



# MINUTES

## SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

1 AUGUST 2025

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## SHIRE OF NORTHAMPTON

Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Hampton Road, Northampton, Friday, 1 August 2025.

### 1. DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS:

The Shire President declared the meeting open at **2.00pm**.

### 2. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT:

#### Acknowledgement of Country

We would like to respectfully acknowledge the Yamatji People who are the Traditional Owners and First People of the land on which we meet. We would like to pay our respects to the Elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of the Yamatji People

### 3. ATTENDANCE:

#### **PRESENT:**

##### **Councillors**

Cr Liz Sudlow (Shire President)

Cr Tim Hay (Deputy Shire President)

Cr Richard Burges

Cr Karl Suckling

Cr Roslyn Suckling

##### **Staff**

Mr Andrew Campbell (Chief Executive Officer)

Mrs Leanne Rowe (Manager Financial Services)

Ms Sonya Hasleby (Executive Support Officer)

##### **Gallery**

3.1 Apologies: Cr Des Pike.

3.2 Leave Of Absence:

Cr Trevor Gibb was granted an approved Leave of Absence at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

### 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

*[Part 5, Division 6 of the Local Government Act 1995 requires that a member must disclose the interest of the member and the nature of the interest in writing before the meeting or immediately before the matter is discussed.]*

Nil.

**5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:**

- 5.1 Response to public questions taken on notice: Nil.
- 5.2 Public Question Time: Nil.

**6. PRESENTATIONS:**

- 6.1 Petitions: Nil.
- 6.2 Presentations: Nil.
- 6.3 Deputations: Nil.
- 6.4 Councillor reports: Nil.
- 6.5 Conference reports: Nil.

**7. MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN:**

Nil.

**8. OFFICERS' REPORTS:**

8.1.1	Proposed Submission to Powering WA's "Draft Guideline on Community Benefits for Renewable Energy Projects"
8.1.2	Proposed Adoption of 2025/26 Budget
8.1.3	Proposed Rate Waivers and Concessions 2025/26

**ATTACHMENT****8.1.1 Proposed Submission to Powering WA's "Draft Guideline on Community Benefits for Renewable Energy Projects"**

<b>PROPONENT</b>	PoweringWA
<b>OWNER</b>	N/A
<b>LOCATION / ADDRESS:</b>	Whole of Shire
<b>ZONE:</b>	All
<b>BUSINESS AREA:</b>	Office of CEO
<b>FILE REFERENCE:</b>	18.1.6
<b>LEGISLATION:</b>	N/A
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Andrew Campbell
<b>APPROVING OFFICER:</b>	Andrew Campbell
<b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>	21 July 2025
<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST:</b>	Nil

**BACKGROUND:**

On 12 June 2025, PoweringWA released the *"Draft Guideline on Community Benefits for Renewable Energy Projects"* for public consultation until 4 August 2025. The deadline for submissions has since been extended until 18 August 2025. A copy of the document is attached.

**ATTACHMENT: 8.1.1 (1)**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider a submission to the consultation process.

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN:**

The *"Draft Guideline on Community Benefits for Renewable Energy Projects"* is a document produced for public consultation independent of the Shire of Northampton.

**COMMENT (Includes Options):**

Following the Council meeting held 17 July 2025, a short workshop was held with Councillors designed to seek input as to the direction of response to the consultation process. From this workshop the following key discussion points arose:

1. The guidelines should apply to "off-grid" large-scale commercial renewable energy projects and mandated to ensure there are effective "levers" to ensure proponent compliance.
2. What constitutes Community Benefit should be consulted with proponents and the community, but the final determination should be by the Local Government.

3. The Local Government should lead the development of what Community Benefit comprises (such as growth plans for example) and how it is to be prioritised based on the circumstances of a project.
4. Support for one fixed price (indexed by CPI) for Community Benefit with the elimination of any need for negotiation.
5. Community Benefit funding should be defined to be able to be applied to Capex, Operational and Maintenance of any project funded by Community Benefit and owned or operated by Local Government.
6. Flexibility in governance structures is conditionally supported, provided that final authority rests with the Local Government—not the project proponent or the community. This position reflects the fact that the majority of Community Benefit-funded projects are likely to be located on land under Local Government control. As such, Local Governments must retain the right to determine the level of obligation and risk they are willing to assume before significant project development occurs by third parties. However, if a Local Government chooses not to exercise this level of control, it may elect to negotiate an alternative governance arrangement directly with the proponent or community.
7. Rates must be kept separate to Community Benefit and the State should not interfere with the ability of Local Government to Rate projects as has happened in the mining sector. Rates will be required to manage future burden placed on Local Government by the projects.
8. Community Benefit should include the ability to incorporate legacy projects and future funds if desired. The definition of Community Benefit should not include sponsorship.
9. What are the GST implications of Community Benefit and should this be factored into considerations?
10. What impact will Community Benefit funding have on Financial Assistance Grants provided to Local Government. Whilst outside of the consultation piece, this has the potential to significantly reduce the financial capacity of smaller Local Governments and should be part of the conversation.

The Chief Executive Officer provided a response to WALGA's consultation process on PoweringWA's *"Draft Guideline on Community Benefits for Renewable Energy Projects"* based on the Council workshop. WALGA's deadline for consultation was 25 July 2025

Since the workshop the Shire President, Cr Richard Burges and Chief Executive Officer have had three separate meetings with Hon Amber-Jane Sanderson's office (Minister for Energy and Decarbonisation), Powering WA, and Dr Katrina Stratton MLC (Parliamentary Secretary to Hon John Carey MLA) noting Cr Burges did not attend the final meeting.

Finally, the Shire of Northampton is part of 31 Local Governments forming the Country Local Government Renewable Energy Alliance who engaged a consultant to produce a sector response to WALGA which, following some additional revision, will also be a direct submission to PoweringWA's *"Draft Guideline on Community Benefits for Renewable Energy Projects"*. A copy of the sector response provided to WALGA is attached.

### ATTACHMENT: 8.1.1 (2)

All the above have provided the direction for the proposed submission principles forming the Officer Recommendation.

#### STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:

Nil.

#### POLICY / STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

It is important that there is a comprehensive, transparent and consistent mechanism to guide the establishment of Community Benefit schemes for renewable energy projects across Western Australia.

#### ORGANISATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT:

Risk rating is considered Insignificant as the matter is consultative to a third party only.

Measures of Consequence							
Rating (Level)	Health	Financial Impact	Service Interruption	Compliance	Reputational	Property	Environment
Insignificant (1)	Negligible injuries	Less than \$1,000	No material service interruption	No noticeable regulatory or statutory impact	Unsubstantiated, low impact, low profile or 'no news' item	Inconsequential or no damage.	Contained, reversible impact managed by on site response
Minor (2)	First aid injuries	\$1,001 - \$10,000	Short term temporary interruption – backlog cleared < 1 day	Some temporary non compliances	Substantiated, low impact, low news item	Localised damage rectified by routine internal procedures	Contained, reversible impact managed by internal response
Moderate (3)	Medical type injuries	\$10,001 - \$50,000	Medium term temporary interruption – backlog cleared by additional resources < 1 week	Short term non-compliance but with significant regulatory requirements imposed	Substantiated, public embarrassment, moderate impact, moderate news profile	Localised damage requiring external resources to rectify	Contained, reversible impact managed by external agencies
Major (4)	Lost time injury	\$50,001 - \$150,000	Prolonged interruption of services – additional resources; performance affected < 1 month	Non-compliance results in termination of services or imposed penalties	Substantiated, public embarrassment, high impact, high news profile, third party actions	Significant damage requiring internal & external resources to rectify	Uncontained, reversible impact managed by a coordinated response from external agencies
Catastrophic (5)	Fatality, permanent disability	More than \$150,000	Indeterminate prolonged interruption of services – non-performance > 1 month	Non-compliance results in litigation, criminal charges or significant damages or penalties	Substantiated, public embarrassment, very high multiple impacts, high widespread multiple news profile, third party actions	Extensive damage requiring prolonged period of restitution Complete loss of plant, equipment & building	Uncontained, irreversible impact

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The cost of the Country Local Government Renewable Energy Alliance sector response was \$1,000 that will be absorbed into the 2025/26 budget.

**SUSTAINABILITY:**

Environmental: Nil.

Economic: Nil.

Social: Nil.

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS:**

**SIMPLE MAJORITY**

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:**

**That Council:**

- 1. Endorse the Country Local Government Renewable Energy Alliance's submission as contained in ATTACHMENT: 8.1.1 (2); and**
- 2. Adopt the following principles for a Shire of Northampton individual submission to PoweringWA's "*Draft Guideline on Community Benefits for Renewable Energy Projects*" by 18 August 2025 in accordance with the following principles:**
  - a) Community Benefit should apply to all applications of energy production including domestic grid connected, "off-grid" projects, and large battery systems;**
  - b) Mandating the approach to Community Benefit similar to what has been established in NSW through a developer agreement framework;**
  - c) Mechanisms should be incorporated to ensure Community Benefit is provided throughout the entire project life cycle;**
  - d) Community Benefit arrangements should be developed through consultation with all relevant stakeholders and facilitated by the Local Government in collaboration with the project proponent;**
  - e) Final determination of what constitutes Community Benefit should be determined by the Council, being the elected representatives of the community;**
  - f) The use of documents such as Strategic Community Plans and Strategic Growth Plans are the recommended mechanisms to identify Community Benefit projects, programs and priorities;**
  - g) The price of Community Benefit should be fixed at the upper end of the proposed Guideline (indexed by CPI) with negotiation available where specific project circumstances determine, however an independent adjudicator should be deployed where required in dispute;**
  - h) Community Benefit should occur from the point of positive project Financial Investment Decision to ensure communities are equipped to deal immediately with project impacts;**



- i) **Community Benefit should be clearly defined to include Capex, Operational and Maintenance funding for any significant new application of funding on Local Government controlled land;**
- j) **Flexibility in governance structures is supported on the proviso that the final determination of the structure is to be by Local Government with input from proponents and community;**
- k) **Community Benefit should have the capacity to include legacy projects and future funds to ensure long term community sustainability; and**
- l) **Local Government Rates should not be referred to in the Guideline as they are applied through separate statutory mechanisms.**

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION:**

**MOVED: Suckling, R      SECONDED: Burges, R**

**08/25-109**

**That Council:**

1. **Endorse the Country Local Government Renewable Energy Alliance's submission as contained in ATTACHMENT: 8.1.1 (2); and**
2. **Adopt the following principles for a Shire of Northampton individual submission to PoweringWA's "*Draft Guideline on Community Benefits for Renewable Energy Projects*" by 18 August 2025 in accordance with the following principles:**
  - a) **Community Benefit should apply to all applications of energy production including domestic grid connected, "off-grid" projects, and large battery systems;**
  - b) **Mandating the approach to Community Benefit similar to what has been established in NSW through a developer agreement framework;**
  - c) **Mechanisms should be incorporated to ensure Community Benefit is provided throughout the entire project life cycle;**
  - d) **Community Benefit arrangements should be developed through consultation with all relevant stakeholders and facilitated by the Local Government in collaboration with the project proponent;**
  - e) **Final determination of what constitutes Community Benefit should be determined by the Council, being the elected representatives of the community;**
  - f) **The use of documents such as Strategic Community Plans and Strategic Growth Plans are the recommended mechanisms to identify Community Benefit projects, programs and priorities;**
  - g) **The price of Community Benefit should be fixed at the upper end of the proposed Guideline (indexed by CPI) with negotiation**

available where specific project circumstances determine, however an independent adjudicator should be deployed where required in dispute;

- h) Community Benefit should occur from the point of positive project Financial Investment Decision to ensure communities are equipped to deal immediately with project impacts;
- i) Community Benefit should be clearly defined to include Capex, Operational and Maintenance funding for any significant new application of funding on Local Government controlled land;
- j) Flexibility in governance structures is supported on the proviso that the final determination of the structure is to be by Local Government with input from proponents and community;
- k) Community Benefit should have the capacity to include legacy projects and future funds to ensure long term community sustainability; and
- l) Local Government Rates should not be referred to in the Guideline as they are applied through separate statutory mechanisms.

**MOTION CARRIED 5/0**

**FOR**

Cr L Sudlow  
Cr T Hay  
Cr R Burges  
Cr K Suckling  
Cr R Suckling

**AGAINST**

### 8.1.2 Proposed Adoption of 2025/26 Budget

<b>PROPONENT</b>	Shire of Northampton
<b>OWNER</b>	Shire of Northampton
<b>LOCATION / ADDRESS:</b>	Whole of Shire
<b>ZONE:</b>	All
<b>BUSINESS AREA:</b>	Office of CEO
<b>FILE REFERENCE:</b>	4.1.1
<b>LEGISLATION:</b>	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Andrew Campbell; Leanne Rowe
<b>APPROVING OFFICER:</b>	Andrew Campbell
<b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>	22 July 2025
<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST:</b>	The authors are both employees of the organisation and this has an impact on budget.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The 2025/26 Annual Statutory Budget Document is tabled for Council's consideration and adoption.

#### **DOCUMENT TABLED**

#### **PUBLIC CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN:**

Nil.

#### **COMMENT (Includes Options):**

Council has provided input and review of the 2025/26 Annual Budget through multiple Budget workshop processes held over the past few months.

At the Budget workshop held on the 17 July 2025 Council considered a draft version of the 2025/26 Budget and that process facilitated a balanced budget. Following that meeting the 2025/26 budget computations were finalised and the statutory budget documentation completed. There has been one significant change made to the draft version Budget document presented to Council at the Budget Workshop, \$32,925 of expenditure for Temporary Workers Accommodation Kalbarri was omitted from calculations, which has been amended.

The Statutory Budget format for the 2025/26 financial year is presented as a balanced budget for Council's consideration with a net current assets surplus position at the start of the 2025/26 financial year of \$3,119,126.

The 2025/26 carry forward position includes, amongst other items, the following items of restricted and unrestricted cash:

Prepaid Financial Assistance Grant	\$1,488,710
Roads to Recovery – Fifth Avenue	\$133,983
MWDC Kalbarri Workers Accommodation	\$119,892
DFES Community Benefit Grant	\$191,045
DFES Resilience Fund	\$ 4,496

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and associated regulations, Council is requested to consider the adoption of the 2025/26 Budget.

### **STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:**

#### Adoption of the budget

Section 6.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* requires a Local Government to prepare and adopt an annual budget for the financial year 1 July to 30 June each year but with the adoption being no later than the 31 August in that financial year.

#### Granting of a discount for early payment

Section 6.46 of the *Local Government Act 1995* “Discounts” is applicable. As with previous years, it is proposed that for the 2025/26 budget, no early payment discounts apply.

#### Granting of rate concessions

Section 6.47 of the *Local Government Act 1995* “Concessions” prescribes circumstances where concessions and waivers can be applied. Concessions are proposed for properties that are situated on leased Shire land or other properties that are exempt or considered for exemption for rates are the subject of a separate item.

### **POLICY / STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:**

Various strategic initiatives identified in the Shire of Northampton’s Strategic Community Plan and underlying documents are included in the 2025/26 Budget.

### **ORGANISATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT:**

Adoption of the 2025/26 Budget reduces financial risk to the organisation by clearly articulating what the Shire of Northampton’s priorities are for the coming 12 months and how rates money is to be expended in achieving those priorities. Risk rating is considered Level 4 – Major.

Measures of Consequence							
Rating (Level)	Health	Financial Impact	Service Interruption	Compliance	Reputational	Property	Environment
Insignificant (1)	Negligible injuries	Less than \$1,000	No material service interruption	No noticeable regulatory or statutory impact	Unsubstantiated, low impact, low profile or ‘no news’ item	Inconsequential or no damage.	Contained, reversible impact managed by on site response

Minor (2)	First aid injuries	\$1,001 - \$10,000	Short term temporary interruption – backlog cleared < 1 day	Some temporary non compliances	Substantiated, low impact, low news item	Localised damage rectified by routine internal procedures	Contained, reversible impact managed by internal response
Moderate (3)	Medical type injuries	\$10,001 - \$50,000	Medium term temporary interruption – backlog cleared by additional resources < 1 week	Short term non-compliance but with significant regulatory requirements imposed	Substantiated, public embarrassment, moderate impact, moderate news profile	Localised damage requiring external resources to rectify	Contained, reversible impact managed by external agencies
Major (4)	Lost time injury	\$50,001 - \$150,000	Prolonged interruption of services – additional resources; performance affected < 1 month	Non-compliance results in termination of services or imposed penalties	Substantiated, public embarrassment, high impact, high news profile, third party actions	Significant damage requiring internal & external resources to rectify	Uncontained, reversible impact managed by a coordinated response from external agencies
Catastrophic (5)	Fatality, permanent disability	More than \$150,000	Indeterminate prolonged interruption of services – non-performance > 1 month	Non-compliance results in litigation, criminal charges or significant damages or penalties	Substantiated, public embarrassment, very high multiple impacts, high widespread multiple news profile, third party actions	Extensive damage requiring prolonged period of restitution Complete loss of plant, equipment & building	Uncontained, irreversible impact

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The Annual Budget has been prepared as a balanced budget and incorporates items from the Corporate Business Plan process plus other budget requests identified by Councillors and Staff.

The financial implications of the 2025/26 budget are summarised below with further details provided in the Statutory Budget 2025/26 document.

### Rate Rise

It is proposed that the average general rate rise across the district of 4.0%. This will result in increased rate revenue of \$215,146 compared to the rate revenue raised during 2024/25. For comparative reference, Perth Consumer Price Index March 2025 is 2.8%, and the National Minimum Wage increase on 1 July 2025 was 3.5%.

The Valuer General assessed Shire of Northampton Unimproved Value (UV) properties as at 1 July 2025. This revaluation has seen an overall increase to the UV data base of approximately 20.57%. The Shire of Northampton's 2025/26 UV rate in the dollar has been adjusted to reflect these value changes to facilitate an average 4.0% rates change across the UV data base in 2025/26.

The Valuer General undertook a revaluation of Shire of Northampton Gross Rental Value (GRV) properties in 2024/25 with GRV adjustments across the district. GRV valuation occurs within 3 to 6 years as advised by the Valuer General.

Total Rates to be raised 2025/26 Budget are \$5,589,686.

### General Rates

That the rate in the dollar for all rateable Gross Rental Value properties be set at \$0.078507 (7.8507¢) and the rate in the dollar for all rateable Unimproved Value properties be set at \$0.006010 (0.6010¢).

### Minimum Rates

The minimum rate on rateable Gross Rental Value and Unimproved Value properties is proposed at \$665.00 per assessment.

### Specified Area Rates

#### **Port Gregory Specified Area Rate**

Each year Council raises a specified area rate on properties located in the Port Gregory townsite to assist with the cost to operate and maintain the Port Gregory Water supply. The specified area rate to be raised is based on the cost of operating the supply the previous financial year which has been estimated more than \$29,000 for 2024/25 excluding major repair works and upgrades.

To raise \$29,000 for 2025/26 all rateable Port Gregory Gross Rental Value properties within the Port Gregory Townsite will be levied a Specified Area Rate of \$0.039352 (3.9352c).

#### **Kalbarri Tourism Specified Area Rate**

Each year Council raises a Specified Area Rate on Kalbarri Properties for TV, digital and print media campaigns and attendance at tourism trade shows. The amount to be raised for 2025/26 is proposed at \$30,000.

To raise \$30,000 for 2025/26 all rateable Kalbarri Gross Rental Value properties zoned Residential, Residential Development, Places of Public Assembly, Special Site, Special Rural, Commercial, Tourist Accommodation, Service Industry, Light Industry, Composite Light Industry, within the Kalbarri Town Planning Scheme No. 11 be set at \$0.001291 (0.1291¢).

### Refuse Charge

The following charges have been incorporated into the 205/26 Budget;

Kalbarri Residential Collection	\$436
Kalbarri Business Collection (Double)	\$872
Northampton & Other Residential Collection	\$436
Northampton & Other Business Collection (Double)	\$872
Half Way Bay Cottages	\$290 (inc GST)

### Fees & Charges

Council adopted the 2025/26 Schedule of Fees & Charges at Council meeting 19 June 2025. At Council meeting 17 July 2025 Council resolved to support proposed modification of some Refuse Site Charges in 2025/26 which are included in the attached proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2025/26 for Council consideration in the 2025/26 Budget adoption.

### Loan Funds

The 2025/26 Annual Budget proposes two new Loans. A 20 year loan for the development of Woods St Site Kalbarri for Temporary Staff Housing, and a 20 year loan for the development of the Northampton Men's Shed site on Seventh Avenue Northampton.

#### Bonds and Deposits and Reserve Fund

The Bonds and Deposits (Ex Trust) and Reserve Fund Budgets for 2025/26 are included in the 2025/26 Budget for adoption

#### Tenders for Plant, Vehicles, Bitumen, Goods & Services

Management, as per previous years, seeks authorisation from Council to commence calling tenders for material items over \$250,000. Purchases required under this amount are now dealt with in accordance with Council's Purchasing Policy.

#### Material Variance

Council is required annually to adopt what it considers to be material variances that are required to be reported to Council. These are as a percentage and/or dollar value. Materiality levels are recommended to be set as \$10,000 or 10% whichever is greater, for the 2025/26 financial year. A materiality variance amount of \$10,000 or 10% whichever is greater, is considered a contemporary approach adopted by many Local Government's throughout Western Australia.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY:**

Environmental: The proposed 2025/26 Budget endeavours to financially support key environmental initiatives and components of the operations of the Shire of Northampton.

Economic: Sound financial management and accountability is the fundamental component of economic sustainability. The proposed 2025/26 Budget delivers a sustainable and responsible economic outcome on behalf of Council.

Social: Local Government is a foundation of local community governance in Australia and sound financial management is required to execute responsibilities to the social betterment of the district.

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS:                      ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

#### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:**

**That Council**

- 1. Adopt the 2025/26 Budget as tabled and set the following rates, discounts, instalments and interest for the 2025/26 financial year:**
  - a. General Rates**
    - (i) Gross Rental Value \$0.078507 (7.8507¢) cents in the dollar**
    - (ii) Unimproved Value \$0.006010 (0.6010¢) cents in the dollar**

- b. **Minimum Rates**  
 (i) Gross Rental Value \$665.00  
 (ii) Unimproved Value \$665.00
- c. **Specified Area Rates**  
 (i) Port Gregory Specified Area Rate \$0.039352 (3.9352¢)  
 (ii) Kalbarri Tourism Specified Area Rate \$0.001291 (0.12910¢)
- d. **Discounts**  
 That no rate discount be provided on 2025/26 rates.
- e. **Due Date and Instalments**  
 The due date for payment of rates shall be 3 October 2025.  
 Ratepayers will be offered the option of paying their general rates only by four instalments, and that the following additional charges will apply on the second (2nd), third (3rd), and fourth (4th) instalments:
- Interest 5.0%
  - Administration Charge - \$5.00 for each instalment.

Further that the instalment due dates are as follows:

1st instalment	Due 3/10/2025
2nd instalment	Due 5/12/2025
3rd instalment	Due 6/02/2026
4th Instalment	Due 10/04/2026

- f. **Late Payment Interest**  
 That a late payment interest charge of 7.0% be applied to outstanding moneys to Council as follows:
- Commence accruing daily (simple interest calculation) thirty five (35) days after the date stated on the account as being the due date the account was issued.
  - Late payment interest is to apply to all general rates, rubbish and waste management rates, and sundry debtors.  
 \*Pensioners and Seniors are exempt from penalty interest.

2. **Adopt the following waste collection fees and charges for the 2025/26 financial year:**

Rubbish Bin Collection Service	
240 Litre Bin Collection - Residential per bin	\$436.00
240 Litre Bin collection - Business per bin	\$872.00
Half Way Bay Cottages – per property	\$290.00 inc GST.

3. **Bonds and Deposits, and Reserve Fund**  
 That the Bonds and Deposits, and Reserve Fund Budgets for 2025/26 be adopted.



4. **Tenders**  
That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to call tenders, as per the requirements and provisions of the *Local Government Act 1995*, for the provision of goods and services as approved within the 2025/26 Budget.
6. **Material Variance**  
That the Budget Variance parameters for the 2025/26 financial year be set at \$10,000 or 10% whichever is greater, as per *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 r.34(5)*.
7. **Fees & Charges 2025/26**  
That within the Schedule of Fees & Charges 2025/26 adopted 19 June 2025 (06/24-65), and as resolved 17 July 2025 (07/25-91), include revised Refuse Site Fees as per the tabled Statutory Budget.

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:**

**MOVED:** Burges, R      **SECONDED:** Suckling, K

**08/25-110**

**That Council**

1. **Adopt the 2025/26 Budget as tabled and set the following rates, discounts, instalments and interest for the 2025/26 financial year:**
  - a. **General Rates**
    - (i) Gross Rental Value \$0.078507 (7.8507¢) cents in the dollar
    - (ii) Unimproved Value \$0.006010 (0.6010¢) cents in the dollar
  - b. **Minimum Rates**
    - (i) Gross Rental Value \$665.00
    - (ii) Unimproved Value \$665.00
  - c. **Specified Area Rates**
    - (i) Port Gregory Specified Area Rate \$0.039352 (3.9352¢)
    - (ii) Kalbarri Tourism Specified Area Rate \$0.001291 (0.12910¢)
  - d. **Discounts**  
That no rate discount be provided on 2025/26 rates.
  - e. **Due Date and Instalments**  
The due date for payment of rates shall be 3 October 2025.  
Ratepayers will be offered the option of paying their general rates only by four instalments, and that the following additional charges will apply on the second (2nd), third (3rd), and fourth (4th) instalments:
    - Interest                      5.0%

- **Administration Charge - \$5.00 for each instalment.**

**Further that the instalment due dates are as follows:**

<b>1st instalment</b>	<b>Due 3/10/2025</b>
<b>2nd instalment</b>	<b>Due 5/12/2025</b>
<b>3rd instalment</b>	<b>Due 6/02/2026</b>
<b>4th Instalment</b>	<b>Due 10/04/2026</b>

**f. Late Payment Interest**

**That a late payment interest charge of 7.0% be applied to outstanding moneys to Council as follows:**

- **Commence accruing daily (simple interest calculation) thirty five (35) days after the date stated on the account as being the due date the account was issued.**
- **Late payment interest is to apply to all general rates, rubbish and waste management rates, and sundry debtors.**  
**\*Pensioners and Seniors are exempt from penalty interest.**

**2. Adopt the following waste collection fees and charges for the 2025/26 financial year:**

**Rubbish Bin Collection Service**

<b>240 Litre Bin Collection - Residential per bin</b>	<b>\$436.00</b>
<b>240 Litre Bin collection - Business per bin</b>	<b>\$872.00</b>
<b>Half Way Bay Cottages – per property</b>	<b>\$290.00 inc GST.</b>

**3. Bonds and Deposits, and Reserve Fund**

**That the Bonds and Deposits, and Reserve Fund Budgets for 2025/26 be adopted.**

**4. Tenders**

**That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to call tenders, as per the requirements and provisions of the *Local Government Act 1995*, for the provision of goods and services as approved within the 2025/26 Budget.**

**6. Material Variance**

**That the Budget Variance parameters for the 2025/26 financial year be set at \$10,000 or 10% whichever is greater, as per *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* r.34(5).**

**7. Fees & Charges 2025/26**

**That within the Schedule of Fees & Charges 2025/26 adopted 19 June 2025 (06/24-65), and as resolved 17 July 2025 (07/25-91), include revised Refuse Site Fees as per the tabled Statutory Budget.**

**MOTION CARRIED 5/0**

**FOR**

Cr L Sudlow

Cr T Hay

Cr R Burges

Cr K Suckling

Cr R Suckling

**AGAINST**

### 8.1.3 Proposed Rate Waivers and Concessions 2025/26

<b>PROPONENT</b>	Shire of Northampton
<b>OWNER</b>	N/A
<b>LOCATION / ADDRESS:</b>	Whole of Shire
<b>ZONE:</b>	All
<b>BUSINESS AREA:</b>	Office of the CEO
<b>FILE REFERENCE:</b>	3.1.3
<b>LEGISLATION:</b>	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Leanne Rowe
<b>APPROVING OFFICER:</b>	Andrew Campbell
<b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>	24 July 2025
<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST:</b>	Nil

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Each year Council is presented with a list of properties that could be considered for a waiver or concessions on Rates. Some of the properties are located on Shire of Northampton managed land, and others have special circumstances attached.

In 2025/26, Council is requested to consider the waiver of rates for the following properties in accordance, with s.6.47 of the *Local Government Act 1995*:

- Northampton Bowling Club – Northampton Lot 39 (255) Hampton Road, (A2175).
- Northampton Golf Club – Portion of Reserve 23432 (A1974) and Crown Grant in Trust Volume 1620 Folio 052, (A1852).
- Northampton Community Centre – Portion of Reserve 23432, (A1974).
- Kalbarri Camp and Community Hall – Kalbarri Town Lot 500 Reserve No 35559, (A2457).
- Kalbarri Golf and Bowling Club – part of Reserve No 30953, (A2628).
- Kalbarri Sport and Recreation Club – part of Reserve No 25447, (A5327).
- Regional Early Education and Development Inc. (REED) – Lot 233 (A1877) and 232 (A1878) Smith Street, Kalbarri,
- Regional Early Education and Development Inc. (REED) (Edna Bandy Centre) – Reserve 2038, Stephen Street Northampton, (A1693).
- Old School Community Centre – Lot 31, Robinson Street Northampton, (A4899;).

- Binu Tennis Club – Reserve 23699, Northwest Coastal Highway, Binu, (A3721).
- Northampton Doctors Surgery - Lot 10 (51) Robinson Street, Northampton, (A1594).
- Kalbarri Doctors Surgery – Lot 833 (24) Hackney Street, Kalbarri, (A2398).
- LIA Units 4 Kitson Circuit Northampton, Unit 1, Unit 2, Unit 3, Unit 4, (A5039).
- Kalbarri Town Talk – Lot 175 (5) Kaiber Street, Kalbarri, (A2450).
- Horrocks Community Centre - Lot 9503 North Court, Horrocks, (A4932).

#### Aged Care Facilities

- Pioneer Lodge Inc. - Lot 7 (A2642) Robinson Street & 52 (A1894) Essex Street, Northampton.
- Kalbarri Aged Care (Department of Housing) - Lot 1001 Hackney Street, (A2941).

#### Health Housing

- Housing (Community Housing Ltd) Lot 921 (14) Gliddon Avenue, Kalbarri (A3256).
- Housing (Community Housing Ltd) Lot 929 (20) Crocos Circuit, Kalbarri (A3297).
- Housing (Community Housing Ltd) Lot 607 (9) Bateman Street, Northampton (A4876).

#### **PUBLIC CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN:**

Nil.

#### **COMMENT (Includes Options):**

Council considers the waiving and discounting of rates each year for various clubs, organisations and community groups in accordance with requirements specified in the *Local Government Act 1995*.

#### **STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:**

The *Local Government Act 1995* (s.6.47) enables Council to consider Rate waivers and concessions.

**POLICY / STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:**

Rate waivers and concessions provide financial assistance to community groups, clubs and special circumstance operators which enable them to continue providing services and support to the local community.

**ORGANISATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT:**

The associated Risk Rating of not approving a rate waiver or concession for the listed properties is considered Moderate mainly due to reputational impacts and possibly service interruption.

Measures of Consequence							
Rating (Level)	Health	Financial Impact	Service Interruption	Compliance	Reputational	Property	Environment
Insignificant (1)	Negligible injuries	Less than \$1,000	No material service interruption	No noticeable regulatory or statutory impact	Unsubstantiated, low impact, low profile or 'no news' item	Inconsequential or no damage.	Contained, reversible impact managed by on site response
Minor (2)	First aid injuries	\$1,001 - \$10,000	Short term temporary interruption – backlog cleared < 1 day	Some temporary non-compliances	Substantiated, low impact, low news item	Localised damage rectified by routine internal procedures	Contained, reversible impact managed by internal response
Moderate (3)	Medical type injuries	\$10,001 - \$50,000	Medium term temporary interruption – backlog cleared by additional resources < 1 week	Short term non-compliance but with significant regulatory requirements imposed	Substantiated, public embarrassment, moderate impact, moderate news profile	Localised damage requiring external resources to rectify	Contained, reversible impact managed by external agencies
Major (4)	Lost time injury	\$50,001 - \$150,000	Prolonged interruption of services – additional resources; performance affected < 1 month	Non-compliance results in termination of services or imposed penalties	Substantiated, public embarrassment, high impact, high news profile, third party actions	Significant damage requiring internal & external resources to rectify	Uncontained, reversible impact managed by a coordinated response from external agencies
Catastrophic (5)	Fatality, permanent disability	More than \$150,000	Indeterminate prolonged interruption of services – non-performance > 1 month	Non-compliance results in litigation, criminal charges or significant damages or penalties	Substantiated, public embarrassment, very high multiple impacts, high widespread multiple news profile, third party actions	Extensive damage requiring prolonged period of restitution Complete loss of plant, equipment & building	Uncontained, irreversible impact

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

There will be no impact to the Shires financial position associated with the Rate waivers or concession as the properties have not been rated in prior years, or have concessions applied, and are not included in the 2025/26 budget. There are no new proposed additions to this list in 2025/26.

**SUSTAINABILITY:**

Environmental: Nil.

Economic: Nil.

Social: The approval of rate waivers and concessions facilitate the provision of support to the community.

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS: ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:**

**That Council:**

**1) In accordance with s.6.47 of the *Local Government Act 1995* waive the rates on the following properties in the 2024/25 financial year:**

- **Northampton Bowling Club – Lot 39 (255) Hampton Road Northampton;**
- **Northampton Golf Club – Portion of Reserve 23432 and Crown Grant in Trust Volume 1620 Folio 052;**
- **Northampton Community Centre – Portion of Reserve 23432;**
- **Kalbarri Camp and Community Hall – Kalbarri Town Lot 500 Reserve No 35559;**
- **Kalbarri Golf and Bowling Club – part of Reserve No 30953;**
- **Kalbarri Sport and Recreation Club – part of Reserve No 25447;**
- **Kalbarri Occasional Childcare Centre – Lot 233 and 232 Smith Street, Kalbarri;**
- **Northampton Child Care Centre (Edna Bandy Centre) – Reserve 2038, Stephen Street, Northampton;**
- **Old School Community Centre – Lot 475, Stephen Street Northampton;**
- **Binnu Tennis Club – Reserve 23699, Northwest Coastal Highway, Binnu;**
- **Doctors Surgery – 51 (Lot 10) Robinson Street, Northampton;**
- **Doctors Surgery – 24 (Lot 833) Hackney Street, Kalbarri;**
- **LIA Units 1 – 4 lot 83 (4) Kitson Circuit, Northampton;**
- **Kalbarri Town Talk - Lot 175 Kaiber Street, Kalbarri;**
- **Horrocks Community Centre - Lot 9503 North Court Horrocks;**
- **Pioneer Lodge Inc – Lot 7 Robinson Street & 52 Essex Street, Northampton; and**

- Department of Housing (Kalbarri Aged Care Units) - Lot 1001 Hackney Street, Kalbarri.
- Housing (Community Housing Ltd) Lot 921 (14) Gliddon Avenue, Kalbarri.
- Housing (Community Housing Ltd) Lot 929 (20) Crocos Circuit, Kalbarri.
- Housing (Community Housing Ltd) Lot 607 (9) Bateman Street, Northampton.

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION:**

**MOVED: Suckling, R      SECONDED: Hay, T**

**08/25-111**

**That Council:**

- 1) In accordance with s.6.47 of the *Local Government Act 1995* waive the rates on the following properties in the 2024/25 financial year:
  - Northampton Bowling Club – Lot 39 (255) Hampton Road Northampton;
  - Northampton Golf Club – Portion of Reserve 23432 and Crown Grant in Trust Volume 1620 Folio 052;
  - Northampton Community Centre – Portion of Reserve 23432;
  - Kalbarri Camp and Community Hall – Kalbarri Town Lot 500 Reserve No 35559;
  - Kalbarri Golf and Bowling Club – part of Reserve No 30953;
  - Kalbarri Sport and Recreation Club – part of Reserve No 25447;
  - Kalbarri Occasional Childcare Centre – Lot 233 and 232 Smith Street, Kalbarri;
  - Northampton Child Care Centre (Edna Bandy Centre) – Reserve 2038, Stephen Street, Northampton;
  - Old School Community Centre – Lot 475, Stephen Street Northampton;
  - Binu Tennis Club – Reserve 23699, Northwest Coastal Highway, Binu;



- Doctors Surgery – 51 (Lot 10) Robinson Street, Northampton;
- Doctors Surgery – 24 (Lot 833) Hackney Street, Kalbarri;
- LIA Units 1 – 4 lot 83 (4) Kitson Circuit, Northampton;
- Kalbarri Town Talk - Lot 175 Kaiber Street, Kalbarri;
- Horrocks Community Centre - Lot 9503 North Court Horrocks;
- Pioneer Lodge Inc – Lot 7 Robinson Street & 52 Essex Street, Northampton; and
- Department of Housing (Kalbarri Aged Care Units) - Lot 1001 Hackney Street, Kalbarri.
- Housing (Community Housing Ltd) Lot 921 (14) Gliddon Avenue, Kalbarri.
- Housing (Community Housing Ltd) Lot 929 (20) Crocos Circuit, Kalbarri.
- Housing (Community Housing Ltd) Lot 607 (9) Bateman Street, Northampton.

**MOTION CARRIED 5/0**

**FOR**

Cr L Sudlow  
Cr T Hay  
Cr R Burges  
Cr K Suckling  
Cr R Suckling

**AGAINST**

**9. LATE REPORTS:**

Nil.

**10. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS:**

10.1 Response to questions from members taken on notice: Nil.

11.2 Questions from members: Nil.

**11. MOTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE FOLLOWING MEETING**

Nil.

**12. NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF THE MEETING:**

Nil.

**13. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

**MOVED: Suckling, R      SECONDED: Suckling, K**

**08/25-112**

**That Council grant Cr Richard Burges an approved Leave of Absence for the Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2025.**

**MOTION CARRIED 5/0**

**FOR**

Cr L Sudlow  
Cr T Hay  
Cr R Burges  
Cr K Suckling  
Cr R Suckling

**AGAINST**

**14. CLOSURE:**

**There being no further business to discuss the Shire President thanked those in attendance and closed the meeting at 2.11pm.**

**SIGNED:**



**Cr Liz Sudlow  
Shire President**

**DATE: 21 August 2025**