



# Councillor Briefing Notes

Tuesday 27 October 2026 at 9:30 am

273 Main Street, Bairnsdale 3875

## Attendance

### Mayor

Cr Jodie Ashworth

### Deputy Mayor

Cr Tom Crook

### Councillors

Cr Sonia Buckley

Cr Joanne Eastman

Cr Ian Trevaskis

Cr John White

### Council Officers

Fiona Weigall

Stuart McConnell

Sarah Johnston

Kellinde Chester

Prue McTaggart

Chief Executive Officer

General Manager Assets and Environment

General Manager Business Excellence

Acting 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 Barry Davis and Cr Bernie Farquhar.

## Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil

## Councillor Briefing Session

### Officer Briefings and Workshops

#### 1.1 Differential Rates Report

Councillors received a further briefing on Council's differential rating arrangements, including consideration of other mechanisms that may be more appropriate for addressing the broader impacts associated with particular land uses and industries, with a focus on achieving the best overall outcomes for the community.

#### 1.2 DRAFT Stormwater Management Plan

Councillors received a briefing on the Draft Stormwater Management Plan and discussed how Council can better plan for and prioritise future drainage needs across the Shire. Discussion focused on supporting safer and more resilient communities, incorporating local knowledge, planning for future growth and considering environmental outcomes.

Councillors supported the Draft Plan being released for community feedback, providing the community with an opportunity to help inform the final Plan.

#### 1.3 2025/26 Fire Prevention Slashing Program

Councillors received an update on the 2025/26 Fire Prevention Slashing Program and discussed opportunities to continue improving the planning and delivery of roadside fire-prevention works across the Shire. Discussion focused on ensuring works respond to local needs, appropriately prioritise higher-risk areas and balance fire prevention, road safety and environmental considerations.

Councillors also discussed the importance of local knowledge, community communication and working with the other agencies to support effective planning and delivery of future programs.

#### 1.4 Capital Works and Major Projects Status - 1 July 2026 - 30 September 2026

Councillors received an update on Council's Capital Works and Major Projects program for the first quarter of 2026-27. Discussion focused on effective delivery of community projects, how projects are prioritised, improving the visibility of project progress and ensuring Council continues to strengthen how projects are planned, managed and delivered.

### Reports to Future Council Meeting

#### 2.1 Sale of Council Owned Land

Councillors were briefed on the draft report, Sale of Council Owned Land. Councillors noted the draft Council report, which will be submitted to the **17 November 2026** Council Meeting for consideration.

## 2.2 CON2027 1768 Bairnsdale Landfill Fire Protection System

### Confidentiality Notice

The information contained in **Confidential Attachments 1 and 2** are confidential under section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* because it relates to: (g) Private Commercial Information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that—(ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

Pursuant to section 66(5)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, if released, the information discussed or considered in relation to this agenda item would unreasonably expose tenderers to disadvantage by disclosing commercially sensitive information.

Councillors were briefed on the draft report, CON2027 1768 Bairnsdale Landfill Fire Protection System. Councillors noted the draft Council report, which will be submitted to the **17 November 2026** Council Meeting for consideration.

## 2.3 CON2019 1332 Provision of Pound and Shelter Services - Request for variation

### Confidentiality Notice

The information contained in **Confidential Attachment 1** to this report is confidential under section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* because it relates to: (a) Council Business Information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations, if prematurely released.

Pursuant to section 66(5)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, if released, the information discussed or considered in relation to this agenda item would prejudice Council's position in commercial negotiations by disclosing commercially sensitive information.

Councillors were briefed on the draft report, CON2019 1332 Provision of Pound and Shelter Services - Request for variation. Councillors noted the draft Council report, which will be submitted to the **17 November 2026** Council Meeting for consideration.

## 3 Meeting Close

**Meeting closed at:** 2.36 pm

**Approved by:** Fiona Weigall Chief Executive Officer