



Councillor Briefing Notes

Tuesday 8 September 2026 at 9.30 am

273 Main Street, Bairnsdale 3875

Attendance

Mayor

Cr Jodie Ashworth

Deputy Mayor

Cr Tom Crook

Councillors

Cr Sonia Buckley (Online)

Cr Barry Davis

Cr Bernie Farquhar

Cr Ian Trevaskis

Cr John White

Council Officers

Fiona Weigall

Stuart McConnell

Sarah Johnston

Chris Stephenson

Wayne Richards

Chief Executive Officer

General Manager Assets and Environment

General Manager Business Excellence

General Manager Projects and Planning

Executive Manager Place and Community

Recognition of Traditional Custodians

We would like to acknowledge the First Nation people from the land on which we are gathered and pay our respects to Elders both past and present.

Apologies

Cr Arthur Allen

Cr Joanne Eastman

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil

Councillor Briefing Session

External Presentation

1.1 CONFIDENTIAL Chief Executive Officer Employment Matters

Confidentially Notice

The information for this item is confidential under section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* because it relates to: (f) Personal Information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.

Pursuant to section 66(5)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, if released, the information discussed or considered in relation to this item would unreasonably disclose personal information about the Chief Executive Officer, including performance expectations and employment-related matters.

Officer Briefings and Workshops

2.1 Councillor Strategic Priorities Discussion: Shaping Councillor Priorities for 2027/28

Attendance

Fiona Weigall Chief Executive Officer entered the Council Chamber at 11.10 am.

Cr Buckley (online) dropped out due to technical issues at 11.34 am.

Councillors participated in a strategic discussion to help shape priorities for 2027/28 and the remainder of the current Council term. Discussion focused on desired outcomes, current priorities and opportunities to strengthen Council's strategic focus. Councillor feedback will inform future planning and help guide the development of organisational priorities and work programs.

2.2 Review of the Local Law

Attendance

Cr Buckley rejoined the meeting (online) at 12.41 pm.

Councillors received an overview of the Local Law Review project. The review will consider how the Local Law can be modernised and simplified, focus regulation on matters of greatest community impact and reduce unnecessary permit requirements. Discussion included matters such as housing and camping, livestock movements, noxious weeds and enforcement priorities.

2.3 Rating Model 2027/28 Discussion

Councillors discussed the scope of future work relating to Council's Rating Model for 2027/28. Discussion considered matters that may be explored as part of future reviews and strategic planning processes.

2.4 Capital Works and Major Projects - Year in Review

Councillors received an overview of the Capital Works Program for the year ending 30 June 2026, including completed projects, works in design or delivery and projects carried forward.

2.5 Overview of Financial Results 2025/26 and Preparation of Certification of Statements

Councillors received an overview of Council's Financial Results for 2025/26 and the preparation of Certification of Statements. Discussion focused on Council's financial performance, key budget variances, cash position, asset management and long term asset renewal requirements.

Reports to Future Council Meeting

3.1 S6 Instrument of Delegation - Council to Members of Staff

Councillors were briefed on the draft report, S6 Instrument of Delegation - Council to Members of Staff. Councillors noted the draft Council report, which will be submitted to the **17 September 2026** Council Meeting for consideration.

Meeting Close

Meeting closed at: 3.27 pm

Approved by: Fiona Weigall Chief Executive Officer