



**LATE AGENDA**

**Council Meeting**

**Tuesday 17 February 2026**

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Dwight Graham  
**ACTING GENERAL MANAGER**

**MM1/26. Mayoral Minute - Road Maintenance Contributions –  
Heavy Haulage**  
**Author:** Governance Lead

**FILE:** 26/00006

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At the Council Meeting on 17 June 2025, Council resolved to adopt the Singleton Local Infrastructure Contributions Plan (SLIC Plan).

The adopted SLIC Plan provides for the collection of funds for the purpose of *road works* as well as the collection of Haulage Maintenance Contributions for Extractive Industry.

Funds collected for the purposes of road works must be expended in accordance with the adopted SLIC Plan and the corresponding Works Schedule.

The collection of funds under the SLIC Plan requires Policy direction by Council to ensure these funds are used in the location(s) where the approved development impacts the local road network.

In addition to local developments for which the SLIC Plan would apply, where Council is not the consent authority (for example, State significant developments), there is a risk that the consent authority, being either the Minister for Planning or the Independent Planning Commission, may not impose conditions requiring the imposition of contributions.

To ensure there is clarity on allocation of funds and reduce the risk of conditions not being imposed by the State, my Mayoral Minute has been drafted to address a gap in current Council Policy.

**RECOMMENDED** that:

1. Council staff develop a draft Haulage Maintenance Contributions Policy that directs the allocation of Haulage Maintenance Contributions collected under the adopted SLIC Plan to roads directly affected by the approved development; and
2. Council staff to write to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure when a State Significant Development Project for which the Haulage Maintenance Contributions under adopted SLIC Plan applies, to ensure such a condition is imposed; and
3. Ensure any Planning Agreement for a State Significant Development does not preclude the application of Haulage Maintenance Contributions under the SLIC Plan; and
4. Staff to review and propose amendments, if required, to the Planning Agreements Policy to align the Haulage Maintenance Contributions from the SLIC Plan to the Planning Agreements Policy; and
5. Staff report back to the earliest possible Council Meeting with a draft Haulage Maintenance Contributions Policy and, if required, Planning Agreements Policy amendments.

**Attachments**

There are no attachments for this report.

**ED10/26. Responses to Questions on the Business Paper - 17  
February 2026 Council Meeting**  
**Author:** Governance Lead

**FILE:** 26/00126

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## Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide responses to questions submitted by Councillors in relation to items contained within the Business Paper for the 17 February 2026 Council Meeting.

**RECOMMENDED** that Council note the responses to questions as contained in Attachment 1.

## Report

Under the provisions of the POL/1014 - Code of Meeting Practice, Councillors are entitled to submit questions regarding agenda items prior to a Council meeting. This process ensures that Councillors have the necessary information to make informed decisions during the meeting.

In line with the principles of transparency and accountability, responses to these questions must also be made available to the general public. Providing this information supports the integrity of the decision-making process and allows members of the community to access the same information as Councillors in advance of the meeting.

The questions received from Councillors relate to specific items in the Business Paper, and the responses have been prepared by relevant staff to provide clear and accurate information. The information contained in this report and its attachment does not alter the original recommendations or outcomes of the Business Paper.

## Community Strategic Plan

Action:           5    Our Leadership  
                      5.2   Our Council is trusted, responsible and transparent

## Council Policy/Legislation

- *Local Government Act, 1993*
- *Local Government (General) Regulation, 2021*
- POL/1014 - Code of Meeting Practice
- POL/1021 – Recordkeeping and Information Access for Councillors

## Financial Implications

Nil.

## Consultation

The responses to Councillor questions have been prepared in consultation with relevant staff and reviewed by the Executive Leadership Team.

## Sustainability

Nil.

## Risk Implications

Risk	Risk Ranking	Proposed Treatments	Proposed Risk Ranking	Within Existing Resources?
Non-compliance with Code of Meeting Practice or legislation.	Medium	Follow procedures in the Code and Local Government Act.	Low	Yes
Perception of debate or decision-making occurring outside of meeting.	Low	Adopt the recommendation	Low	Eg. Yes

## Options

The following options are available to Council:

- Note the responses to questions as contained in Attachment 1.
- Request for additional information and / or deferred and updated report.

Option one is recommended.

## Conclusions

This report provides responses to questions submitted by Councillors in relation to items on the Business Paper for the 17 February 2026 Council Meeting. The responses are provided in the interests of transparency, accountability, and to ensure that both Councillors and members of the public have access to the same information prior to consideration of the relevant agenda items.

The preferred option is for Council to note the information as contained in the attached responses. This approach ensures compliance with POL1014 - Code of Meeting Practice, maintains procedural transparency, and does not alter the recommendations contained within the Business Paper.

## Attachments

**AT-1** [↓](#) Business Paper Questions - Council Meeting - 17 February 2026

RESPONSES TO COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS  
REGARDING BUSINESS PAPER 17 FEBRUARY 2026



Councillor	Report Ref	Question/s raised	Response/s provided
Cr Sue George	Quarterly Budget Review Pg 204 – Income and Expenditure	Can I confirm that it is a typo showing the roads depreciation as \$5,857m not \$5.857m	The Roads depreciation impact is 5.857M
Cr Sue George	Quarterly Budget Review Pg 204 – Income and Expenditure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The asset revaluation on roads was conducted by a different provider this year, were the assumptions and methodologies the same as in the past?</li> </ul> Had any desk top audits been done between revaluations that would have indicated such a massive increase?	<p>Each year the asset classes that are not subject to a comprehensive revaluation by an external party are indexed using Construction indices provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, these indices do not include a factor for the condition of the assets, which is a consideration of the comprehensive revaluation of the asset.</p> <p>The assumptions and methodologies provided by our external provider are subject to an internal review and challenged if Council consider that they are not within fulfilling the requirements of the Local Government Accounting Code and the Australian Accounting standards.</p> <p>They are also subject to a review by our External Auditors to ensure compliance.</p>
Cr Sue George	Quarterly Budget Review Pg 204 – Income and Expenditure	What impact will this revaluation have on the Asset Management Plans for Roads and Road infrastructure?	Several components of the AMP for Roads Infrastructure would have to be updated, including financial and valuation forecasts, which could change renewal funding ratios, forecast costs for the LTFP and the renewal project forecasts.
Cr Sue George	Quarterly Budget Review Pg 204 – Income and Expenditure	Can we expect similar increases in other asset classes as they are revalued?	<p>It is possible in cases where the asset classes are not fulfilling their useful lives due to the impacts of weather conditions experienced over the previous 5 years.</p> <p>Revaluation of the Recreation and Facilities assets is currently underway, which at this point does not incorporate a significant change to assessment methodology.</p>
Cr Sue George	Quarterly Budget Review Pg 204 – Income and Expenditure	What are the implications for the Long Term Financial Plan?	With the annual indexation there is a gradual increase in the depreciation charge and this is reflected in the Long Term Financial plan. However, where an asset class has experienced a

			significant deterioration in its condition this will see a spike in the depreciation charge in the year following the revaluation. The spike resulting from the roads revaluation will flow through to following years in the LTFP.
Cr Sue George	Quarterly Budget Review Deferred Projects	By deferring these projects what implication will this have on Capital works programs in the coming years. Increasingly Council fails to meet the Capital Works Targets, and these projects are then added to the next year's budget increasing the pressure and leading to incomplete work.	Council is undertaking an internal review of the level of capital projects that it is able to deliver within the financial year.  This will provide a risk based priority for the capital work program and allow for a higher rate of completion of the projects.
Cr Sue George	Quarterly Budget Review Page 205 - Waste Services	What impact will the deferral of the western cell construction have on the operation of the Waste Management Facility?	The deferral of the western cell construction project to the 2026/2027 financial year will not impact the operation of the Waste Management Facility as there is sufficient available landfill spaced to cover this extended period.  This deferral of the western cell construction project is for timing reasons, to occur after the more urgent construction of the new leachate pond. This deferral will ensure that there are no impacts to site operations during these large projects as well as ensuring both projects are able to be managed within current staffing resources.
Cr Sue George	Quarterly Budget Review Financial Improvement plan	What specifics are included in the Financial Improvement Plan that will materially impact the bottom line this financial year?	Constant monitoring of expenditure to provide improvements through the quarterly budget review process.  Exploring all opportunities to maximise our own source income.  Sourcing operational grant funding that support existing programs rather than additional programs.
Cr Sue George	Quarterly Budget Review		The decrease is due to an amount of \$71,000 being

	<p><b>Page 222 - Developer Contributions</b></p>	<p>Why is there a decrease of \$4.452 in the General Fund?</p> <p>Have we had no Developer contributions in the last 6 months?</p>	<p>expended during the first 6 months of the year.</p> <p>During the first 6 months of the year there were \$657,000 collected in Section 7.11 (Developer contributions).</p>
<p><b>Cr Sue George</b></p>	<p><b>Quarterly Budget Review General Comment</b></p>	<p>The format of the Financials, in blue, is very difficult to read. It is at times confusing and unclear.</p>	<p>Unfortunately, Council has no control over the colours used in this template these have been issued by the Office of Local Government and they have mandated the use of the provided templates.</p> <p>Council is unable to alter to background colours in this template.</p> <p>This feedback will be provided to the Office of Local Government financial reporting unit.</p> <p>.....</p>