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# GVROC Council Meeting

Friday 11th September 2026
In person meeting and video
hosted by Shire of Dundas
9:00am – 1:00pm
held at the at the Shire Council Offices

# Minutes



Andrew Mann
GVROC Executive Officer
13 November 2026



Cr Laurene Bonza
GVROC Chair
13 November 2026

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# GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)

**An in person and video conference meeting of the GVROC Council was held Friday 11 September 2026 commencing at 9:04 am at the Shire of Dundas Council Chambers.**

# AGENDA

## 1. OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss business related to the activities of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils.

## 2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Pursuant to the Code of Conduct, Councillors and CEOs must declare to the Chairman any potential conflict of interest they may have in a matter before the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils as soon as they become aware of it. Councillors, CEOs and Deputies may be directly or indirectly associated with some recommendations of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils. If you are affected by these recommendations, please excuse yourself from the meeting and do not participate in deliberations.

**Nil.**

## 3. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### 3.1 Attendance

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Cr Laurene Bonza | President, Shire of Dundas (Chair) | |
| Cr Sharon Warner | Councillor, Shire of Dundas | |
| Mr Peter Fitchat | CEO, Shire of Dundas | |
| Cr Paul Wilcox | President, Shire of Coolgardie | |
| Cr Anthony Ball | Councillor, Shire of Coolgardie | |
| Ms Sabine Taylor | A/CEO, Shire of Coolgardie | |
| Cr Glenn Wilson | Mayor, City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder | |
| Cr Wayne Johnson, | Councillor, City of Kalgoorlie Boulder | (via Zoom) |
| Mr Shane Burge | CEO, Shire of Esperance | |
| Cr Patrick Hill | President, Shire of Laverton | |
| Ms Jackie Hawkins | A/CEO, Shire of Laverton | |
| Cr Peter Craig | President, Shire of Leonora | |
| Mr Ty Matson | CEO, Shire of Leonora | |
| Cr Paul Warner | President, Shire of Menzies | |
| Mr Pascoe Durtanovich | A/CEO, Shire of Menzies | |
| Ms Natalie Te Pohe | Deputy CEO, Shire of Wiluna | (via Zoom) |
| Mr David Mosel | CEO, Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku | (via Zoom) |
| Mr Andrew Mann | Executive Officer, GVROC | |

## 3.2 GVROC and Agency Apologies

**GVROC**

| | |
|---|---|
| Cr Ron Chambers | President Shire of Esperance |
| Cr Wes Graham | Councillor, Shire of Esperance |
| Mr Geoff Glass | A/CEO, City of Kalgoorlie Boulder |
| Cr Rob Wedge | Councillor, Shire of Laverton |
| Cr Jill Dwyer | Councillor, Shire of Menzies |
| Cr Damian McLean | President, Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku |
| Cr Tim Carmody | Councillor, Shire of Wiluna |
| Cr Jim Quadrio | Councillor, Shire of Wiluna |
| Mr Matt McIntyre | CEO, Shire of Wiluna |
| Ms Niki Curtis | GVROC Regional Climate Alliance Coordinator |

**Others**

| | |
|---|---|
| Sharon Henderson | Director, RDAGE |

## 3.3 Guest Speakers and Presenters

Guest Speakers

| | |
|---|---|
| **Hon David Michael MLA** | Minister for State Development; Economic Diversification; Finance; Electoral Affairs; Goldfields-Esperance; Leader of the House |
| **Ali Kent MLA** | Member for Kalgoorlie |

Presenters

| | |
|---|---|
| **Ross MacCulloch** | Australia's Golden Outback, Goldfields Tourism Development Manager (via Zoom) |

## 3.4 WALGA Representatives

| | |
|---|---|
| **Mark Irwin** | WALGA President |
| **Ian Duncan** | Executive Manager Infrastructure |

## 3.5 DLGIRS Representatives

**Nil**

## 3.6 GEDC Representatives

| | |
|---|---|
| **Kris Starcevich** | CEO |

## 3.7 RDAGE Representatives

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Ross MacCulloch** | RDAGE Chair | (via Zoom) |

## 3.8 Observers

| | |
|---|---|
| Cr Chantelle McLeod | Councillor, Shire of Dundas |
| Pania Turner | Deputy CEO, Shire of Dundas |
| Hannah Turner | Executive Assistant, Shire of Dundas |
| James Rowe JP | Senior Policy Adviser, Office of the Hon. David Michael MLA |
| Tracey Rathbone | Former GVROC Delegate |

# 4. GUEST SPEAKERS

## 4.1 Hon David Michael MLA Minister for State Development; Economic Diversification; Finance; Electoral Affairs; Goldfields-Esperance; Leader of the House

Hon David Michael MLA, Minister for Goldfields Esperance provided an update on regional matters from the State Government perspective relevant for the Goldfields local governments.

## 4.2 Ali Kent MLA – Member for Kalgoorlie

Ali Kent MLA, Member for Kalgoorlie, provided an update on local regional matters from the State Government perspective.

# 5. PRESENTATIONS

## 5.1 Australia's Golden Outback (AGO)

Ross MacCulloch, AGO Goldfields Tourism Development Manager, provided an update on AGO projects completed and in the pipeline.

The AGO also sought an update from the participating GVROC LGA partners on whether their Councils have confirmed budget approval for the ongoing support of the partnership, following the resolution carried at the November 2025 meeting for "In-principle support from GVROC LGAs to Australia's Golden Outback (AGO) - Goldfields Tourism Development Partnership to provide support going forward from 1 July 2026."

## 5.2 Shire of Dundas

Cr Laurene Bonza, Shire President provided a presentation on current projects within the Shire of Dundas.

**A presentation of thanks was then made to former GVROC Delegate Tracey Rathbone on her service to the GVROC, the region and the local community.**

# 6. AGENCY REPORTS

## 6.1 WALGA

WALGA verbal update report by Mark Irwin and Ian Duncan.

## 6.2 Goldfields Esperance Development Commission

GEDC verbal update report by Kris Starcevich.

## 6.3 Regional Development Australia Goldfields Esperance

RDAGE verbal update report by Ross MacCulloch.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the GVROC note the Agency Reports as provided.

**RESOLUTION:** **Moved:** ***Cr Paul Wilcox, Shire of Coolgardie***
**Seconded:** ***Cr Peter Craig, Shire of Leonora***

**Carried**

**GVROC Chair called motion to adjourn the meeting for morning tea break at 10:55am.**

**Moved:** ***Cr Patrick Hill, Shire of Laverton***
**Seconded:** ***Cr Paul Warner, Shire of Menzies***

**GVROC Chair called motion to resume the meeting at 11:10am.**

**Moved:** ***Cr Patrick Hill, Shire of Laverton***
**Seconded:** ***Cr Paul Warner, Shire of Menzies***

# 7. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

## 7.1 Minutes of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (GVROC) meeting held 22 May 2026

Minutes of the GVROC Council Meeting held Friday 31 July 2026 (**Attachment 1**) are presented for adoption.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Minutes of the GVROC Council Meeting held Friday 31 July 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

**RESOLUTION:** **Moved:** ***Cr Paul Wilcox, Shire of Coolgardie***
**Seconded:** ***Cr Paul Warner, Shire of Menzies***

**Carried**

## 7.2 Action Sheet Report

An update on the actions based on the resolutions from the meeting held on 31 July 2026 meeting is presented for noting (**Attachment 2**).

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Action Sheet Report as listed for noting be received.

**RESOLUTION:** **Moved:** ***Cr Paul Warner, Shire of Menzies***
**Seconded:**

**Carried**

## 7.3 Matters for Noting

The following matters were presented for noting.

1. **WA Government Ministerial Media Statements** of relevance to the Goldfields Esperance Zone since the last GVROC meeting is contained at **Attachment 3**.
2. **DLGIRS Local Government Alert** dated 25 August 2026 regarding ORV grants reminder Off-road Vehicles Area Grants Program
3. **DEMC September 2026 Newsletter** dated 1 September 2026 see DEMC Goldfields Esperance - September EM Newsletter 26

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the matters for noting as listed be received and noted.

**RESOLUTION:** **Moved:** ***Cr Paul Wilcox, Shire of Coolgardie***
**Seconded:** ***Cr Peter Craig, Shire of Leonora***

**Carried**

## 7.4 Correspondence for Noting

The following correspondence was sent and received since the last GVROC meeting and are all contained in **Attachment 4**

**Correspondence received**:

1. Email received on 14 August 2026 from the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage inviting GVROC members to the Housing Roadshow Event in Kalgoorlie on Sunday, 30 August 2026 from 11:30am–1:00pm with the Hon John Carey BA MLA, Minister for Planning and Lands; Housing and Works; Health Infrastructure; Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Major Infrastructure.
2. Email received on 18 August 2026 from the Disaster Management Reform Team at the National Emergency Management Agency in response to the GVROC submission on the proposed reforms of the Australia's Disaster Management System and letter sent on 11 August 2026.
3. Email received on 25 August 2026 from Andrew Sly, Deputy Director General Capability and Performance and Creative Industries at the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport (CITS) accepting invitation from GVROC and will present online at the meeting in Leonora on 13 November 2026.
4. Letter received on 27 August 2026 from the Director General of the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety (DLGIRS), Lanie Chopping in response to the GVROC letter sent on 7 August 2026 requesting support for the local government sector on the requirements from 1 July 2026 of the *Privacy and Responsible Information Sharing Act 2024 (WA).*
5. Email received on 2 September from the Office of Minister for Local Government, Hon Hannah Beazley MLA, regarding GVROC invitation to meet to discuss the current status of the Local Government Reform and also its concerns with the impacts on local government from the recent passing of the *Local Government Amendment (Rating of Certain Mining Licences) Act 2026* now that it has come into effect as of 1 July 2026. Metting scheduled for 5 October 2026 3-4pm.

**Correspondence sent:**

1. Letter sent on 7 August 2026 to Lanie Chopping, Director General of the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety (DLGIRS) requesting support for the local government sector on the requirements from 1 July 2026 of the *Privacy and Responsible Information Sharing Act 2024 (WA)*.
2. Letter sent on 7 August 2026 to the Minister for Local Government, Hon Hannah Beazley MLA, inviting her to attend the next GVROC meeting on 11 September 2026 in Norseman to discuss the current status of the Local Government Reform and also its concerns with the impacts on local government from the recent passing of the *Local Government Amendment (Rating of Certain Mining Licences) Act 2026* now that it has come into effect as of 1 July 2026.
3. Letter sent on 11 August 2026 to the Hon Rita Saffioti MLA, Minister for Transport regarding the call to address the inappropriate use of parking bays by trucks and haulage companies in the Goldfields Esperance region.
4. Letter and GVROC submission sent on 11 August 2026 to Federal Minister for Emergency Management and Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories, the Hon Kristy McBain MP and the Disaster Management Reform Team undertaking a reform of Australia's Disaster Management System.
5. Email sent on 24 August 2026 to Andrew Sly, Deputy Director General Capability and Performance and Creative Industries at the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport (CITS) inviting him to present at an upcoming GVROC meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the correspondence that was sent or received since the last GVROC meeting be noted.

**RESOLUTION:** **Moved:** ***Cr Patrick Hill, Shire of Laverton***
**Seconded:** ***Mayor Glenn Wilson, City of Kalgoorlie Boulder***

**Carried**

## 7.5 GVROC CEOs Group Meetings

The GVROC CEOs held a meeting on 28 August 2026, and the Minutes of that meeting are presented at **Attachment 5** for noting by the GVROC**.**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the GVROC CEOs Group Minutes from its meeting on 28 August 2026 be noted.

**RESOLUTION:** **Moved:** ***Cr Peter Craig, Shire of Leonora***
**Seconded:** ***Cr Paul Wilcox, Shire of Coolgardie***

**Carried**

# 8. GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS FINANCE

## 8.1 Financial Statements to 31 August 2026

**Reporting Officer:** Andrew Mann, GVROC Executive Officer

**Disclosure of Interest:** No interest to disclose

**Date:** September 2026

**Attachments:** GVROC Financial Statements and accounts payable and receivable to 31 August 2026, Full Transaction Account history to 31 August 2026 and GVROC Bank Statement Snapshot, plus Account history full transaction to date for 2026/27 financial year, 2026/27 Budget update (**Attachment 6**).

**Background:**
Presenting the financial statement position and the accounts approved for payment for the period 30 July 2026 to 31 August 2026.

Also providing a picture of the 2026/27 Budget outlook as of 31 August 2026.

**Financial Statement and Accounts Paid and Received:**

The Officer provides the following comment:

Since the last GVROC meeting for the period of 31 July 2026 to 31 August 2026 new transactions included in the financial statements are:

- Payment to Mann Advisory for the Executive Officer services and travel costs
- Payments to Niki Curtis for RCA Coordinator services and travel costs
- Payments to Qantas, Avis Car Rental and Booking.com for travel costs for GVROC Executive Officer to attend GVROC meeting in Norseman on 11 September 2026.
- Payments to XERO Accounting System – Monthly subscription for accounting software
- Payment to Esperance Native Tree Nursery for supply of GVROC 2026 Eucalyptus Trees as part of the Urban Greening Program
- Payment to Esperance Tree Farms for delivery costs of the GVROC 2026 Seedlings as part of the Urban Greening Program.
- Interest earned on Commonwealth Saver account
- GVROC Membership subscription fees for 2026-27 received from Shires of Coolgardie, Leonora, Laverton and City of Kalgoorlie Boulder

Refer to the Accounts paid and received spreadsheet and Full Transaction Account history to 31 August 2026 included as part of **Attachment 6.**

**Officer Comment:**
The GVROC is tracking well financially and on par with the adopted budget compared to actuals. This allows the GVROC to invest in further projects going into the 2026/27 fiscal year as per the adopted 2026/27 Budget.

Invoices for the GVROC Subscription fees ($35,000 plus GST each) for 2026/27 have now all been paid.

**Consultation:** GVROC Chair, GVROC CEO Chair

**Financial Implications:** Funds for the expenditure is included in the 2026/2027 Budget

**Strategic Implications:** GVROC Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Objective 3

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That GVROC:

1. Note that the Statement of Financial Position for the period 1 July 2026 to 31 August 2026 and the accounts approved for payment for the period 30 July 2026 to 31 August 2026 totalling $40,637.05 and revenue received of $154,007.
2. Endorse the actions taken by the GVROC Executive Officer to pay for GVROC expenses and receipt of GVROC Revenue.

**RESOLUTION:** **Moved:** ***Cr Paul Warner, Shire of Menzies***
**Seconded:** ***Cr Peter Craig, Shire of Leonora***

**Carried**

# 9. GVROC REGIONAL CLIMATE ALLIANCE PROGRAM

## 9.1 GVROC Regional Climate Alliance Program Update

**Reporting Officers:** Andrew Mann, GVROC Executive Officer
Niki Curtis, GVROC Regional Climate Alliance Coordinator

**Disclosure of Interest:** Nil

**Date:** September 2026

**Attachments:** Nil

**Background and Officer Comments on each project are below:**
Regarding the GVROC led RCA projects being managed by the RCA Coordinator, these are listed below in more detail.

**GE Urban Greening Program**
In December 2024, GVROC received a $573,000 Lotterywest grant to plant more than 30,000 native species across the GE region.

All Councils taking part in the project have now joined Water Corporation's Waterwise Council program. GVROC Waterwise Councils can access grants of up to $10,000 per member this financial year for trees or water data loggers that help detect leaks and monitor water use. This aligns with the Water Demands Study underway with GEDC, which is assessing each Council's current and future non-potable water needs.

Plants for 2026 were ordered through Esperance Native Nursery and Kalgoorlie-Boulder Urban Landcare Group, consistent with the Lotterywest grant application. This supports local nurseries and builds their capacity and knowledge of species suited to LGAs across the region. Plants for 2027 have been ordered from Esperance Native Nursery, with ordering through KBULG to follow.

The new owner of Esperance Native Nursery is also going to do some work experience with Kings Park Botanists next month as part of this project.

This year, Botanica Consultants was engaged to prepare a landscaping masterplan for Karlkurla Bushland Park in Kalgoorlie. Josh Byrne and Associates has also worked with the Shire of Wiluna on the Martu Bushwalk. Following stage one late last year, its contract was extended to continue developing a masterplan that identifies suitable species and planting locations.

Botanica Consulting has nearly completed the Karlkurla Bushland Park Masterplan, and the park survey is complete. The plan prioritises local species to improve shade, biodiversity and cultural identity in this key City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder recreation area. Botanica, CKB and KBULG members will soon begin community consultation before releasing the plan.

A summary of both the payment and reporting details for the project are outlined in the table below.

| Date | Description | Payment amount | Payment requirements |
|---|---|---|---|
| 19/12/2024 | **Payment 1** | $165,193 | PAID |
| 30/11/2025 | **Payment 2** | $342,293 | PAID |
| 30/1/2026 | **Report 1 due** | Completed | |
| 30/01/2027 | **Report 2 due** | | Provide this through Portal |
| 30/01/2028 | **Payment 3 (Acquittal)** | $65,910 | Provide an update on progress against the Community Impact Planner and an Income and Expenditure statement that accounts for 75% of payment 2. |
| **TOTAL** | | **$573,396 (ex GST)** | |

Almost 10,000 trees have been ordered through Esperance Native Nursery, with additional shrubs and trees to be ordered from KBULG this month. Next year will deliver the program's largest planting effort to date, including work to support community planting.

**EV Charging Stations - Leonora and Menzies**

EV Charging Systems has again had to postpone installation of the stations at Leonora and Menzies, originally scheduled for earlier this month, due to on-going electrical installation issues at Leonora. The company is ready to install the charging stations once the Leonora electrical works are complete.

**Community Water Supply Partnerships Program**

- The final report and acquittal for the Shire of Menzies town dam sealing project are still being finalised due to changes in tank locations which were outside the original scope of the project. A project variation request has now been submitted.
- The Dundas final report will be prepared in the next fortnight, now that on-ground works are completed at Bromus Dam to install a solar pump and large tank there for firefighting purposes.
- A $100,000 application has been submitted for the Shire of Leonora to install six tanks at its airport and works depot.

**Building Flood Resilient Roads Across the Goldfields Esperance Region**

Recent projects have identified flood-risk data gaps for road networks across the Northern, Central and south-eastern Goldfields, affecting Wiluna, Laverton, Ngaanyatjarraku, Menzies, Leonora, Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Coolgardie, Dundas, Esperance and Ravensthorpe.

GVROC is developing a project with GEDC and RDAGE to address flood risks affecting regional roads and infrastructure.

The project aims to:

- Define the data, knowledge and technical needs for flood-resilient GE roads, focusing on vulnerable communities and critical economic infrastructure.
- Set long-term flood resilience priorities and next steps to support future funding or assistance.

GEDC has committed $40,000, with matching funding sought from RDAGE and an announcement expected late this year. GVROC staff will also work with DWER to understand its capacity, future mapping plans and platforms that may support members while we wait to hear back from RDAGE.

**Presenting at the WALGA Convention Workshop session – 17 September 2026 at 9am**

The GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann, will present and sit on the panel at the WALGA Convention Workshop session on how Local Governments work together to achieve collective outcomes. WALGA invited us to highlight how the GVROC Regional Climate Alliance has worked as a great example of a local government shared services case study. The idea is so other Local Governments can think about whether a shared model, not necessarily about climate, might work for them.

**Strategic Implications:**

- Mitigating drought impacts and improving water security
- Sustainably managing the increased risk of bushfire threats
- Improving uptake of renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions
- Managing waste sustainably at a regional scale
- Reducing carbon emissions across the GE region to support our vision of a thriving, clean, green and economically resilient region

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the GVROC notes:

1. The Urban Greening project is progressing as planned.
2. The Menzies and Leonora charging stations are still awaiting electrical services.
3. DWER-funded water security projects in Menzies, Dundas and Leonora are progressing at different stages.

4. A regional project is being developed to identify long-term flood resilience priorities for GE roads in partnership with GEDC and RDAGE.
5. That the GVROC RCA will be presented by the GVROC Executive Officer at the WALGA Convention Workshop sessions on 17 September 2026 as an example on how Local Governments work together to achieve collective outcomes.

**RESOLUTION:** **Moved:** ***Cr Paul Warner, Shire of Menzies***
**Seconded:** ***Cr Anthony Ball, Shire of Coolgardie***

**Carried**

## 9.2 Goldfields Esperance Water Security Group and Regional Drought Resilience Plan (RDRP) Update

**Reporting Officer:** Andrew Mann, GVROC Executive Officer

**Disclosure of Interest:** Nil.

**Date:** September 2026

**Attachments:** Nil

**Background:**
The Goldfields-Esperance Regional Drought Resilience Plan (RDRP) provides a foundation to identify, inform and guide actions to achieve water security and drought resilience across the region.

Jointly funded by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) and the Federal government's $5 billion Future Drought Fund (FDF), this RDRP builds on the region's aspiration to achieve water security through a shared vision.

The RDRP should be read in conjunction with the Drought Vulnerability Assessment (DVA) for the region, which provides an evidence base that underpins the priorities and actions identified.

The RDRP was approved and officially released on 12 November 2025.

**Officer Comment**:
The GEDC has provided the following updates on the two current projects being undertaken from the RDRP priorities and actions.

**RDRP – Non-potable Water Demand Study update**
The project is moving forwards with the key focus now being to draw together the findings from the water audit and modelling to develop initial insights on solution pathways and priority actions for LGA consideration. This will be provided to LGAs in the form of a draft, written 'Water Outlook Statement'. The Water Outlook Statement will provide a summary of the insights generated in a concise 2-3 page document, inclusive of insights related to parallel GEDC non-potable water projects (e.g. challenges and opportunities for wastewater in the region).

Over the last month, data collection has gone well and for most LGAs the project team has only specific and targeted queries only. The specific LGA requests have been identified to help us resolve data and proposed solution pathways prior to LGA review. These are as follows, and the project team will follow-up directly (if they haven't already done so):

- Kalgoorlie-Boulder: provide information and data as per email request
- Dundas: additional information on Mildura Street Dam reliability and laundry treatment upgrades
- Menzies: status of groundwater transfer/application related to Water Corporation's proposed transfer/relinquishment
- Laverton: confirmation of no water quality or yield issues related to LGA groundwater licences
- Leonora: potential water conveyancing costs related to supplying water to Eastern Recreation Precinct from different sources (e.g. wastewater treatment plant), and expected yields and costs from gutter/tank investments
- Wiluna: confirmation of no water quality or yield issues related to LGA groundwater licences
- Ravensthorpe: further details on Cordingup Dam (expected sustainable yields, costs, status of ownership transfer), and wastewater supply and use challenges
- Coolgardie: confirmation of challenges and solution pathways for wastewater disposal

The project team will email to follow-up on these specific enquires to inform the draft Water Outlook Statements. The drafts will be shared in mid-late September with a single engagement session with stakeholders late September to present and discuss.

Final drafts for written comments as well as final regional reports and review versions are planned to be shared by the end of October.

**Wastewater Treatment Opportunities**

- The consultants have completed the Stage 2 desktop review focused on policy and regulatory settings, roles and responsibilities. This has helped inform the questions for the initial round of stakeholder consultation, and is helping to frame up the approach to the toolkit development.
- Stage 2 consultations have commenced with:
    - The Shire of Dundas to discuss current wastewater reuse arrangements and wastewater servicing options for Dundas. The discussion focused on existing challenges and opportunities associated with wastewater management, Council priorities for future servicing and reuse initiatives, and potential funding opportunities.
    - Water Corporation, who provided an overview of the status and current arrangements for wastewater reuse across relevant local government areas serviced by Water Corporation. The discussion provided valuable context regarding existing infrastructure, operational arrangements, and the opportunities and constraints associated with expanding wastewater reuse in regional communities.
- Insights from both meetings are being incorporated into the project assessment and will help inform the development of practical and locally appropriate wastewater treatment and reuse pathways for participating local governments.
- Further stakeholder engagement will be aligned with the Non-potable Water Demand Study which is expected to occur over the next month.

**Consultation:** GEDC, GEWSG

**Financial Implications:** N/A

**Strategic Implications:** Alignment with Regional Climate Alliance strategies

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the GVROC notes the updates on RDRP priorities and actions in respect to the Non-potable Water Demand Study and the Wastewater Treatment Opportunities projects:

**RESOLUTION:** **Moved:** ***Cr Peter Craig, Shire of Leonora***
**Seconded:** ***Cr Paul Wilcox, Shire of Coolgardie***

**Carried**

# 10. GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS BUSINESS

## 10.1 GVROC Shared Regional Event Equipment Pool - Update

**Reporting Officers:** Andrew Mann, GVROC Executive Officer

**Date:** 31 August 2026

**Attachments:** Nil

**Background:**
Back in 2012, the GVROC through funding received by each GVROC LGA under the then Country Local Government Fund, entered a joint agreement to acquire event equipment (crowd control barriers and fences, BBQ Trailer and ablution facilities (16 pan toilet block)) that could be hired by community groups and also used by LGAs in the GVROC when holding regional events. The City of Kalgoorlie took on the responsibility of storing and managing the hiring of these assets on behalf of the GVROC.

The City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (CoKB) have advised that the current ablution block asset is now at the end of life and the GVROC has been working with the City to look at replacement of the asset.

At the GVROC meeting held on 31 January 2025 the GVROC resolved the following:

**RECOMMENDATION:**
That the GVROC:

1. Notes the quotations received by the COKB for a new replacement 16 pan Toilet Facilities costed at $91,700 exc GST and a new 6-cubicle unisex shower block costed at approx. $83,000 exc GST.
2. Request the GVROC Executive Officer and COKB investigate possible grant funding towards purchasing these new facilities and the costs for a disabled toilet trailer.
3. Subject to the advice being received regarding possible grant funding options, will make a decision on whether to proceed with a funding allocation towards this within its current budget.
4. If a replacement is sourced, the GVROC Executive Officer to work with the City of Kalgoorlie Boulder to arrange the sale of the existing toilet block, with any surplus funds returned back to the GVROC, less selling costs involved.

**RESOLUTION:** **Moved:** ***Mayor Glenn Wilson, City of Kalgoorlie Boulder***
**Seconded:** ***Cr Paul Warner, Shire of Menzies***

**Carried**

Following the resolution, the GVROC Executive Officer in consultation with the CoKB submitted an application to Lotterywest on 25 June 2025 based on the project proposal for the GVROC Shared Community Potable Event Equipment Replacement. The grant requested was to be for the new equipment (6-cubicle unisex shower block and a universally accessible mobile toilet) estimated at $104,000 and not the replacement of the existing 16 pan Toilet Facilities costed at $92,000, which the GVROC would fund as its contribution to the overall replacement project.

**Officer Comment:**
At the last GVROC meeting on 31 July 2026 the GVROC resolved;

That the GVROC:

1. Notes the update on the GVROC Shared Community Portable Event Equipment Replacement project.
2. Requests the City of Kalgoorlie Boulder to investigate the member Councils concerns around access to the shared equipment and advise of the setting up a centralised online booking system and annual booking calendar for when the new equipment is procured.

**RESOLUTION:** **Moved:** ***Mayor Glenn Wilson, City of Kalgoorlie Boulder***
**Seconded:** ***Cr Paul Warner, Shire of Menzies***

**Carried**

Since the last meeting the City of Kalgoorlie has advised the following update regarding the procurement and booking system, plus the old equipment.

1. Procurement update: this has continued to progress, with CKB Procurement confirming a full tender was not required and orders for the new equipment have been placed. Lead times vary on all items, dependent on the supplier from 6 to 12 weeks.
2. Booking system update: The City will be implementing an online booking platform called Bookable. While the system is not yet operational, it is expected to be launched during this financial year, providing customers with a convenient online way to make bookings and access services.
3. Lotterywest Grant Acquittal: The original final acquittal report was due on 28 August 2026, however the grant cannot be acquitted until the equipment purchase has been completed. The City is in the process of working with Lotterywest for an extension to the acquittal period in the interim. Once the purchase has been completed, the City will arrange to finalise and submit the final acquittal report.
4. Old Toilet Block Facility update:
    - The decommissioned 16-pan toilet block facility is sitting in the City's depot waiting to be "disposed".
    - The facility reached its end of life – the black water tank is rusted through making the facility unusable.
    - A repair would require replacement of the tank that is at the same time functioning as the frame and given replacement taking place is not recommended.
    - The City would be happy to put the facility up for auction for the GVROC as means of disposal following LGA of 1975 in line with the original GVROC resolution on 31 January 2025.

Based on the above, it is unlikely that the new facilities and equipment will be available for use until late November 2026.

**Consultation:** GVROC Chair
CoKB

**Financial Implications:** up to $129,000 contribution

**Strategic Implications:** Liveability, social and community wellbeing.

**RECOMMENDATION:**
That the GVROC:

1. Notes the update on the procurement of the new GVROC Shared Community Portable Event Equipment Replacement project.
2. Notes the booking system update and requests that this be made operational and accessible as soon as the new equipment facilities are available to be booked.
3. Requests the City of Kalgoorlie Boulder to put the old decommissioned 16 pan toilet facility up for auction for the GVROC as means of disposal following LGA of 1975 in line with the original GVROC resolution on 31 January 2025, noting any proceeds made, less selling costs, be offset against the procurement of the new replacement facilities.

**RESOLUTION:** **Moved:** ***Mayor Glenn Wilson, City of Kalgoorlie Boulder***
**Seconded:** ***Cr Peter Craig, Shire of Leonora***

**Carried**

## 10.2 GVROC Housing and Land Update

**Reporting Officers:** Andrew Mann, GVROC Executive Officer

**Disclosure of Interest:** Nil

**Date:** September 2026

**Attachments:** Nil

**Background:**
In March 2023, the GVROC finalised a GVROC LGA Housing and Land Audit and Action Plan. This followed a GVROC Housing Strategy which was completed in April 2022.

Since then, the GVROC has continued to advocate and support progress towards housing and land opportunities in the region.

**Officer Comment:**
Since the last GVROC meeting on 31 July 2026 the following related regional housing announcements have been made by the State Government through the Minister for Housing and Works:

- Keystart home loan expanded to support more frontline workers
- New suite of planning reforms to accelerate land and housing supply
- Expanded program to deliver 200 additional GROH properties
- Infrastructure Development Fund reopened to help support more density
- Regional Housing Support Fund awards grants to support the delivery of more than 900 homes
- Largest-ever community housing modular project to create 54 homes
- Rent relief helps thousands of households avoid eviction
- Housing boost for Aboriginal employees in the Kimberley and Pilbara

Of the announcement above on the Regional Housing Support Fund, it was a good result for the Goldfields Esperance region with the third highest allocation of funding (over $10 million) from the nine regions towards three projects that will support the delivery of 112 new homes for key workers in Kalgoorlie - $5 million; 6 pensioner community houses in Norseman - $1,019,490; as well as 36 new residential lots in Esperance - $4,024,969; with the details of all successful applicants listed in the attached link Regional Housing Support Fund Successful Applicants.

It should be noted that the DOHW to date has still not been responsive to presenting to the GVROC as per its resolution at the meeting on 22 May 2026 requesting an:

- outline how GROH housing will be implemented not only in Kalgoorlie as part of the seven cities project but also across the other towns in the region; and
- to further discuss the regions housing issues with the GVROC and its LGAs.

Also of note was the Housing Roadshow Event in Kalgoorlie held on Sunday, 30 August 2026 and hosted by the Hon John Carey BA MLA, Minister for Planning and Lands; Housing and Works; Health Infrastructure; Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Major Infrastructure. The event was held to provide local stakeholders with an overview of the opportunities and how to get involved in some of the State Government's significant investment and key initiatives aimed at driving housing delivery across regional Western Australia, with a particular focus on Kalgoorlie. An invitation was sent out to all GVROC members for the event.

**Consultation:** GVROC CEOs Group

**Financial Implications:** TBD

**Strategic Implications:** Improved Liveability, social and community wellbeing.

**RECOMMENDATION:**
That the GVROC:

1. Note the update on housing and land and the implications for GVROC and Remote GVROC LGAs.

**RESOLUTION:** **Moved:** ***Mayor Glenn Wilson, City of Kalgoorlie Boulder***
**Seconded:** ***Cr Paul Wilcox, Shire of Coolgardie***

**Carried**

## 10.3 Public Skills Australia's 2025 Local Government Workforce Insights Report

**Reporting Officer:** Peter Fitchat, CEO Shire of Dundas

**Date:** September 2026

**Attachments:** 2025 Local Government WIR Final **(Attachment 7)**

**Purpose**
For GVROC to consider the findings of Public Skills Australia's *2025 Local Government Workforce Insights Report* (see **Attachment 7**) and advocate for workforce, training and funding arrangements that recognise the particular circumstances of remote Goldfields–Esperance local governments.

**Background**
Public Skills Australia has released its *2025 Local Government Workforce Insights Report*, identifying three principal workforce challenges:

1. access to training;
2. skills gaps; and
3. resourcing and recruitment.

The report recognises that these challenges are significantly greater in regional, rural and remote areas. Local governments in these locations face limited access to training providers, high travel and accommodation costs, employee housing shortages, reduced access to health and social services, and difficulty attracting and retaining suitably qualified staff.

It also identifies the expanding role of local government beyond traditional responsibilities. Councils are increasingly expected to support emergency management, housing, healthcare, childcare, environmental management, climate adaptation and broader community wellbeing.

**Officer Comment**
The report's findings are directly relevant to GVROC member councils.

Goldfields–Esperance local governments operate across exceptionally large geographic areas with small and dispersed populations. Many have limited rating capacity and small workforces in which individual employees perform several operational, regulatory and emergency management functions.
The following matters are particularly significant for the GVROC region.

Access to training
Remote councils frequently need to send employees considerable distances to complete mandatory or accredited training. This results in travel, accommodation, vehicle and staff-relief costs that are substantially higher than those experienced by metropolitan councils.

The absence of employees from small teams can also interrupt service delivery and create workplace health and safety risks where appropriately trained replacement staff are unavailable.

The report identifies Regional University Study Hubs and Country Universities Centres as possible mechanisms for improving regional access. However, these models must be accessible to remote communities and provide training relevant to local government operations.

Recruitment, retention and housing
GVROC councils face strong competition from mining, construction, energy and State Government employers. Councils are frequently unable to match the remuneration offered by these sectors.

The shortage of suitable housing is also a significant barrier. Remote councils may need to construct, purchase or lease employee housing simply to attract essential personnel. Access to healthcare, education, childcare and other social infrastructure also affects whether employees and their families will relocate to or remain in the region.
These costs are essential workforce costs but are not adequately recognised in existing grant and funding arrangements.

Skills shortages
The report identifies shortages in occupations with long qualification pathways, including urban and regional planners. For GVROC councils, shortages also commonly affect engineering, building surveying, environmental health, asset management, finance, governance and emergency management roles.

Short, accredited skill sets may assist existing employees to undertake particular functions. However, this approach must supplement—not replace—access to appropriately qualified professionals.
Regional workforce-sharing arrangements may provide part of the solution, particularly where individual councils cannot justify or fund a full-time specialist position.

Emergency management
The report identifies emergency management as an emerging local government skills gap.
GVROC councils are increasingly expected to support emergency preparedness, prevention, response, recovery coordination, community resilience and restoration of damaged infrastructure. These expectations continue to grow despite local governments not necessarily being the responsible hazard management agency.

Remote councils may be required to respond across vast areas with limited staff, contractors and equipment. Extreme weather events can also cause isolated damage that is not discovered until days or weeks after the event.

Additional emergency management responsibilities must be clearly defined and supported by recurrent funding, accredited training and appropriate State and Commonwealth agency resources. Responsibilities should not be transferred to local government without the corresponding authority, funding and workforce capacity.

Financial constraints and cost shifting
The report notes that local governments' expanded responsibilities are being exacerbated by financial constraints imposed by other levels of government. These include rate exemptions, restrictions on revenue raising, limited fees and charges, and funding models that favour more densely populated areas.

For GVROC councils, population-based funding does not adequately reflect:

- geographic area and travel distances;
- the cost of operating in remote locations;
- responsibility for extensive road and infrastructure networks;
- staff housing and attraction costs;
- limited contractor and supplier markets;
- emergency management exposure; and
- small and constrained rating bases.

Short-term and unpredictable grants also make it difficult to plan workforce requirements, retain specialist employees or commit to continuing professional development.

**Strategic Implications**
A coordinated regional response would support GVROC's advocacy concerning:

- local government financial sustainability;
- workforce attraction and retention;
- regional housing and social infrastructure;
- emergency management resourcing;
- regional training delivery;
- shared professional services; and
- prevention of further cost shifting to local government.

**Financial Implications**
There are no immediate financial implications arising from noting the report.
However, failure to address the identified issues is likely to result in continuing recruitment costs, reliance on consultants and contractors, project delays, increased employee housing costs and reduced organisational capacity across GVROC member councils.

**Risk Implications**
The principal risks include:

- inability to recruit and retain suitably qualified employees;
- loss of corporate knowledge and organisational continuity;
- non-compliance with statutory and workplace safety obligations;
- reduced capacity to deliver infrastructure and community services;
- insufficient emergency management capability;
- employee fatigue caused by small teams and multiple responsibilities; and
- increasing financial pressure from unfunded or underfunded responsibilities.

**Proposed GVROC Position**
The report provides further evidence that regional and remote local governments require workforce and funding policies based on need, geographic scale and service-delivery responsibilities—not population alone.

GVROC should advocate for:

1. recurrent, needs-based workforce and training funding;
2. funded regional and remote delivery of accredited training;
3. financial assistance for local government employee housing;
4. incentives for hard-to-fill professional and technical positions;
5. a regional specialist workforce and shared-services model;
6. clear definition and funding of emergency management responsibilities;
7. recognition of remoteness and geographic scale in grant formulas;
8. protection against further State and Commonwealth cost shifting; and
9. direct GVROC participation in national and State local government workforce planning.

Mining companies frequently recruit employees who have been trained and developed at significant cost by GVROC local governments. GVROC should seek regional workforce agreements that require mining companies to contribute to local government training programs or to reimburse reasonable training costs when council-trained employees transfer to mine employment within an agreed period. This would recognise councils' investment, reduce the financial burden on small remote communities and support a sustainable regional workforce pipeline.

**RECOMMENDATION:**
That the GVROC:

1. Notes the findings of Public Skills Australia's *2025 Local Government Workforce Insights Report* and their particular relevance to local governments across the Goldfields–Esperance region.
2. Acknowledges that GVROC member councils face disproportionate workforce pressures arising from remoteness, geographic scale, limited housing and social infrastructure, restricted access to training, competition from the resources sector and limited rating capacity.
3. Supports the development of shorter, accredited local government skill sets where these supplement, and do not replace, appropriately qualified professional and technical employees.
4. Requests WALGA and the Australian Local Government Association advocate to the State and Australian Governments for:
    a. recurrent and needs-based workforce development funding for regional and remote local governments;
    b. funded regional delivery of accredited and mandatory training;
    c. employee housing and relocation assistance;
    d. incentives for hard-to-fill professional and technical positions;
    e. recognition of remoteness, geographic scale and limited rating capacity in funding models;
    f. clear definition and adequate funding of local government emergency management responsibilities; and
    g. the development of regional workforce partnership agreements between local governments and mining and resources companies, including contributions towards local government training programs and reimbursement of reasonable training costs where employees trained by a local government transfer to a resources-sector employer within an agreed period.

5. Requests the GVROC Chair to write to the CMEWA CEO requesting consideration on a partnership and pilot funding arrangement with mining and resources companies operating in the Goldfields–Esperance region to work with GVROC member councils to fund regional training, apprenticeships, traineeships, and workforce development initiatives, recognising the significant investment made by local governments in developing employees who the resources sector may subsequently recruit, resulting in benefits for both parties.

**RESOLUTION:** **Moved:** ***Cr Paul Wilcox, Shire of Coolgardie***
**Seconded:** ***Cr Patrick Hill, Shire of Laverton***

**Carried**

## 10.4 Exploration Incentive Scheme – Local Government Notification and Regional Infrastructure Support

**Reporting Officer:** Andrew Mann GVROC Executive Officer

**Date:** September 2026

**Attachments:** https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-mines-petroleum-and-exploration/geological-survey-of-western-australia/co-funded-exploration-drilling-program
Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration
https://www.miragenews.com/round-34-co-funded-drilling-fuels-wa-resource-1722029/

**Purpose**
For GVROC to consider the local government impacts arising from State-funded resource exploration programs and advocate for earlier notification, consultation and financial support for affected councils.

**Background**
The Western Australian Government opened Round 34 of the Exploration Incentive Scheme Co-funded Exploration Drilling Program on 3 August 2026.

The program provides successful applicants with reimbursement of up to 50% of eligible direct drilling costs, capped at:

- $220,000 for deep drilling projects;
- $180,000 for general exploration projects; and
- $40,000 for prospector projects.

The Exploration Incentive Scheme is intended to encourage greenfield and brownfields exploration, support new mineral discoveries and maintain a strong pipeline of future resource projects. The State Government has committed to increasing the overall EIS budget to $18 million annually.

The program is important to the Goldfields–Esperance economy. Exploration activity supports regional employment, contractors, suppliers and accommodation providers and may lead to new mining operations and long-term economic growth.

**Officer Comment**
GVROC supports programs that encourage responsible mineral exploration, maintain investment in the resources sector and create employment and business opportunities within regional Western Australia.

However, affected local governments are not routinely provided with advance notice of successful projects or an assessment of the likely effects on council infrastructure and services.

Exploration and subsequent mining activity can generate significant additional demand for:

- employee and contractor accommodation;
- potable and non-potable water supplies;
- local and regional roads;
- road maintenance and heavy-vehicle management;
- airports and airstrips;
- waste-management facilities;
- emergency management and recovery services;
- environmental health and regulatory services; and
- community facilities and other social infrastructure.

These pressures are particularly significant for GVROC councils, which manage extensive road networks and infrastructure across very large geographic areas with small populations and limited rating capacity.

Although State programs provide direct financial incentives to exploration and mining companies, there are no corresponding incentives or dedicated funding arrangements to assist affected local governments to expand or maintain the infrastructure required to support the resulting activity.

Additional heavy-vehicle movements can accelerate deterioration of local roads. Exploration camps and workforce growth may also place pressure on limited housing, water, waste and emergency management capacity. Councils may only become aware of these impacts after operations commence or when a company requests access to local infrastructure and services.

This creates a risk that State-supported exploration generates private and State economic benefits while the related local infrastructure and service costs are transferred to small regional communities.

Earlier notification would allow councils to:

- assess likely road and infrastructure impacts;
- identify water, waste and accommodation constraints;
- engage with proponents before operations commence;
- negotiate road-use and infrastructure contribution agreements;
- coordinate emergency management arrangements; and
- incorporate expected demand into asset and workforce planning.

**Proposed GVROC Position**

GVROC supports continued State investment in responsible exploration and resource development. However, government support for these activities should include a formal process for notifying and consulting affected local governments.

Where publicly supported exploration or resource projects generate additional demand on council assets and services, local governments should be eligible for complementary infrastructure and service-delivery funding.

Mining and exploration companies receiving public assistance should also be expected to contribute fairly toward the local infrastructure and workforce capacity required to support their operations.

**Financial Implications**

There are no immediate financial implications arising from this item.

Without policy reform, GVROC member councils may continue to incur unfunded costs associated with road maintenance, accommodation, water, waste management, emergency management and other infrastructure demands generated by exploration and mining activities.

**Risk Implications**

The identified risks include:

- unplanned deterioration of local roads;
- insufficient accommodation and water capacity;
- increased pressure on waste and emergency services;
- inadequate council workforce capacity;
- cost shifting to local governments and ratepayers;
- infrastructure planning occurring after projects commence; and
- reduced community confidence where development proceeds without early local consultation.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the GVROC:

1. Supports the continuation of the Exploration Incentive Scheme and other programs that encourage responsible mineral exploration, regional employment, local procurement and sustainable economic growth within the Goldfields–Esperance region.
2. Expresses concern that affected local governments are not routinely provided with advance notification of exploration projects or consulted about the resulting impacts on local infrastructure and services.
3. Notes that exploration and subsequent mining activity can increase demand for accommodation, water, road maintenance, airports, waste facilities, emergency management and other council services, without corresponding funding being provided to affected local governments.
4. Requests the State Government to establish a formal notification and consultation process requiring the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration to advise affected local governments of Exploration projects before activities commence.
5. Requests the State Government to introduce a complementary regional local government infrastructure program to assist affected councils with:

a. employee and contractor accommodation;
b. potable and non-potable water infrastructure;
c. local road upgrades and heavy-vehicle maintenance;
d. waste-management facilities;
e. airports and airstrips;
f. emergency management capacity; and
g. other infrastructure and services directly affected by exploration and resource-development activity.

6. Requests that exploration programs require proponents to demonstrate early engagement with affected local governments and identify anticipated impacts on council infrastructure and services.
7. Supports the establishment of road-use, infrastructure contribution and regional workforce agreements between affected local governments and mining and exploration companies.
8. Requests WALGA advocate to the Minister for Mines and Petroleum and the Minister for Local Government for the implementation of these measures.
9. Requests the GVROC Chair write to the Minister for Mines and Petroleum and the Minister for Local Government advocating for these measures to be implemented.

**RESOLUTION:** **Moved:** ***Cr Patrick Hill, Shire of Laverton***
**Seconded:** ***Cr Peter Craig, Shire of Leonora***

**Carried**

## 10.5 Targeted Review of the Residential Design Codes and Protection of Local Government's Role in Planning

**Reporting Officer:** Peter Fitchat, CEO Shire of Dundas

**Date:** September 2026

**Attachments:** Western Australian Government, Residential Design Codes Review (updated 7 August 2026): https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-planning-lands-and-heritage/residential-design-codes-review
Western Australian Government, Planning code reforms to unlock infill housing opportunities (2 July 2026): https://www.wa.gov.au/government/media-statements/Cook%20Labor%20Government/Planning-code-reforms-to-unlock-infill-housing-opportunities--20260702
Western Australian Government, Residential Design Codes document collection: https://www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/residential-design-codes
WALGA, WALGA welcomes State Government's R-Code Review (19 June 2025): https://walga.asn.au/media-and-resources/media-releases/walga-welcomes-state-government%E2%80%99s-r-code-review

**Purpose**
To advise GVROC of the Western Australian Planning Commission's targeted Review of State Planning Policy 7.3 - Residential Design Codes (R-Codes), identify the potential impacts on Goldfields-Esperance local governments and the regional building industry, and establish a regional advocacy position before formal public consultation.

This report also considers the broader need to protect the role of councils and their communities when significant developments, including mining camps and workforce accommodation, may be determined by the Development Assessment Panel (DAP), the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT), or other State approval processes.

**Executive Summary**
The R-Codes Review is likely to affect local government and the residential building industry materially. Local governments administer and apply the Codes, while builders, designers and building surveyors rely on them when preparing and assessing residential projects.

The proposed direction may reduce delays and costs for straightforward compliant development. However, the final regulatory text has not been released, and the effects cannot yet be quantified. The announced proposals should therefore not be treated as settled law.

The principal regional concern is that reforms primarily intended to unlock metropolitan infill could be applied statewide without sufficient recognition of regional and remote conditions. Goldfields-Esperance councils face limited professional capacity, high consultant costs, constrained water and sewerage services, bushfire and climate risks, long supply chains and a small building market. A uniform provision may simplify one part of the approval process while shifting costs and risks to building approval, compliance, infrastructure and local government operations.

There is also a broader concern about the gradual reduction in local government influence over major development. Major proposals can change a town's character, population, housing market, infrastructure needs and long-term economic sustainability. Where the final decision is made through a DAP, SAT or another State pathway, the elected Council may have limited control even though the local government and community must manage the long-term consequences.

The R-Codes will not necessarily govern mining camps and workforce accommodation in every case. Nevertheless, the R-Codes Review provides an appropriate opportunity for GVROC to reinforce the principle that planning reform should not further weaken councils' role in shaping the future of their communities.

**Background and current status**
The R-Codes establish planning and design requirements for residential development throughout Western Australia and are administered and applied by local government.

The State Government has advised that the Review is intended to simplify and modernise the Codes, improve consistency, support housing choice and supply, and reduce the number of straightforward residential projects requiring planning approval.

Areas being explored include:

- removing the average lot-size requirement for land coded R20 and below;
- exempting more straightforward developments, such as single houses, renovations, patios and carports, from planning approval;
- Reducing single-house assessment timeframes from 60 to 30 days;
- removing minimum parking requirements for apartments and ancillary dwellings;
- allowing three storeys in R40-coded areas; and
- redefining baseline building heights in medium and high-density areas.

Proposed changes are expected to be released for public consultation in late 2026. Subject to consultation and approval, amendments are anticipated to commence from mid to late 2027.

Until amendments commence, development and subdivision applications must continue to be assessed under the existing R-Codes and applicable local planning frameworks.

**Potential benefits**

Local government

- Fewer development applications for straightforward houses, renovations, patios and carports.
- Reduced routine assessment workload where proposals fully comply.
- Faster determination of uncomplicated residential applications.
- Simpler and more consistent provisions, potentially reducing interpretation disputes.
- Less duplication between planning and building approval processes.
- Greater certainty for applicants and assessing officers.
- Increased subdivision and housing opportunities where infrastructure and demand support development.
- More flexible ancillary-dwelling provisions that may assist seniors, families and key-worker accommodation.

Builders, designers and homeowners

- Faster approvals and reduced project holding costs.
- Fewer projects require a separate development approval.
- Clearer requirements, reducing redesign and consultant costs.
- Reduced parking requirements that may lower some development costs.
- Additional subdivision opportunities arising from changes to minimum lot-size provisions.
- Increased permissible height that may improve the feasibility of medium-density development.
- Greater certainty when quoting, scheduling, contracting and financing projects.
- A broader range of potentially viable housing types.

**Potential disadvantages and risks**

Local government

- Reduced local discretion over neighbourhood character, heritage, parking, building height, amenity and local environmental conditions.
- Statewide provisions designed around metropolitan infill may not suit regional and remote towns.
- Costs associated with amending schemes, policies, local development plans, delegations, fees, forms, checklists, websites and systems.
- Unfunded implementation, training and consultant costs.
- Reduced planning fee revenue if fewer development applications are required.
- Work and liability shifting from planning assessment to building approval, inspections, enforcement and retrospective compliance.
- Difficulty meeting a 30-day assessment pathway where councils have limited planning staff or rely on external consultants and referral agencies.
- Increased pressure on roads, drainage, parking, public open space, sewerage, water and waste services.
- Additional theoretical development potential in locations without sufficient infrastructure or market capacity to deliver housing.
- Uncertainty and disputes if savings and transitional provisions are unclear.

- Reduced neighbour consultation, potentially increasing complaints and community dissatisfaction.

Builders, designers and building surveyors

- Retraining and changes to standard plans, contracts, quoting assumptions and compliance systems.
- Costly redesign of projects prepared during the transition period.
- Greater responsibility for confirming R-Code compliance where planning approval is no longer required.
- Non-compliance being identified later in the building-permit or construction process, when correction is more expensive.
- Additional structural, fire-safety, accessibility and construction requirements associated with increased building height.
- Practical parking problems in regional locations with limited public transport.
- Uncertainty when pricing and contracting projects across different transitional arrangements.
- Limited benefit where the primary regional barriers are labour, freight, finance, utilities, serviced land and infrastructure rather than planning approval.

**Broader protection for councils and communities**

Key concerns

Significant mining camps, workforce accommodation and other major developments may be considered through approval pathways where the elected Council is not the final decision-maker. These developments may substantially affect the host community by:

- changing the town's character, population and future development pattern;
- competing with established accommodation businesses and discouraging investment in permanent housing;
- creating additional demand for local roads, airports, waste facilities, emergency services, environmental health services and community infrastructure;
- generating ongoing compliance and service costs without providing sufficient rates, developer contributions or other financial benefits;
- reducing opportunities for workers and their families to live in and contribute to the established community;
- proceeding without sufficient community consultation or regard for adopted local priorities; and
- leaving the Council responsible for managing long-term local consequences arising from a decision made by another body.

SAT proceedings can also place small regional councils at a financial and technical disadvantage where an applicant has access to significantly greater legal, planning and professional resources.

Protections sought

GVROC should advocate for:

- a meaningful and properly weighted role for councils in significant developments affecting their communities;
- mandatory consideration of adopted local planning strategies, schemes, strategic community plans and formal Council positions;
- local social, economic, housing and infrastructure impact assessments for significant workforce-accommodation and mining-camp proposals;
- demonstrated consideration of permanent housing and established townsite options before remote or out-of-town camps are approved;
- enforceable and lawful infrastructure contributions, rating arrangements or community-benefit agreements where developments create additional local costs;
- approval conditions covering roads, waste, environmental health, emergency management, rehabilitation, closure and removal or conversion of temporary accommodation;
- meaningful community consultation regardless of whether a proposal is determined by Council, a DAP or another State body;
- written reasons explaining how Council's position and community submissions were considered; and
- State-funded legal and technical support for small regional councils participating in significant DAP and SAT matters.

**Key matters for the R-Codes submission**

**Regional testing**
Proposed provisions should be tested against representative regional and remote towns, including unsewered, bushfire-prone, heritage and infrastructure-constrained locations, rather than relying primarily on metropolitan infill scenarios.

**Local variations**
A transparent and workable pathway should be retained for justified local provisions. Existing valid local modifications should not be unintentionally displaced.

**No unfunded mandate**
The State Government should identify implementation costs and provide funding, model documents, training and technical assistance scaled to the needs of small and remote local governments.

**Clear responsibility**
The new framework should clearly specify who confirms planning compliance when development approval is not required, what information must accompany a building-permit application and how non-compliance will be addressed.

**Infrastructure alignment**
Additional subdivision and density must remain subject to appropriate servicing, infrastructure, environmental and hazard considerations.

**Transition certainty**
Councils and industry require adequate lead time, clear savings provisions for lodged and approved projects, and consolidated plain-language guidance before commencement.

**Evidence and monitoring**
The State Government should publish the expected effects on approval volumes, local government revenue, compliance costs and housing delivery. Outcomes should subsequently be monitored and reported separately for metropolitan and regional Western Australia.

**Consultation questions for member councils and industry**

1. Which residential applications currently consume the most officer or consultant time, and which could safely be exempt from development approval?
2. Which local R-Code variations or policies are essential to retain, and why?
3. Would a 30-day assessment pathway be achievable with existing regional staffing, referral and consultation requirements?
4. Where could increase subdivision or density exceed available sewerage, water, drainage, roads, parking, waste or open-space capacity?
5. What additional compliance responsibility would fall on builders, designers and building surveyors if planning approval is removed?
6. What transition period, training, technical assistance and funding would councils and regional businesses require?
7. Which significant developments have imposed local costs without providing adequate rating, infrastructure or community benefits?
8. What changes are needed to ensure Council and community positions receive appropriate consideration in DAP and SAT processes?

**Financial implications**
There is no immediate financial impact while the current planning framework remains in force. Future impacts may include:

- reduced planning application revenue;
- scheme and policy amendment costs;
- staff training and system changes;
- consultant and legal expenses;
- increased building, inspection and enforcement activity; and
- unfunded infrastructure and service demands arising from increased development.

These costs cannot be reliably estimated until the draft provisions are released.
Major developments may also create a direct financial risk where Council is required to provide or maintain infrastructure and services without adequate rates, contributions or other financial benefits.

The planning system should ensure that the host local government and community are not financially disadvantaged by developments approved primarily for private or State economic benefit.

**Workforce implications**
Regional councils may require additional planning and building capacity during the transition. Builders, designers and building surveyors will also require training and updated documentation.

Small regional councils may require State-funded professional support to properly assess and participate in major development applications, DAP proceedings and SAT reviews.

**Risk implications**
Premature advice could cause applicants to incorrectly assume that the announced reforms already apply. Councils should consistently advise that the current R-Codes and local planning requirements remain operative until formally amended.

Longer-term risks include:
- unintended erosion of valid local provisions;
- Reduced Council and community influence;
- cost shifting to local government and industry;
- inconsistent interpretation;
- insufficient infrastructure and servicing;
- late identification of non-compliance;
- disputes during the transition period; and
- significant developments leaving councils responsible for unfunded or long-term consequences.

**Conclusion**
The R-Codes Review presents a genuine opportunity to simplify residential approvals and improve housing delivery. GVROC should support that objective while seeking clear evidence that the final package is workable in regional and remote Western Australia.

The preferred position is qualified support: simpler rules and faster pathways for genuinely compliant development, accompanied by regional testing, retention of justified local provisions, clear allocation of compliance responsibility, infrastructure protection and properly funded implementation.

GVROC should also use this opportunity to reinforce the broader principle that local governments and their communities must retain a meaningful role in determining how their towns will ultimately look. Significant mining camps, workforce accommodation and other major developments should not bypass local priorities or leave councils financially disadvantaged merely because the final decision is made through a DAP, SAT or another State process.

**RECOMMENDATION:**
That the GVROC:
1. Notes that the Western Australian Planning Commission is undertaking a targeted review of the R-Codes, with proposed amendments expected to be released for public consultation in late 2026 and implementation anticipated from mid to late 2027, subject to consultation, endorsement and approval.
2. Notes that the current R-Codes and applicable local planning frameworks remain in force while the Review is underway.
3. Supports In Principle the simplification of the R-Codes where this genuinely reduces duplication, assessment time and avoidable costs while maintaining appropriate design, amenity, safety, servicing, environmental and infrastructure outcomes.
4. Requests that the State Government undertake a specific regional and remote impact assessment before finalising the reforms, including testing the proposed provisions with small regional local governments, regional builders, designers, building surveyors and planning consultants.
5. Advocates that the reforms:
    a. retain a transparent and workable process for justified local variations;
    b. recognise regional and remote conditions, including limited infrastructure, unsewered towns, bushfire and climate risks, heritage, topography and constrained professional capacity;
    c. clearly allocate responsibility for confirming planning compliance where development approval is not required;

   d. include adequate transitional provisions for existing applications and approvals; and
   e. be supported by funded training, technical assistance, model documents and resources to update affected local planning schemes, policies, local development plans, delegations, fees, forms and information systems.
6. Advocates that the R-Codes Review and broader State planning reforms preserve a meaningful and properly weighted role for local governments in determining the future character, layout and economic sustainability of their communities.
7. Requests that, where a significant development such as a mining camp or workforce accommodation proposal may be determined through a DAP, SAT or other State pathway:
   a. the relevant local government and community be meaningfully consulted;
   b. proper weight be given to the adopted local planning strategy, local planning scheme, strategic community plan and formal position of Council;
   c. the application includes a local social, economic, housing and infrastructure impact assessment;
   d. the applicant demonstrates why permanent housing or development within an established townsite is not reasonably achievable before out-of-town workforce accommodation is approved;
   e. approval conditions address infrastructure, local roads, waste, environmental health, emergency management, rehabilitation, closure and the future removal or conversion of temporary accommodation; and
   f. the development does not leave the local government or community financially disadvantaged or responsible for unfunded infrastructure and services.
8. Advocates for enforceable infrastructure contributions, rating arrangements or community-benefit agreements where major developments create additional local costs or demands, subject to the applicable legislative framework.
9. Requests that regional local governments be provided with appropriate State-funded legal, planning and technical assistance when participating in DAP or SAT proceedings involving developments with significant community, financial or infrastructure consequences.
10. Requests the GVROC Chair and Secretariat to coordinate a regional submission consistent with this report when the draft amendments are released, while recognising that individual member councils may also lodge submissions addressing their local circumstances.

**RESOLUTION:** **Moved:** ***Cr Patrick Hill, Shire of Laverton***
**Seconded:** ***Cr Peter Craig, Shire of Leonora***

**Carried**

## 10.6 Commonwealth Funding for Local Government – Funding Sustainability, Infrastructure Funding and Cost Shifting

**Reporting Officer:** Peter Fitchat, CEO Shire of Dundas

**Date:** August 2026

**Attachments:** RDA Goldfields Esperance Submission – Inquiry into Local Government Funding and Fiscal Sustainability (**Attachment 8**).
https://budget.gov.au/content/bp3/download/bp3_2026-27.pdf
https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/territories-regions-cities/local-government/financial-assistance-grant-local-government

**Purpose**
For GVROC to consider the reduction in flexible, directly allocated Commonwealth infrastructure funding, the broader structural funding challenges facing regional and remote local governments, and the increasing transfer of responsibilities and costs to local government; and to advocate for a renewed, permanent intergovernmental funding partnership that recognises the circumstances and national economic contribution of regional and remote local governments.

**Background**
The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport is conducting an inquiry into local government funding and fiscal sustainability. The inquiry is examining:

- Commonwealth and State funding provided to local government;
- untied, tied and competitive grant programs;
- local government own-source revenue;
- emergency and disaster recovery funding;
- the effects of funding arrangements on financial sustainability;
- expanding local government responsibilities;
- infrastructure delivery and workforce constraints; and
- opportunities to improve productivity and intergovernmental coordination.

RDA Goldfields Esperance lodged a regional submission on 3 February 2026. The submission supports issues previously raised by GVROC and WALGA and provides evidence of the structural funding challenges faced by remote local governments.

The Australian Government provides funding to local governments through several programs, including:

- Financial Assistance Grants;
- Roads to Recovery;
- the Black Spot Program;
- the Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program; and
- competitive regional and community infrastructure programs.

The temporary Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program provided $3.25 billion nationally over four phases. Every local government received an allocation and could nominate eligible road and community infrastructure projects. This funding was particularly valuable because it was directly allocated, relatively flexible and could support locally determined priorities without councils competing against larger and better-resourced applicants.

The program has now substantially concluded. Commonwealth Budget figures show Local Roads and Community Infrastructure payments declining from $415.6 million nationally in 2025–26 to $14.8 million in 2026–27, with no further funding currently identified from 2027–28. Although Roads to Recovery funding increases, it is restricted to eligible road construction and maintenance activities and does not replace the broader flexibility of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

Regional Significance
Goldfields–Esperance is one of Australia's largest regions, covering approximately 955,276 square kilometres. It has a population of approximately 58,134, supports 37,696 jobs and generates approximately $39.96 billion in annual economic output.

The region supports nationally significant:

- mining and critical-minerals production;
- agricultural exports;
- interstate freight movements;
- tourism;
- renewable energy development;
- road and rail networks; and
- port operations.

Mining generates approximately $25.87 billion annually and accounts for approximately 69.1% of regional economic output. The Port of Esperance handled approximately 13.5 million tonnes of cargo during 2022–23.

Despite this economic contribution, GVROC councils operate with relatively small populations and restricted rating bases while maintaining extensive road networks and essential regional infrastructure.

**Officer Comment**

**Reduced and Less Flexible Commonwealth Funding**

Financial Assistance Grants currently represent approximately 0.51% of Commonwealth taxation revenue, substantially below the historical benchmark of 1%. This decline has occurred while local government responsibilities, compliance requirements and infrastructure costs have increased.

The winding down of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program represents a substantial reduction in flexible, directly allocated infrastructure funding. Commonwealth Budget figures show:

| Direct Commonwealth payment | 2025–26 | 2026–27 | Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Roads to Recovery** | $675.0 million | $790.1 million | +$115.1 million |
| **Local Roads and Community Infrastructure** | $415.6 million | $14.8 million | −$400.8 million |
| **Combined total** | $1,090.6 million | $804.9 million | −$285.7 million |

The combined reduction is approximately 26%, notwithstanding the increase in Roads to Recovery funding.

Roads to Recovery funding cannot generally be redirected to other essential assets and services, including:

- waste-management facilities;
- water infrastructure;
- airports and airstrips;
- staff and community housing;
- emergency management facilities;
- community buildings; and
- parks, recreation and public amenities.

Competitive grants are not an adequate replacement for directly allocated funding. Smaller councils may have limited capacity to prepare complex applications, detailed designs, cost-benefit assessments and business cases, and may be unable to provide required financial co-contributions. Councils can therefore incur significant application costs without certainty of receiving funding.

**Financial Assistance Grants**

The Australian Government will provide more than $3.6 billion nationally through the Financial Assistance Grant program in 2026–27. Approximately $2.9 billion, or 80% of the 2026–27 entitlement, was brought forward and paid to States and Territories on 19 June 2026, with the balance to be paid through quarterly instalments during 2026–27.

While advance payments assist cash flow, they can distort annual budget comparisons. This timing issue does not alter the broader concern that Financial Assistance Grants remain insufficient to meet the increasing responsibilities and infrastructure costs transferred to local government.

**Funding Formulas and Regional Infrastructure Responsibilities**

Existing funding formulas do not adequately recognise:

- geographic area and remoteness;
- road length and condition;
- freight intensity and heavy-vehicle impacts;
- remote construction and freight costs;
- climate, disaster and emergency exposure;
- non-resident populations and service populations;
- national supply-chain value;
- responsibility for airports, waste facilities and water infrastructure; and
- limited opportunities to raise own-source revenue.

The region contains more than 17,000 kilometres of unsealed local roads. These roads support mining, agriculture, tourism, emergency access and national freight movements well beyond the needs of the local population. Population-based funding does not reflect the actual cost of maintaining this infrastructure.

The Shire of Esperance has publicly identified rising costs, reduced Federal Government funding and constrained government support as pressures affecting its adopted 2026–27 Budget. Notwithstanding these pressures, the Shire must fund major baseline infrastructure, including $11.2 million for the Myrup Waste Management Facility and $18.821 million for road upgrades and improvements.

**Cost Shifting and Expanding Local Government Responsibilities**

Local governments across Goldfields–Esperance are increasingly required to fund or deliver functions traditionally associated with State or Commonwealth Governments, or previously provided by the private sector.

Examples include:

- attracting and subsidising general practitioners;
- providing primary healthcare facilities;
- supporting supermarkets and other essential retail services;
- providing workforce, staff and community housing;
- supporting childcare and community wellbeing services;
- maintaining regional airports and emergency airstrips;
- addressing telecommunications blackspots;
- supporting water security and emergency water carting;
- undertaking emergency management and disaster recovery;
- managing regional waste facilities; and
- meeting expanding environmental, planning, public health and regulatory obligations.

These responsibilities are generally undertaken because local government is the only permanent organisation available to prevent the loss of an essential service. However, councils often receive no recurrent funding for the operating, staffing, asset-renewal and compliance costs that follow. This represents an ongoing transfer of financial and operational responsibility to local governments and their ratepayers.

**Emergency Management**

GVROC councils carry substantial emergency management responsibilities across vast and remote areas. The RDA submission highlights:

- eight regional councils being eligible for disaster assistance following the 2022 floods;
- emergency freight detours extending to approximately 9,200 kilometres;
- 165 fires occurring in the Shire of Dundas over a decade;
- five Dundas fires exceeding 100,000 hectares; and
- closure of the Eyre Highway for 12 days during the 2019–20 Norseman complex fires.

These emergencies affect national transport corridors and supply chains, but the local operational burden falls heavily on small councils with limited staff, equipment and volunteer capacity. Emergency responsibilities must not continue to expand without clear legislative roles, recurrent funding, training and agency support.

**Housing and Workforce**

GVROC councils face continuing shortages of engineers, planners, building surveyors, environmental health officers, project managers and civil construction employees.

Housing shortages prevent councils from recruiting staff even where positions are funded. Councils may therefore be required to construct, purchase or lease accommodation, creating another significant cost not recognised in conventional workforce or grant funding. Competition from the mining and resources sector further affects employee retention, with councils potentially investing substantially in training employees who are subsequently recruited into higher-paid resources-sector positions.

**Financial Implications**

There are no immediate financial implications arising from considering this item.

Continued reductions in untied, direct and flexible funding, together with additional cost shifting, may require GVROC councils to:

- increase rates and charges;
- redirect reserve funds;
- increase borrowings;
- defer asset renewal;
- reduce service levels; or
- discontinue or postpone discretionary and essential community programs and infrastructure projects.

This transfers a greater share of the cost of essential regional infrastructure and services to small local populations, even where the infrastructure supports State and national economic activity.

**Risk Implications**

- deterioration of essential infrastructure, including local roads and community facilities;
- increasing asset-renewal and infrastructure backlogs;
- reduced emergency management capacity;
- inability to recruit and retain skilled employees;
- growing dependence on contractors and labour hire;
- reduced community and service levels;
- financial pressure on small rating bases;
- reduced capacity to meet grant co-contributions; and
- councils becoming responsible for services without the funding, authority or workforce capacity to deliver them sustainably.

**Proposed GVROC Position**

GVROC supports the continuation and expansion of Commonwealth funding for local government and a renewed intergovernmental funding partnership that recognises the national economic contribution and infrastructure responsibilities of regional and remote local governments.

A permanent successor to the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program should be established. Its allocation methodology should recognise geographic scale, road length and condition, asset and service responsibilities, remoteness, freight and construction costs, emergency exposure and limited rating capacity—not population alone.

There is also an ongoing need to restore Financial Assistance Grants to at least 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue to strengthen the long-term financial sustainability of local government.

No new or expanded responsibility should be transferred to local government without:

- prior consultation;
- a clear legislative basis;
- adequate recurrent funding;
- workforce and training support;
- provision for asset renewal; and
- assessment of the impact on council financial sustainability.

**RECOMMENDATION**
That the GVROC:

1. Notes the RDA Goldfields Esperance submission to the House of Representatives inquiry into local government funding and fiscal sustainability.
2. Notes the substantial reduction in directly allocated and flexible Commonwealth infrastructure funding, including the decline in Local Roads and Community Infrastructure payments from $415.6 million nationally in 2025–26 to $14.8 million in 2026–27, with no further funding currently identified from 2027–28.
3. Acknowledges the increase in Roads to Recovery funding but notes that this restricted funding does not replace the flexible infrastructure support previously available for waste, water, housing, airports, emergency management, community facilities, parks, recreation and public amenities.
4. Endorses the finding that current funding arrangements do not adequately recognise the geographic scale, road responsibilities, freight intensity, limited rating capacity, remote construction and service-delivery costs faced by GVROC councils.
5. Expresses concern that Financial Assistance Grants have declined to approximately 0.51% of Commonwealth taxation revenue while local government responsibilities, compliance requirements and infrastructure costs have continued to increase.
6. Calls on the Australian Government to restore Financial Assistance Grants to at least 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue.
7. Calls on the Australian Government to establish a permanent, directly allocated local road and community infrastructure program to replace the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.
8. Requests that the allocation methodology for any replacement program recognise geographic area and remoteness; local road length and condition; infrastructure and service responsibilities; remote construction and freight costs; heavy freight; disaster and emergency exposure; non-resident service populations; and limited rating capacity.
9. Requests that Commonwealth local government funding be indexed or otherwise structured to reflect actual remote construction, freight, labour and asset-maintenance costs.
10. Requests reduced administrative and co-contribution requirements that disadvantage small regional and remote councils.
11. Opposes the transfer or expansion of State or Commonwealth responsibilities to local government without prior consultation and corresponding recurrent funding, staffing, training, asset-renewal support and a clear legislative basis.
12. Requests the State and Australian Governments establish funding arrangements for services increasingly delivered by regional local governments, including primary healthcare support; essential retail and community services; workforce and community housing; water security; airports and emergency airstrips; emergency management and disaster recovery; telecommunications infrastructure; and regional waste management.
13. Requests the GVROC Chair to write to the Federal and State Government responsible Ministers outlining the concerns and requests above.

**RESOLUTION:** **Moved:** ***Cr Paul Warner, Shire of Menzies***
**Seconded:** ***Cr Peter Craig, Shire of Leonora***

**Carried**

# 11. LATE ITEMS as notified, introduced by decision of the Meeting

**No late Items raised**.

# 12. FUTURE GVROC COUNCIL MEETINGS/FUNCTIONS

**Next Meetings**

The following suggested dates in 2026 have been set for the GVROC meetings.

- **16-18 September 2026** (WALGA LGA Convention and AGM in Perth)
- **13 November 2026** in Leonora (to be hosted by Shire of Leonora)

The following are the WALGA State Council meeting dates for 2026 with suggested GVROC Zoom video conference meeting dates prior to these to inform the GVROC's representatives attending the meetings with relevant input for State Council Agenda Items:

- 2 December 2026 WALGA State Council Meeting - GVROC meeting on **23 November 2026**

# 13. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 12:07pm.