Chamber



City of Rockingham
 Corporate and Community Development
 Committee Minutes
 5:00pm Tuesday 9 December 2025



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City of Rockingham
Corporate and Community Development
Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday 9 December 2025 - Council Chamber



1.	Declaration of Opening																														
	<p>The Chairperson declared the Corporate and Community Development Committee meeting open at 5:00pm and welcomed all present.</p> <p>Acknowledgement of Country</p> <p>The Chairperson noted that the City of Rockingham acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land, the Binjareb and Whadjuk Nyoongar peoples and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all members of Aboriginal communities and their cultures; and to Elders past and present.</p> <p>Recording and Live Streaming of proceedings</p> <p>In accordance with Council Policy this meeting is being live streamed on the City's website, with the exception of confidential items and periods of adjournment or as determined by the Presiding Member.</p> <p>By being present at this meeting, members of the public consent to the possibility that their image and voice may be live streamed to the public. Recordings are also made available on the City's website following the meeting.</p> <p>Please note that clause 8.5 of the City's <i>Standing Orders Local Law 2001</i> provides that "no person is to use any electronic, visual or audio recording device or instrument to record the proceedings of the Council or a committee without the written permission of the Council".</p> <p>If anyone breaches this Standing Order they will be asked to leave the Council Chamber.</p>																														
2.	Record of Attendance/Apologies/Approved Leave of Absence																														
	<p>2.1 Council Members</p> <table><tr><td>Deputy Mayor Robert Schmidt</td><td>Chairperson</td></tr><tr><td>Cr Leigh Liley</td><td>Deputy Chairperson</td></tr><tr><td>Cr Craig Buchanan, JP</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Cr Mike Crichton</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Cr Peter Hudson</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Mayor Lorna Buchan</td><td>Deputising for Cr Kelly Middlecoat</td></tr></table> <p>2.2 Executive</p> <table><tr><td>Mr Michael Parker</td><td>Chief Executive Officer</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Michael Holland</td><td>Director Community Development</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Michael Yakas</td><td>A/Director Corporate Services</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Jim Olynyk, JP</td><td>Manager Governance and Councillor Support</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Alvin Santiago</td><td>Manager Financial Services</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Roger Haripersad</td><td>Manager Waste Services</td></tr><tr><td>Ms Nollaig Baker</td><td>Manager Strategy, Marketing and Communications</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Richard Hardy</td><td>Manager Community and Leisure Facilities</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Matthew Emmott</td><td>Manager Community Infrastructure Planning</td></tr></table>	Deputy Mayor Robert Schmidt	Chairperson	Cr Leigh Liley	Deputy Chairperson	Cr Craig Buchanan, JP		Cr Mike Crichton		Cr Peter Hudson		Mayor Lorna Buchan	Deputising for Cr Kelly Middlecoat	Mr Michael Parker	Chief Executive Officer	Mr Michael Holland	Director Community Development	Mr Michael Yakas	A/Director Corporate Services	Mr Jim Olynyk, JP	Manager Governance and Councillor Support	Mr Alvin Santiago	Manager Financial Services	Mr Roger Haripersad	Manager Waste Services	Ms Nollaig Baker	Manager Strategy, Marketing and Communications	Mr Richard Hardy	Manager Community and Leisure Facilities	Mr Matthew Emmott	Manager Community Infrastructure Planning
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	<p>Ms Mary-Jane Rigby Mr Paul Hayward Ms Colleen Williams Ms Melissa James Ms Katie MacLachlan Ms Sue Langley Ms Jen Weinman</p> <p>2.3 Members of the Gallery: 3</p> <p>2.4 Apologies: Cr Kelly Middlecoat</p> <p>2.5 Approved Leave of Absence: Nil</p>	<p>Manager Community Safety and Support Services Manager, Community Capacity Building A/Manager Library and Information Services Manager Economic Development and Tourism Financial Controller Governance Officer Governance Officer – FOI / Councillor Support</p>
3.	Responses to Previous Public Questions Taken on Notice	
	Nil	
4.	Public Question Time	
5:02pm	The Chairperson opened Public Question Time and invited members of the Public Gallery to ask questions. The Chairperson noted that this was the only opportunity in the meeting for the public to ask questions.	
4.1	<p>Mr Peter and Mrs Leanne Gill, Safety Bay - Lark Hill Race Club 2025 – Request for Iconic Event Sponsorship</p> <p>The Chairperson invited Mrs Leanne Gill to present her question to the Corporate and Community Development Committee. Mrs Gill asked the following question:</p> <p>1. How is it that a Rockingham Council Officer recommendation to provide Option 2 \$50,000 funding for the Iconic Event Sponsorship to Lark Hill Race Club event 2026, yet it doesn't seem to align with the Council Policy.</p> <p>On page 19 of the agenda, Policy – Outdoor Events, it states that the City will not approve events that promote tobacco or gambling.</p> <p>It's clearly stated in the agenda on page 15 that there will be "a TAB trailer from TABTouch with dedicated gambling support" yet on page 25 of the officer recommendation is that Council approves the Iconic Event Sponsorship funding to the Lark Hill Race Club for the amount of \$50,000 for the hosting and running of the 2026 Rockingham Race at Lark Hill Race Club on Sunday 26 April 2026, with the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rediscover Rockingham destination marketing brand to be included on event promotional material Branded City owned signage to be prominently displayed at the event, recognising the City's support and promoting the City's tourism brand <p>How is this recommendation in any way able to be approved when there is clearly gambling at the event and the Rockingham Council name and brand associated with the event boldly announced. This is not, in my opinion, in the community's best interest and wellbeing to approve funding for this event. It is a well known fact that gambling has a negative effect on our society.</p> <p>I ask that Council do not approve Option 2 but to approve Option 1 to provide no funding to align with Council's own policy and protect the regions wellbeing.</p>	

	<p><i>The Chairperson advised that this report relates to Iconic Event Sponsorship of the event which is separate from the outdoor event permit. This report is not the approval of the event, and the report includes three options for Council's consideration. Each option contains a range of specific considerations that will be worked through with the event organiser if the event is approved by the City's Health team within the Planning and Development Services department.</i></p> <p><i>If the event is approved by the Health team, the organisers will need to ensure they adhere to any specific conditions that may be placed on the event by the City through the event permit.</i></p> <p>5:07pm There being no further questions the Chairperson closed Public Question Time.</p>
5.	Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous Meeting
	<p>Moved Cr Liley, seconded Cr Crichton:</p> <p>That Committee CONFIRMS the Minutes of the Corporate and Community Development Committee Meeting held on 18 November 2025, as a true and accurate record.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Committee Voting (Carried) – 6/0</p>
6.	Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes
	Nil
7.	Announcement by the Person Presiding without Discussion
	<p>5:08pm The Chairperson announced to all present that decisions made at Committees of Council are recommendations only and may be adopted in full, amended or deferred when presented for consideration at the next Council meeting.</p>
8.	Declarations of Members and Officers Interests
	<p>5:08pm The Chairperson asked if there were any interests to declare.</p> <p>There were none.</p>
9.	Petitions/Deputations/Presentations/Submissions
	Nil
10.	Matters for which the Meeting may be Closed
	Nil
11.	Bulletin Items
	<p>Corporate and General Management Services Information Bulletin – December 2025</p> <p>Corporate Services</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Corporate Services Team Overview 2. Project Status Reports <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Website Refresh 2.2 Leisure Management System 3. Information Items <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 List of Payments November 2025 3.2 Monthly Financial Management Report October 2025 3.3 Amendment to Rate Record – Non-Rateable Land

- 3.4 Amendment to Rate Record – Write Off
- 3.5 Awarding of Tenders by CEO - Delegated Authority
- 3.6 Lease Tenure Matters
- 3.7 Leased Property Maintenance Grants
- 3.8 Delegated Authority to Dispose of Property by way of Lease
- 3.9 Development Contribution Scheme
- 3.10 Kerbside Collection Summary

General Management Services Directorate

- 1. General Management Services Team Overview
- 2. Project Status Reports
- 3. Information Items
 - 3.1 Meetings and Events
 - 3.2 Use of the Common Seal

Governance and Councillor Support

- 1. Governance and Councillor Support Team Overview
- 2. Project Status Reports
- 3. Information Items
 - 3.1 Freedom of Information (FOI) Requests
 - 3.2 Council Member Requests
 - 3.3 Citizenships
 - 3.4 Coming Events
- 3.5 Notice of Motion – Status Report

Human Resources

- 1. Human Resources Team Overview
- 2. Project Status Reports
- 3. Information Items
 - 3.1 Recruitment
 - 3.2 Workplace Health and Safety Statistics

Strategy, Marketing and Communications

- 1. Strategy, Marketing and Communications Team Overview
- 2. Project Status Reports
 - 2.1 Resident Perception Survey 2025
 - 2.2 Minor Review – Strategic Community Plan 2023-2033
- 3. Information Items
 - 3.1 Communications Review
 - 3.2 Team Plan
 - 3.3 Community Engagement – Share your thoughts
 - 3.4 Social Media
 - 3.5 Media Tracking

Legal Services & General Counsel

- 1. Legal Services & General Counsel Team Overview
- 2. Project Status Reports
- 3. Information Items
 - Provision of Legal Advice
 - 3.1 Legal Advice – Local Government Operational Matters
 - 3.2 Litigation

Committee Recommendation

Moved Cr Buchanan, seconded Cr Hudson:

That Council Members acknowledge having read the Corporate and General Management Services Information Bulletin – December 2025 and the content be accepted.

Committee Voting (Carried) – 6/0

<p>Community Development Information Bulletin – December 2025</p> <p>Community Safety and Support Services</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Community Safety and Support Services Team Overview2. Project Status Reports<ol style="list-style-type: none">2.1 Community Hub Needs and Feasibility Study2.2 Assertive Outreach2.3 Social Connection2.4 Crisis/Supported Accommodation Needs and Feasibility Study3. Information Items<ol style="list-style-type: none">3.1 Community Support Services3.2 Rockingham Connect Community Transport Project3.3 Community Safety <p>Library Services</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Library Services Team Overview2. Project Status Reports3. Information Items<ol style="list-style-type: none">3.1 October 2025 Library Services Statistics3.2 Mary Davies Library and Community Centre3.3 Baldivis South Community Centre3.4 Rockingham Library3.5 Safety Bay Library3.6 Warnbro Community Library <p>Community Infrastructure Planning</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Community Infrastructure Planning Team Overview2. Project Status Reports3. Information Items<ol style="list-style-type: none">3.1 Baldivis Sports Complex3.2 Safety Bay Foreshore Community Facility Development3.3 Stan Twight Reserve Clubroom Redevelopment3.4 Anniversary Park Clubroom Redevelopment3.5 Lark Hill Sportsplex Northern Expansion3.6 Baldivis Men's Shed3.7 Autumn Centre Redevelopment <p>Community Capacity Building</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Community Capacity Building Team Overview2. Project Status Reports<ol style="list-style-type: none">2.1 Cultural Development and the Arts Strategy2.2 Reconciliation Strategy2.3 Disability Access and Inclusion Plan3. Information Items<ol style="list-style-type: none">3.1 Grants3.2 Disability Access and Inclusion3.3 Seniors

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">3.4 Volunteer Program3.5 Rockingham Volunteer Centre (RVC)3.6 Early Years, Children and Families3.7 Sport and Recreation3.8 Health and Wellbeing3.9 Youth Development3.10 Cultural Development and the Arts3.11 Rockingham Arts Centre
	<p>Community and Leisure Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Community and Leisure Facilities Team Overview2. Project Status Reports<ul style="list-style-type: none">2.1 Rockingham Lotteries House Relocation and Community Hub Development3. Information Items<ul style="list-style-type: none">3.1 Aqua Jetty3.2 Warnbro Community Recreation Centre3.3 Mike Barnett Sports Complex3.4 Rockingham Aquatic Centre3.5 Gary Holland Community Centre3.6 Autumn Centre3.7 Baldivis Indoor Sports Complex
	<p>Economic Development and Tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Economic Development and Tourism Team Overview2. Project Status Reports<ul style="list-style-type: none">2.1 Local Business Network Support2.2 Investment Attraction2.3 Iconic Economic Development / Tourism Events2.4 Destination Marketing2.5 Visitor Servicing3. Information Items<ul style="list-style-type: none">3.1 Major Events3.2 Stakeholder Engagement - Economic Development and Tourism

Committee Recommendation

Moved Cr Crichton, seconded Cr Hudson:

That Council Members acknowledge having read the Community Development Information Bulletin – December 2025 and the content be accepted.

Committee Voting (Carried) – 6/0

12. Agenda Items

General Management Services

General Management Services Governance and Councillor Support



Report number / title:	GM-021/25	Annual Report and Annual Electors Meeting 2024/2025 (<i>Absolute Majority</i>)
File number:	IFM/26 and GVR/60	
Proponent/s:		
Author:	Mr Jim Olynyk, Manager Governance and Councillor Support	
Other Contributor/s:		
Date of Committee meeting:	9 December 2025	
Previously before Council:		
Disclosure of Interest:		
Nature of Council's role:	Executive	
Attachments:	1. Draft Annual Report 2024/2025	
Maps / Diagrams:		
Site:		
Lot Area:		

Purpose of Report

To adopt the City of Rockingham Annual Report for 2024/2025 and confirm the date set for the Annual Electors Meeting (**AEM**).

Background

The statutory Annual Report is prepared to advise the Community on the activities of the local government and includes the audited Annual Financial Report. The Annual Report also contains an overview of the Plan for the Future.

The Annual Report is to be accepted by the local government no later than 31 December each year. However, should the auditor's report not be available in time for the Annual Report to be accepted by 31 December, then the local government is to accept the Annual Report no later than two months after the auditor's report becomes available.

The local government is required to prepare, adopt and advertise its Annual Report, prior to the AEM. The AEM for 2024/2025 is proposed to be scheduled for 6pm Thursday 5 February 2026, which is a similar timeframe to the 2023/2024 AEM.

Details

Council at its meeting of 25 November 2025 adopted the Independent Auditor's Report and the Audited Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2025. These Reports will be combined with the Annual Report for final consideration by Council at its meeting on Tuesday 16 December 2025.

Implications to Consider

a. Consultation with the Community

The availability of the Annual Report is advertised in conjunction with the public notice statutory advertising required for the Annual Electors Meeting. Advertising will appear in the local press, City website, social media platform, libraries and notice boards.

Statutory advertising is required to be carried out requiring the Chief Executive Officer to convene an electors' meeting by giving at least 14 days' local public notice.

b. Consultation with Government Agencies

Nil

c. Strategic

This item addresses the Community's Vision for the future and specifically the following Aspiration and Strategic Objective(s) contained in the Strategic Community Plan 2023-2033:

Aspiration: **5. Leadership Aspiration - Transparent and accountable leadership and governance**

Outcome/Objective: *Quality Leadership - Ensure accountable and transparent governance*

d. Policy

Council Policy - Recording and Streaming Council, Standing Committees and Annual Electors Meetings, adopted by Council in August 2023 states:

'Council Meetings, Standing Committee Meetings and the Annual Electors Meeting must be streamed online via the City's website, with the exception of confidential items in accordance with Section 5.23 of the Local Government Act 1995 (the Act) and periods of adjournment or as determined by the Presiding Member in accordance with the City of Rockingham Standing Orders Local Law 2001 (Standing Orders).'

e. Financial

Live streaming of the Annual Electors Meeting will cost in the vicinity of \$8,000.00 (ex GST). There are no other significant financial implications evident at this time other than the costs associated with publication of the Annual Report and statutory advertising.

f. Legal and Statutory

In accordance with section 5.27 of the *Local Government Act 1995 (Act)*, a general meeting of electors of a district is to be held once every financial year. The meeting is to be held not more than 56 days after the local government accepts the annual report for the previous financial year.

A local government is to prepare an annual report for each financial year, section 5.53(1).

The content of the Annual Report, includes a report from the Mayor, a report from the Chief Executive Officer, an overview of the plan for the future, the financial reports for the year under review, the auditor's report, and specified information including that relating to employees, disability services, and complaints, section 5.53(2).

Section 5.54 of the Act requires Council to accept the Annual Report no later than 31 December each year.

However, should the auditor's report not be available in time for the Annual Report to be accepted by 31 December, then the local government is to accept the Annual Report no later than two months after the auditor's report becomes available.

The Chief Executive Officer is to give local public notice of the availability of the annual report as soon as practicable after the report has been accepted by the local government, section 5.55.

g. Risk

All Council decisions are subject to risk assessment according to the City’s Risk Framework.

Implications and comment will only be provided for the following assessed risks.

*Customer Service / Program/Project management / Natural Environment : High and Extreme Risks
 Financial / Health and Safety : Medium, High and Extreme Risks*

Nil

Comments

To facilitate the process of holding the AEM Meeting in a timely manner Council consideration of the Annual Report, including the Financial Report, for 2024/2025 is sought.

If Council adopts the Annual Report for 2024/2025 the Annual Electors Meeting must be held no later than 56 days after this resolution, that being Tuesday 10 February 2026.

Council in November 2023, GM-035/23, resolved to conduct the 2022/2023 Annual Electors Meeting in the first week of February the following year. Based upon this resolution it is proposed to hold the Annual Electors Meeting at 6pm on Thursday 5 February 2026 and in accordance with Council Policy - Recording and Streaming Council, Standing Committees and Annual Electors Meetings, this meeting will be streamed live on the City’s website.

The table below includes historical timing and meeting attendance at the AEM.

Meeting dates	Elector attendees	Start time	Finish time	Livestream Unique Views
Thursday 6 February 2025	49	6:00pm	8:25pm	60
Thursday 8 February 2024	55	6:00pm	8:11pm	81
Wednesday 21 December 2022	59	6:00pm	8:17pm	-
Wednesday 22 December 2021	31	6:00pm	7:51pm	-
Wednesday 16 December 2020	60	6:00pm	8:07pm	-
Wednesday 18 December 2019	55	6:00pm	7:19pm	-
Wednesday 19 December 2018	32	6:00pm	8:30pm	-
Wednesday 20 December 2017	8	6:00pm	6:56pm	-
Wednesday 21 December 2016	1	6:05pm	6:10pm	-
Wednesday 16 December 2015	8	6:00pm	6:58pm	-
Wednesday 17 December 2014	5	6:00pm	6:52pm	-
Tuesday 17 December 2013	14	6:00pm	6:50pm	-
Tuesday 18 December 2012	10	6:00pm	6:35pm	-

Table1: Annual Elector Meeting Data

Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- ADOPTS** the Annual Report for the financial year ending 30 June 2025, as detailed in Attachment 1.
- APPROVES** the Annual Electors Meeting for 2024/2025 to be held on Thursday 5 February 2026 commencing at 6pm.

Committee Recommendation

Moved Mayor Buchan, seconded Cr Crichton:

That Council:

1. **ADOPTS** the Annual Report for the financial year ending 30 June 2025, as detailed in Attachment 1.
2. **APPROVES** the Annual Electors Meeting for 2024/2025 to be held on Thursday 5 February 2026 commencing at 6pm.

Committee Voting (Carried) – 6/0

The Committee's Reason for Varying the Officer's Recommendation

Not Applicable

Community Development

Community Development Community Capacity Building



Report number / title:	CD-026/25	Tertiary Scholarship Scheme – TSS Council Policy, Eligibility Criteria and Assessment Criteria Review
File number:	CSV/1522	
Proponent/s:		
Author:	Ms Rebekka Jarvis, Coordinator Community Capacity Building	
Other Contributor/s:	Ms Amanda Fairhead, Community Grants Officer Mr Paul Hayward, Manager Community Capacity Building	
Date of Committee meeting:	9 December 2025	
Previously before Council:		
Disclosure of Interest:		
Nature of Council's role:	Executive	
Attachments:	1. Tertiary Scholarship Scheme Council Policy (<i>marked up version</i>)	
Maps / Diagrams:		
Site:		
Lot Area:		

Purpose of Report

To seek Council approval to retain the existing Tertiary Scholarship Scheme (**TSS**) assessment criteria, and to remove the requirement for annual assessment criteria review from the Council Policy.

Background

The Tertiary Scholarship Scheme

The Tertiary Scholarship Scheme supports eligible Rockingham residents to complete an Undergraduate University Degree and/or TAFE/VET Diploma for the first time through a nationally recognised provider. The Scheme offers the following scholarship categories:

- Undergraduate University Degree – up to \$10,000 per scholarship, equating to \$2,500 per year (\$1,250 per semester) for up to four years or until completion, whichever occurs first.
- TAFE/VET Diploma – up to \$4,000 per scholarship, equating to \$2,000 per year (\$1,000 per semester) for up to two years or until completion, whichever occurs first.

Administration of the Scheme

The TSS was previously administered through the Rockingham Education and Training Advisory Committee (RETAC). Following Council's decision in February 2025 to disband several advisory committees, including RETAC, responsibility for administering the Scheme transitioned to an officer-led process. Officers now assess applications against Council-endorsed criteria and present recommendations directly to Council.

Assessment Criteria Review

Under Council Policy – Tertiary Scholarship Scheme, City officers are required to review and recommend assessment criteria annually. In the past officers reviewed the assessment criteria and then sought endorsement from RETAC. However, this process no longer occurs as RETAC has disbanded. Officers therefore recommend removing this requirement, with the full Policy – including assessment criteria - to be reviewed every three years, in accordance with the City's standard Council Policy review process.

Details

Assessment Criteria Review

The current assessment criteria used by officers to evaluate eligible applications are:

- Limited family support
- Clear study pathway linked to career aspirations
- First in family to attend tertiary education
- Demonstrated capacity to achieve further education
- Involvement in the Rockingham community (e.g. volunteering or participation in community events/programs)
- Applicant's age at time of application, with preferential weighting in favour of younger applicants

In accordance with Council's Policy, officers have conducted this review and confirmed that the criteria remain relevant, robust and fit-for-purpose. No changes are recommended.

Amendment to Council Policy

As noted above, annual review of the assessment criteria is currently required. Previously, this review was undertaken by officers and then presented to RETAC for endorsement. With RETAC now disbanded, this process no longer occurs.

Therefore, as part of the current review, officers have examined both the assessment criteria and the Policy itself. Given that the criteria have remained appropriate and consistent for several years, officers recommend removing the requirement for annual assessment criteria review. Instead, the full Policy - including its assessment criteria - would be reviewed on a three-year cycle, consistent with the City's standard Council policy review process.

This approach provides a clear and practical review process, consistent with how other Council policies are reviewed.

Implications to Consider

a. Consultation with the Community

Nil

b. Consultation with Government Agencies

Nil

c. Strategic

This item addresses the Community's Vision for the future and specifically the following Aspiration and Strategic Objective(s) contained in the Strategic Community Plan 2023-2033:

Aspiration: **5. Leadership Aspiration - Transparent and accountable leadership and governance**

Outcomes/Objectives: *Quality Leadership - Ensure accountable and transparent governance*

Sustainable Local Government - Optimise City resources

Sustainable Local Government - Continual improvement

d. Policy

The TSS operates in accordance with the Tertiary Scholarship Scheme Council Policy and the Governance and Meeting Framework Policy. This Framework requires all new or significantly amended policies to be subject to a 14 day public comment period. As the proposed changes are minor and consistent with the intent of the TSS Policy, public consultation is not considered necessary.

e. Financial

Nil

f. Legal and Statutory

Not Applicable

g. Risk

All Council decisions are subject to risk assessment according to the City's Risk Framework.

Implications and comment will only be provided for the following assessed risks.

Customer Service / Program/Project management / Natural Environment : High and Extreme Risks
Financial / Health and Safety : Medium, High and Extreme Risks

Nil

Comments

Officers have undertaken the required annual review of the Tertiary Scholarship Scheme assessment criteria in accordance with Council Policy – Tertiary Scholarship Scheme. The review confirmed that the existing criteria continue to be appropriate, clearly aligned to the purpose of the Scheme, and effective in supporting consistent and equitable assessment of applications. No amendments are proposed at this time.

To date, the Council Policy has required officers to review the assessment criteria annually, and officers then presented any recommended changes to the RETAC for endorsement. With RETAC now disbanded, this process no longer occurs. Officers have therefore considered the ongoing need for an annual review, noting that the criteria have remained consistent for several years.

In this instance, aligning the TSS Policy with the City's standard three-year Council Policy review cycle is considered more appropriate. This change would remove an administrative requirement that is no longer deemed necessary, while ensuring the full Policy, and the assessment criteria, continues to be reviewed regularly. This proposed amendment maintains the integrity of the Scheme, supports efficient policy management, and aligns with other Council Policy review processes and timeframes.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. **APPROVES** the amended Tertiary Scholarship Scheme Council Policy to read:

Tertiary Scholarship Scheme

Objective

To enable more Rockingham residents to complete tertiary qualifications, primarily an Undergraduate University Degree, and/or a TAFE/VET Diploma (see Definitions).

Scope

This policy establishes the applicant's age requirements, scholarship categories, financial commitment, and assessment criteria in order to facilitate the successful delivery of the scholarship program.

Statement

Scholarship Purpose

To support eligible Rockingham residents aged 17 and above to complete an Undergraduate University Degree and/or TAFE/VET Diploma for the first time from a nationally recognised provider (see Definitions).

Scholarship Categories

Based on an annual budget amount of up to \$90,000, inclusive of previously committed funds for the relevant year, the scholarship scheme will provide:

- up to 24 scholarships for Undergraduate University Degree in the amount of \$10,000 per scholarship, equating to \$2,500 per year (\$1,250 per semester), for up to four (4) years or upon completion of degree, whichever occurs first, for an Undergraduate University Degree
- up to 15 scholarships for TAFE/VET Diploma in the amount of up to \$4,000 per scholarship, equating to \$2,000 per year (\$1,000 per semester), for up to two (2) years, or upon completion of Diploma whichever occurs first, for a Diploma.

The above funds/scholarship category are notional, and if not utilised can be used in the other category, although the total amount is capped at \$90,000 p/a.

Scholarship Eligibility and Assessment Criteria

Eligibility Criteria

Successful applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- City of Rockingham resident for a minimum of three (3) years at the time of the application
- aged 17 and above
- an Australian Citizen or Permanent Resident
- can demonstrate financial hardship for the duration of the scholarship term (see Definitions)
- must provide a letter of offer or evidence of current enrolment at a nationally recognised University, TAFE/VET provider (see Definitions)
- have a minimum of two (2) full semesters (12 months) of study remaining from the TSS round closing date
- must be completing an Undergraduate University Degree and/or TAFE/VET Diploma for the first time

An existing qualification for a TAFE/VET Diploma does not preclude the person from applying for an Undergraduate University scholarship.

Successful recipients are only eligible to receive one scholarship per scholarship category.

Assessment Criteria

All scholarship applications received are administered and assessed by City officers, in line with the assessment criteria. Officers will make recommendations to Council to determine the outcome of all applications received.

Executive Policies and Procedures

The CEO shall ensure that executive policies and procedures are implemented that provide for the effective and equitable consideration, approval, distribution, measurement and acquittal of scholarship funds.

Definitions

Scholarship: financial support provided to a Rockingham resident aged 17 and above to enable access to an appropriate tertiary education qualification.

Financial hardship: scholarship applicant and/or applicant's family, if applicant is still a dependant is in receipt of a Health Care Card or support payment/benefit/pension or tax support through either Department of Human Services or Department of Veterans Affairs.

Tertiary education: in accordance to the Australian Qualification Framework (AQF, 2013), this includes qualifications from AQF Level 5 (Diploma) to AQF Level 7 (Bachelor Degree). AQF Level 8 Bachelor Honours Degree may be considered if honours is part of an undergraduate degree. A post-graduate honours will not be considered.

Nationally recognised provider: AQF providers nationally recognised by the Tertiary Education Quality Standard Agency (TEQSA) for higher education providers and universities, or AQF providers nationally recognised on the National Register of Vocational Education and Training (VET) in Australia.

TAFE: Technical and Further Education

VET: Vocational Education and Training

Legislation

Nil

Other Relevant Procedures / Key Documents

Council Policy – Policy Framework

Tertiary Scholarship Scheme Guidelines

Responsible Division

Community Development

Review Date

December 2028

2. **APPROVES** the following Tertiary Scholarship Scheme assessment criteria until December 2028:
- Limited family support
 - Clear study pathway linked to career aspirations
 - First in family to attend tertiary education
 - Demonstrated capacity to achieve further education
 - Involvement in Rockingham community (i.e. volunteering, attendance at Rockingham community events/programs)
 - Applicant's age at time of application, with preferential weighting to be in favour of younger applicants

Committee Recommendation

Moved Cr Hudson, seconded Cr Liley:

That Council:

1. **APPROVES** the amended Tertiary Scholarship Scheme Council Policy to read:

Tertiary Scholarship Scheme

Objective

To enable more Rockingham residents to complete tertiary qualifications, primarily an Undergraduate University Degree, and/or a TAFE/VET Diploma (see Definitions).

Scope

This policy establishes the applicant's age requirements, scholarship categories, financial commitment, and assessment criteria in order to facilitate the successful delivery of the scholarship program.

Statement

Scholarship Purpose

To support eligible Rockingham residents aged 17 and above to complete an Undergraduate University Degree and/or TAFE/VET Diploma for the first time from a nationally recognised provider (see Definitions).

Scholarship Categories

Based on an annual budget amount of up to \$90,000, inclusive of previously committed funds for the relevant year, the scholarship scheme will provide:

- up to 24 scholarships for Undergraduate University Degree in the amount of \$10,000 per scholarship, equating to \$2,500 per year (\$1,250 per semester), for up to four (4) years or upon completion of degree, whichever occurs first, for an Undergraduate University Degree
- up to 15 scholarships for TAFE/VET Diploma in the amount of up to \$4,000 per scholarship, equating to \$2,000 per year (\$1,000 per semester), for up to two (2) years, or upon completion of Diploma whichever occurs first, for a Diploma.

The above funds/scholarship category are notional, and if not utilised can be used in the other category, although the total amount is capped at \$90,000 p/a.

Scholarship Eligibility and Assessment Criteria

Eligibility Criteria

Successful applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- City of Rockingham resident for a minimum of three (3) years at the time of the application
- aged 17 and above
- an Australian Citizen or Permanent Resident
- can demonstrate financial hardship for the duration of the scholarship term (see Definitions)
- must provide a letter of offer or evidence of current enrolment at a nationally recognised University, TAFE/VET provider (see Definitions)
- have a minimum of two (2) full semesters (12 months) of study remaining from the TSS round closing date
- must be completing an Undergraduate University Degree and/or TAFE/VET Diploma for the first time

An existing qualification for a TAFE/VET Diploma does not preclude the person from applying for an Undergraduate University scholarship.

Successful recipients are only eligible to receive one scholarship per scholarship category.

Assessment Criteria

All scholarship applications received are administered and assessed by City officers, in line with the assessment criteria. Officers will make recommendations to Council to determine the outcome of all applications received.

Executive Policies and Procedures

The CEO shall ensure that executive policies and procedures are implemented that provide for the effective and equitable consideration, approval, distribution, measurement and acquittal of scholarship funds.

Definitions

Scholarship: financial support provided to a Rockingham resident aged 17 and above to enable access to an appropriate tertiary education qualification.

Financial hardship: scholarship applicant and/or applicant's family, if applicant is still a dependant is in receipt of a Health Care Card or support payment/benefit/pension or tax support through either Department of Human Services or Department of Veterans Affairs.

Tertiary education: in accordance to the Australian Qualification Framework (AQF, 2013), this includes qualifications from AQF Level 5 (Diploma) to AQF Level 7 (Bachelor Degree). AQF Level 8 Bachelor Honours Degree may be considered if honours is part of an undergraduate degree. A post-graduate honours will not be considered.

Nationally recognised provider: AQF providers nationally recognised by the Tertiary Education Quality Standard Agency (TEQSA) for higher education providers and universities, or AQF providers nationally recognised on the National Register of Vocational Education and Training (VET) in Australia.

TAFE: Technical and Further Education

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Legislation

Nil

Other Relevant Procedures / Key Documents

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Tertiary Scholarship Scheme Guidelines

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 - Applicant's age at time of application, with preferential weighting to be in favour of younger applicants

Committee Voting (Carried) – 6/0

The Committee's Reason for Varying the Officer's Recommendation

Not Applicable

Community Development Economic Development and Tourism



Report number / title:	CD-027/25	Lark Hill Race Club 2025 – Request for Iconic Event Sponsorship
File number:	ECD/65	
Proponent/s:	Lark Hill Race Club	
Author:	Ms Michelle Kite, Major Events and Contracts Officer	
Other Contributor/s:	Mr Justin Fromm, Senior Economic Development Officer Mr Michael Holland, Director Community Development Ms Melissa James, Manager Economic Development and Tourism	
Date of Committee meeting:	9 December 2025	
Previously before Council:		
Disclosure of Interest:		
Nature of Council's role:	Executive	
Attachments:		
Maps / Diagrams:		
Site:		
Lot Area:		

Purpose of Report

For Council to consider providing Iconic Event Sponsorship funding to Lark Hill Race Club for the running of the inaugural "Rockingham Races at Lark Hill Race Club" (**RRLHRC**) in April 2026.

Background

The City of Rockingham (**City**) Tourist Destination Strategy 2024-2029 includes an action in Key Element 4 – Event Attraction and Activation to "encourage and attract third parties to host iconic events". Additionally, the City's Economic Development Strategy 2025-2030 includes an action in Key Element 5 – Workforce Development and Liveability to "plan and support a year-round calendar of activities to boost visitation, support local businesses, and create a dynamic community atmosphere".

The City received an application for Iconic Event Sponsorship from the Lark Hill Race Club on 13 October 2025. Following an initial review, Officers met with representatives from the Lark Hill Race Club on 15 October to discuss the initial proposal, and request further information to be provided in order to meet the requirements of the Iconic Event Sponsorship Guidelines. The final application for Iconic Event Sponsorship was received on 30 October 2025.

Details

The RRLHRC Iconic Event Sponsorship proposal has been submitted to the City by the newly incorporated not-for-profit Lark Hill Race Club Inc. The committee includes Mark Pink as President, Lucas Martin as Vice President, Julie Godfrey as Secretary/Treasurer, and Courtney Pink as Event

Co-ordinator/Bar Manager/Marketing Manager, supported by committee members Ben Pearce, Dave Ryan and Hayden Ballantyne. The committee will work together to produce and promote the event, and have already secured a partnership with Perth Racing and Racing & Wagering Western Australia who will run the horse racing operations on the day.

The proposed RRLHRC will be an inaugural live thoroughbred horse race day aimed at growing the racing footprint in the Rockingham region. It will incorporate a professional regional race meet, family entertainment and local vendor engagement. The event is proposed for Sunday 26 April 2026, which is the ANZAC Day long weekend.

The committee’s long-term vision is to present a community-led but professionally managed race meeting at Lark Hill (the first ever), activating this space, and placing it in a prime position for future consideration of increased race hosting opportunities at Lark Hill.

The proposal for this event is a single day event running from 12pm – 8pm, and will, alongside the race meet, include event elements such as kids activities, a stage with live performers, container bars, and food trucks. There will also be a TAB trailer from TABTouch with dedicated gambling support. The organisers are also incorporating animal welfare education with a relevant activation, in conjunction with Off The Track WA.

The proposal also includes a robust marketing plan that will incorporate the following:

- National broadcast on TAB and Sky Racing (shown in more than 4,000 venues across Australia)
- Featured on 7Racing (approx. 175,000 viewers per race day)
- Appearance on major racing websites (receiving over 1.4 million views per week)
- Targeted social media campaigns
- Press releases and local media partnerships
- Community information sessions and flyers
- Campaigns in the wider racing community, such as possible podcasts, social media, live activations and radio campaign opportunities.

This is on top of promoting the new local club through merchandise and incentives for sports clubs and sponsors to promote membership within their networks.

While this proposal is for the first of what is intended to be an annual event, the Lark Hill Race Club has already identified the vision to grow to host three to four race meetings per year in the future. They have also identified the potential for the Lark Hill Thoroughbred Training Complex to play an increased role in Western Australia’s racing calendar in the future, potentially hosting eight to ten races a year as the Ascot and Belmont courses undergo planned renovations.

The below table summarises the detail submitted within the proposal in accordance with the Iconic Event Sponsorship Guidelines objectives and criteria:

Iconic Event Sponsorship Guidelines	Detail Provided in Iconic Event Sponsorship Submission
Demonstrate Economic Benefit	
Expected number of visitors attending the event from outside the Rockingham region	Aiming to attract 2,500 in-person spectators, and some additional participants/sponsors/racing representatives consisting of approximately: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 interstate visitors • 1,000 intrastate visitors from outside the City of Rockingham • 600 overnight visitors (both interstate and intrastate)
Estimated daily visitor spend	The daily spend has been identified as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$200 for day visitors • \$800 for overnight visitors

Iconic Event Sponsorship Guidelines	Detail Provided in Iconic Event Sponsorship Submission
Demonstrate Economic Benefit	
Length of stay in overnight accommodation	Based on early indications, the organisers are anticipating the following overnight stays: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 200 from interstate · 400 from intrastate These numbers include trainers, jockeys, owners, support staff and sponsors, as well as spectators.
Methodology, rationale and justification of economic benefit estimates	The organisers have advised that they have obtained these figures from early engagement with participants, trainers and sponsors. <p>As this is a new event, further evidence of economic benefit estimates has not been provided, however City Officers have conducted an economic impact analysis which has been included in the comments section.</p>
Opportunities for local business to leverage the event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Local suppliers/providers for event delivery · Sponsorship, with a significant number of sponsors already signed up to be involved in the event (including intrastate and interstate companies) · Marketing cross-promotion and collaboration packages with tourism and hotel operators · Direct to event attendee opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Catering and bar vendors located at the event ○ Accommodation/hospitality/tourism businesses from overnight visitors ○ Incidental purchases from day-trippers Due to the location of the Lark Hill Thoroughbred Training Complex, local business leverage relies heavily on direct engagement for event delivery.
Marketing and Promotional Expectations	
Marketing of the event will align with the City's Tourist Destination Strategy and Economic Development Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · \$20,000 has been allocated in the proposed budget for marketing · Marketing plan includes focus areas of greater Perth, Mandurah, Peel, Bunbury and regional WA · Digital advertising includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Social media campaign (Facebook and Instagram) ○ Google Display Network ads ○ Radio and audio through 6PR and Racing WA podcast ○ Website listings on Eventbrite, Visit Perth, Destination Perth, WA Tourism Events Calendar

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Major racing websites (over 1.4 million views per week) · Press and Print <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Advertisements/editorials in the West Australian (weekend edition) and community newspapers in Mandurah, Peel and Bunbury ○ Media release to WA Today and PerthNow · Tourism Collaborations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cross-promotions with tourism operators in Rockingham ○ Collaborative packages with hotel partners for the long weekend ○ Integration and acknowledgement of the City's destination branding · Media Partnerships, Talent and Influencers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Featuring local jockeys/trainers in promotional stories and interviews on Sky Racing and social media ○ On-the-ground media, with potential for Racing.com or Sky interviews from Rockingham ○ Partnership with WA-based lifestyle influencers (with 10k+ followers) ○ "Race Day in Rockingham" campaign with influencers, including the City's destination branding tags
<p>The ability to attain media coverage and brand exposure outside the Rockingham region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Target the intrastate market, specifically Greater Perth, Mandurah, Peel and Bunbury · Media coverage using dedicated racing channels including TAB (4,000+ venues across Australia), Sky Racing and 7Racing (175,000 viewers) for national coverage
<p>Acknowledgment of the City's sponsorship</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Feature race of the day will be titled the "Rockingham Lark Hill Cup" · All races and related event references will carry the "Rockingham" name on TAB machines, betting apps and all event-produced materials, providing extensive exposure across WA and nationally · Sponsorship signage on-course, including entry points, near the mounting yard and along the home straight · Acknowledged by race callers throughout the day and during the media coverage and lead-up promotions · Logo recognition on digital advertising, promotional materials, race-day screens and post-event media releases. · Acknowledged on the Club social media pages as requested · Opportunity for activation zone or similar at the event

Budget	
Proposed budget	<p><u>Revenue</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . \$80,000 City sponsorship funding requested . \$142,500 in additional sponsor funding (\$82,000 secured, combined cash and in-kind) . \$84,000 ticket sales . \$30,000 club membership . \$20,000 hospitality . \$120,000 bar sales . \$2,500 from food trucks . \$10,000 uniform sales <p>Total revenue: \$489,000</p> <p><u>Expenditure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . \$35,000 marquee hire . \$21,000 for event and sponsorship signage* . \$15,000 security* . \$15,000 bus transfers/shuttle bus . \$15,000 container bar . \$15,000 tables and chairs . \$80,000 bar stock/requirements* . \$35,000 catering* . \$16,000 bands/performers* . \$6,000 stage hire . \$3,000 audit . \$2,625 website . \$3,000 till system . \$1,000 event wifi . \$1,000 governance costs (inc. liquor licence) . \$200 post box . \$20,000 marketing . \$20,000 event manager* . \$50,000 extra race requirements . \$15,000 club merchandise . \$3,000 ice . \$2,500 kids entertainment* . \$3,000 portable toilet hire* <p>Total expenditure: \$377,325</p> <p>*Organisers have identified these will be with City of Rockingham businesses</p>
Total funding requested from the City	\$80,000

Other additional information provided with the proposal included a Business Plan, Risk Management Plan, Emergency Evacuation Plan, Complaints Management Plan, High Impact Outdoor Event Application, Marketing Plan, Bush Fire Plan, draft site plan and budget.

The requested \$80,000 Iconic Event Sponsorship funding from the City will support the delivery of the following event elements:

- Temporary fencing
- Event management
- Marquee and structures
- Audio and visual

Specific companies were not listed other than for the event management company, which is local business Mrs Sippi operated by committee member Courtney Pink, and is listed in the budget as \$20,000.

Implications to Consider

a. Consultation with the Community

Nil

b. Consultation with Government Agencies

Nil

c. Strategic

Community Plan

This item addresses the Community's Vision for the future and specifically the following Aspiration and Strategic Objective(s) contained in the Strategic Community Plan 2023-2033:

Aspiration: **4. Economic - A vibrant economy creating opportunities**

Outcome/Objective: *A visitor destination - Promote the City as a place to visit*

Tourist Destination Strategy 2024-2029

Action Item 4: Encourage and attract third parties to host iconic events

Economic Development Strategy 2025-2030

Action Item 5: Plan and support a year-round calendar of activities to boost visitation, support local businesses, and create a dynamic community atmosphere, including allocate annual dedicated funding for Iconic Events

d. Policy

Council Policy – Outdoor Events states that the City will not approve events: which promote tobacco or gambling; with alcohol promotion being the main purpose; which are discriminatory in nature; which involve endangered animals, or cruelty to animals; which prevents the public space from being used for its dedicated purpose; or which threaten ecologically sensitive areas.

e. Financial

An allocation of \$300,000 for Iconic Events (Economic Development and Tourism) has been included as part of the City's 2025/2026 budget. \$230,000 has already been approved by Council for the 2025 Rockingham Beach Cup, leaving a balance of \$70,000 available.

f. Legal and Statutory

Nil

g. Risk

All Council decisions are subject to risk assessment according to the City's Risk Framework.

Implications and comment will only be provided for the following assessed risks.

*Customer Service / Program/Project management / Natural Environment : High and Extreme Risks
Financial / Health and Safety : Medium, High and Extreme Risks*

Nil

Comments

The City of Rockingham Iconic Event Sponsorship Guidelines defines an iconic event as:

- An annual or recurring event, or a one-off feature event
- A significant participation event, attracting approximately 10,000 or more attendees
- An event which:
 - provides opportunities to market the destination outside the Rockingham region by generating awareness and gaining extensive/high profile media coverage
 - generates significant economic impact for the local economy, and increased rates of visitation from people outside Rockingham.

As a requirement of the City's Iconic Event Sponsorship Guidelines, a minimum of 50% of the City's sponsorship funding is to be spent locally within the Rockingham region.

Officers have assessed the proposed RRLHRC in accordance with the Iconic Event Sponsorship Guidelines and have summarised the evaluation based on key event outcomes and considerations.

In relation to the above, the proposed RRLHRC is intended to achieve the following outcomes:

- A maximum capacity of approximately 2,500 spectators, plus participants, sponsors and support staff. Whilst this does not align with that of a significant participation event, the value of the proposed marketing and media reach, and potential for future recurring race meets to be held at Lark Hill Racetrack has been taken into consideration.
- An out of region marketing plan including key media partners such as TABtouch, Sky Racing, and 7Racing providing opportunities to market the destination with high profile media coverage
- Generate a strong economic impact to the local economy, including a long-term impact from ongoing race attraction.

When assessing the Iconic Event Sponsorship Application, the following options were considered:

Option 1 – provide no funding to the RRLHRC with consideration to the following:

- Based on the proposed budget, the event does not rely on the City's funding to proceed
- The event will be held over the ANZAC Day long weekend, which is already considered a busy time for the community and local businesses, particularly within the hospitality and tourism industry.
- The maximum capacity of the venue is 2,500 patrons, limiting the potential for the event to grow into a mass participation event
- Council Policy – Outdoor Events includes stipulations around events that promote gambling and alcohol. Whilst these stipulations can be managed, the inclusion of a gambling component to this event could be seen as contentious, and not in line with events that the City would ordinarily support.
- The City already provides significant support to the Rotary Club of Palm Beach for the Rockingham Beach Cup, another horse-race based event. While the events are considered different, it is noted that there could be a perception that the City's Iconic Event Sponsorship is primarily going towards horse racing events.

Option 2 – provide \$50,000 funding to the RRLHRC with consideration to the following (in addition to those listed in option 1):

- This is an inaugural event, with the potential to grow into a recurring event occurring multiple times per year on an annual basis
- The national coverage across dedicated racing channels such as TAB (4,000+ venues across Australia), Sky Racing and 7Racing (175,000 viewers) presents a significant destination marketing opportunity.
- As a newly established not for profit club, any surplus generated from the event would be retained by the club and reinvested in infrastructure upgrades and/or future events
- The proposed budget includes a sponsorship target of \$142,500 on top of the funding requested from the City. Whilst some sponsorship has been secured, there is no guarantee that the club will secure the full amount.
- Some anticipated costs have not been included in the budget, such as traffic management (if required), lighting, audio visual and temporary fencing, and the stated expenditure for portable toilet hire seems low. Officers consider it likely these items would be required for the successful delivery of the event.
- As part of their Outdoor Event Application, issues relating to parking will need to be addressed. Subject to the plans implemented to address parking (e.g. shuttle buses) Officers note that a Traffic Management Plan may be required.
- In regards to Council Policy – Outdoor Events, there should be no references to gambling on any of the event promotional material to satisfy the provisions of the Outdoor Events Policy. It should be noted that the proposal includes a TABTouch attending with dedicated gambling support to provide assistance to those who may require it.
- The event has the support of Racing and Wagering WA, who are the decision-making body for future racing schedules which could potentially incorporate Lark Hill Thoroughbred Training Complex
- The WA State Government provided grants and support to the Lark Hill Training Complex in the mid 2000's to upgrade the facility. The support by the City of the RRLHRC is intended to provide the opportunity to capitalise on the facility for long-term benefits in attracting visitors and brand promotion beyond the initial direct event outcomes.

Option 3 – provide \$70,000 funding to the RRLHRC with consideration to the following (in addition to those listed in options 1 and 2):

- \$70,000 is available within the City's 2025/26 Iconic Event Sponsorship budget, and no other submissions for Iconic Event Sponsorship would be considered for this financial year due to timing for event planning and delivery.
- Advice from the Committee is that any profits generated through the event will be put into upgrading infrastructure and future events.

Economic Impact

Summary

Based on tourism daily spend data, the Lark Hill Race Club event is estimated to generate \$361,800 in out-of-region visitor spending, resulting in a total economic impact of about \$551,298. The event contributes the equivalent of four full-time local jobs.

Event Impact Assessment

Tourism-related spending for an event refers specifically to dollars brought into the region from visitors who reside outside the local area. These out-of-region expenditures are considered "new money" to the local economy, as they represent funds that would not have been spent locally if not for the event. In contrast, local spending residents who would have spent their money within the region regardless of the event - is not counted as tourism impact. This distinction is crucial for accurately assessing the economic benefit of an event, as only out-of-region dollars contribute to net economic growth through increased demand for accommodation, dining, retail, and other services.

The Event Impact Assessment for the Lark Hill Race Club event uses the following assumptions:

- Attendees: 2500
- Visitors: 1200
 - 600 Day Trippers
 - 600 Overnight Visitors
 - § 200 Interstate
 - § 400 Intrastate
- Expenditure per person:
 - Day Trippers - \$250 each
 - Overnight Visitors - \$353 per day (staying one night only)
- Total Visitor Spend: \$361,800

Officers note that the Iconic Event Sponsorship application included different figures to the above (\$200 local and intrastate daytripper, and \$800 overnight visitor), however, no source of data was included. Due to this, Officers have chosen to model the event economic impact using the daily spend information from Tourism Research Australia, International Visitor Survey and Domestic Tourism Statistics collection (\$250 local and intrastate daytripper, and \$353 per day overnight visitor).

These figures were used to model the events economic impact using economy.id event impact calculator. If the event attracts more out-of-region visitors and they spend more, then the economic impact will be greater.

Event Impact Summary – using spend value aligned with Tourism numbers of intrastate/interstate		
	Output (\$)	Local Jobs (annual jobs)
Direct impact	329,166	2.8
Industrial impact	122,092	0.5
Consumption impact	100,040	0.5
Total impact on City of Rockingham economy	551,298	4

Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) ©2025. Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id (informed decisions). Note: All \$ values are expressed in 2022/23 base year dollar terms.

The event is estimated to bring in \$361,800 from visitors outside the local area. This spending will directly boost local businesses by \$329,166. As these businesses need more supplies and services to meet demand, other industries also benefit, adding another \$122,092. On top of that, as workers earn more wages, they spend more locally, which adds another \$100,040. Altogether, the total boost to the local economy is predicted to be \$551,298.

When it comes to jobs, the event has potential to create the equivalent of 4 full-time local jobs for a year. This includes direct employment from the event, small flow-on effects to other industries, and extra jobs supported by local spending.

Return on Investment (ROI)

Based the full requested funding amount of \$80,000, with a total output of \$551,298, the return on investment is 1:6.89.

The City aims to reach an ROI with Iconic Event Sponsorship above 8 times.

Officers acknowledge the intention of the organisers to grow this event in subsequent years, and potential for additional race day events at the Lark Hill Thoroughbred Training Complex in the future. In conjunction with the destination promotion value, this small shortfall in the ideal ROI under conservative estimates is balanced in other ways. With that in mind, and also taking into consideration the significant marketing and media opportunities available through the RRLHRC event, an investment of \$50,000 delivers a ROI of 1:11.03, which Officers consider to be a strong economic return, especially when considered in combination with the marketing and destination promotion value, and the future implications. As a result, a funding amount of \$50,000 is recommended to support the delivery of the inaugural RRLHRC.

Future Implications

The intention communicated to Officers by the applicant is that while future sponsorship submissions may be submitted in the short-term, the long-term vision of the club is to be self-sufficient. Officers also note that the recommendation for \$50,000 investment from the City is in line with the initial recommendation and support approved by Council for Tourism Rockingham Inc for the inaugural 2023 Catalpa Adventure, which also incorporated the expectation that future funding submissions would diminish after the initial start-up support request.

In addition, the opportunity to activate the Lark Hill Thoroughbred Training Complex on a more regular basis could present itself due to both the Ascot and Belmont Racecourses future planned major renovations. The removal of these busy racetracks will create demand for additional courses for the racing community. Positioning Lark Hill Thoroughbred Training Complex as a viable racecourse option now would increase the potential for the venue to pick-up additional meets during this time, which would have ongoing economic and tourism benefits for Rockingham. These long-term benefits have not been captured in the assessment process, but is worth noting.

After liaising with the event organisers, Officers understand that any revenue generated from the event will be reinvested into facility upgrades, maintenance, and future fundraising events for the club.

Summary

Based on the event assessment against the eligibility criteria outlined in the Iconic Event Sponsorship Guidelines, and strong alignment with City strategies (Tourist Destination Strategy, Economic Development Strategy and Strategic Community Plan), Officers recommend that the City provide a total funding contribution of \$50,000 in Iconic Event Sponsorship to support the delivery of the inaugural RRLHRC in 2026.

Based on a cash sponsorship amount of \$50,000, the following funding breakdown has been prepared to align with important deadlines associated with the Outdoor Event Application process and Iconic Event Sponsorship requirements:

Event Activities	Milestone deadlines	Funding allocated
<p><u>Milestone A</u> Event Start Up Confirmation of a professional event management organisation being engaged for the planning and delivery of the event</p> <p>Marketing - Social Media Campaign Provision of a key contact who will be facilitating the social media activity on behalf of the event organiser</p>	<p>Upon entering into agreement with the City</p>	<p>5%</p>
<p><u>Milestone B</u> Professional Event Management Upon receipt of the following documents submitted to the City no less than 90 days prior to the first day of the event:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Outdoor Event Application · Site Plan · Risk Management Plan · Relevant Insurance Certificates of Currency <p>Marketing Upon receipt of an event marketing plan and activity schedule no less than 90 days prior to the first day of the event, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Media Kit (including key messages and approved creative) · Budget · Media Schedule · Social Media Strategy 	<p>90 days prior to the event</p>	<p>20%</p>

Event Activities	Milestone deadlines	Funding allocated
<p><u>Milestone C</u> Professional Event Management Upon receipt of an event Traffic Management Plan (if required) and Parking/Transport plan submitted to the City no less than 45 days prior to first day of the event</p> <p>Event Programming Upon receipt of a draft event program, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Event day activities and programming · Incorporation of local content and suppliers (e.g. local food vendors, wineries, breweries etc.) 	<p>45 days prior to event</p>	<p>50%</p>
<p><u>Milestone D</u> Professional Event Management Upon receipt of all food/stallholder permit applications no less than 14 days prior to the first day of the event</p> <p>Upon receipt of all traders and amusement permit applications and relevant Work Safe Certificates no less than 14 days prior to the first day of the event</p>	<p>14 days prior to event</p>	<p>20%</p>
<p><u>Milestone E</u> Post Event Evaluation Report Upon receipt of the post event evaluation report no less than 90 days following the last day of the event, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · An Economic Impact Assessment Report conducted by a third party, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Event attendance breakdown (including attendance numbers and localities - local, intrastate and interstate) ○ Average number of overnight stays as a result of the event ○ Economic impact assessment ○ Social impact assessment · A written report from the event organiser summarising the following key deliverables of the Iconic Event Sponsorship: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Event attendance ○ Customer satisfaction ○ Local business engagement (including any significant local businesses involved in the event, and identification of local businesses expenditure within the final budget) ○ Copies of relevant invoices identifying where the City's funding was spent ○ Marketing activity and outcomes report 	<p>90 days following the event</p>	<p>5%</p>
<p>Post-Event (prior to any future Iconic Event Sponsorship application being considered)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Evidence of reinvestment of event profits towards permanent or reusable infrastructure for the club, or future events. 		
<p>Total Cash Funding</p>		<p>\$50,000</p>

In addition to the above, Officers also recommend that the following conditions be applied:

- Rediscover Rockingham destination marketing brand to be included on event promotional material
- Branded City owned signage to be prominently displayed at the event, recognising the City's support and promoting the City's tourism brand
- The Mayor is provided an opportunity to speak at the event
- Rediscover Rockingham Mobile Visitor Centre attendance at the event
- In addition to the post event report, an update be provided to the City regarding the reinvestment of any surplus funds generated through the event

It is recommended that funding be provided for the RRLHRC as per option 2 to support the development of a new event in 2026 that will have both direct and lasting benefits in the space of economic development and the overall destination promotion of Rockingham.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer Recommendation

That Council **APPROVES** the Iconic Event Sponsorship funding to the Lark Hill Race Club for the amount of \$50,000 for the hosting and running of the 2026 Rockingham Race at Lark Hill Race Club on Sunday 26 April 2026, with the following conditions:

- Rediscover Rockingham destination marketing brand to be included on event promotional material
- Branded City owned signage to be prominently displayed at the event, recognising the City's support and promoting the City's tourism brand
- The Mayor is provided an opportunity to speak at the event
- Rediscover Rockingham Mobile Visitor Centre attendance at the event
- An update be provided to the City regarding the reinvestment of any surplus funds generated through the event

Committee Recommendation

Moved Cr Hudson, seconded Mayor Buchan:

That Council **APPROVES** the Iconic Event Sponsorship funding to the Lark Hill Race Club for the amount of \$50,000 for the hosting and running of the 2026 Rockingham Race at Lark Hill Race Club on Sunday 26 April 2026, with the following conditions:

- Rediscover Rockingham destination marketing brand to be included on event promotional material
- Branded City owned signage to be prominently displayed at the event, recognising the City's support and promoting the City's tourism brand
- The Mayor is provided an opportunity to speak at the event
- Rediscover Rockingham Mobile Visitor Centre attendance at the event
- An update be provided to the City regarding the reinvestment of any surplus funds generated through the event

Committee Voting (Carried) – 4/2

Council Members voting for the motion:

Cr Hudson Mayor Buchan
Cr Liley Deputy Mayor Schmidt

Council Members voting against the motion:

Cr Buchanan Cr Crichton

The Committee's Reason for Varying the Officer's Recommendation

Not Applicable

13.	Reports of Council Members
	Nil
14.	Addendum Agenda
	Nil

15. Motions of which Previous Notice has been given

Corporate Services

**Corporate Services
Director and Support**



Report number / title:	CS-020/25	Notice of Motion – Proposed Re-introduction of weekly general waste service
File number:		
Proponent/s:	Cr Dylan Mbano	
Author:	Mr Michael Yakas, A/Director Corporate Services	
Other Contributor/s:	Ms Helen Savage, Senior Projects Officer	
Date of Committee meeting:	9 December 2025	
Previously before Council:	25 March 2025 (CS-002/25), 28 January 2025 (CS-001/25), 17 December 2024 (CS-001/25), 23 July 2024 (CS-018/24), 26 March 2024 (CS-007/24), 25 July 2023 (CS-015/23), 27 June 2023 (CS-015/23), 27 January 2021 (CS-002/21), 27 September 2016 (EP-030/16)	
Disclosure of Interest:		
Nature of Council's role:	Executive	
Attachments:		
Maps/Diagrams:		
Site:		
Lot Area:		

Purpose of Report

To respond to the following Notice of Motion from Cr Mbano –

*That Council **ADOPTS** that the red bin (general waste) collection be moved back to being collected weekly.*

Background

Notice of Cr Mbano's proposed motion was provided to the City of Rockingham (**City**) on 28 November 2025 and the following reason/s were given in support –

“For the sake of families and people right across the City of Rockingham. For families that have nappies, people that use sanitary pads (women’s health products) and families that have at least a few children the current red bin collection frequency (fortnightly) is not working.

The majority of people in the City of Rockingham want this change. This is reflected through my inbox which has received hundreds of emails (and counting) requesting the change back to weekly. This is a modest request and one that I urge the Council to deeply consider the level of public support on this issue should not be underestimated, this is the main issue I campaigned on to end up a Councillor, upon review of the results it is clear that there is public support.

I will save counter arguments for the debate part of the Council meeting.”

Details

A Notice of Motion has been submitted by Cr Mbanjo as detailed above. This request accords with clause 3.9 of the City of Rockingham *Standing Orders Local Law 2001*.

FOGO Timeline

On the 27 September 2016 the City committed to introducing a three-bin waste system involving the supply and delivery of the existing household bin system consisting of 140 litre general waste (red-lid), 240 litre green-waste (green-lid) and 360 litre recyclable waste (yellow-lid) bins.

At the time of this commitment the City's household two-bin system consisted of a 240 litre general waste bin that was collected weekly and a 240 litre recyclable waste bin collected fortnightly. The introduction of a third bin to the City's waste collection provision in June 2017 was in preparation for providing a Food Organics, Garden Organics (**FOGO**) collection and processing service that is in accordance with the Waste Authority's Better practise FOGO kerbside collection guidelines.

The additional bin and changes to bin capacity effectively increased the total fortnightly service (for the three bins) to an 880 litre service providing an increase from the previous 720 litres two-bin service. The implementation of a FOGO kerbside collection and processing service has subsequently increased the City's waste collection capacity further to a 980 litre services through the green-lid bin being collected weekly and the red-lid bin collection becoming a fortnightly service.

The City is not the first to implement FOGO with 26 other local governments in Perth, Peel and Southwest regions undertaking FOGO kerbside collection. The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (**DWER**) have confirmed that all of these local governments operate a fortnightly general waste kerbside collection.

A timeline of decision points made by Council from 2016 are as follows:

27 September 2016 (EP-030/16)

*That Council **DELEGATES** authority to the Chief Executive Officer to award WALGA Quote W16/17-26 - Supply, Assembly and Distribution of Mobile Garbage Bins (MGB's) for General Waste; Mobile Recycling Bin's (MRB's) for Recyclable Waste and Green Waste; and associated components, subject to the quotation being within the budget.*

27 January 2021 (CS-002/21)

*That Council **ADOPTS** the City of Rockingham Waste Plan 2020/2021.*

It is important to note that the action 1.4 in the Waste Plan 2020/2021 included the implementation of the better practice three-bin FOGO system in the City of Rockingham by 2025.

27 June 2023 (CS-015/23)

*That Council **DEFERS** Item CS-015/23 Provision of Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) Waste Collection and Processing Service to be presented at a Councillor Engagement Session.*

A Councillor Engagement Session occurred on 17 July 2023 and included FOGO information as required by the resolution.

25 July 2023 (CS-015/23)

*That Council **APPROVES** the implementation of a Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) waste collection and processing service for residential properties in accordance with the City of Rockingham's Waste Plan 2020-2031 by the end of June 2025, as detailed in Option 1 of this report.*

26 March 2024 (CS-007/24)

That Council **NOT SUPPORT** the following resolution from the Annual Electors Meeting held on 8 February 2024:

1. direct the CEO conduct a thorough review into cost and environmental impact of the current FOGO Policy, as well as whether the current FOGO policy can be changed to adapt itself to be a better fit for all residents of the city of Rockingham.
2. select parts of the current FOGO Policy remain, including but not limited to: The adaptation of food scraps to be disposed of in the green bins.
3. direct the CEO direct stakeholders to seriously consider a "switching of the lids" between the green and red bins in order to give a better balance of rubbish disposals to the people who are directly impacted by this policy, the residents, if they are to keep the current FOGO cycle in place.
4. direct the CEO to consider application for the Better Bins Plus program in order to relieve the cost which as of now has gone up to 25 dollars per household as opposed to the previous 11 dollars per household that was quoted in CS-015/23 in the August OCM.
5. force a motion that the policy be sent out for community consultation be made, not to discourage or sway in favour of FOGO, but gauge communities understanding of FOGO Policy as well as their opinions on what if any part of the FOGO Policy should be adapted.
6. direct the CEO, if no agreement can be made on implementation of these FOGO modifications, that the policy in its entirety be withdrawn and the previous motion CS-015/23 be revoked, citing implementation cost, lack of choice for residents and environmental issues associated with lack of proper information.

23 July 2024 (CS-018/24)

That Council **ACCEPTS** the tender submitted from Veolia Environmental Services (Australia) Pty Ltd, Level 4, 65 Pirrama Road, Pyrmont NSW, for Tender T24/25-39 – Provision of services for the collection and processing of recyclable material and food organics and garden organics (FOGO) waste in accordance with the tender documentation with the service commencement date of 26 June 2025 for a period of 8 years.

17 December 2024 (CS-001/25)

That Council **DELEGATES** authority to the Chief Executive Officer to award Tender T24/25-87 and enter into a contract for the provision of services for the production and delivery of kitchen caddies to properties within the City of Rockingham subject to the consideration for payment being within the approved budget.

28 January 2025 (CS-001/25)

That Council **ACCEPTS** the tender submitted from Trident Plastics (SA) Pty Ltd, 589 Torrens Road, St Clair, South Australia for Tender T24/25-87 - Provision of services for the production and delivery of kitchen caddies to properties within the City of Rockingham for \$1,398,690 (excluding GST).

25 March 2025 (CS-002/25)

That Council **NOT SUPPORT** the resolution from the Annual Electors Meeting held on 6 February 2025 to continue the red lid bin collection on a weekly basis.

Current State

The City has implemented a Better Practice three-bin FOGO system in accordance with the State Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery 2030 Strategy (**State Strategy**) and the matter has previously been considered and resolved by Council. This implementation included entering into a long term FOGO collection and processing contract, as well as restructuring the general waste collection service to operate over five days. This change required adjustments to collection schedules for a substantial number of residents.

'Figure 1 – Better Bin Plus: GO FOGO kerbside collection guidelines' (Figure 1) describes the recommended three-bin kerbside collection services that the Waste Authority supports through the provision of funding to local governments that deliver kerbside services that are consistent with the guidelines.

	Residual / General waste Red lid	Co-mingled recycling Yellow lid	FOGO Lime Green lid
Preferred bin volume	80, 120 or 140 litres	240 or 360 litres	240 litres
Preferred collection frequency	Fortnightly	Fortnightly	Weekly
Weekly collection volume	Maximum 70 litres	Minimum 120 litres	Minimum 240 litres
Kitchen asset and consumables			
Kitchen caddies	5 to 8 litres		
Kitchen caddie liners	AS4736-2006 for compostable and biodegradable plastics		

Figure 1 – Minimum service requirements – Better Bins Plus image from Better Bins Plus: Go FOGO Funding Guidelines

The City was successful in securing a funding agreement for \$861,000 with the DWER. The amount of funding received was conditional on the City providing kerbside services to households in accordance with the minimum requirements as set out in Figure 1.

Moving the weekly general waste kerbside collection to fortnightly was a priority to achieving a high performing three bin system. This system was designed to maximise recovery and minimise waste going to landfill.

A once a week collection service of the 140L general waste (red-lid) bin will result in a further increase in collection capacity to 1120L per fortnight. This will result in the City over-servicing on general waste for the majority of households and would not encourage a high performing three bin system. Further, the City would be the only local government, using FOGO, to offer a weekly general waste collection. This would be in direct misalignment to the GO FOGO kerbside collection guidelines and the funding agreement. DWER have advised that reverting from a fortnightly general waste collection to weekly would result in the City having to repay the \$861,000 grant funding.

Since the introduction of FOGO (July to October) over 8,000 tonnes of FOGO waste has been collected. When comparing the 2024 (GO) to 2025 (FOGO) collections, the FOGO service has diverted more than 3,400 tonnes of waste going to landfill. It is evident that the service is being utilised by the community. Table 1 provides a monthly breakdown of the GO and FOGO waste collected.

Month	2024 GO Quantity (Tonnes)	2025 FOGO Quantity (Tonnes)	Increase (Tonnes)
July	778.35	1,668.09	889.74
August	1,073.73	1,701.37	627.64
September	1,476.34	2,314.97	838.63
October	1,308.88	2,387.04	1,078.16

Table 1: Monthly GO V FOGO Collections (tonnes)

Moreover, since the introduction of FOGO (July to October) the City has experienced a reduction of 3,900 tonnes of general waste. Table 2 provides a monthly breakdown of general waste collected.

Month	2024 Quantity (Tonnes)	2025 Quantity (Tonnes)	Reduction (Tonnes)
July	2,603.25	1,628.20	-975.05
August	2,634.45	1,582.29	-1,052.16
September	2,489.79	1,654.98	-834.81
October	2,679.73	1,613.54	-1,066.19

Table 2: Monthly General Waste Collections (tonnes)

Strategic Community Plan 2023-2033

As part of the major review of the Strategic Community Plan (2023–2033) (**Community Plan**), the City engaged with 4,645 community members, and their feedback was clear: protecting the natural environment, minimising waste and planning for climate change are all top priorities. From this engagement, a new aspiration for the City’s future was established: “Natural Environment - A place of natural beauty where the environment is respected.” Aspiration 2 – Natural Environment is to ensure the City remains a place of natural beauty where the environment is respected through reducing the City’s energy and waste usage, minimising waste and mitigating and adapting to climate change impacts. Reverting to weekly red-bin collection would undermine this aspiration and compromise the environmental gains the current FOGO system offers. Maintaining fortnightly red-bin collection ensures the City meets the community’s waste minimisation aspiration.

The reduction in general waste and diversion from landfill is tracking in line with anticipated estimates. The City anticipated that FOGO would divert approximately 12,500 tonnes of general waste from landfill per annum. This will be impacted if the bin servicing schedule does not assist in driving community behaviour to change their habits around waste disposal.

Waste Levy

The State Government first introduced a landfill levy in 1998 to encourage the diversion of waste from landfill by increasing disposal costs. The intent was to encourage households and local government to adopt better recycling, reuse and recovery systems. If the City chose to not implement FOGO and recycling services, ratepayers would ultimately pay more to dispose of their waste in landfill. For context, the Landfill levy was \$3 per tonne in 1998. By 2025 it has risen to \$88 per tonne and will continually increase to \$97 per tonne by 2029. Without minimising waste and adopting contemporary recycling and recovery services, the cost of sending waste to landfill will continue to get more expensive.

The landfill levy is charged quarterly. A comparison of the July–September periods for 2024 and 2025 shows a levy reduction of \$469,000 has already been achieved. If the City achieves its projected waste diversion outcomes of 12,500 tonnes, the landfill levy is expected to decrease by approximately \$1.1M for the 2025/2026 financial year.

City Waste Plan

The City has implemented FOGO in direct alignment with the State Strategy 2030. Through its Waste Plan 2021 (**Waste Plan**), the City has the target of increasing its Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) material recovery to 70% by 2030. The State Government has a target of 75%. To achieve this target the Waste Plan identifies a number of actions which includes ‘Action 1.4 - Introduce the Better Practice three-bin FOGO system by 2025’. The introduction of a FOGO collection and processing service is one of the most impactful actions in the City’s Waste Plan in diverting organic material from landfill.

The Waste Hierarchy

The State Strategy provides a waste hierarchy which is a widely accepted decision-making tool that is set out in Section 5(1)(c) of the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007* (WARR Act). The waste hierarchy ranks waste management options in order of their general environmental desirability and prioritises waste avoidance. Disposal of waste at landfill is the least desirable treatment due to it recovering the least value from materials and delivering the least environmental benefit. It should only be used when other options are not viable.

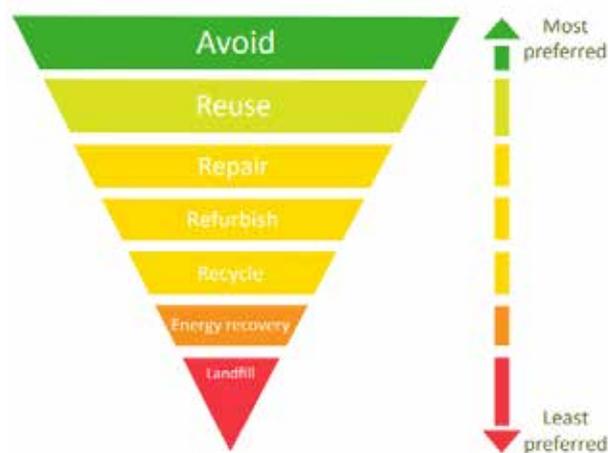


Figure 2 - Waste Hierarchy image from Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030

The City's Waste Plan includes the goal of achieving a 67% municipal waste material recovery rate in 2025. In the first four months of its implementation the City is achieving 57.8% recovery which has increased from approximately 39% in 2023/2024, prior to FOGO.

Landfills are anaerobic environments, and waste is broken down in an environment without oxygen which produces more methane gas than when waste is disposed of through a FOGO processing facility. By diverting waste through a FOGO processing facility that would have previously ended up at landfill, the waste undergoes a composting process to convert it into a useful soil conditioner product that can be earth cycled back into the environment.

Other Implications

The City has been planning the move to a FOGO service over many years. As part of the FOGO implementation the waste collection service was moved from a six day per week to a five day per week service with an estimated 27,400 properties being impacted by route and area changes. The FOGO and recycling collection service is performed by a contractor, Veolia. Under the waste collection contract Veolia is currently contracted to service properties five days per week. Further, the general waste collection service is performed by the City. Therefore, should Council decide to revert back to a weekly general waste collection service, this will have an impact on the contracted services. The general waste collection could not simply revert to a weekly pick-up as the waste service collection routes and areas have changed. If the Contractor and City collection routes and areas are not aligned this will require households to present their bins on different days of the week. This is not viewed as a viable option and would cause confusion. It may be possible to have the City's contractor change to a six day per week service; however, this would require a contract change which would result in increased collection costs.

Moreover, the City does not have the fleet capacity or staffing to undertake weekly general waste collections for a five day per week service. Reinstating weekly collections over a five day per week service would require the purchase of three additional waste trucks and the recruitment of six additional drivers. Given the current lead time is approximately 15 months for new trucks, any reinstatement for a five day per week service could not be implemented until at least April 2027.

Whilst the City does not offer an upgrade to the size of the 140-litre bin it does provide the option of purchasing an additional general waste bin, collected fortnightly. The City also offers a concessional general waste bin for larger households (seven or more people residing at a residential property). Since the implementation of the Better Practice three-bin FOGO system 304 out of approximately 58,000 properties have requested an additional bin, this equates to 0.5% of households. Of the 304, 33 have qualified for a concessional general waste bin. The City also has provisions in place to provide an additional general waste bin to residents with a medical or health condition that results in the generation of excessive waste.

Odour management with nappies and personal hygiene products has also been raised as a concern with the introduction of fortnightly general waste collections. The City recognises that community education plays a vital role in the success of Better Practice three-bin FOGO system. The City's website contains a frequently asked questions section on FOGO, which includes responses to odour management. The City continues to run sustainability workshops and waste education pop ups at City events. City officers are also available to meet with residents to provide specific support and guidance.

Implications to Consider

a. Consultation with the Community

Nil

b. Consultation with Government Agencies

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

DWER endorsed the City's Waste Plan 2021-2031 on 27 May 2021. The Plan includes the introduction of FOGO.

The City has been in regular communication with DWER to facilitate the introduction of a FOGO waste collection and processing service at the City in mid-2025.

c. Strategic

Community Plan

This item addresses the Community's Vision for the future and specifically the following Aspiration and Strategic Objective(s) contained in the Strategic Community Plan 2023-2033:

Aspiration: **2. Natural Environment - A place of natural beauty where the environment is respected**

Outcome/Objective: *Protection of natural environment - Minimise waste*

Aspiration: **5. Leadership Aspiration - Transparent and accountable leadership and governance**

Outcome/Objective: *Quality Leadership - Ensure accountable and transparent governance*

Waste Plan 2021-2031

This item addresses Action 1.4 of the Waste Plan 2021-2031 to 'Introduce the Better Practice three-bin FOGO system' by 2025. The City's Waste Plan 2020-2031 identifies the target of making the FOGO system available to all properties that currently use the GO bin in 2025.

In accordance with Action 1.4 of the Waste Plan 2021-2031 various associated tasks and contract awards have been determined by Council as detailed in the background section of this report

d. Policy

Nil

e. Financial

Reinstating a weekly general waste collection would lead to an increase in collection costs which have not been budgeted for the in 2025/2026 Financial Year.

Weekly Collection (5 days per week)

For a five day per week service, the City estimates an ongoing operational cost increase of approximately \$2.5M per year. In the first year, costs would rise by a further \$2.5M (totalling \$5M) due to the loss of the one-off \$861K Better Bins Plus grant*, the purchase of three additional waste trucks (\$1.4M) and approximately \$250K in communication costs.

Weekly Collection (6 days per week)

The costs associated with reinstating a weekly collection based on a six-day per week service are currently unknown. Contract variations would need to be negotiated with the City's contracted waste service provider to transition the service to six days per week. It is anticipated this would result in increased collection costs. In addition, the City would incur an estimated \$2.2M in additional annual operational costs. In the first year, costs would increase by a further \$1.1M (totalling \$3.3M) due to the loss of the one-off \$861K Better Bins Plus grant* and approximately \$250K in communication costs.

*Discussions with DWER on 2 December 2025 indicated that if the City departs from the FOGO kerbside collection guidelines, reimbursement of the grant would be sought.

Landfill levy

If a weekly general waste collection service was reinstated, the City would be unlikely to meet its waste diversion target. As a result, operating expenditure would increase, as the anticipated reduction in the landfill levy would not be realised.

f. Legal and Statutory

Waste Plan 2021

Section 6.2(2) of the *Local Government Act 1995* requires local governments to have regard to their plans for the future (which include waste plans made under section 40 of the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007*).

g. Risk

All Council decisions are subject to risk assessment according to the City's Risk Framework.

Implications and comment will only be provided for the following assessed risks.

Customer Service / Program/Project management / Natural Environment : High and Extreme Risks
Financial / Health and Safety : Medium, High and Extreme Risks

Financial Risk - High

The City implemented FOGO in accordance with the Better Bin Plus: GO FOGO kerbside collection guidelines and obtained \$861,000 in funding. These funds have been used, and the City should expect to repay this grant if weekly collections are reinstated.

Moreover, the City will need to allocate additional funds to reintroduce a weekly service this is estimated to be between \$3.3M and \$5.0M in the first year and between \$2.2M and \$2.5M per annum (excluding increases in contractor collection costs).

Comments

The City has been committed to the implementation of FOGO since 2016. It has made substantial operational changes in preparation for the reduction of 12,500 per annum tonnes of kerbside general waste being collected and disposed of at the Miller Road Landfill (MRLF). These operational changes include but are not limited to;

- 1) adjustments to the number and type of operational waste fleet vehicles;
- 2) the modifications that have been made to MRLF staff rostering; and
- 3) the nature and type of services supplied by contractor for FOGO and recycling services.

The City has maintained its position for many years to implement FOGO in alignment with a high-performing system, consistent with the approach adopted by most other local governments. Altering this position at this stage would create significant operational challenges, including budget implications, communication planning, fleet management, staffing, route collection and education resources. Furthermore, a weekly general waste collection service does not align with the principles or objectives of the three-bin best practice FOGO system, nor does it support a state-wide approach to standardise waste collection and management practices. Such a change would result in an inefficient allocation of resources for household kerbside waste collection. Furthermore, no other local government has introduced weekly general waste collections when operating the three-bin FOGO system.

The City acknowledges some households may be facing challenges with the transition to the Better Practice three-bin FOGO system. Households that produce higher volumes of waste have the option to purchase a second general waste bin. Since the introduction of FOGO 304 properties have requested an additional service, 33 being eligible for the concessional general waste service for large households. Reinstating a weekly general waste service would result in substantially higher waste collection costs for all ratepayers, not just those that require additional servicing needs.

The State Government's Waste Strategy and roadmap is currently out for final consultation. FOGO is a prominent part of this review. It includes a target that all Perth and Peel local governments have better practice FOGO by 2030. The City has been informed that this could include a potential future FOGO mandate for the local governments in the Perth and Peel regions.

Reverting to a weekly general waste collection would largely undermine the intent of transitioning to FOGO, reducing both the incentive to minimise waste to landfill and the volume of material available for composting.

While the Better Practice three-bin FOGO system has been operating in the City for less than six months, early indications show positive progress in waste reduction and diversion. The City recognises that the transition to the new collection system represents a substantial change for residents, requiring adjustments to established waste disposal practices. As with any major reform, opportunities to optimise the system and make appropriate refinements will continue to be explored. Given this, implementing significant change by reinstating a weekly general waste collection service at such an early stage in the transition would be premature and is not recommended.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer Recommendation

Cr Mbanos Notice of Motion is not supported.

Notice of Motion from Cr Dylan Mbanos

That Council **ADOPTS** that the red bin (general waste) collection be moved back to being collected weekly.

Note: *As Cr Mbanos is not a member of the Corporate and Community Development Committee and as such not in attendance, the Notice of Motion will be referred direct to Council without Committee recommendation.*

16.	Notices of motion for Consideration at the Following Meeting
	Nil
17.	Urgent Business Approved by the Person Presiding or by Decision of the Committee
	Nil
18.	Matters Behind Closed Doors
	Nil
19.	Date and Time of Next Meeting
	The next Corporate and Community Development Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday 17 February 2026 in the Council Boardroom, Council Administration Building, Civic Boulevard, Rockingham. The meeting will commence at 5:00pm.
20.	Closure
	On behalf of the Committee, the Chairperson thanked the Officers for the work they do and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. There being no further business, the Chairperson thanked those persons present for attending the Corporate and Community Development Committee meeting, and declared the meeting closed at 5:52pm .