

# MINUTES

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## SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

**Tuesday 7 October 2025**  
**6:00 pm**

**City Hall**  
**57 Little Malop Street, Geelong 3220**

**LIVE STREAMED ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE:**

[www.geelongaustralia.com.au/meetings](http://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/meetings)

**COUNCIL:**

Cr S Kontelj (Kardinia Ward) - Mayor  
Cr R Nelson (Barrabool Hills Ward) - Deputy Mayor  
Cr E Sinclair (Charlemont Ward)  
Cr M Cadwell (Cheetham Ward)  
Cr E Wilkinson (Connewarre Ward)  
Cr A Aitken (Corio Ward)  
Cr A Katos (Deakin Ward)  
Cr E Kontelj (Hamlyn Heights Ward)  
Cr T Sullivan (Leopold Ward)  
Cr R Story (Murradoc Ward)  
Cr C Burson (You Yangs Ward)

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**Present:** Cr S Kontelj  
Cr A Aitken  
Cr E Wilkinson  
Cr E Sinclair  
Cr A Katos  
Cr E Kontelj  
Cr M Cadwell (Virtual)  
Cr R Story  
Cr C Burson

**Also Present:** A Wastie (Chief Executive Officer), T Edwards (Executive Director, Corporate Services), T Bradley (Executive Director, Placemaking), J Stirton (Executive Director, City Infrastructure), A Basford (Executive Director City Life), A Martin (Chief Governance and Risk Officer) E Ryan (Senior Governance Advisor – Council Business) D Pangrazio (Governance Advisor – Council Business).

**LOA:** Cr R Nelson

**Apologies:** Cr T Sullivan

**Opening:** The Mayor declared the meeting open at 6.07pm.

## **1. PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

### **1.1. Acknowledgement of Country**

Council acknowledges the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the Land, Waterways and Skies. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are part of our Greater Geelong community today.

### **1.2. Apologies**

Cr R Nelson (Leave of Absence)

Cr T Sullivan

### **1.3. Leaves of Absence**

NIL

### **1.4. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest**

NIL

### **1.6. Confirmation of Minutes**

#### **RESOLUTION - Item 1.6.1**

**Cr R Story moved, Cr A Katos seconded -**

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23 September 2025 be confirmed.

**Carried**

## 2. REPORTS

### 2.1. Preparation of the 2024-25 Annual Report - Draft Financial Statements and Draft Performance Statement

**Source:** Corporate Services  
**Executive Director:** Troy Edwards

#### Purpose

1. To obtain in principle approval of the annual financial statements (**Attachment 1**) and the performance statement (**Attachment 2**) for the financial year ending 30 June 2025.

#### Background

2. Council is required by the Local Government Act to:
3. Prepare an annual report each financial year that contains a report on operations, audited financial statements, audited performance statement, and copies of the auditor's report on the statements.
4. Pass a resolution giving in principle approval to the annual financial statements and performance statement and submit these to the Victorian Auditor-General's Office as soon as possible after the end of financial year for reporting on the audit.
5. Authorise two Councillors to certify the statements in their final form after any changes recommended or agreed to by audit have been made.

#### Key Matters

6. The annual financial statements and performance statement have been prepared by appropriate Council officers and reviewed by the Chief Financial Officer.
7. The annual financial statements and performance statement were reviewed by the Audit and Risk Committee on 2 October 2025 and recommends that Council 'approve in principle' these statements subject to the completion of all audit procedures.
8. The statements are audited by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office.
9. The annual financial statements and performance statement are to be certified by the Chief Executive Officer, the Principal Accounting Officer and two Councillors authorised by Council (refer Section 99(3) of the Act).
10. The Audit & Risk Committee would like to acknowledge the work done by the Chief Financial Officer and Coordinator Financial Reporting and other Officers involved in the completion of the Financial Report and Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2025.

**RESOLUTION - Item 2.1**

**Cr A Katos moved, Cr C Burson seconded -**

**That Council:**

- 1. In accordance with section 99(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 approves in principle the Annual Financial Statements (Attachment 1) and Performance Statement (Attachment 2) (the Statements) for the year ended 30 June 2025.**
- 2. Pursuant to section 99(3) of the Local Government Act 2020 authorises the Mayor Cr Kontelj and Cr Katos, and the Chief Executive Officer to certify the Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2025.**

**Carried**

***Financial Sustainability***

11. The attached annual financial statements outline Council's financial sustainability performance for the year ending 30 June 2025.

***Community Engagement***

12. The 2024-25 audited annual financial statements and the performance statement will be available to the public as part of the published 2024-25 Annual Report, available on the Geelong Australia website [www.geelongaustralia.com.au](http://www.geelongaustralia.com.au).
13. The prescribed indicators and measures of service performance outcome, financial performance and sustainable capacity will be available on the State Government 'Know Your Council' website.

***Social Equity and Sustainability***

14. There are no social equity or sustainability implications associated with this report.

***Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications***

15. The contents of this report have been prepared in accordance with section 98 and 99 of the Act and as prescribed by the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 (the Regulations) and in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.

***Alignment to Community Plan and Vision***

16. This report aligns with the Council Plan 2025-29 strategic priority:  
Governance and Integrity
17. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, "Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future" community aspiration:  
A prosperous economy that supports jobs and education opportunities.

***Conflict of Interest***

18. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

***Risk Assessment***

19. The 2024-25 annual financial statements and performance statement are subject to sign off by the Auditor-General.
20. The Audit and Risk Committee will be presented with a signed copy of the Annual Report, including the audited statements.

***Environmental Sustainability***

21. There are no environmental sustainability implications associated with this report.

## Attachments

1. Annual Financial Report for the Year Ended 30 June 2025 [2.1.1 - 64 pages]
2. Performance Statement 2024-25 [2.1.2 - 20 pages]

### 3. CLOSE OF MEETING

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 6.14pm on Tuesday 7 October 2025.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Cr Stretch Kontelj (Mayor)**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_