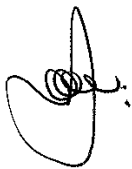


Notice of Meeting

Councillors: Please be advised that a Special Meeting of the

Kulin Shire Council

will be held on **Wednesday 6 August 2025 at 4:00pm**



Alan Leeson
Chief Executive Officer
1 August 2025



DISCLAIMER: The advice and information contained herein is given by and to the Council without liability or responsibility for its accuracy. Before placing any reliance on this advice or information, a written inquiry should be made to the Council giving entire reasons for seeking the advice or information and how it is proposed to be used. Please note this agenda contains recommendations, which have not yet been adopted by Council.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 1 DECLARATION OF OPENING**
- 2 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDING MEMBER**
- 3 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE**
- 4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**
 - 4.1 Declarations of Financial Interest
 - 4.2 Declarations of Proximity Interest
 - 4.3 Declarations of Impartiality Interest
 - 4.4 Declarations of Indirect Financial Interest
- 5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**
- 6 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**
- 7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**
- 8 PRESENTATIONS / DEPUTATIONS**
- 9 AGENDA BUSINESS - MATTERS REQUIRING DECISION**
 - 9.1 Adoption of 2025/26 Annual Budget
Attachment 1 – Shire of Kulin Annual Budget for the Year Ended 30 June 2026
- 10 COMPLIANCE**
- 11 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**
- 12 MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS WITHOUT NOTICE**
- 13 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF MEETING**
- 14 MEETING IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING

The President declares the meeting open at 4:00pm advising in accordance with *Regulation 12(3) of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, a Special Council Meeting was called to consider adopt the 2025/2026 Shire of Kulin Budget

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDING MEMBER

In accordance with *Section 5.23A of the Local Government Act 1995*, and *Part 2A of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, this Council meeting is being digitally recorded (audio). All recordings will be retained as part of the Shire of Kulin's records and will be made available to the public via Council's website, excluding recordings of matters that Council take Behind Closed Doors.

3 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE

G Robins	President
B Smoker	Deputy President
T Gangell	Councillor
J Noble	Councillor
C Mullan	Councillor
R Bowey	Councillor
B Miller	Councillor
M Lucchesi	Councillor
A Leeson	Chief Executive Officer
F Murphy	Executive Manager Financial Services
T Scadding	Executive Manager Community Services
C Lewis	Executive Manager Governance and Risk
J Hobson	Executive Manager Works
N Thompson	Manager Executive Support Services

APOLOGIES

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

- 4.1 Declarations of Financial Interest
- 4.2 Declarations of Proximity Interest
- 4.3 Declarations of Impartiality Interest
- 4.4 Declarations of Indirect Financial Interest

5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

6 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

N/A

7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

N/A

8 PRESENTATIONS / DEPUTATIONS

N/A

9 AGENDA BUSINESS - MATTERS REQUIRING DECISION

9.1 Adoption of 2025/26 Annual Budget

Responsible Officer:	Chief Executive Officer
File Reference:	12.04
Author:	CEO
Strategic Reference:	Strategic Pillar 1: Economy
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachment:	Attachment 1: Shire of Kulin Annual Budget for the Year Ended 30 June 2026

SUMMARY

To consider and adopt the Shire of Kulin Annual Budget for the 2025/26 financial year.

BACKGROUND

Section 6.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* requires that a local government must, not later than 31 August in each financial year, or such extended time as the Minister allows, prepare, and adopt, in the form and manner prescribed, a budget for its municipal fund for the financial year ending on the next following 30 June.

The 2025/26 budget has been compiled based on the principles contained in the Strategic Integrated Plan. Council considered the broader outline and inclusion of the 2025/26 Budget at the Council Forum on 23 July 2025. The 2025/26 budget has been prepared in accordance with the presentations made to councillors in the budget workshop.

The budget has been prepared to include information required by the *Local Government Act 1995*, *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* and Australian Accounting Standards.

Key features of the 2025/26 budget include:

- A surplus of \$2,148,056 is anticipated to be brought forward from 30 June 2025. This surplus is unaudited and may change. Any change will be addressed as part of a future budget review. The opening surplus includes \$1,623,907 being a 50% advance payment of 2025/26 Financial Assistance Grants, received on 24 June 2025.
- A 3.75% increase in rates revenue. UV Valuations increased by 20.38% and therefore the UV rate in the dollar has decreased from \$0.00576 to \$0.00497. There was no GRV Valuation completed therefore the rate in the dollar has increased from \$0.11159 to \$0.11564.
- Overall employee numbers are expected to be similar level with 2024/25. A 3.5% increase to the base pay rates has been applied, along with increases to allowances in line with Council policies adopted in May 2025 or by reference to current allowance rates in the Local Government Industry Award.
- User fees and charges are consistent with those adopted by Council in May 2025.
- Elected member remuneration has increased by 3.75% and is within SAT parameters.
- A capital works program of \$9.5m for investment in infrastructure, land and buildings, plant and equipment and furniture and equipment are planned. Expenditure on road and footpath infrastructure is the major component of capital works program (\$5.1m), along with the construction of new housing totalling \$2.4m.
- Loan borrowings of \$1.4m to fund the housing construction is proposed. This project will also use \$850k of reserve funds.
- Capital grant funding of \$4.3m will contribute to road construction program. The major sources of this funding are:

Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network	\$2,525,710
Regional Road Group	\$605,334
Roads to Recovery	\$960,142

- A new reserve for tourism and visitor services is included.

- A closing surplus of \$20,052.

The 2025/26 budget continues to deliver on other strategies adopted by the Council and maintains a high level of service across all programs while ensuring an increased focus on roads and associated infrastructure as well as on renewing all assets at sustainable levels.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Section 6.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* requires that not later than 31 August in each financial year, or such extended time as the Minister allows, each local government is to prepare and adopt (absolute majority required), in the form and manner prescribed, a budget for its Municipal Fund for the financial year ending on the next 30 June.

Division 5 and 6 of part 6 of the *Local Government Act 1995* refer to the setting of budgets and the raising of rates and charges. The *Local Government Act (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* details the form and content of the budget. The 2025/26 budget as presented is considered to meet statutory requirements.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Specific financial implications are as outlined in the body of this report and as itemised in the 2025/26 budget attached for adoption.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no known policy implications arising from this report.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:

Other than calling for community budget submissions in May 2025, no other specific consultation has occurred on the 2025/26 budget. Community consultation and engagement has previously occurred during development of the Strategic Integrated Plan earlier this year. Extensive internal consultation has occurred with Managers from each business unit and through the budget workshop with Councillors.

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council adopt the 2025/26 Budget in accordance with the following items:

1. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 6.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and Part 3 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, Council adopt the Budget as contained in Attachment 1 of this agenda, for the Shire of Kulin for the 2025/26 financial year which includes the following:
 - Statement of Comprehensive Income
 - Statement of Cash Flows
 - Statement of Financial Activity
 - Notes to and Forming Part of the Budget
2. For the purpose of yielding the deficiency disclosed by the Municipal Fund Budget provided in the Statement of Financial Activity, Council pursuant to sections 6.32, 6.33, 6.34 and 6.35 of the *Local Government Act 1995* impose the following general rates and minimum payments on Gross Rental and Unimproved Values:

Valuation	Rate (cents per dollar)	Minimum Rate
Residential Zoning – GRV	11.564	\$ 561.05
Industrial Zoning – GRV	11.564	\$ 561.05
Commercial Zoning – GRV	11.564	\$ 561.05
Rural Zoning – UV	0.497	\$ 561.05
Mining Zoning – UV	0.497	\$ 561.05
Rural Zoning - GRV	11.564	\$ 561.05

3. Pursuant to section 6.45 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 64(2) of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, council nominates the following due dates for the payment in full by instalments:
 - Option 1 (Full payment)
Full amount of rates and charges including arrears, to be paid on or before 26 September 2025 or 35 days after the date of service appearing on the rate notice whichever is later.
 - Option 2 (Two instalments)

AGENDA OF SHIRE OF KULIN SPECIAL MEETING TO BE HELD 6 AUGUST 2025

- First instalment to be made on or before 26 September 2025 or 35 days after the date of service appearing on the rate notice whichever is later and including all arrears and half the current rates and service charges; and
 - Second instalment not due before 30 January 2026
 - Option 3 (Four instalments)
 - First instalment to be made on or before 26 September 2025 or 35 days after the date of service appearing on the rate notice whichever is later and including all arrears and a quarter of the current rates and service charges
 - Second instalment not due before 28 November 2025
 - Third instalment not due before 30 January 2026
 - Fourth instalment not due before 1 April 2025
4. Pursuant to Section 6.46 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, Council offers a discount of 5.0% (on the rates portion only) to ratepayers who have paid their rates in full, including arrears, waste & service charges, on or before 26 September 2025 or 35 days after the date of service appearing on the rate notice, whichever is later.
5. Pursuant to Section 6.45 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 67 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, Council adopts an instalment administration charge where the owner has elected to pay rates (and service charges) through an instalment option of \$7 for each instalment after the initial instalment is paid.
6. Pursuant to Section 6.45 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 68 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, Council adopts an interest rate of 5.5% where the owner has elected to pay rates and service charges through an instalment option.
7. Pursuant to Section 6.51(1) and subject to Section 6.51(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 70 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, Council adopts an interest rate of 11% for rates (and service charges) and costs of proceedings to recover such charges that remains unpaid after becoming due and payable (excluding Deferred Pensioners' Rates).

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Absolute majority required.

10 COMPLIANCE

N/A

11 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

N/A

12 MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS WITHOUT NOTICE

N/A

13 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF MEETING

N/A

14 MEETING IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

N/A

15 CLOSURE / DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

There being no further business the President declared the meeting closed.

Ordinary Meeting 20th August 2025 at 4:00pm