AGENDA

Mid Month Meeting of Council

To be held at the

Civic Centre

511 Burwood Highway

Wantirna South

On

Monday 14 September 2026 at 7:00 PM

This meeting will be conducted as a hybrid meeting

Order of Business

Bruce Dobson

Chief Executive Officer

1 Apologies And Requests For Leaves Of Absence

2 Declarations Of Conflict Of Interest

3 Confirmation Of Minutes

Confirmation of Minutes of Mid Month Meeting of Council on Monday 10 August 2026.

4 Officer Reports

4.1 2025-26 Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement

Final Report Destination: Mid Month
Paper Type: For Decision
Author: Coordinator Finance Operations, James Morris
Executive: Chief Financial Officer, Navec Lorkin

SUMMARY
The 2025-26 Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement are presented for consideration and adoption in principle. These statements were reviewed by Council's Audit and Risk Committee at its meeting on Thursday 27 August 2026 and the Committee has recommended in principle approval by Council.

RECOMMENDATION
That Council resolve to:
1. Receive and note the draft 2025-26 Annual Financial Statements (Attachment 1) and Performance Statement (Attachment 2) for the year ending 30 June 2026.
2. Approve in principle the 2025-26 Annual Financial Statements (Attachment 1) and Performance Statement (Attachment 2) for the year ending 30 June 2026 being provided to the Auditor-General for audit sign off;
3. Authorise the Chief Financial Officer to make changes to the Financial Statements as determined by the Auditor-General; and that the Audit and Risk Committee members be consulted prior to making any material amendments to these Statements as determined by the Victorian Auditor-General's office; and that any material amendments be communicated to Council as soon as possible.
4. Nominate and authorise Councillor .... and Councillor .... to certify (on behalf of Council) the 2025-26 Annual Financial Statements and the 2025-26 Performance Statement, in their final form.

1. DISCUSSION
RSM Australia (agents of the Victorian Auditor-General's Office) has undertaken the external audit of the 2025-26 Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement.

The Annual Financial Statements, consisting of Financial Statements and Notes (Attachment 1), have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* (the Regulations).

The Audit and Risk Committee at its meeting of 27 August 2026, having reviewed the Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement, recommended that Council adopt the 2025-26 Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement on an in-principle basis.

In accordance with section 99 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, and sections 13 and 15 of the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*, the completed Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement are to be certified by the Principal Accounting Officer (Chief Financial Officer), Chief Executive Officer and two councillors (on behalf of Council) having regard to the recommendations, if any, from the Victorian Auditor-General.

Annual Financial Statements
The draft Financial Statements indicate the financial performance for the year and the financial position of Council as at 30 June 2026. On 27 August 2026, the Audit and Risk Committee recommended that Council approve in principle the Financial Statements, and accordingly in principle approval is now being sought from Council.

Comprehensive Income Statement
The reported actual operating result for 2025-26 is a surplus of $30.738 million, which compares favourably to a budgeted surplus of $29.154 million. There are both timing and permanent variances contributing to this $1.584 million improvement against budget, including:

- Operating grants totalling $0.449 million and capital grants totalling $0.366 million have been received but treated as unearned income at year-end as they have yet to be expended (down from $0.788 million and $4.251 million respectively last year).
- Grants received from the Victorian Grants Commission were $3.286 million greater than budget due to the timing of payments; 50% of the 2025-26 funding was received during the 2026 financial year, while 80% of the 2026-27 General Purpose Grant was brought forward and paid prior to 30 June 2026.
- Unbudgeted monetary contributions totalling $4.733 million were received relating to a property transaction including a social housing contribution.
- Non-monetary contributions, being assets handed over to Council from developers, were $6.736 million greater than budget.
- Budgeted land and building sales of $10.025 million are now primarily expected to be received during the 2026-27 financial year.
- Depreciation was $8.290 million greater than budget due to the impact of *AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement* which contributed to an increase of $252.994 million in the value of Council assets as at 30 June 2025, after the adoption of the budget for the 2025-26 financial year.

Council's Comprehensive Income Statement shows a net asset revaluation increment of $91.612 million. Formal full valuations were held for Land (a decrease in value of $36.401 million), Buildings (an increase in value of $46.304 million), Bridges (a decrease in value of $2.215 million), and Drainage (an increase in value of $85.431 million).

Balance Sheet
The Balance Sheet reflects a satisfactory position with a Working Capital ratio (liquidity) of 1.67:1 or 167% (2024-25 1.51:1 or 151%).

Total cash holdings (cash on hand and term deposits) were $59.491 million at balance date (2024-25 $56.823 million), while interest-bearing liabilities were $80.242 million at balance date (2024-25 $83.805 million).

Total trade and other receivables were $26.324 million (2024-25 $24.292 million). Rates debtors increased to $21.535 million in 2025-26 from $19.848 million in 2024-25.

Performance Statement
The Performance Statement includes the indicators, measures and results for the prescribed indicators of sustainable capacity, service performance and financial performance. To provide context to the results, the Statement must also contain a description of the municipal district including its size, location and population.

The Performance Statement reports results of indicators established by the Victoria Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF). The Performance Statement provides four years of comparatives (2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26) to provide trend data.

On 27 August 2026, the Audit and Risk Committee recommended that Council approve in principle the 2025-26 Annual Performance Statement.

2. ENGAGEMENT
This report does not require community consultation. The 2025-26 Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement will be publicly available as part of the 2025-26 Annual Report.

3. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS
This report does not have any social implications for discussion.

4. CLIMATE CHANGE CONSIDERATIONS
Implementation of the recommendation is considered to have no direct implications or has no direct impacts upon Council's Net Zero 2030 target, the Community Net Zero 2040, exposure to climate risks or climate change adaptation.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS
This report does not have any environmental or amenity issues for discussion.

6. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
The 2025-26 Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement report on Council's financial and non-financial performance for the financial year.

7. RISKS
This report does not have any risks for discussion.

8. COUNCIL AND HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN 2025-2029
Leading, listening and governing responsibly
Strategy 4.1 - Council demonstrates its accountability through transparent and responsible decision-making and working together productively.
Strategy 4.5 - Council is financially sustainable through long-term strategic, financial and asset planning, and the responsible prioritisation, allocation and use of resources.

9. CONFLICT OF INTEREST
The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

10. STATEMENT OF COMPATIBILITY

There are no legislative obligations under the Human Rights Charter, Child Safe Standards or the Gender Equity Act that are incompatible with the recommendation in this report.

11. CONFIDENTIALITY

There is no content in this report that meets the definition of confidential information from the Local Government Act 2020.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - Financial Accounts 2025-26 [**4.1.1** - 68 pages]
2. Attachment 2 - Performance Statement 2025-26 [**4.1.2** - 22 pages]

KNOX CITY COUNCIL
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

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Knox City Council
Certification of the Financial Statements

Statement by Principal Accounting Officer
In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* , the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* , the Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

Navec Lorkin FCPA
Principal Accounting Officer
14 September 2026
Wantirna South

Statement by Councillors and Chief Executive Officer
In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial transactions of Knox City Council for the year ended 30 June 2026 and the financial position of the Council as at that date.

As at the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render any particulars in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the Council and by the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* to certify the financial statements in their final form.

Cr
14 September 2026
Wantirna South

Cr
14 September 2026
Wantirna South

Bruce Dobson
Chief Executive Officer
14 September 2026
Wantirna South

Knox City Council
VAGO Report

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Knox City Council
VAGO Report

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Knox City Council
Comprehensive Income Statement
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	Note	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Income/revenue			
Rates and charges	3.1	155,084	151,015
Statutory fees and fines	3.2	5,026	4,796
User fees	3.3	15,034	13,587
Grants - operating	3.4	22,357	27,325
Grants - capital	3.4	10,598	7,040
Contributions - monetary	3.5	9,195	6,600
Contributions - non-monetary	3.5	8,736	1,899
Share of net profits of associates and joint ventures	6.2	92	239
Other income	3.7	4,868	4,560
Total income/revenue		**230,990**	**217,061**
Expenses			
Employee costs	4.1	(76,397)	(80,664)
Materials and services	4.2	(75,358)	(76,414)
Depreciation	4.3	(33,619)	(25,659)
Amortisation - intangible assets		(915)	(878)
Depreciation - right-of-use assets	4.4	(1,104)	(1,205)
Allowance for impairment losses	4.5	(591)	(508)
Borrowing costs		(3,567)	(3,767)
Finance costs - leases		(332)	(288)
Contributions and donations	4.6	(6,218)	(5,973)
Net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	3.6	(1,241)	(8,820)
Other expenses	4.7	(910)	(646)
Total expenses		**(200,252)**	**(204,822)**
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		**30,738**	**12,239**
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods			
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)	9.1	91,612	252,994
Total other comprehensive income		**91,612**	**252,994**
Total comprehensive result		**122,350**	**265,233**

The above Comprehensive Income Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Knox City Council
Balance Sheet
As at 30 June 2026

	Note	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1	54,491	54,323
Other financial assets	5.1	5,000	2,500
Trade and other receivables	5.1	26,324	24,292
Inventories		23	12
Prepayments	5.2	1,888	1,167
Non-current assets classified as held for sale		1,440	582
Contract assets	5.1	1,427	1,090
Total current assets		**90,593**	**83,966**
Non-current assets			
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.1	2,677,633	2,567,045
Right-of-use assets	5.8	6,488	5,305
Intangible assets	5.2	1,381	1,879
Investment in Your Library Limited	6.2	3,078	2,986
Total non-current assets		**2,688,580**	**2,577,215**
Total assets		**2,779,173**	**2,661,181**
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	5.3	21,027	19,874
Trust funds and deposits	5.3	3,797	2,949
Contract and other liabilities	5.3	815	5,039
Provisions	5.5	17,581	17,336
Interest-bearing liabilities	5.4	10,325	9,445
Lease liabilities	5.8	810	799
Total current liabilities		**54,355**	**55,442**
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions	5.5	2,830	2,962
Interest-bearing liabilities	5.4	69,917	74,360
Lease liabilities	5.8	5,944	4,640
Total non-current liabilities		**78,691**	**81,962**
Total liabilities		**133,046**	**137,404**
Net assets		**2,646,127**	**2,523,777**
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		769,604	736,556
Reserves	9.1	1,876,523	1,787,221
Total equity		**2,646,127**	**2,523,777**

The above Balance Sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Knox City Council
Statement of Changes in Equity
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2026	**Note**	**Total** **$'000**	**Accumulated Surplus** **$'000**	**Revaluation Reserve** **$'000**	**Other Reserves** **$'000**
Balance at beginning of the financial year		2,523,777	736,556	1,769,295	17,926
Surplus for the year		30,738	30,738	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)	6.1	91,612	-	91,612	-
Transfers to other reserves	9.1	-	(15,200)	-	15,200
Transfers from other reserves	9.1	-	17,510	-	(17,510)
Balance at end of the financial year		**2,646,127**	**769,604**	**1,860,907**	**15,616**

2025	**Note**	**Total** **$'000**	**Accumulated Surplus** **$'000**	**Revaluation Reserve** **$'000**	**Other Reserves** **$'000**
Balance at beginning of the financial year		2,258,544	723,126	1,516,301	19,117
Surplus for the year		12,239	12,239	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)	6.1	252,994	-	252,994	-
Transfers to other reserves	9.1	-	(11,485)	-	11,485
Transfers from other reserves	9.1	-	12,676	-	(12,676)
Balance at end of the financial year		**2,523,777**	**736,556**	**1,769,295**	**17,926**

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Knox City Council
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	Note	2026 Inflows/ (Outflows) $'000	2025 Inflows/ (Outflows) $'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Rates and charges		153,579	148,279
Statutory fees and fines		4,188	4,064
User fees		15,384	13,957
Grants - operating		21,993	27,822
Grants - capital		6,820	11,029
Contributions - monetary		9,669	6,735
Interest received		2,018	2,651
Trust funds and deposits taken		34,259	23,046
Other receipts		2,874	2,132
Net GST refund		11,383	11,329
Employee costs		(76,257)	(82,016)
Materials and services		(86,354)	(85,498)
Contributions and donations		(6,819)	(6,551)
Short-term, low value and variable lease payments		(107)	(13)
Trust funds and deposits repaid		(33,411)	(22,657)
Other payments		(855)	(640)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	9.2	**58,364**	**53,669**
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.1	(48,199)	(44,651)
Proceeds from sales of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		886	5,170
Payments for investments		(5,000)	(2,500)
Proceeds from sale of investments		2,500	10,000
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		**(49,813)**	**(31,981)**
Cash flows from financing activities			
Finance costs		(3,548)	(3,738)
Proceeds from borrowings		6,000	10,000
Repayment of borrowings		(9,563)	(8,865)
Interest paid - lease liability		(325)	(290)
Repayment of lease liabilities		(947)	(1,088)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities		**(8,383)**	**(3,981)**
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		168	17,707
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		54,323	36,616
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	5.1	**54,491**	**54,323**
Financing arrangements	5.6		

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Knox City Council
Statement of Capital Works
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	Note	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Property			
Buildings		15,208	10,613
Total buildings		**15,208**	**10,613**
Total property		**15,208**	**10,613**
Plant and equipment			
Artworks		25	57
Plant, machinery and equipment		2,303	2,466
Fixtures, fittings and furniture		36	36
Computers and telecommunications		386	672
Total plant and equipment		**2,750**	**3,231**
Infrastructure			
Roads		10,485	7,854
Bridges		963	833
Footpaths and cycleways		4,862	5,127
Drainage		4,203	6,454
Recreational, leisure and community facilities		8,853	12,714
Off street car parks		1,324	2,967
Total infrastructure		**30,690**	**35,949**
Total capital works expenditure		**48,648**	**49,793**
Represented by:			
New asset expenditure		1,183	2,378
Asset renewal expenditure		30,645	35,102
Asset expansion expenditure		95	258
Asset upgrade expenditure		16,725	12,055
Total capital works expenditure		**48,648**	**49,793**

The above Statement of Capital Works should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

Note 1 Overview

Introduction

Knox City Council was established by an Order of the Governor in Council in 1994 and is a body corporate. The Council's main office is located at 511 Burwood Highway, Wantirna South, Victoria.

Statement of compliance

These financial statements are a general purpose financial report that consists of a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Capital Works and Notes accompanying these financial statements. The general purpose financial report complies with the Australian Accounting Standards (AAS), other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, the *Local Government Act 2020* , and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* .

The Council is a not-for-profit entity and therefore applies the additional AUS paragraphs applicable to a not-for-profit entity under the Australian Accounting Standards.

Accounting policy information

(a) Basis of accounting

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported. Specific accounting policies applied are disclosed in sections where the related balance or financial statement matter is disclosed.

The accrual basis of accounting has been used in the preparation of these financial statements, except for the cash flow information, whereby assets, liabilities, equity, income and expenses are recognised in the reporting period to which they relate, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The financial statements are based on the historical cost convention unless a different measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The financial statements are in Australian dollars. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars unless otherwise specified. Minor discrepancies in tables between totals and the sum of components are due to rounding.

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated judgements are based on professional judgement derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and also in future periods that are affected by the revision. Judgements and assumptions made by management in the application of AAS's that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates relate to:
- the fair value of land, buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.1)
- the determination of depreciation for buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.1)
- the determination of employee provisions (refer to Note 5.5)
- the determination of landfill provisions (refer to Note 5.5)

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

Note 1 Overview (cont'd)

- the determination of whether performance obligations are sufficiently specific so as to determine whether an arrangement is within the scope of *AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers* or *AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* (refer to Note 3.4)
- the determination, in accordance with *AASB 16 Leases*, of the lease term, the estimation of the discount rate when not implicit in the lease and whether an arrangement is in substance short-term or low value (refer to Note 5.8)
- whether or not *AASB 1059 Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors* is applicable
- other areas requiring judgements

Unless otherwise stated, all accounting policies are consistent with those applied in the prior year. Where appropriate, comparative figures have been amended to accord with current presentation, and disclosure has been made of any material changes to comparatives.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)
Income and expenses are recognised net of the amount of associated GST. Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

(b) Impacts of other external events

Council has considered ongoing external events that have contributed to volatility in international markets, disrupted global supply chains and increased inflationary pressure, including the risk that they may cause significant changes in the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next financial year, and has concluded that there is no material impact on the 2025-26 financial report that requires additional disclosure.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

Note 2 Analysis of our results

2. 1 Performance against budget

The performance against budget notes compare Council's financial plan, expressed through its annual budget, with actual performance. The *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* requires explanation of any material variances. Council has adopted a materiality threshold of greater than ten percent and $1,000,000 where further explanation is warranted. Explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality threshold unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

The budget figures detailed below are those adopted by Council on 23 June 2025. The budget was based on assumptions that were relevant at the time of adoption of the budget. Council sets guidelines and parameters for income and expense targets in this budget in order to meet Council's planning and financial performance targets for both the short and long-term. The budget did not reflect any changes to equity resulting from asset revaluations, as their impacts were not considered predictable.

These notes are prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.*

2. 1. 1 Income/revenue and expenditure

	Budget 2026 $'000	Actual 2026 $'000	Variance $'000	Variance %	Ref
Income/revenue					
Rates and charges	153,826	155,084	**1,258**	**1%**	
Statutory fees and fines	5,458	5,026	**(432)**	**-8%**	
User fees	13,677	15,034	**1,357**	**10%**	**1**
Grants - operating	19,651	22,357	**2,706**	**14%**	**2**
Grants - capital	10,383	10,598	**215**	**2%**	
Contributions - monetary	5,000	9,195	**4,195**	**84%**	**3**
Contributions - non-monetary	2,000	8,736	**6,736**	**337%**	**4**
Net gain (or loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	10,506	(1,241)	**(11,747)**	**-112%**	**5**
Share of net profits (or loss) of associates and joint ventures	4	92	**88**	**2200%**	
Other income	1,803	4,868	**3,065**	**170%**	**6**
Total income/revenue	**222,308**	**229,749**	**7,441**	**3%**	
Expenses					
Employee costs	77,377	76,397	**980**	**1%**	
Materials and services	77,100	75,358	**1,742**	**2%**	
Depreciation	25,329	33,619	**(8,290)**	**-33%**	**7**
Amortisation - intangible assets	903	915	**(12)**	**-1%**	
Depreciation - right of use assets	1,176	1,104	**72**	**6%**	
Allowance for impairment losses	317	591	**(274)**	**-86%**	
Borrowing costs	3,599	3,567	**32**	**1%**	
Finance costs - leases	419	332	**87**	**21%**	
Contributions and donations	6,138	6,218	**(80)**	**-1%**	
Other expenses	796	910	**(114)**	**-14%**	
Total expenses	**193,154**	**199,011**	**(5,857)**	**-3%**	
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	**29,154**	**30,738**	**1,584**	**5%**	

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2. 1 Performance against budget (cont'd)

(i) Explanation of material variations

Variance Ref	Item	Explanation
1	User fees	Unbudgeted income totalling $0.514 million was received from the container deposit scheme. Fees related to the Active and Creative Communities department were $0.413 million greater than budget. This was partially offset by fees related to Building Services being $0.321 million lower than budget.
2	Grants - operating	50% of the 2025-26 General Purpose Grant was received during the 2026 financial year, while 80% of the 2026-27 General Purpose Grant was brought forward and paid prior to 30 June 2026. Therefore the total General Purpose Grant received during the 2025-26 financial year was $2.710 million greater than budget. Grants received for Early Years services were $0.818 million lower than budget. This was offset by the receipt of $0.519 million in unbudgeted operating grants, and the decrease of $0.339 million in unearned operating grants throughout the organisation.
3	Contributions - monetary	Unbudgeted contributions totalling $4.733 million were received related to a land transaction, including $2.780 million which was transferred to the social housing reserve. This was partially offset by public open space contributions being $0.615 million lower than budget.
4	Contributions - non-monetary	Non-monetary contributions were $6.736 million greater than budget due to assets handed over to Council from developers, with the timing of these contributions varying year-to year depending on the level of development.
5	Net loss (gain) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	A timing difference in land sales totalling $10.025 million budgeted to proceed in the 2025-26 financial year, are instead set to proceed during the 2026-27 financial year. Sale of plant was $0.352 million down on budget. Unbudgeted building disposals during the year totalled $0.308 million, while unbudgeted infrastructure disposals during the year totalled $1.175 million.
6	Other income	Interest on investments was $1.274 million greater than budget due to higher than budgeted interest rates and cash holdings related to the timing of delivery of the capital works program. Reimbursements were $0.784 million greater than budget, while unbudgeted rebates totalling $0.771 million were received.
7	Depreciation	Depreciation is $8.290 million greater than budget due to the impact of *AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement* which contributed to an increase of $252.994 million in the value of Council assets as at 30 June 2025, after the adoption of the budget for the 2025-26 financial year.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2. 1 Performance against budget (cont'd)

2. 1. 2 Capital works

	Budget 2026 $'000	Actual 2026 $'000	Variance $'000	Variance %	Ref
Property					
Buildings	16,322	15,208	**(1,114)**	**-7%**	
Total buildings	**16,322**	**15,208**	**(1,114)**	**-7%**	
Total property	**16,322**	**15,208**	**(1,114)**	**-7%**	
Plant and equipment					
Artworks	210	25	**(185)**	**-88%**	
Plant, machinery and equipment	1,949	2,303	**354**	**18%**	
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	-	36	**36**		
Computers and telecommunications	5,341	386	**(4,955)**	**-93%**	**1**
Total plant and equipment	**7,500**	**2,750**	**(4,750)**	**-63%**	
Infrastructure					
Roads	9,307	10,485	**1,178**	**13%**	**2**
Bridges	973	963	**(10)**	**-1%**	
Footpaths and cycleways	5,735	4,862	**(873)**	**-15%**	
Drainage	4,868	4,203	**(665)**	**-14%**	
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	10,721	8,853	**(1,868)**	**-17%**	**3**
Off street car parks	1,616	1,324	**(292)**	**-18%**	
Other infrastructure	803	-	**(803)**	**-100%**	
Total infrastructure	**34,023**	**30,690**	**(3,333)**	**-10%**	
Total capital works expenditure	**57,845**	**48,648**	**(9,197)**	**-16%**	
Represented by:					
New asset expenditure	1,227	1,183	**(44)**	**-4%**	
Asset renewal expenditure	39,318	30,645	**(8,673)**	**-22%**	
Asset expansion expenditure	30	95	**65**	**217%**	
Asset upgrade expenditure	17,270	16,725	**(545)**	**-3%**	
Total capital works expenditure	**57,845**	**48,648**	**(9,197)**	**-16%**	

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2. 1 Performance against budget (cont'd)

(i) Explanation of material variations

Variance Ref	Item	Explanation
1	Computers and telecommunications	Capital expenditure is lower than budget partially due to $3.422 million in expenditure being deemed to be operational in nature and therefore was not capitalised. A number of projects were identified in March 2026 as requiring carry forward into 2026-27 due to changes in project delivery timeframes.
2	Roads	Capital expenditure totalling $0.179 million was carried forward from the 2024-25 financial year. $0.308 million in capital expenditure budgeted in different asset classes has been capitalised under roads. The overspend against budget of $0.516 million in two road projects utilised savings from projects from different asset classes.
3	Recreational, leisure and community facilities	Capital expenditure was below budget primarily due to landscaping and planting works being recognised as operating expenditure rather than capital expenditure ($0.926 million), together with project reclassifications between capital asset categories ($0.265 million). These variances were partially offset by the recognition of projects within the recreational, leisure and community facilities category from other asset categories ($0.451 million). The budgeted carry forward for the Playground Renewal Program of $1.096 million was not needed to complete project delivery.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2. 2 Analysis of Council results by program

Knox City Council delivers its functions and activities through the following programs.

2. 2. 1 CEO

The office of the CEO incorporates the Chief Executive Office and the Chief Financial Office.
The Chief Executive Office responsibilities include establishing and maintaining an appropriate organisational structure for the council, managing interactions between council staff and councillors, ensuring that Council decisions are implemented promptly, providing timely advice to Council, providing timely and reliable advice to the Council about its legal obligations, and overseeing the daily management of council operations following the Council and Health and Wellbeing Plan.
The Chief Financial Office provides financial direction and support across Council. It partners with staff on budgets, purchasing, tenders and contracts. It also provides support for the day-to-day operations of council-owned property and buildings, and manages property rates and valuation services.

City Liveability

The City Liveability Directorate incorporates City Futures, City Planning and Building, City Projects, and City Safety and Health. The Directorate deliver important services for the health, safety and future development of Knox.
The City Futures department uses research and mapping to understand growth and change in Knox, and to inform planning. It works with community members, business owners and internal departments to respond to changing needs.
The City Planning and Building department works with the community to assess land use and development in Knox.
The City Projects department helps shape key projects for Knox's growth into the future. It makes informed decisions based on regular customer feedback and input.
The City Safety and Health department helps protect the safety and health of the Knox community. It does this through dedicated programs, education and local laws.

Connected Communities

The Connected Communities Directorate incorporates Active and Creative Communities, Community Access and Support, Community Strengthening, and Early Years. The Directorate deliver services to support health, wellbeing and culture for an inclusive and safe community.
The Active and Creative Communities department contributes to health and culture in the Knox community through leisure, events, arts and sports.
The Community Access and Support department makes a difference in the social and emotional wellbeing of people in the Knox community.
The Community Strengthening department develops strategies and delivers programs and education to support vulnerable community. It works to create a more inclusive, connected and safe community.
The Early Years department delivers key health and education programs for the youngest members of the Knox community and their families.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2. 2 Analysis of Council results by program (cont'd)

Customer and Performance

The Customer and Performance Directorate incorporates the Chief Information Office, Customer and Communications, Governance and Risk, People, Culture and Development, and Strategy and Transformation. The directorate works with all Council staff to improve the lives of internal and external stakeholders and the broader Knox community.

The Chief Information Office delivers organisation-wide technical solutions that enable customers to interact with Council services.

The Customer and Communications department bridges the gap between internal and external operations. It communicates Council's services, facilities and programs to meet and support the evolving needs of the community, helping internal and external stakeholders to thrive through customer trust and confidence.

The Governance and Risk department provides advice and support on compliance, governance, policy and risk.

The People, Culture and Development department works with staff to create a safe, fair and enjoyable workplace where everyone thrives.

The Strategy and Transformation department uses data and analytics to plan, manage change and move our organisation forward. It helps Council create and achieve our vision for the future, ensuring our services meet customer needs and remain relevant over time.

Infrastructure

The Infrastructure Directorate incorporates Engineering Services and Operations, Green Spaces and Environment, Major Projects and Facilities, and Strategic Infrastructure. The directorate manages and maintains Council infrastructure such as roads, footpaths, buildings, playgrounds, open space and other assets that our customers use.

The Engineering Services and Operations department maintains and ensures safety of assets that our customers and staff use. This includes fleet cars, footpaths and drains. It also provides expert advice in engineering.

The Green Spaces and Environment department manages waste collection, open spaces, sportsfields, reserves, parks, gardens and trees. It also delivers biodiversity programs and waste education.

The Major Projects and Facilities department delivers major projects that supplement the capital projects Council delivers. It is also responsible for maintaining and upgrading Council-owned buildings.

The Strategic Infrastructure department delivers buildings and open spaces for customers to enjoy. It manages stormwater and provides expert advice on building construction, design and public transport.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2. 2 Analysis of Council results by program (cont'd)

2. 2. 2 Summary of income/revenue, expenses, assets and capital expenses by program

	Income / revenue	Expenses	Surplus / (Deficit)	Grants included in income / revenue	Total assets
2026	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**
CEO	141,718	10,031	131,687	10,510	84,269
City Liveability	14,729	20,503	(5,774)	1,012	53,226
Connected Communities	23,210	47,412	(24,202)	16,468	690,294
Customer and Performance	761	28,820	(28,059)	252	67,628
Infrastructure	50,572	93,486	(42,914)	4,713	1,883,756
	230,990	**200,252**	**30,738**	**32,955**	**2,779,173**

	Income / revenue	Expenses	Surplus / (Deficit)	Grants included in income / revenue	Total assets
2025	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**
CEO	138,001	9,953	128,048	11,605	79,591
City Liveability	14,313	19,681	(5,368)	974	51,946
Connected Communities	22,867	51,497	(28,630)	16,406	662,046
Customer and Performance	259	28,749	(28,490)	-	59,749
Infrastructure	41,621	94,942	(53,321)	5,380	1,807,849
	217,061	**204,822**	**12,239**	**34,365**	**2,661,181**

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000

Note 3 Funding for the delivery of our services

3. 1 Rates and charges

Council uses Capital Improved Value (CIV) as the basis of valuation of all properties within the municipal district. The CIV takes into account the total value of a property including all land, buildings and other improvements but excluding fixtures and fittings.

The valuation base used to calculate general rates for 2025-26 was $66,857 million (2024-25: $66,753 million). The 2025-26 rate in the CIV dollar was $0.0015140 (2024-25: $0.0014650) for the residential rate.

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
General rates	125,484	120,868
Residential garbage charge	25,386	26,090
Service rates and charges	1,858	2,008
Supplementary rates and rate adjustments	966	709
Cultural and recreational	58	54
Interest on rates and charges	1,332	1,286
Total rates and charges	**155,084**	**151,015**

The date of the latest general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipal district was 1 January 2025 and the valuation was first applied in the rating year commencing 1 July 2025.

Annual rates and charges are recognised as income when Council issues annual rates notices. Supplementary rates are recognised when a valuation and reassessment is completed and a supplementary rates notice issued.

3. 2 Statutory fees and fines

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Permits	1,809	1,629
Infringements and costs	1,469	1,183
Court recoveries	1,386	1,031
Town planning fees	207	809
Land information certificates	153	143
Other statutory fees and fines	2	1
Total statutory fees and fines	**5,026**	**4,796**

Statutory fees and fines (including parking fees and fines) are recognised as income when the service has been provided, the payment is received, or when the penalty has been applied, whichever first occurs.

3. 3 User fees

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Waste management services	3,580	3,417
Registration and other permits	2,856	2,641
Leisure centre and recreation	2,696	2,532
Child care/children's programs	2,687	2,239
Infrastructure services	1,022	793
Aged and health services	590	512
Building services	555	586
Other fees and charges	1,048	867
Total user fees	**15,034**	**13,587**

User fees are recognised as revenue at a point in time, or over time, when (or as) the performance obligation is satisfied. Recognition is based on the underlying contractual terms. All of Knox City Council's user fees are recognised at a point in time.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
3. 4 Funding from other levels of government		
Grants were received in respect of the following:		
Summary of grants		
Commonwealth funded grants	23,823	22,102
State funded grants	9,132	12,263
Total grants received	**32,955**	**34,365**
(a) Operating grants		
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Financial Assistance Grants	10,510	11,605
Family and children - child care	4,595	4,293
General home care	1,262	1,213
Recurrent - State Government		
Family and children - maternal and child health	1,722	1,732
Family and children - kindergarten	1,150	6,287
Family and children - child care	1,066	760
School crossing supervisors	831	815
Family and children - youth services	314	263
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	258	23
Community health	200	174
Other	52	50
Community safety	-	20
Total recurrent operating grants	**21,960**	**27,235**
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Community health	10	-
Non-recurrent - State Government		
Environmental planning	68	-
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	40	54
Community health	5	20
Other	274	15
Family and children - kindergarten	-	1
Total non-recurrent operating grants	**397**	**90**
Total operating grants	**22,357**	**27,325**

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	2026	2025
	$'000	$'000
3. 4 Funding from other levels of government (cont'd)		
(b) Capital grants		
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Financial Assistance Grants - local roads	2,085	2,274
Roads to recovery	1,173	953
Total recurrent capital grants	**3,258**	**3,227**
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	3,965	1,764
Footpaths and cycleways	116	-
Drainage	94	-
Roads	13	-
Non-recurrent - State Government		
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	3,117	1,317
Drainage	22	417
Footpaths and cycleways	13	315
Total non-recurrent capital grants	**7,340**	**3,813**
Total capital grants	**10,598**	**7,040**

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	2026	2025
	$'000	$'000

3. 4 Funding from other levels of government (cont'd)

(c) Recognition of grant income

Before recognising funding from government grants as revenue the Council assesses whether there is a contract that is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with *AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers* . When both these conditions are satisfied, the Council:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to revenue under the contract/agreement
- determines the transaction price
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations, at the point in time or over time when services are rendered.

Where the contract is not enforceable and/or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the Council applies *AASB 1058 Income for Not-for-Profit Entities* .

Grant revenue with sufficiently specific performance obligations is recognised over time as the performance obligations specified in the underlying agreement are met. Where performance obligations are not sufficiently specific, grants are recognised on the earlier of receipt or when an unconditional right to receipt has been established. Grants relating to capital projects are generally recognised progressively as the capital project is completed.

The following table provides a summary of unspent grants.

(d) Unspent grants received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Operating		
Balance at start of year	788	674
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	379	656
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(718)	(542)
Balance at year end	**449**	**788**
Capital		
Balance at start of year	4,251	1,374
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	364	4,229
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(4,249)	(1,352)
Balance at year end	**366**	**4,251**

Unspent grants are determined and disclosed on a cash basis.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
3. 5 Contributions		
Monetary	9,195	6,600
Non-monetary	8,736	1,899
Total contributions	**17,931**	**8,499**
Contributions of non-monetary assets were received in relation to the following asset classes:		
Roads	3,796	78
Drainage	2,597	237
Land	1,635	1,555
Footpaths and cycleways	664	21
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	24	-
Bridges	20	-
Off street car parks	-	8
Total non-monetary contributions	**8,736**	**1,899**

Monetary and non-monetary contributions are recognised as income at their fair value when Council obtains control over the contributed asset.

3. 6 Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

	2026	2025
Proceeds of sale	886	5,102
Written down value of assets disposed	(2,127)	(13,922)
Total net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	**(1,241)**	**(8,820)**

The profit or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has passed to the buyer.

3. 7 Other income

	2026	2025
Interest	2,225	2,533
Reimbursements	911	1,064
Rent	757	748
Rebates	771	1
Other	204	214
Total other income	**4,868**	**4,560**

Interest is recognised as it is earned.
Other income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is recognised when Council gains control over the right to receive the income.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

		2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Note 4	**The cost of delivering services**		
4. 1	**(a) Employee costs**		
	Wages and salaries	55,959	59,558
	Annual leave and long service leave	7,200	7,518
	Superannuation	8,014	7,831
	Agency staff	2,493	2,920
	WorkCover	2,419	2,509
	Fringe benefits tax	312	328
	Total employee costs	**76,397**	**80,664**

(b) Superannuation

Council made contributions to the following funds:

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Defined benefit fund		
Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	164	235
	164	**235**
Employer contributions payable at reporting date	-	-
Accumulation funds		
Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	3,267	3,340
Employer contributions - other funds	3,943	3,650
	7,210	**6,990**
Employer contributions payable at reporting date	610	559

Contributions made exclude amounts accrued at balance date. Refer to Note 9.3 for further information relating to Council's superannuation obligations.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
4. 2 Materials and services		
Contract payments		
Waste Management	26,890	26,405
Operations - Maintenance	10,050	9,075
Operating Projects Expenditure	4,295	8,389
Corporate Services	2,031	1,301
Active Ageing & Disability	1,270	1,307
Arts & Cultural Services	759	589
Community Laws	479	483
People & Culture	360	372
Planning & Development	337	478
Other	1,436	1,386
Total Contract Payments	**47,907**	**49,785**
Administration costs	7,138	7,004
Utilities	3,961	4,332
Consumable materials and equipment	3,497	3,422
Information technology	3,789	3,362
Building maintenance	2,531	2,591
Insurance	2,505	2,476
Consultants	1,609	1,708
General maintenance	1,497	900
Finance and legal costs	924	834
Total materials and services	**75,358**	**76,414**

Expenses are recognised as they are incurred and reported in the financial year to which they relate.

4. 3 Depreciation

Infrastructure	25,413	18,441
Property	6,696	5,746
Plant and equipment	1,510	1,472
Total depreciation	**33,619**	**25,659**

Refer to note 5.2(b), 5.8 and 6.1 for a more detailed breakdown of depreciation and amortisation charges and accounting policy.

4. 4 Depreciation - right of use assets

Property	579	617
Computers and telecommunications	491	555
Plant and equipment	34	33
Total depreciation - right of use assets	**1,104**	**1,205**

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

		2026 $'000	2025 $'000
4. 5	**Allowance for impairment losses**		
	Parking and animal infringement debtors	562	485
	Other debtors	29	23
	Total Allowance for impairment losses	**591**	**508**
	Movement in allowance for impairment losses in respect of debtors		
	Balance at the beginning of the year	21	15
	New allowances recognised during the year	29	22
	Amounts already allowed for and written off as uncollectible	(21)	(16)
	Amounts allowed for but recovered during the year	-	-
	Balance at the end of the year	**29**	**21**

An allowance for impairment losses in respect of debtors is recognised based on an expected credit loss model. This model considers both historic and forward looking information in determining the level of impairment.

		2026 $'000	2025 $'000
4. 6	**Contributions and donations**		
	Contribution to Your Library Limited	4,747	4,510
	Community support payments	1,471	1,463
	Total contributions and donations	**6,218**	**5,973**
4. 7	**Other expenses**		
	Councillors allowances	506	470
	Auditor's remuneration - internal audit	210	69
	Auditor's remuneration - VAGO - audit of the financial statements, performance statement and grant acquittals	97	96
	Operating lease rentals	97	11
	Total other expenses	**910**	**646**

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Note 5 Investing in and financing our operations		
5. 1 Financial assets		
(a) Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash on hand	4	4
Cash at bank	24,487	34,319
Term deposits	30,000	20,000
Total cash and cash equivalents	**54,491**	**54,323**
(b) Other financial assets		
Current		
Term deposits	5,000	2,500
Total current other financial assets	**5,000**	**2,500**
Total other financial assets	**5,000**	**2,500**
Total cash and cash equivalents and other financial assets	**59,491**	**56,823**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of 90 days or less, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

Term deposits are held to maturity and measured at original cost.

Other financial assets include term deposits. Those with original maturity dates of three to 12 months are classified as current, whilst term deposits with maturity dates greater than 12 months are classified as non-current.

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
(c) Trade and other receivables		
Current		
Statutory receivables		
Rates debtors	21,535	19,848
Special rate assessment	52	52
Parking and animal infringement debtors	4,883	4,010
Allowance for expected credit loss - infringements	(3,522)	(2,960)
Net GST receivable	1,921	1,858
Non statutory receivables		
Other debtors	1,484	1,505
Allowance for expected credit loss - other debtors	(29)	(21)
Total trade and other receivables	**26,324**	**24,292**

Short term receivables are carried at invoice amount. An allowance for expected credit losses is recognised based on past experience and other objective evidence of expected losses. Long term receivables are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	2026	2025
	$'000	$'000

5. 1 Financial assets (cont'd)

(d) Ageing of receivables

The ageing of the Council's trade and other receivables (excluding statutory receivables) that are not impaired was:

	2026	2025
Current (not yet due)	681	566
Past due by up to 30 days	197	278
Past due between 31 and 180 days	181	179
Past due between 181 and 365 days	13	170
Past due by more than 1 year	412	312
Total trade and other receivables	**1,484**	**1,505**

(e) Ageing of individually impaired receivables

At balance date, other debtors representing financial assets with a nominal value of $nil (2025: $nil) were impaired. The amount of the allowance raised against these debtors was $nil (2025: $nil). They individually have been impaired as a result of their doubtful collection. Many of the long outstanding past due amounts have been lodged with the Council's debt collectors or are on payment arrangements.

(f) Contract assets

	2026	2025
Accrued income	1,427	1,090
Total contract assets	**1,427**	**1,090**

Contract assets are recognised when Council has transferred goods or services to the customer but where Council is yet to establish an unconditional right to consideration.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	2026	2025
	$'000	$'000
5. 2 Non-financial assets		
(a) Other assets		
Prepayments	1,888	1,167
Total other assets	**1,888**	**1,167**
(b) Intangible assets		
Software	1,381	1,879
Total intangible assets	**1,381**	**1,879**
Gross carrying amount		
Balance at 1 July 2025	8,395	8,357
Additions	417	404
Disposals	(513)	(366)
Balance at 30 June 2026	**8,299**	**8,395**
Accumulated amortisation and impairment		
Balance at 1 July 2025	6,516	5,938
Amortisation expense	915	878
Amortisation expense for disposals	(513)	(300)
Balance at 30 June 2026	**6,918**	**6,516**
Net book value at 30 June 2025	**1,879**	**2,419**
Net book value at 30 June 2026	**1,381**	**1,879**

Intangible assets with finite lives are amortised as an expense on a systematic basis over the asset's useful life. Amortisation is generally calculated on a straight line basis, at a rate that allocates the asset value, less any estimated residual value over its estimated useful life. Estimates of the remaining useful lives and amortisation method are reviewed at least annually, and adjustments made where appropriate.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
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	2026	2025
	$'000	$'000
5. 3 Payables, trust funds and deposits and contract liabilities		
(a) Trade and other payables		
Current		
Non-statutory payables		
Trade payables	13,143	13,068
Accrued expenses	5,709	4,846
Prepaid income	2,175	1,960
Total current trade and other payables	**21,027**	**19,874**

Prepaid income includes $2. 098 million for rates income that has been paid in advance.

	2026	2025
(b) Trust funds and deposits		
Current		
Refundable deposits	2,097	1,831
Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund	1,572	971
Retention amounts	93	105
Other refundable deposits	35	42
Total current trust funds and deposits	**3,797**	**2,949**
(c) Contract liabilities		
Contract liabilities		
Current		
Grants received in advance - operating	449	788
Grants received in advance - capital	366	4,251
Total contract liabilities	**815**	**5,039**

Trust funds and deposits
Amounts received as deposits and retention amounts controlled by Council are recognised as trust funds until they are returned, transferred in accordance with the purpose of the receipt, or forfeited. Trust funds that are forfeited, resulting in Council gaining control of the funds, are to be recognised as revenue at the time of forfeit.

Contract liabilities
Contract liabilities reflect consideration received in advance from customers in respect of operating and capital grants. Contract liabilities are derecognised and recorded as revenue when promised goods and services are transferred to the customer. Refer to Note 3.

Purpose and nature of items
Refundable deposits - Deposits are taken by Council as a form of surety in a number of circumstances, including in relation to building works, tender deposits, contract deposits and the use of civic facilities.

Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund - Council is the collection agent for the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund on behalf of the State Government. Council remits amounts received on a four-instalment basis. Amounts disclosed here will be remitted to the State Government in line with that process.

Retention amounts - Council has a contractual right to retain certain amounts until a contractor has met certain requirements or a related warrant or defect period has elapsed. Subject to the satisfactory completion of the contractual obligations, or the elapsing of time, these amounts will be paid to the relevant contractor in line with Council's contractual obligations.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
5. 4 Interest-bearing liabilities		
Current		
Treasury Corporation of Victoria borrowings - secured	7,833	7,022
Other borrowings - secured	2,492	2,423
Total current interest-bearing liabilities	**10,325**	**9,445**
Non-current		
Treasury Corporation of Victoria borrowings - secured	57,802	59,752
Other borrowings - secured	12,115	14,608
Total non-current interest-bearing liabilities	**69,917**	**74,360**
Total	**80,242**	**83,805**

Borrowings are secured by the general rates revenue of Council.

(a) The maturity profile for Council's borrowings is:

	2026	2025
Not later than one year	10,325	9,445
Later than one year and not later than five years	45,968	41,996
Later than five years	23,949	32,364
Total	**80,242**	**83,805**

Borrowings are initially measured at fair value, being the cost of the interest bearing liabilities, net of transaction costs. The measurement basis subsequent to initial recognition depends on whether the Council has categorised its interest-bearing liabilities as either financial liabilities designated at fair value through the profit and loss, or financial liabilities at amortised cost. Any difference between the initial recognised amount and the redemption value is recognised in net result over the period of the borrowing using the effective interest method.

The classification depends on the nature and purpose of the interest bearing liabilities. The Council determines the classification of its interest bearing liabilities based on contractual repayment terms at every balance date.

In classifying borrowings as current or non-current Council considers whether at balance date it has the right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting period. Council's loan arrangements include covenants based on Council's financial performance and position at the end of the reporting period. These covenants are assessed for compliance after the reporting period based on specified financial ratios.

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Notes to the Financial Report
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5. 5 Provisions

	Employee	Landfill rehabilitation	Total
	$'000s	$'000s	$'000s
2026			
Balance at beginning of the financial year	18,017	2,281	20,298
Additional provisions	6,596	270	6,866
Amounts used	(6,399)	(236)	(6,635)
Change in the discounted amount arising because of time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	(41)	(77)	(118)
Balance at the end of the financial year	**18,173**	**2,238**	**20,411**
Provisions - current	17,051	530	17,581
Provisions - non-current	1,122	1,708	2,830
2025			
Balance at beginning of the financial year	19,174	2,216	21,390
Additional provisions	6,559	355	6,914
Amounts used	(7,996)	(340)	(8,336)
Change in the discounted amount arising because of time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	280	50	330
Balance at the end of the financial year	**18,017**	**2,281**	**20,298**
Provisions - current	16,971	365	17,336
Provisions - non-current	1,046	1,916	2,962

Knox City Council
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	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
5. 5 Provisions (cont'd)		
(a) Employee provisions		
Current provisions expected to be wholly settled within 12 months		
Annual leave	3,047	2,921
Long service leave	1,248	1,099
Gratuities	53	58
	4,348	**4,078**
Current provisions expected to be wholly settled after 12 months		
Annual leave	3,555	3,665
Long service leave	8,920	8,858
Gratuities	228	370
	12,703	**12,893**
Total current employee provisions	**17,051**	**16,971**
Non-current		
Long service leave	1,122	1,046
Total non-current employee provisions	**1,122**	**1,046**
Aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions:		
Current	17,051	16,971
Non-current	1,122	1,046
Total aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions	**18,173**	**18,017**

The calculation of employee costs and benefits includes all relevant on-costs and are calculated as follows at reporting date.

Annual leave

A liability for annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits as a current liability because the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability. Liabilities for annual leave are measured at:

- nominal value if the Council expects to wholly settle the liability within 12 months
- present value if the Council does not expect to wholly settle within 12 months.

Liabilities that are not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits as current liabilities, measured at the present value of the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

Long service leave

Liability for long service leave (LSL) is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. Unconditional LSL is disclosed as a current liability as the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement. Unconditional LSL is measured at nominal value if expected to be settled within 12 months or at present value if not expected to be settled within 12 months. Conditional LSL that has been accrued, where an employee is yet to reach a qualifying term of employment, is disclosed as a non-current liability and measured at present value.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

5. 5 Provisions (cont'd)

Gratuity retirement allowance
A gratuity retirement allowance exists for employees who commenced prior to 3 May 1996, with new employees who commenced after that date not being eligible, and is recognised in the provision for employee benefits as a current liability. Liabilities expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at their nominal values. Liabilities that are not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at the present value of the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

	2026	2025
Key Assumptions - AL:		
• Weighted average discount rate	2.44%	1.82%
• Weighted average index rate	3.45%	2.50%
• Average settlement period (years)	2	2
Key Assumptions - LSL:		
• Weighted average discount rate - current	4.20%	3.43%
• Weighted average discount rate - non-current	4.39%	3.33%
• Weighted average index rate - current	3.10%	2.50%
• Weighted average index rate - non-current	3.00%	2.50%
• Average settlement period (years)	18	16
Key Assumptions - Gratuity:		
• Weighted average discount rate	3.62%	2.83%
• Weighted average index rate	3.18%	2.50%
• Average settlement period (years)	30	29

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
(b) Landfill rehabilitation provisions		
Current		
Cathies Lane landfill site	321	225
Llewellyn Reserve landfill site	209	140
Total current landfill rehabilitation provisions	**530**	**365**
Non-current		
Cathies Lane landfill site	1,166	1,344
Llewellyn Reserve landfill site	542	572
Total non-current landfill rehabilitation provisions	**1,708**	**1,916**
Total aggregate carrying amount of landfill rehabilitation provisions	**2,238**	**2,281**

Council owns two former landfill sites - Cathies Lane and Llewellyn Reserve. Under the terms of Post Closure Pollution Abatement Notices issued by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), Council is required to monitor, progressively rehabilitate and conduct rectification works. The provision for landfill rehabilitation has been calculated based on the present value of the expected cost of works to be undertaken including site aftercare and monitoring costs. The expected cost of works has been estimated based on the current understanding of the work required to progressively rehabilitate the sites to a suitable standard. Accordingly, the estimation of the provision required is dependent on the accuracy of the forecast timing of the work, work required and related costs.

Council reviews the landfill restoration provision on an annual basis, including the key assumptions listed below.

Knox City Council
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5.5 Provisions (cont'd)

	2026	2025
Key assumptions - Cathies Lane landfill site:		
• Weighted average discount rate	5.46%	4.55%
• Inflation rate	2.53%	2.56%
• Settlement period (years)	8	9
• Estimated cost to rehabilitate	**$1.673m**	**$1.736m**
Key assumptions - Llewellyn Reserve landfill site:		
• Weighted average discount rate	5.47%	4.54%
• Inflation rate	2.53%	2.56%
• Settlement period (years)	8	9
• Estimated cost to rehabilitate	**$0.839m**	**$0.722m**

Cathies Lane landfill site

Council operated the Cathies Lane landfill site, Wantirna South from 1986 to 2004, under a licence issued by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA). The site is closed as a landfill but a portion of the site is still being used as a resource recovery centre (transfer station) to receive, process and transport waste to other sites for refuse and/or disposal. In 2015-16 the EPA issued a Post Closure Pollution Abatement notice and Council has surrendered the landfill licence.

In the financial report for June 2026, Council has an amount of $1.486 million as a provision for the restoration of the Cathies Lane landfill site and includes an ongoing commitment of approximately $0.192 million per annum for site aftercare to meet EPA obligations where restoration works have been completed. This is based on the assessment undertaken in 2015 and a reassessment of the provision at balance date in which the provision was measured at the net present value of the future rehabilitation costs including aftercare and site monitoring costs. Included in the aftercare is the cost to provide a bank guarantee to meet the Financial Assurance requirements imposed by the EPA on Council for thirty years post closure of this site.

Llewellyn Reserve landfill site

Council's landfill site at Llewellyn Reserve was closed in 1985. In 2015-16 the EPA issued a Post Closure Pollution Abatement notice.

In the financial report for June 2026, Council has an amount of $0.751 million as a provision for the restoration of the Llewellyn Reserve landfill site and includes an ongoing commitment of approximately $0.089 million per annum to cover sampling, testing and reporting requirements as required by the EPA. This is based on an assessment undertaken in 2015 and a reassessment of the provision at balance date in which the provision was measured at the net present value of the future rehabilitation costs including aftercare and site monitoring costs.

5.6 Financing arrangements

The Council has the following funding arrangements in place as at 30 June 2026.

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Bank overdraft	1,500	1,500
Credit card facilities	200	200
Treasury Corporation of Victoria facilities	65,635	66,774
Other facilities	14,607	17,031
Total facilities	**81,942**	**85,505**
Used facilities	80,274	83,840
Unused facilities	**1,668**	**1,665**

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

5.7 Commitments

The Council has entered into the following commitments. Commitments are not recognised in the Balance Sheet. Commitments are disclosed at their nominal value and presented inclusive of the GST payable.

(a) Commitments for expenditure

2026	Not later than 1 year	Later than 1 year and not later than 2 years	Later than 2 years and not later than 5 years	Later than 5 years	Total
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000
Operating					
Garbage collection and recycling	256	-	-	-	256
Library services	4,809	4,930	10,232	-	19,971
Infrastructure management	6,990	3,669	5,028	-	15,687
Consultancies	901	231	388	-	1,520
Total	**12,956**	**8,830**	**15,648**	**-**	**37,434**
Capital					
Buildings	3,359	-	-	-	3,359
Plant and equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Other infrastructure	682	-	-	-	682
Total	**4,041**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**4,041**

2025	Not later than 1 year	Later than 1 year and not later than 2 years	Later than 2 years and not later than 5 years	Later than 5 years	Total
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000
Operating					
Garbage collection and recycling	1,219	-	-	-	1,219
Library services	4,564	4,678	9,708	-	18,950
Infrastructure management	5,715	2,502	1,260	-	9,477
Consultancies	1,165	438	154	-	1,757
Total	**12,663**	**7,618**	**11,122**	**-**	**31,403**
Capital					
Buildings	7,384	54	-	-	7,438
Plant and equipment	959	-	-	-	959
Other infrastructure	2,105	-	-	-	2,105
Total	**10,448**	**54**	**-**	**-**	**10,502**

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

5. 7 Commitments (cont'd)

(b) Operating lease receivables

Council has a number of leases with external entities where they pay for the use of Council land and buildings. These properties held under operating leases have remaining non-cancellable lease terms of between 1 and 30 years. A number of these leases include a CPI based revision of the rental charge annually.

Future undiscounted minimum rentals receivable under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2026	2025
	$'000	$'000
Not later than one year	588	632
Later than one year and not later than five years	1,690	1,627
Later than five years	6,315	6,422
Total	**8,593**	**8,681**

5. 8 Leases

At inception of a contract, Council assesses whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. A contract is, or contains, a lease if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. To identify whether a contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset, it is necessary to assess whether:
- The contract involves the use of an identified asset;
- Council has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from use of the asset throughout the period of use; and
- Council has the right to direct the use of the asset.

This policy is applied to contracts entered into, or changed, on or after 1 July 2019.

As a lessee, Council recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the lease commencement date. The right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for:
- any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received; plus
- any initial direct costs incurred; and
- an estimate of costs to dismantle and remove the underlying asset or to restore the underlying asset or the site on which it is located.

The right-of-use asset is subsequently depreciated using the straight-line method from the commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the end of the lease term. The estimated useful lives of right-of-use assets are determined on the same basis as those of property, plant and equipment. In addition, the right-of-use asset is periodically reduced by impairment losses, if any, and adjusted for certain measurements of the lease liability.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease or, if that rate cannot be readily determined, an appropriate incremental borrowing rate. Generally, Council uses an appropriate incremental borrowing rate as the discount rate.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

5. 8 Leases (cont'd)

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability comprise the following:
- Fixed payments
- Variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date;
- Amounts expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee; and
- The exercise price under a purchase option that Council is reasonably certain to exercise, lease payments in an optional renewal period if Council is reasonably certain to exercise an extension option, and penalties for early termination of a lease unless Council is reasonably certain not to terminate early.

When the lease liability is remeasured in this way, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset, or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

Under *AASB 16 Leases* , Council as a not-for-profit entity has elected not to measure right-of-use assets at initial recognition at fair value in respect of leases that have significantly below-market terms.

Right-of-use assets	**Property**	**Computers and Telecommunications**	**Plant and Equipment**	**Total**
	$'000	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**
Balance at 1 July 2025	4,651	654	-	5,305
Additions	1,880	305	102	2,287
Depreciation charge	(579)	(491)	(34)	(1,104)
Balance at 30 June 2026	**5,952**	**468**	**68**	**6,488**
Balance at 1 July 2024	5,173	1,017	33	6,223
Additions	95	192	-	287
Depreciation charge	(617)	(555)	(33)	(1,205)
Balance at 30 June 2025	**4,651**	**654**	**-**	**5,305**

Lease liabilities	**2026**	**2025**
Maturity analysis - contractual undiscounted cash flows	**$'000**	**$'000**
Less than one year	1,132	1,053
One to five years	3,477	2,520
More than five years	3,845	3,317
Total undiscounted lease liabilities as at 30 June	**8,454**	**6,890**
Lease liabilities included in Balance Sheet at 30 June:		
Current	810	799
Non-current	5,944	4,640
Total lease liabilities	**6,754**	**5,439**

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

5. 8 Leases (cont'd)

Short-term and low value leases

Council has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases of machinery that have a lease term of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets (individual assets worth less than existing capitalisation thresholds for a like asset up to a maximum of AUD$10,000), including IT equipment. Council recognises the lease payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

	2026	2025
Expenses relating to:	**$'000**	**$'000**
Leases of low value assets	5	11
Short-term leases	92	-
Total	**97**	**11**

Non-cancellable lease commitments - short-term and low-value leases

Commitments for minimum lease payments for short-term and low-value leases are payable as follows:

Payable:		
Within one year	3	3
Later than one year but not later than five years	4	-
Total lease commitments	**7**	**3**

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
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6. 1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Summary of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

	Carrying amount at fair value 30 June 2025	Carrying amount at cost 30 June 2025	Additions	Contributions	Revaluation	Depreciation	Disposal	Impairment	Transfers	Write offs	**Carrying amount at fair value 30 June 2026**	**Carrying amount at cost 30 June 2026**	**Total carrying amount 30 June 2026**
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**
Land	1,105,893	8,771	-	1,635	(36,401)	-	(858)	-	-	-	**1,070,773**	**8,267**	**1,079,040**
Buildings	229,680	4,910	4,914	-	46,304	(6,696)	(308)	-	4,027	-	**274,128**	**8,703**	**282,831**
Plant and equipment	-	9,128	2,364	-	-	(1,510)	(644)	-	262	-	**-**	**9,600**	**9,600**
Infrastructure	1,065,086	111,306	21,232	7,101	81,709	(25,413)	(1,175)	-	21,324	-	**1,148,327**	**132,843**	**1,281,170**
Work in progress	-	32,271	19,870	-	-	-	-	-	(25,613)	(1,536)	**-**	**24,992**	**24,992**
Total	**2,400,659**	**166,386**	**48,380**	**8,736**	**91,612**	**(33,619)**	**(2,985)**	**-**	**-**	**(1,536)**	**2,493,228**	**184,405**	**2,677,633**

Summary of work in progress

	Opening work in progress	Additions	Transfers	Write offs	**Closing work in progress**
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	**$'000**
Property	8,373	10,294	(4,337)	(425)	**13,905**
Plant and equipment	660	117	(250)	(401)	**126**
Infrastructure	23,238	9,459	(21,026)	(710)	**10,961**
Total	**32,271**	**19,870**	**(25,613)**	**(1,536)**	**24,992**

The transfer from property work in progress includes $0.310 million that is included in the opening work in progress for property, but was capitalised as plant and equipment or infrastructure.
The transfer from plant and equipment work in progress includes $0.012 million that is included in the opening work in progress for property, but was capitalised as plant and equipment.
The transfer from infrastructure work in progress includes $0.298 million that is included in the opening work in progress for property, but was capitalised as infrastructure.
The write offs from plant and equipment work in progress includes $0.149 million that is included in the opening work in progress for infrastructure, but has been capitalised as an intangible asset.

Knox City Council
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6. 1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (cont'd)

(a) Property

	Land - specialised	Land - non specialised	Land improvements	**Total land**	Buildings - specialised	**Total buildings**	Work in progress	**Total property**
	$'000	$'000	$'000	**$'000**	$'000	**$'000**	$'000	**$'000**
At fair value 1 July 2025	928,793	177,100	-	**1,105,893**	420,188	**420,188**	-	**1,526,081**
At cost 1 July 2025	4,102	1,515	3,154	**8,771**	5,042	**5,042**	8,373	**22,186**
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2025	-	-	-	**-**	(190,640)	**(190,640)**	-	**(190,640)**
	932,895	178,615	3,154	**1,114,664**	234,590	**234,590**	8,373	**1,357,627**
Movements								
Additions at cost	-	-	-	**-**	4,914	**4,914**	10,294	**15,208**
Contributions	1,010	625	-	**1,635**	-	**-**	-	**1,635**
Revaluation	(35,397)	(1,004)	-	**(36,401)**	78,002	**78,002**	-	**41,601**
Disposal at fair value	-	(858)	-	**(858)**	(864)	**(864)**	-	**(1,722)**
Disposal at cost	-	-	-	**-**	-	**-**	-	**-**
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	**-**	-	**-**	-	**-**
Transfers	-	-	-	**-**	4,027	**4,027**	(4,337)	**(310)**
Write offs	-	-	-	**-**	-	**-**	(425)	**(425)**
	(34,387)	(1,237)	-	**(35,624)**	86,079	**86,079**	5,532	**55,987**
Movements in accumulated depreciation								
Depreciation and amortisation	-	-	-	**-**	(6,696)	**(6,696)**	-	**(6,696)**
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	-	-	-	**-**	556	**556**	-	**556**
Revaluation	-	-	-	**-**	(31,698)	**(31,698)**	-	**(31,698)**
	-	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(37,838)**	**(37,838)**	**-**	**(37,838)**
At fair value 30 June 2026	893,396	177,378	-	**1,070,774**	502,368	**502,368**	-	**1,573,142**
At cost 30 June 2026	5,112	-	3,154	**8,266**	8,941	**8,941**	13,905	**31,112**
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2026	-	-	-	**-**	(228,478)	**(228,478)**	-	**(228,478)**
Carrying amount	**898,508**	**177,378**	**3,154**	**1,079,040**	**282,831**	**282,831**	**13,905**	**1,375,776**

Knox City Council
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6. 1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (cont'd)

(b) Plant and equipment

	Plant, machinery and equipment	Fixtures, fittings and furniture	Computers and tele-communications	Artworks	Work in progress	**Total plant and equipment**
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	**$'000**
At cost 1 July 2025	15,155	2,035	1,817	1,369	660	**21,036**
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2025	(7,793)	(1,937)	(1,518)	-	-	**(11,248)**
	7,362	98	299	1,369	660	**9,788**
Movements						
Additions	2,303	36	-	25	117	**2,481**
Disposal	(2,336)	-	-	-	-	**(2,336)**
Transfers	241	21	-	-	(250)	**12**
Write offs	-	-	-	-	(401)	**(401)**
	208	**57**	**-**	**25**	**(534)**	**(244)**
Movements in accumulated depreciation						
Depreciation and amortisation	(1,366)	(34)	(110)	-	-	**(1,510)**
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	1,692	-	-	-	-	**1,692**
	326	**(34)**	**(110)**	**-**	**-**	**182**
At cost 30 June 2026	15,363	2,092	1,817	1,394	126	**20,792**
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2026	(7,467)	(1,971)	(1,628)	-	-	**(11,066)**
Carrying amount	**7,896**	**121**	**189**	**1,394**	**126**	**9,726**

Knox City Council
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6. 1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (cont'd)

(c) Infrastructure

	Roads	Bridges	Footpaths and cycleways	Drainage	Recreational, leisure and community facilities	Off street car parks	Other infrastructure	Work in progress	**Total infrastructure**
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	**$'000**
At fair value 1 July 2025	1,114,704	18,040	278,489	386,756	-	51,593	-	-	**1,849,582**
At cost 1 July 2025	7,704	2,639	-	8,859	112,735	2,547	6	23,238	**157,728**
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2025	(404,689)	(4,934)	(148,579)	(213,808)	(22,876)	(12,788)	(6)	-	**(807,680)**
	717,719	15,745	129,910	181,807	89,859	41,352	-	23,238	**1,199,630**
Movements									
Additions at cost	8,136	571	3,983	3,826	3,936	780	-	9,459	**30,691**
Contributions	3,796	20	664	2,597	24	-	-	-	**7,101**
Revaluation	(1,280)	(1,267)	-	167,355	-	(2,495)	-	-	**162,313**
Disposal at fair value	(6,276)	(48)	(2,827)	-	-	-	-	-	**(9,151)**
Disposal at cost	-	-	-	-	(541)	-	-	-	**(541)**
Transfers	3,842	2,651	3,569	3,428	6,758	1,076	-	(21,026)	**298**
Write offs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(710)	**(710)**
	8,218	1,927	5,389	177,206	10,177	(639)	-	(12,277)	**190,001**
Movements in accumulated depreciation									
Depreciation and amortisation	(12,122)	(235)	(4,479)	(4,991)	(2,916)	(670)	-	-	**(25,413)**
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	5,843	20	2,297	-	357	-	-	-	**8,517**
Revaluation	1,021	(948)	-	(81,924)	-	1,247	-	-	**(80,604)**
	(5,258)	(1,163)	(2,182)	(86,915)	(2,559)	577	-	-	**(97,500)**
At fair value 30 June 2026	1,107,148	22,606	275,662	572,821	-	49,098	-	-	**2,027,335**
At cost 30 June 2026	23,478	-	8,216	-	122,912	4,403	6	10,961	**169,976**
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2026	(409,948)	(6,097)	(150,761)	(300,723)	(25,434)	(12,211)	(6)	-	**(905,180)**
Carrying amount	**720,678**	**16,509**	**133,117**	**272,098**	**97,478**	**41,290**	**-**	**10,961**	**1,292,131**

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

6. 1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (cont'd)

Acquisition
Initial measurement
Council initially measures its property, infrastructure, plant and equipment assets at cost. The cost of an acquired asset is the fair value of the consideration that Council has provided at the date of acquisition plus any incidental costs attributable to the acquisition. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset (or paid to transfer a liability) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Refer to Note 8.4 for more information on how Council measures fair value.

Where assets are constructed by Council, cost includes all materials used in construction, direct labour, borrowing costs incurred during construction, and an appropriate share of directly attributable variable and fixed overheads.

In accordance with Council's policy, the threshold limits have applied when recognising assets within an applicable asset class and unless otherwise stated are consistent with the prior year.

Asset recognition thresholds and depreciation periods	Depreciation Period Years	Threshold Limit $'000
Land and land improvements		
Land	n/a	10
Land improvements	n/a	10
Land under roads	n/a	10
Buildings		
Buildings	20-200	10
Plant and equipment		
Plant, machinery and equipment	3-10	10
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	3-10	10
Computers and telecommunications	3-10	10
Artworks	n/a	10
Infrastructure		
Roads – surfacing	5-50	5
Roads – kerb and channel	70	5
Roads – substructure	30-185	20
Roads – earthworks	n/a	20
Bridges	30-100	5
Footpaths and cycleways	5-50	5
Drainage	80-100	5
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	15-60	10
Off street car parks	2-185	10
Other infrastructure	7-30	2
Intangible assets		
Software	5	10

Land under roads
Land under roads acquired after 30 June 2008 is brought to account at cost. Council does not recognise land under roads that it controlled prior to that date.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

6. 1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (cont'd)

Depreciation and amortisation
Buildings, plant and equipment, infrastructure and intangible assets having limited useful lives are systematically depreciated over their useful lives to the Council in a manner which reflects consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets. Estimates of remaining useful lives and residual values are made on a regular basis with major asset classes reassessed annually. Depreciation rates and methods are reviewed annually.

Where assets have separate identifiable components that are subject to regular replacement, these components are assigned distinct useful lives and residual values and a separate depreciation rate is determined for each component.

Land, land improvements, land under roads, roads - earthworks and artworks are not depreciated on the basis that they are assessed as not having a limited useful life.

Straight line depreciation is charged based on the residual useful life as determined each year.

Depreciation periods used are consistent with the prior year unless otherwise stated.

Repairs and maintenance
Where the repair relates to the replacement of a component of an asset and the cost exceeds the capitalisation threshold, the cost is capitalised and depreciated. The carrying value of the replaced asset is expensed.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

6. 1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (cont'd)

Valuation of land and buildings

Valuation of land and buildings were undertaken by Patrick Cantelo AAPI 108928 from Westlink Consulting, a qualified independent valuer. The valuation of land and buildings is at fair value, being market value based on highest and best use permitted by relevant land planning provisions. Where land use is restricted through existing planning provisions the valuation is reduced to reflect this limitation. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the Comprehensive Income Statement. Where land use is not restricted, highest and best use is assumed to be current use, except where the land is held for sale, or highly likely to be used for an alternative purpose within 12 months of the reporting date.

Specialised land is valued at fair value using site values adjusted for englobo (undeveloped and/or unserviced) characteristics, access rights and private interests of other parties and entitlements of infrastructure assets and services. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the Comprehensive Income Statement.

Any significant movements in the unobservable inputs for land will have a significant impact on the fair value of these assets.

The date and type of the current valuation is detailed in the following table.

Details of the Council's land and buildings and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2026 are as follows:

	Level 1 $'000	Level 2 $'000	Level 3 $'000	Date of valuation	Type of valuation
Land	-	177,378	-	June 2026	Full
Specialised land	-	-	893,396	June 2026	Full
Specialised buildings	-	-	274,128	June 2026	Full
Total	**-**	**177,378**	**1,167,524**		

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

6. 1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (cont'd)

Valuation of infrastructure
The valuation of bridges and drainage has been determined in accordance with a valuation undertaken by Mr Suthan Srimanoharan, B.Sc (Civil Eng), Asset Engineer, Knox City Council.

The date and type of the current valuation is detailed in the following table. The full valuations are at fair value based on current replacement cost less accumulated depreciation as at the date of valuation. The index based valuations were based on unit costs calculated as at the date of valuation after considering both Rawlinsons unit rates and supplier contract rates, together with the requirements of *AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement* which now considers the inclusion of site preparation costs, disruption costs and costs to restore another entity's assets in the underlying valuation.

A full revaluation of roads and off street car parks will be conducted in 2026-27 (last full revaluation in 2023-24, last index revaluation in 2024-25), and a full revaluation of footpaths and cycleways will be conducted in 2027-28 (last full revaluation in 2024-25).

The valuation is at fair value based on current replacement cost less accumulated depreciation as at the date of valuation.

Details of the Council's infrastructure and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2026 are as follows:

	Level 1 $'000	Level 2 $'000	Level 3 $'000	Date of valuation	Type of valuation
Roads	-	-	697,757	June 2025	Index
Bridges	-	-	16,509	June 2026	Full
Footpaths and cycleways	-	-	124,971	June 2025	Full
Drainage	-	-	272,098	June 2026	Full
Off street car parks	-	-	36,992	June 2025	Index
Total	**-**	**-**	**1,148,327**		

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

6. 1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (cont'd)

Description of significant unobservable inputs into level 3 valuations

Specialised land is valued using a market based direct comparison technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the extent and impact of restriction of use and the market cost of land per square metre. The extent and impact of restrictions on use varies and results in a reduction to surrounding land values between 0% and 50%. The market value of land varies significantly depending on the location of the land and the current market conditions. Currently land values range between $8 and $1,383 per square metre.

Specialised buildings are valued using a current replacement cost technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of buildings. Current replacement costs are calculated on a square metre basis and ranges from $298 to $6,799 per square metre. The remaining useful lives of buildings are determined on the basis of the current condition of buildings and vary up to 89 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of buildings are sensitive to changes in expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of buildings.

Infrastructure assets are valued based on the current replacement cost. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of infrastructure. The remaining useful lives of infrastructure assets are determined on the basis of the current condition of the asset and vary up to 185 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of infrastructure are sensitive to changes in use, expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of infrastructure assets.

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Reconciliation of specialised land at fair value		
Parks and reserves	803,323	837,228
Community facilities	32,974	34,476
Civic precinct	45,370	45,043
Transfer station	11,729	12,046
Total specialised land at fair value	**893,396**	**928,793**

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
6. 2 Investments in associates, joint arrangements and subsidiaries		
(a) Investment in associates		
Investment in associate accounted for by the equity method is:		
Your Library Limited (formerly Eastern Regional Libraries Corporation)	3,078	2,986

Your Library Limited

Background

The principal activity of Your Library Limited is the operation of libraries. Council's ownership interest of Your Library Limited as at 30 June 2026 was 36.39% (2025: 36.39%) based on Council's contribution of the net assets to the entity on its commencement on 1 July 2023. Council's proportion of voting power as at 30 June 2026 was 33.33% (2025: 33.33%).

On 27 June 2022, Knox City Council, Maroondah City Council and Yarra Ranges Council resolved, pursuant to Section 110(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, to participate in the formation of, and become a founding member of, Your Library Limited (a public company limited by guarantee). The Your Library Agreement reflects the Regional Library Agreement previously in place.

On 30 June 2023, in accordance with Section 330 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Eastern Regional Libraries Corporation was wound up following the transfer of operations, staff, assets and liabilities from the Corporation to Your Library Limited. Your Library Limited commenced operations on 1 July 2023.

The three member Councils contributed in accordance with the libraries outlined in the Your Library Agreement and have continued as before with the objective of servicing the local community with library services.

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Fair value of Council's investment in Your Library Limited	**3,078**	**2,986**
Council's share of accumulated surplus		
Council's share of accumulated surplus at start of year	2,986	2,747
Reported surplus/(deficit) for year	92	239
Council's share of accumulated surplus at end of year	**3,078**	**2,986**
Movement in carrying value of specific investment		
Carrying value of investment at start of year	2,986	2,747
Share of surplus/(deficit) for year	92	239
Carrying value of investment at end of year	**3,078**	**2,986**
Council's share of expenditure commitments		
Operating commitments	192	257
Council's share of expenditure commitments	**192**	**257**

Council directly provides a number of additional resources free of charge to Your Library Limited in relation to the library branches in the Knox municipality. The annual operating cost to Council for providing these facilities are as follows:

Knox City, Rowville, Ferntree Gully, Boronia and Bayswater Library Branches	1,555	1,354

An associate is an entity over which Council has significant influence but not control or joint control. Investment in an associate is accounted for using the equity method of accounting, after initially being recognised at cost.

Changes in the net assets of Your Library Limited are brought to account as an adjustment to the carrying value of the investment.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

Note 7 People and relationships

7. 1 Council and key management remuneration

(a) Related parties

Parent Entity
Knox City Council is the parent entity.

Associates
Your Library Limited. Interests in associates are detailed in Note 6.2.

(b) Key management personnel

Key management personnel (KMP) are those people with the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of Knox City Council. The Councillors, Chief Executive Officer, Directors and Executive Managers are deemed KMP.

Details of KMP at any time during the year are:

Councillors

Councillor Lisa Cooper (Mayor)	Mayor from 1 July 2025 to 20 November 2025 Councillor from 20 November 2025 to current
Councillor Paige Kennett (Mayor)	Councillor from 1 July 2025 to 20 November 2025 Mayor from 20 November 2025 to current
Councillor Glen Atwell (Deputy Mayor)	Deputy Mayor from 1 July 2025 to 20 November 2025 Councillor from 20 November 2025 to current
Councillor Chris Duncan (Deputy Mayor)	Councillor from 1 July 2025 to 20 November 2025 Deputy Mayor from 20 November 2025 to current
Councillor Meagan Baker	Councillor from 1 July 2025 to current
Councillor Parisa Considine	Councillor from 1 July 2025 to current
Councillor Peter Lockwood	Councillor from 1 July 2025 to current
Councillor Susan Pearce	Councillor from 1 July 2025 to current
Councillor Robert Williams	Councillor from 1 July 2025 to current

Chief Executive Officer and other key management personnel

Bruce Dobson – Chief Executive Officer	
Judy Chalkley - Director Connected Communities	
Greg Curcio - Director Customer and Performance	1 July 2025 to 22 September 2025
Matt Kelleher – Director City Liveability	1 July 2025 to 28 September 2025 21 November 2025 to 19 April 2026
Matt Kelleher – Interim Director Customer and Performance	29 September 2025 to 20 November 2025
Matt Kelleher – Director Customer and Performance	20 April 2026 to current
Navec Lorkin - Chief Financial Officer	
Jonathan McNally - Interim Director City Liveability	29 September 2025 to 20 November 2025 20 April 2026 to current
Grant Thorne - Director Infrastructure	
Liesl Westberry - Interim Director Customer and Performance	21 November 2025 to 17 April 2026

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

7. 1 Council and key management remuneration (cont'd)

	2026 No.	2025 No.
Total number of Councillors	9	16
Chief Executive Officer and other key management personnel	8	6
Total key management personnel	**17**	**22**

(c) Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

Remuneration comprises employee benefits including all forms of consideration paid, payable or provided by Council, or on behalf of the Council, in exchange for services rendered. Remuneration of Key Management Personnel and Other senior staff is disclosed in the following categories.

Short-term employee benefits include amounts such as wages, salaries, annual leave or sick leave that are usually paid or payable on a regular basis, as well as non-monetary benefits such as allowances and free or subsidised goods or services.

Other long-term employee benefits include long service leave, other long service benefits or deferred compensation.

Post-employment benefits include pensions, and other retirement benefits paid or payable on a discrete basis when employment has ceased.

Termination benefits include termination of employment payments, such as severance packages.

All calculations of remuneration are on an accrual basis and include movements in employee leave provisions.

The remuneration of Key Management Personnel includes the remuneration for Jonathan McNally in his role both as Interim Director City Liveability and as Manager City Safety and Health, and for Liesl Westberry in her role both as Interim Director Customer and Performance and as Manager Strategy and Transformation.

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Total remuneration of Key Management Personnel was as follows:		
Short-term employee benefits	2,532	2,275
Other long-term employee benefits	27	73
Post-employment benefits	225	187
Termination benefits	72	-
Total	**2,856**	**2,535**

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

7. 1 Council and key management remuneration (cont'd)

The numbers of Key Management Personnel whose total remuneration from Council and any related entities fall within the following bands:

	2026 No.	2025 No.
$1 - $9,999	-	5
$10,000 - $19,999	-	1
$20,000 - $29,999	-	6
$30,000 - $39,999	1	2
$40,000 - $49,999	4	1
$50,000 - $59,999	1	-
$60,000 - $69,999	1	-
$70,000 - $79,999	1	-
$80,000 - $89,999	1	-
$100,000 - $109,999	-	1
$110,000 - $119,999	1	-
$250,000 - $259,999	2	1
$270,000 - $279,999	1	-
$320,000 - $329,999	1	1
$330,000 - $339,999	-	2
$340,000 - $349,999	1	1
$360,000 - $369,999	1	-
$440,000 - $449,999	1	-
$480,000 - $489,999	-	1
Total	**17**	**22**

(d) Remuneration of other senior staff

Other senior staff are officers of Council, other than Key Management Personnel, whose total remuneration exceeds $170,000 (2024-25: $170,000) and who report directly to a member of the KMP.

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Total remuneration of other senior staff was as follows:		
Short-term employee benefits	2,997	3,142
Other long-term employee benefits	119	114
Post-employment benefits	372	379
Total	**3,488**	**3,635**

The number of other senior staff are shown below in their relevant income bands:

	2026 No.	2025 No.
Income range		
$170,000 - $179,999	1	1
$180,000 - $189,999	2	-
$190,000 - $199,999	-	3
$200,000 - $209,999	1	3
$210,000 - $219,999	1	3
$220,000 - $229,999	7	4
$230,000 - $239,999	3	3
$240,000 - $249,999	1	-
Total	**16**	**17**

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	2026	2025
	$'000	$'000

7. 2 Related party disclosure

(a) Transactions with related parties

During the period Council entered into the following transactions with related parties.

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Contributions to Your Library Limited	4,747	4,510
Total transactions with related parties	**4,747**	**4,510**

Council directly provides a number of additional resources free of charge to Your Library Limited in relation to library branches in the Knox municipality. The annual operating cost to Council for providing these facilities is as follows:

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Knox City, Rowville, Ferntree Gully, Boronia and Bayswater Library Branches	1,555	1,354

(b) Outstanding balances with related parties

There were no balances outstanding at the end of the reporting period in relation to transactions with related parties.

(c) Loans to / from related parties

There were no loans in existence at balance date that have been made, guaranteed or secured by the Council to a related party.

(d) Commitments to/from related parties

There were no commitments in existence at balance date that have been made, guaranteed or secured by the Council to a related party.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

Note 8 Managing uncertainties

8. 1 Contingent assets and liabilities

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet, but are disclosed and if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value. Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable respectively.

(a) Contingent assets

Contingent assets are possible assets that arise from past events, whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council.

Developer contributions
As a result of development activity within the Knox municipality, Council has identified as a contingent asset the developer contributions of infrastructure assets and open space contributions to be received in respect of subdivisions that are currently under development totalling $34.149 million (2024-25: $44.967 million).

(b) Contingent liabilities

Contingent liabilities are:
- possible obligations that arise from past events, whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council; or
- present obligations that arise from past events but are not recognised because:
- it is not probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; or
- the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

Superannuation
Council has obligations under a defined benefit superannuation scheme that may result in the need to make additional contributions to the scheme. Matters relating to this potential obligation are outlined below. As a result of the volatility in financial markets the likelihood of making such contributions in future periods exists.

Future superannuation contributions
In addition to the disclosed contributions, Knox City Council has paid unfunded liability payments to Vision Super totalling $Nil during 2025-26 (2024-25: $Nil). There were no contributions outstanding and no loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2026. The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2027 are $0.134 million.

Landfill
Council manages a former landfill at Wantirna Reserve. An Environment Protection Authority (EPA) appointed auditor has verified an Aftercare Management Plan for the site, with no further investigation works required at the site.

Council continues to manage its two former landfill sites at Cathies Lane and Llewellyn Reserve as required by the Duty to Manage letter issued by the EPA. Council has been advised that financial assurances are no longer required for these sites, but will continue to put aside appropriate funds for ongoing management at the sites. Council has calculated its ongoing management costs for a period up to 30 June 2034.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

8. 1 Contingent assets and liabilities (cont'd)

Insurance Claims
As a large local authority with ownership of numerous parks, reserves, roads and other land holdings, the Council is regularly met with claims and demands allegedly arising from an incident that occurs on land belonging to the Council, or allegedly arising from incidents relating to Council business, services or activities. There are ten outstanding insurance claims against the Council in this regard. The Council carries $600 million of public liability and professional indemnity insurance and has an excess of $0.050 million per claim on this policy. Therefore, the maximum liability of the Council in any single claim is the extent of its excess. The primary insurer is Liability Mutual Insurance (MAV Insurance). There are no claims that Council is aware of which would fall outside the terms of the Council's policy.

Liability Mutual Insurance
Council is a participant of the MAV Liability Mutual Insurance (LMI) Scheme. The LMI scheme provides public liability and professional indemnity insurance cover. The LMI scheme states that each participant will remain liable to make further contributions to the scheme in respect of any insurance year in which it was a participant to the extent of its participant's share of any shortfall in the provision set aside in respect of that insurance year, and such liability will continue whether or not the participant remains a participant in future insurance years.

8. 2 Australian Accounting Standards issued but not yet effective

Certain new Australian Accounting Standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2026 reporting period. Council assesses the impact of these new standards.

The Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) has issued *AASB 18 Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements* . When applicable AASB 18 supersedes *AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements* . AASB 18 aims to improve how entities communicate in their financial statements, with a focus on information about financial performance in the statement of profit or loss. It is expected to result in presentation and disclosure changes, primarily to Council's Comprehensive Income Statement. AASB 18 is expected to first apply to Council for the 2028-29 financial year.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

8. 3 Financial instruments

(a) Objectives and policies

The Council's principal financial instruments comprise cash assets, term deposits, receivables (excluding statutory receivables), payables (excluding statutory payables) and bank and TCV borrowings. Details of the material accounting policy information and methods adopted, including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised, in respect of each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument is disclosed in the notes of the financial statements. Risk management is carried out by senior management under policies approved by the Council. These policies include identification and analysis of the risk exposure to Council and appropriate procedures, controls and risk minimisation.

(b) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of council financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The Council's exposure to market risk is primarily through interest rate risk with only insignificant exposure to other price risks and no exposure to foreign currency risk.

Interest rate risk
Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Council's interest rate liability risk arises primarily from long term loans and borrowings at fixed rates which exposes council to fair value interest rate risk. Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Council has minimal exposure to cash flow interest rate risk through its cash and deposits that are at floating rates.

Investment of surplus funds is made with approved financial institutions under the *Local Government Act 2020* .
Council manages interest rate risk by adopting an investment policy that ensures:
- diversification of investment product;
- monitoring of return on investment; and
- benchmarking of returns and comparison with budget.

Other than the borrowings taken out by Council in February 2026, there has been no significant change in the Council's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing interest rate risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

Interest rate movements have not been sufficiently significant during the year to have an impact on the Council's year end result.

(c) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument and cause Council to make a financial loss. Council have exposure to credit risk on some financial assets included in the balance sheet. Particularly significant areas of credit risk exist in relation to outstanding fees and fines as well as loans and receivables from sporting clubs and associations. To help manage this risk:
- council have a policy for establishing credit limits for the entities council deal with;
- council may require collateral where appropriate; and
- council only invest surplus funds with financial institutions which have a recognised credit rating specified in council's investment policy.

Receivables consist of a large number of customers, spread across the ratepayer, business and government sectors. Credit risk associated with the council's financial assets is minimal because the main debtor is secured by a charge over the rateable property.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

8. 3 Financial instruments (cont'd)

There are no material financial assets which are individually determined to be impaired.

Council may also be subject to credit risk for transactions which are not included in the balance sheet, such as when council provide a guarantee for another party. Details of our contingent liabilities are disclosed in Note 8.1(b).

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount, net of any allowance for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements. Council does not hold any collateral.

(d) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk includes the risk that, as a result of Council's operational liquidity requirements, it will not have sufficient funds to settle a transaction when required, or will be forced to sell a financial asset at below value or may be unable to settle or recover a financial asset.

To help reduce these risks Council:
- has an investment policy which specifies the need to meet Council’s cash flow requirements;
- has readily accessible standby facilities and other funding arrangements in place;
- has a liquidity portfolio structure that requires surplus funds to be invested within various bands of liquid instruments;
- monitors budget to actual performance on a regular basis; and
- set limits on borrowings relating to the percentage of loans to rate revenue and percentage of loan principal repayments to rate revenue.

The Council's maximum exposure to liquidity risk is the carrying amounts of financial liabilities as disclosed on the face of the Balance Sheet and is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

There has been no significant change in Council's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing liquidity risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

With the exception of borrowings, all financial liabilities are expected to be settled within normal terms of trade. Details of the maturity profile for borrowings are disclosed at Note 5.4.

Unless otherwise stated, the carrying amounts of financial instruments reflect their fair value.

(e) Sensitivity disclosure analysis

Taking into account past performance, future expectations, economic forecasts and management’s knowledge and experience of the financial markets, Council believes the following movements are ‘reasonably possible’ over the next twelve months:
- A parallel shift of +1% and -1% in market interest rates (AUD) from year-end rates of 4.939%.

These movements will not have a material impact on the valuation of Council's financial assets and liabilities, nor will they have a material impact on the results of Council's operations, primarily due to all loans taken out by Council to date being on a fixed interest rate.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

8. 4 Fair value measurement

Fair value hierarchy
Council's financial assets and liabilities are not valued in accordance with the fair value hierarchy , Council's financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

Council measures certain assets and liabilities at fair value where required or permitted by Australian Accounting Standards. *AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement* aims to improve consistency and reduce complexity by providing a definition of fair value and a single source of fair value measurement and disclosure requirements for use across Australian Accounting Standards. For assets where Council adopts a current replacement cost approach to determine fair value, Council considers the inclusion of site preparation costs, disruption costs and costs to restore another entity's assets in the underlying valuation.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within a fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole:
Level 1 — Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
Level 2 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable; and
Level 3 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

For the purpose of fair value disclosures, Council has determined classes of assets and liabilities on the basis of the nature, characteristics and risks of the asset or liability and the level of the fair value hierarchy as explained above.

In addition, Council determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by re-assessing categorisation (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

Revaluation
Subsequent to the initial recognition of assets, non-current physical assets, other than land under roads, recreational, leisure and community facilities, plant and equipment, bus shelters, artworks and intangibles are measured at their fair value, being the price that would be received to sell an asset (or paid to transfer a liability) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. For plant and equipment carrying amount is considered to approximate fair value given short useful lives. At balance date, the Council reviewed the carrying value of the individual classes of assets measured at fair value to ensure that each asset materially approximated its fair value. Where the carrying value materially differed from the fair value at balance date the class of asset was revalued.

Fair value valuations are determined in accordance with a valuation hierarchy. Changes to the valuation hierarchy will only occur if an external change in the restrictions or limitations of use on an asset result in changes to the permissible or practical highest and best use of the asset. In addition, Council undertakes a formal revaluation of land, buildings, and infrastructure assets on a regular basis ranging from 2 to 3 years. The valuations are performed either by experienced Council officers or independent experts. The following table sets out the frequency of revaluations by asset class.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

8. 4 Fair value measurement (cont'd)

Asset Class	**Revaluation frequency**
Land	2 years
Buildings	2 years
Roads	3 years
Bridges	3 years
Footpaths and cycleways	3 years
Drainage	3 years
Off street car parks	3 years
Other infrastructure	3 years

Where the assets are revalued, the revaluation increments are credited directly to the relevant asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that an increment reverses a prior year decrement for that class of asset that had been recognised as an expense in which case the increment is recognised as revenue up to the amount of the expense. Revaluation decreases are recognised as an expense except where prior increases are included in the asset revaluation reserve for that class of asset in which case the decrease is taken to the reserve to the extent of the remaining increases. Within the same class of asset, revaluation increments and decrements within the year are offset. Refer to Note 9.1(a) for further information.

Impairment of assets
At each reporting date, the Council reviews the carrying value of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that these assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use, is compared to the assets carrying value. Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the comprehensive income statement, unless the asset is carried at the revalued amount in which case, the impairment loss is recognised directly against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that same class of asset. The impairment policy above does not apply to Council's property, infrastructure, specialised buildings and other non-current physical assets subsequently measured at fair value. These are primarily non-cash generating assets of not-for-profit entities, which are typically specialised in nature and held for continuing use of their service capacity. Their recoverable amount is expected to be materially the same as fair value determined under *AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement*, with the consequence that *AASB 136 Impairment of Assets* does not apply to such assets that are regularly revalued.

8. 5 Events occurring after balance date

No matters have occurred after balance date that require disclosure in the financial report.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

Note 9 Other Matters

9. 1 Reserves

(a) Asset revaluation reserve

	Balance at beginning of reporting period $'000	Increase (decrease) $'000	Balance at end of reporting period $'000
2026			
Property			
Land	919,802	(36,401)	883,401
Buildings	110,798	46,304	157,102
	1,030,600	**9,903**	**1,040,503**
Plant and equipment			
Artworks	31	-	31
	31	**-**	**31**
Infrastructure			
Roads	517,409	(259)	517,150
Bridges	2,662	(2,215)	447
Footpaths and cycleways	75,039	-	75,039
Drainage	122,893	85,431	208,324
Off street car parks	20,661	(1,248)	19,413
Other infrastructure	-	-	-
	738,664	**81,709**	**820,373**
Total asset revaluation reserve	**1,769,295**	**91,612**	**1,860,907**
2025			
Property			
Land	919,802	-	919,802
Buildings	83,979	26,819	110,798
	1,003,781	**26,819**	**1,030,600**
Plant and equipment			
Artworks	31	-	31
	31	**-**	**31**
Infrastructure			
Roads	396,146	121,263	517,409
Bridges	2,662	-	2,662
Footpaths and cycleways	31,418	43,621	75,039
Drainage	78,863	44,030	122,893
Off street car parks	3,400	17,261	20,661
Other infrastructure	-	-	-
	512,489	**226,175**	**738,664**
Total asset revaluation reserve	**1,516,301**	**252,994**	**1,769,295**

Nature and purpose of asset revaluation reserve
The asset revaluation reserve is used to record the increased (net) value of Council's assets over time.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

9. 1 Reserves (cont'd)

(b) Other reserves

	Balance at beginning of reporting period $'000	Transfer from accumulated surplus $'000	Transfer to accumulated surplus $'000	Balance at end of reporting period $'000
2026				
Restricted reserves				
Basketball stadium infrastructure reserve	-	-	-	-
Open space reserve	3,509	4,385	(7,385)	509
Total restricted reserves	**3,509**	**4,385**	**(7,385)**	**509**
Unrestricted reserves				
Aged care reserve	2,562	-	(2,562)	-
Defined benefits reserve	750	-	(750)	-
HACC capital reserve	512	-	(512)	-
Library reserve	1,505	-	(1,505)	-
Revegetation net gain	218	66	-	284
Scoresby Recreation Reserve	267	35	(96)	206
Social housing reserve	3,903	2,780	-	6,683
Unexpended grant reserve (Financial Assistance Grants)	4,700	7,934	(4,700)	7,934
Total unrestricted reserves	**14,417**	**10,815**	**(10,125)**	**15,107**
Total other reserves	**17,926**	**15,200**	**(17,510)**	**15,616**

	Balance at beginning of reporting period $'000	Transfer from accumulated surplus $'000	Transfer to accumulated surplus $'000	Balance at end of reporting period $'000
2025				
Restricted reserves				
Basketball stadium infrastructure reserve	72	-	(72)	-
Open space reserve	10,792	5,093	(12,376)	3,509
Total restricted reserves	**10,864**	**5,093**	**(12,448)**	**3,509**
Unrestricted reserves				
Aged care reserve	2,790	-	(228)	2,562
Defined benefits reserve	500	250	-	750
HACC capital reserve	512	-	-	512
Library reserve	1,505	-	-	1,505
Revegetation net gain	153	65	-	218
Scoresby Recreation Reserve	234	33	-	267
Social housing reserve	2,559	1,344	-	3,903
Unexpended grant reserve (Financial Assistance Grants)	-	4,700	-	4,700
Total unrestricted reserves	**8,253**	**6,392**	**(228)**	**14,417**
Total other reserves	**19,117**	**11,485**	**(12,676)**	**17,926**

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

9. 1 Reserves (cont'd)

Nature and purpose of other reserves

Basketball stadium infrastructure reserve (retired in 2024-25)
The purpose of this reserve is to improve basketball stadium facilities within the Knox municipality.

Open space reserve
The Open Space Reserve is used to provide funding for future purchases and improvements of open space. Funding is provided from developer's contributions for open space which is initially recognised in the Comprehensive Income Statement and then transferred to the reserve from accumulated surplus to facilitate separate tracking of the total funds received but not yet spent.

Aged care reserve (retired in 2025-26)
The purpose of this reserve is to set aside the proceeds from the divestment of the Amaroo Gardens Aged Care Facility by Council on 2 November 2011 for aged services and infrastructure within the Knox municipality.

Defined benefits reserve (retired in 2025-26)
The purpose of this reserve is to fund a defined benefits call should it be made.

HACC capital reserve (retired in 2025-26)
The purpose of this reserve is to refurbish, upgrade and maintain minor capital within the Home and Community Care funded programs.

Library reserve (retired in 2025-26)
The purpose of this reserve is for major capital expenditure for acquiring, refurbishing or redeveloping library premises as standalone premises or as part of community hubs for Knox Library branches.

Revegetation net gain
The purpose of this reserve is to ensure any loss of vegetation through development is re-established in a sustainable location.

Scoresby Recreation reserve
The purpose of this reserve is to invest the income derived from the lease of this site into the Scoresby Recreation Reserve.

Social housing reserve
The purpose of this reserve is to provide funding for the planning, development, construction and/or purchase of social housing for the Knox Community.

Unexpended grant reserve (Financial Assistance Grants)
The purpose of this reserve is to quarantine early payment of Victoria Grants Commission General Purpose and Local Roads Federal Grant funding for use in the following year.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

9. 2 Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus/(deficit)

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	30,738	12,239
Non-cash adjustments		
Depreciation	33,619	25,659
Amortisation - intangible assets	915	878
Depreciation - right of use assets	1,104	1,205
Allowance for impairment losses	591	508
Borrowing costs	3,567	3,767
Finance costs - leases	332	288
Net (gain)/loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	1,241	8,820
Contributions - non-monetary assets	(8,736)	(1,899)
Increment in investment in associate	(92)	(239)
Change in operating assets and liabilities		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(1,441)	(3,006)
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	(721)	104
(Increase)/decrease in contract assets	(337)	1,252
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	858	1,804
Increase/(decrease) in contract and other liabilities	(4,224)	2,991
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	113	(1,092)
Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities	848	389
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	(11)	1
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	**58,364**	**53,669**

9. 3 Superannuation

Knox City Council makes the majority of its employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (the Fund). This Fund has two categories of membership, accumulation and defined benefit, each of which is funded differently. Obligations for contributions to the Fund are recognised as an expense in the Comprehensive Income Statement when they are made or due.

Accumulation
The Fund's accumulation categories receive both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are normally based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings (for the year ended 30 June 2026, this was 12.0% as required under Superannuation Guarantee (SG) legislation (2025: 11.5%)).

Defined Benefit
Knox City Council does not use defined benefit accounting for its defined benefit obligations under the Fund's Defined Benefit category. This is because the Fund's Defined Benefit category is a pooled multi-employer sponsored plan.

There is no proportional split of the defined benefit liabilities, assets or costs between the participating employers as the defined benefit obligation is a floating obligation between the participating employers and the only time that the aggregate obligation is allocated to specific employers is when a call is made. As a result, the level of participation of Knox City Council in the Fund cannot be measured as a percentage compared with other participating employers. Therefore, the Fund Actuary is unable to allocate benefit liabilities, assets and costs between employers for the purposes of *AASB 119 Employee Benefits* .

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

9. 3 Superannuation (cont'd)

Funding arrangements

Knox City Council makes employer contributions to the Defined Benefit category of the Fund at rates determined by the Trustee on the advice of the Fund Actuary.

As at 30 June 2025, an interim actuarial investigation was held as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category.

The vested benefit index (VBI) of the Defined Benefit category as at 30 June 2025 (of which Knox City Council is a contributing employer) was 110.5%. The financial assumptions used to calculate the VBI were:

Net investment returns	5.7% pa
Salary information	3.5% pa
Price inflation (CPI)	2.6% pa

As at 30 June 2026, a triennial actuarial investigation is underway as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category. It is expected to be completed by 31 October 2026.

Vision Super has advised that the VBI at 30 June 2026 was 116.9%. Knox City Council was notified of the 30 June 2026 VBI during August 2026 (2025: August 2025). The financial assumptions used to calculate this VBI were:

Net investment returns	6.2% pa
Salary information	3.5% pa
Price inflation (CPI)	3.0% pa to 30 June 2029 and 2.6% pa thereafter

The VBI is used as the primary funding indicator. Because the VBI was above 100%, the 30 June 2025 actuarial investigation determined the Defined Benefit category was in a satisfactory financial position and that no change was necessary to the Defined Benefit category’s funding arrangements from prior years.

Employer contributions

Regular contributions

On the basis of the results of the 2025 interim actuarial investigation conducted by the Fund Actuary, Knox City Council makes employer contributions to the Fund’s Defined Benefit category at rates determined by the Fund’s Trustee. For the year ended 30 June 2026, this rate was 12.0% of members' salaries (11.5% in 2024-25). This rate is expected to increase in line with any increases in the SG contribution rate and was reviewed as part of the 30 June 2023 triennial valuation.

In addition, Knox City Council reimburses the Fund to cover the excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit.

Funding calls

If the Defined Benefit category is in an unsatisfactory financial position at an actuarial investigation or the Defined Benefit category‘s VBI is below its shortfall limit at any time other than the date of the actuarial investigation, the Defined Benefit category has a shortfall for the purposes of SPS 160 and the Fund is required to put a plan in place so that the shortfall is fully funded within three years of the shortfall occurring. The Fund monitors its VBI on a quarterly basis and the Fund has set its shortfall limit at 98% from 26 July 2024 (previously 97%).

In the event that the Fund Actuary determines that there is a shortfall based on the above requirement, the Fund’s participating employers (including Knox City Council) are required to make an employer contribution to cover the shortfall.

Using the agreed methodology, the shortfall amount is apportioned between the participating employers based on the pre-1 July 1993 and post-30 June 1993 service liabilities of the Fund’s Defined Benefit category, together with the employer’s payroll at 30 June 1993 and at the date the shortfall has been calculated.

Due to the nature of the contractual obligations between the participating employers and the Fund, and that the Fund includes lifetime pensioners and their reversionary beneficiaries, it is unlikely that the Fund will be wound up.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

9. 3 Superannuation (cont'd)

If there is a surplus in the Fund, the surplus cannot be returned to the participating employers.

In the event that a participating employer is wound-up, the defined benefit obligations of that employer will be transferred to that employer's successor.

The 2025 interim actuarial investigation surplus amounts
An actuarial investigation is conducted annually for the Defined Benefit category of which Knox City Council is a contributing employer. Generally, a full actuarial investigation is conducted every three years and interim actuarial investigations are conducted for each intervening year. An interim investigation was conducted as at 30 June 2025 while a full investigation was conducted as at 30 June 2023.

The Fund's actuarial investigation identified the following for the Defined Benefit category of which Knox City Council is a contributing employer:

	2025 Interim investigation	2024 Interim investigation	2023 Triennial investigation
A VBI surplus	$200.1 million	$108.4 million	$85.7 million
A total service liability surplus	$229.4 million	$141.4 million	$123.6 million
A discounted accrued benefits surplus	$242.8 million	$156.7 million	$141.9 million

The VBI surplus means that the market value of the fund's assets supporting the defined benefit obligations exceed the vested benefits that the defined benefit members would have been entitled to if they had all exited on 30 June 2025.

The total service liability surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's Defined Benefit category plus expected future contributions exceeds the value of expected future benefits and expenses as at 30 June 2025.

The discounted accrued benefit surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's Defined Benefit category exceeds the value of benefits payable in the future but accrued in respect of service to 30 June 2025.

The 2026 triennial actuarial investigation
A triennial actuarial investigation is being conducted for the Fund's position as at 30 June 2026 as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category. It is anticipated that this actuarial investigation will be completed by October 2026.

The last interim actuarial investigation conducted prior to 30 June 2026 was at 30 June 2025. The VBI of the Defined Benefit category at that date was 110.5%. The financial assumptions used to calculate the 30 June 2025 VBI were:

Net investment returns	5.7% pa
Salary information	3.5% pa
Price inflation (CPI)	2.6% pa

Council was notified of the 30 June 2025 VBI during August 2025.

Because the VBI was above 100%, the Defined Benefit category was in a satisfactory financial position at 30 June 2025 and it is expected that the actuarial investigation will recommend that no change will be necessary to the Defined Benefit category's funding arrangements from prior years.

Knox City Council
Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

9. 3 Superannuation (cont'd)

Superannuation contributions

Contributions by Knox City Council (excluding any unfunded liability payments) to the above superannuation plans for the financial year ended 30 June 2026 are detailed below:

Scheme	Type of scheme	Rate	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Vision super	Defined Benefit	12.0% (2025: 11.5%)	164	235
Other funds	Defined Benefit	12.0% (2025: 11.5%)	-	-
Vision super	Accumulation Fund	12.0% (2025: 11.5%)	3,267	3,340
Other funds	Accumulation Fund	12.0% (2025: 11.5%)	3,943	3,650

There were no contributions outstanding and no loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2026.

The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2027 is $0.134 million.

Note 10 Change in accounting policy

There have been no changes to accounting policies in the 2025-26 year.

Knox City Council

Performance Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2026

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Certification of the Performance Statement

In my opinion, the accompanying performance statement has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

Navec Lorkin FCPA
Principal Accounting Officer
14 September 2026

In our opinion, the accompanying performance statement of Knox City Council for the year ended 30 June 2026 presents fairly the results of council's performance in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

The performance statement contains the relevant performance indicators, measures and results in relation to service performance, financial performance and sustainable capacity.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render any particulars in the performance statement to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the council and by the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* to certify this performance statement in its final form.

Cr NAME
Councillor
14 September 2026

Cr NAME
Councillor
14 September 2026

Bruce Dobson
Chief Executive Officer
14 September 2026

Victorian Auditor-General’s Office audit report

<Insert VAGO report – page 1>

Victorian Auditor-General's Office audit report

<Insert VAGO report – page 2>

Section 1. Description of municipality

Located approximately 25 kilometres from Melbourne's central business district, the Knox municipality is a major hub of cultural, commercial, business and innovative activity in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne. It is a diverse municipality, with residents from over 160 different countries who speak over 139 languages.

The City of Knox has an estimated resident population of 163,820 (as at 30 June 2026) and covers an area of 113.84 square kilometres. The area boasts a green, leafy image extending to the foothills of the picturesque Dandenong Ranges. Knox consists of the following suburbs: Bayswater, Boronia, Ferntree Gully, Knoxfield, Lysterfield, Rowville, Scoresby, The Basin, Upper Ferntree Gully, Wantirna and Wantirna South.

Section 2. Service performance indicators

For the year ended 30 June 2026

Service/indicator/measure	2023	2024	Results 2025		2026	Comment
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target as per budget	Actual	
Aquatic Facilities						
Utilisation **Utilisation of aquatic facilities** [Number of visits to aquatic facilities/Municipal population]	2.03	2.09	2.22	N/A	2.33	Knox Leisureworks recorded 382,115 visits in 2025-26. This continues the upward-trend in visitation after 362,973 visits in 2024-25 and 337,582 visits in 2023-24.
Animal Management						
Health and safety **Animal management prosecutions** [Number of successful animal management prosecutions/Number of animal management prosecutions] x 100	91.67%	100.00%	100.00%	N/A	100.00%	Council prosecutes serious offences under the Domestic Animals Act, as well as matters involving repeat offenders who consistently show irresponsible pet ownership. The Council has maintained a 100% success rate in its prosecutions.
Food Safety						
Health and safety **Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications** [Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance outcome notifications about a food premises followed up/ Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance outcome notifications about a food premises] x 100	99.40%	100.00%	100.00%	N/A	98.02%	All critical non-compliance notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises were followed up, except for the five premises that closed before the follow up.

Service/indicator/measure	Results 2023	2024	2025		2026	Comment
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target as per budget	Actual	
Governance						
Satisfaction **Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement** [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with the consultation and engagement efforts of Council]	53	69	69	70	72	Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement increased by 3 points from 2025.
Libraries						
Participation **Library membership** [Percentage of the population that are registered library members/Population] x 100	New	28.92%	36.99%	N/A	45.20%	This increase in library membership is largely due to the continued success of Knox Library Ngarrgoo. Over 10,000 new Members have joined at the branch in 2025-26.
Maternal and Child Health (MCH)						
Participation **Participation in the MCH service** [Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year)/Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x 100	75.84%	77.21%	75.36%	N/A	73.47%	Team members are focusing on completing missed visit reports and ensuring those clients that have missed visits are invited to reschedule and attend their appointments.
Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children [Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year)/Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x 100	85.71%	81.63%	78.08%	N/A	71.24%	Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children decreased slightly in 2025-26. Proactive engagement has supported First Nations participation in the MCH service. We are constantly exploring engagement strategies to build collaboration and encourage participation.
Roads						
Condition **Sealed local roads below the intervention level** [Number of kilometres of sealed local roads below the renewal intervention level set by Council/Kilometres of sealed local roads] x 100	95.28%	91.18%	90.92%	91.00%	90.83%	The condition of Council's road network has remained steady, as confirmed by the 2023-24 full road condition audit. These audits are conducted every four years, with the next scheduled for 2026-27. Council maintains high road service standards and is progressively addressing renewal backlogs.

Service/indicator/measure	2023	2024	Results 2025		2026	Comment
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target as per budget	Actual	
Statutory Planning						
Service standard **Planning applications decided within the relevant required time** [(Number of regular planning application decisions made within 60 days) + (Number of VicSmart planning application decisions made within 10 days)/Number of planning application decisions made] x 100	71.12%	77.55%	76.73%	70.00%	72.22%	The percentage of planning applications decided within the legislated timeframe decreased slightly in 2025-26.
Waste Management						
Waste Diversion **Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill** [Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins/Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x 100	53.12%	72.87%	71.21%	72.00%	70.79%	The diversion rate is relatively consistent with the previous reporting period. The diversion rate has been impacted by the successful uptake of the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS), which has shifted recyclable materials away from Council's collection system, and lower green waste tonnages due to reduced rainfall. As a result, these materials are no longer included in our reported recycling figures, impacting the calculated diversion percentage. The diversion rate of 71% continues to place Knox as a leading Council in reducing waste to landfill and in a strong position to achieve state and Council goals on this key environmental indicator.

Note: Measures where no target was required for 2026 are noted as 'N/A'.

Section 3. Financial performance indicators

For the year ended 30 June 2026

Dimension/indicator/measure	Results					Forecasts				Comment
	2023	2024	2025	2026		2027	2028	2029	2030	
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target as per budget	Actual	Forecasts	Forecasts	Forecasts	Forecasts	
Efficiency										
Expenditure level **Expenses per property assessment** [Total expenses/Number of property assessments]	$3,034.26	$2,781.51	$2,918.69	$2,752.00	$2,830.50	$2,950.33	$2,965.96	$2,922.70	$2,972.45	The 2024-25 expenditure includes a net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment totalling $8.8 million, leading to an increase in the 2024-25 expenses per property assessment. Depreciation increased by $8.0 million in 2025-26 due to the $253 million revaluation increase for property and infrastructure at 30 June 2025. This was partially offset by the $5.3 million decrease in employee costs and materials and services, with this decrease largely due to the majority of kindergarten services from January 2025 being delivered by external providers.
Revenue level **Average rate per property assessment** [Sum of all general rates and municipal charges/Number of property assessments]	$1,623.38	$1,683.69	$1,732.46	N/A	$1,787.33	$1,837.74	$1,880.11	$1,923.53	$1,968.01	General rate income was increased by the approved rate cap percentage.

Dimension/indicator/measure	Results 2023	2024	2025	2026		Forecasts 2027	2028	2029	2030	Comment
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target as per budget	Actual	Forecasts	Forecasts	Forecasts	Forecasts	
Liquidity										
Working capital **Current assets compared to current liabilities** [Current assets/Current liabilities] x 100	163.35%	167.33%	151.45%	134.10%	166.67%	132.79%	133.21%	143.20%	125.58%	Cash and cash equivalents, together with other financial assets, are $2.7 million greater than last year, while trade and other receivables are up $2.0 million (including an increase in rates debtors of $1.7 million). Prepayments and contract assets increased by $1.1 million. The increase in trade and other payables of $1.2 million has been offset by the $4.2 million decrease in contract liabilities. Contract liabilities related to unearned grant income which decreased from $5.0 million to $0.8 million due to the completion of large capital projects, leading to the recognition of the grant income. The cash balance at 30 June 2026 is higher than the forecast years largely due to the 80% prepayment of the 2026-27 Financial Assistance Grants. The forecast years also include higher repayment of borrowings, and therefore higher current interest-bearing liabilities. Together these items lead to a reduction in the working capital ratio in the forecast years.

Dimension/indicator/measure	Results 2023	2024	2025	2026		Forecasts 2027	2028	2029	2030	Comment
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target as per budget	Actual	Forecasts	Forecasts	Forecasts	Forecasts	
Liquidity										
Unrestricted cash **Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities** [Unrestricted cash/Current liabilities] x 100	41.95%	45.73%	76.32%	N/A	90.83%	71.33%	73.68%	87.92%	72.14%	This measure has seen an increase in 2025-26 as a result of unrestricted cash increasing by $7.1 million, largely due to unspent conditional grant income decreasing by $4.2 million, together with statutory reserves decreasing by $3.5 million. Trust funds and deposits increased by $0.8 million. Current liabilities have decreased by $1.1 million, with the $4.2 million decrease in contract liabilities offset by an increase in trade and other payables ($1.2 million), interest-bearing liabilities ($0.9 million), and trust funds and deposits ($0.8 million). Contract liabilities related to unearned grant income which decreased from $5.0 million to $0.8 million due to the completion of large capital projects, leading to the recognition of the grant income. In the forecast years, the unrestricted cash ratio is forecast to decline because of a reduction in the year-end cash balances, while current liabilities will be higher due to the increased loan repayments. There is an exception in 2028-29 where there is a forecast reduction in the capital works program leading to an increase in the unrestricted cash balance in that year.

Dimension/indicator/measure	Results 2023	2024	2025	2026		Forecasts 2027	2028	2029	2030	Comment
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target as per budget	Actual	Forecasts	Forecasts	Forecasts	Forecasts	
Obligations										
Loans and borrowings **Loans and borrowings compared to rates** [Interest bearing loans and borrowings/Rate revenue] x 100	54.95%	56.42%	55.49%	N/A	51.74%	50.15%	48.47%	46.44%	36.62%	Borrowings totalling $6.0 million were taken out in the 2026 financial year, with further borrowings forecast in future years to fund projects within the capital works program. Borrowings totalling $9.6 million were repaid during the 2026 financial year. Rates and charges revenue increased by $4.1 million. The forecast years are decreasing in line with the increased repayment of debt, together with rates revenue being budgeted to increase in line with the forecast CPI.
Loans and borrowings **Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates** [Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings/Rate revenue] x 100	4.45%	6.61%	8.35%	N/A	8.45%	8.94%	9.46%	10.38%	10.44%	Borrowings totalling $6.0 million were taken out in the 2026 financial year, with further borrowings forecast in future years to fund projects within the capital works program. Borrowings totalling $9.6 million were repaid during the 2026 financial year, an increase of $0.7 million on the prior year. Rates and charges revenue increased by $4.1 million. We will continue to see an increase in the repayment of debt over the short-term, leading to an increase in this percentage over the four forecast years.

Dimension/indicator/measure	Results 2023	2024	2025	2026		Forecasts 2027	2028	2029	2030	Comment
	Actual	**Actual**	**Actual**	**Target as per budget**	**Actual**	**Forecasts**	**Forecasts**	**Forecasts**	**Forecasts**	
Obligations										
Indebtedness										
Non-current liabilities compared to own-source revenue [Non-current liabilities/Own-source revenue] x 100	45.56%	49.91%	47.05%	N/A	43.69%	40.61%	38.86%	36.38%	27.32%	Although borrowings totalling $6.0 million were taken out in the 2026 financial year, repayments of interest-bearing liabilities led to a decrease in non-current liabilities of $3.3 million. Own-source income increased by $5.9 million, including a $4.1 million increase in rates and charges revenue. Although further borrowings are forecast to be required up to 2028-29, loan repayments will be greater than the amounts borrowed leading to a decrease in non-current liabilities year-on-year. Own source revenue is forecast to increase each year, in particular rates and revenue income which is budgeted to increase in line with the forecast CPI. The impact of the forecast decrease in non-current liabilities and forecast increase in own-source revenue is driving the reduction overall in the ratio over the forecast period.

Dimension/indicator/measure	Results					Forecasts				Comment
	2023	2024	2025	2026		2027	2028	2029	2030	
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target as per budget	Actual	Forecasts	Forecasts	Forecasts	Forecasts	
Obligations										
Asset renewal and upgrade										
Asset renewal and upgrade compared to depreciation [Asset renewal and asset upgrade expense/Asset depreciation] x 100	186.26%	165.68%	183.78%	223.41%	140.90%	162.72%	131.54%	117.33%	122.06%	The 2025-26 actual ratio was lower than the target ratio due to the increase in depreciation of $8.0 million, with this being higher proportionally than the increase in asset renewal and upgrade expenditure, which increase by $0.2 million on the 2025 financial year. The 2026 target figure was higher than the 2025 actuals due to the carry forward from 2024-25 of works for pavilion upgrades that were largely funded by grant income. The increased depreciation was due to the amendments to AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement that led to a $253 million revaluation increase for property and infrastructure at 30 June 2025. The forecast years will continue to be impacted by the higher depreciation levels, impacting the ratio results.

Dimension/indicator/measure	Results 2023	2024	2025	2026		Forecasts 2027	2028	2029	2030	Comment
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target as per budget	Actual	Forecasts	Forecasts	Forecasts	Forecasts	
Operating Position										
Adjusted underlying result										
Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit) [Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit)/Adjusted underlying revenue] x 100	-9.13%	0.28%	2.39%	N/A	4.69%	2.45%	5.31%	5.87%	6.10%	The adjusted underlying result year-on-year is impacted by the timing of the Financial Assistance Grants. The Financial Assistance Grants are recognised when received. The 2025-26 result included 50% of the 2025-26 grant and an 80% prepayment of the 2026-27 grant. For the prior years, 2024-25 included 100% of the 2024-25 grant and 50% of the 2025-26 grant, while the 2023-24 grant was prepaid in the 2022-23 financial year. The 2026-27 forecast adjusted underlying result is impacted by the 80% prepayment of the 2026-27 Financial Assistance Grants, while at this stage we are forecasting for the consistent timing of the receipt of funding from 2027-28. In 2025-26, recurrent operating grant income decreased by $5.3 million, largely due to the decrease in kindergarten funding with the majority of kindergarten services from January 2025 being delivered by external providers. This also contributed to the $4.3 million decrease in employee costs. There was a $7.6 million decrease in the net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment, with this offset by the $8.0 million increase in depreciation. The increased depreciation was due to the amendments to AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement that led to a $253 million revaluation increase for property and infrastructure at 30 June 2025.

Dimension/indicator/measure	Results 2023	2024	2025	2026		Forecasts 2027	2028	2029	2030	Comment
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target as per budget	Actual	Forecasts	Forecasts	Forecasts	Forecasts	
Stability										
Rates concentration **Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue** [Rate revenue/Adjusted underlying revenue] x 100	70.15%	75.47%	71.97%	72.35%	73.81%	74.83%	75.22%	75.03%	75.21%	Recurrent operating grant income decreased by $5.3 million, largely due to the decrease in kindergarten funding with the majority of kindergarten services from January 2025 being delivered by external providers. Rates and charges revenue increased by $4.1 million. Overall this measure remains relatively stable with no expected significant changes impacting the forecast ratio results.
Rates effort **Rates compared to property values** [Rate revenue/Capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality] x 100	0.22%	0.23%	0.22%	N/A	0.23%	0.23%	0.22%	0.21%	0.20%	Rates and charges revenue increased by $4.1 million, while the capital improved value of rateable properties has increased by $172 million compared to the 2025 financial year. Overall this measure remains relatively stable with no expected significant changes impacting the forecast ratio results.

Section 4. Sustainable capacity indicators

For the year ended 30 June 2026

Indicator/measure	Results 2023	2024	2025	2026	Comment
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	
Population **Expenses per head of municipal population** [Total expenses/Municipal population]	$1,313.42	$1,196.75	$1,254.25	$1,222.39	The 2024-25 expenditure includes a net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment totalling $8.8 million, leading to an increase in the 2024-25 expenses per property assessment. Depreciation increased by $8.0 million in 2025-26 due to the $253 million revaluation increase for property and infrastructure at 30 June 2025. This was partially offset by the $5.3 million decrease in employee costs and materials and services, with this decrease largely due to the majority of kindergarten services from January 2025 being delivered by external providers.
Infrastructure per head of municipal population [Value of infrastructure/Municipal population]	$6,872.31	$7,331.59	$8,893.83	$9,758.23	Infrastructure per head of municipal population increased in 2026 compared to 2025 as a result of the infrastructure value increasing by $146.2 million, with additions of $48.4 million and a revaluation increase of $128.0 million being partially offset by a decrease in infrastructure value due to depreciation and disposals. The municipal population increase was proportionately lower, with an actual increase of 518.
Population density per length of road [Municipal population/Kilometres of local roads]	219.87	221.84	223.82	224.53	The municipal population has increased by 518, with no change in kilometres of local road, leading to the overall slight increase in this measure.
Own-source revenue **Own-source revenue per head of municipal population** [Own-source revenue/Municipal population]	$975.96	$1,021.63	$1,066.72	$1,099.40	Own-source revenue has increased by $5.9 million, including a $4.1 million increase in rates and charges revenue. The municipal population has increased by 518. Relatively, this has caused minor increases year-on-year in the own-source revenue measure overall.
Recurrent grants **Recurrent grants per head of municipal population** [Recurrent grants/Municipal population]	$162.75	$104.49	$186.54	$153.94	Recurrent operating grant income decreased by $5.3 million, largely due to the decrease in kindergarten funding with the majority of kindergarten services from January 2025 being delivered by external providers.

Indicator/measure	Results				Comment
	2023	2024	2025	2026	
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	
Disadvantage					
Relative socio-economic disadvantage	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	
[Index of relative socio-economic disadvantage by decile]					
Workforce turnover					
Percentage of staff turnover	17.7%	15.5%	21.7%	15.7%	Council ceased direct delivery of kindergarten services in 2024–25, with external providers now assuming this responsibility. This change involved a business transfer and several redundancies. The staff turnover in the 2026 financial year is comparable to the 2024 financial year figure.
[Number of permanent staff resignations and terminations/Average number of permanent staff for the financial year] x 100					

Section 5. Notes to the accounts

5.1 Basis of preparation

Council is required to prepare and include a Performance Statement within its annual report. The Performance Statement includes the results of the prescribed service performance, financial performance and sustainable capacity indicators and measures together with a description of the municipal district, an explanation of material variations in the results and notes to the accounts. This statement has been prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* (Vic) and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* (Vic).

Where applicable, the results in the Performance Statement have been prepared on accounting bases consistent with those reported in the financial statements. The other results are based on information drawn from Council information systems or from third parties such as the Australian Bureau of Statistics or Council's community satisfaction survey provider.

The Performance Statement presents the actual results for the current year and the previous three years, along with the current year's target, if mandated by the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* (Vic). Additionally, for the prescribed financial performance indicators and measures, the Performance Statement includes the target budget for the current year and the results forecast for the period 2026-27 to 2029-30 by the council's financial plan.

The *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* (Vic) require explanation of any material variations in the results contained in the Performance Statement. Council has adopted materiality thresholds relevant to each indicator and measure and explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality thresholds unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

The forecast figures included in the Performance Statement are those adopted by Council in its Financial Plan on 22 June 2026. The Financial Plan includes estimates based on key assumptions about the future that were relevant at the time of adoption and are aimed at achieving sustainability over the long term. Detailed information on the actual financial results is contained in the general-purpose financial statements. The Financial Plan is available on Council's website: Financial Plan 2025 to 2035 | Knox.

5.2 Definitions

Key term	Definition
Aboriginal children	a child who is an Aboriginal person
Aboriginal person	has the same meaning as in the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* (Vic)
adjusted underlying revenue	total income other than: non-recurrent grants used to fund capital expenditure; and non-monetary asset contributions; and contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above
adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)	adjusted underlying revenue less total expenditure
annual report	an annual report prepared by a council under section 98 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (Vic)
asset renewal expenditure	expenditure on an existing asset or on replacing an existing asset that returns the service capability of the asset to its original capability
asset upgrade expenditure	expenditure that (a) enhances an existing asset to provide a higher level of service; or (b) extends the life of the asset beyond its original life
critical non-compliance outcome notification	a notification received by Council under section 19N(3) or (4) of the *Food Act 1984* (Vic), or advice given to Council by an authorised officer under that Act, of a deficiency that poses an immediate serious threat to public health
current assets	has the same meaning as in the Australian Accounting Standards
current liabilities	has the same meaning as in the Australian Accounting Standards
food premises	has the same meaning as in the *Food Act 1984* (Vic)
intervention level	the level set for the condition of a road beyond which Council will not allow the road to deteriorate and will need to intervene
local road	a sealed or unsealed road for which Council is the responsible road authority under the *Road Management Act 2004* (Vic)
major non-compliance outcome notification	a notification received by a council under section 19N(3) or (4) of the *Food Act 1984* (Vic), or advice given to council by an authorised officer under that Act, of a deficiency that does not pose an immediate serious threat to public health but may do so if no remedial action is taken
maternal and child health (MCH)	stands for the Maternal and Child Health Service provided by Council to support the health and development of children within the municipality from birth until school age
non-current liabilities	all liabilities other than current liabilities
own-source revenue	adjusted underlying revenue other than revenue that is not under the control of Council (including government grants)
population	the resident population estimated by Council
rate revenue	revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges
relative socio-economic disadvantage	in relation to a municipal district, the relative socio-economic disadvantage, expressed as a decile for the relevant financial year, of the area in which the municipal district is located

Key term	Definition
	according to the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage in Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), Australian Bureau of Statistics
restricted cash	cash, cash equivalents and financial assets, within the meaning of the Australian Accounting Standards, not available for use other than for a purpose for which it is restricted, and includes cash to be used to fund capital works expenditure from the previous financial year
SEIFA	Stands for the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas published from time to time by the Australian Bureau of Statistics on its website
unrestricted cash	means all cash and cash equivalents other than restricted cash

4.2 Minor Grants Program 2026-2027 Monthly Report - September 2026

Final Report Destination: Mid Month
Paper Type: For Decision
Author: Community Grants Officer, Bryony Lee
Senior Community Grants Officer, Kim Johnstone
Manager: Manager Community Strengthening, Kerryn Jansons
Executive: Director Connected Communities, Judy Chalkley

SUMMARY
This report summarises the grant applications recommended for approval in September 2026 for the 2026-2027 Minor Grants Program. All applications have been assessed against the criteria set out in the Knox City Council Community Grants Guidelines 2026-2027 (Guidelines).

Applications under the Minor Grants Program are limited to a maximum of $2,500.00 within the current financial year.

RECOMMENDATION
That Council resolve to:
1. Approve in full, eight applications under the Minor Grants Program for a total of $18,545.00 (excluding GST) as detailed below:

Applicant Name	Project Title	Amount Requested (inc. GST)	Amount Recommended (excl. GST)
Australian Jazz Museum	**Jazz on the Move** Delivers live jazz performances and music education sessions to retirement villages, community centres, libraries and schools across Knox.	$2,014.97	$1,831.79 (lesser amount due to GST)
Fab Nobs Theatre Inc.	**LED Theatre Lights** Replaces outdated stage lighting with energy-efficient LED fixtures, reducing energy consumption and heat while improving safety, comfort and performance quality.	$2,000.00	$2,000.00
Guy Turner Reserve Tennis Club Inc.	**Court 5-line Replacement** Replacement of loose, raised and broken court lines on Court 5 (en tout cas surface), which currently present a trip hazard and safety liability to players.	$2,500.00	$2,500.00
Rotary Club of Boronia Inc.	**Men's Hub Mental Health Project - Safety Items** Purchase of a comprehensive first aid kit and a defibrillator for the weekly Men's Hub mental health group, so the club can respond safely to any medical	$2,458.00	$2,458.00

Applicant Name	Project Title	Amount Requested (inc. GST)	Amount Recommended (excl. GST)
	incident during sessions.		
Rowville Eagles FC	**Pavilion Audio Equipment** Purchase of portable audio and event equipment to improve communication, safety announcements and engagement at club activities.	$2,500.00	$2,500.00
Sherbrooke Little Athletics Club (based in Knox)	**Funding to Provide Non-Branded Competition Singlets and T-Shirts** Provision of non-branded competition uniforms to Little Athletics participants, removing a financial barrier to participation and building team identity.	$2,482.48	$ 2,482.48
The Basin Cricket Club	**Gecko Cricket Pitch Cover Spindle Project** Funding for a new Gecko cricket pitch cover spindle for Batterham Oval 1	$2,500.00	$2,500.00
Waverley Industries LTD.	**Bayswater De-Escalation and Occupational Violence and Aggressing (OVA) Training for Support Mentors** Provides de-escalation and occupational violence training for support of mentors, enhancing staff capability, safety and client support at Bayswater.	$2,500.00	$2,272.73 (lesser amount due to GST)
Total		**$18,955.45**	**$18,545.00**

2. Partially approve two applications under the Minor Grants Program for a total of $1,165.90 (excluding GST) as detailed below:

Applicant Name	Project Title	Reason for Partial	Amount Requested (inc. GST)	Amount Recommended (excl. GST)
Studfield Wantirna Community News	CNAV Conference 2026	Partial funding is recommended, with funding limited to conference registration fees. The conference is being held in Geelong, outside Knox. Accommodation costs primarily benefit individual attendees and do not provide a direct benefit to Knox residents.	$1,459.00	$400.00
The Basin Community House Inc.	The Basin Progress Kitchen Equipment Update	Partial funding is recommended for the hot water urn and pie warmer. Funding has not been recommended for the oven due to the Guidelines' exclusion of capital works and fixed assets.	$2,500.00	$765.90 (partial amount less GST)

Applicant Name	Project Title	Reason for Partial	Amount Requested (inc. GST)	Amount Recommended (excl. GST)
Total			**$3,959.00**	**$1,165.90**

3. Defer three applications under the Minor Grants Program requesting a total of $7,500.00 as detailed below:

Applicant Name	Project Title	Reason for Deferral	Amount Requested
Society of St Vincent de Paul (Victoria), Boronia Conference	Christmas Hampers	Application deferred to the next Council meeting, at the applicant's request, to allow additional time to obtain and submit the outstanding supporting information, including the required quotes for expenditure items. The Grants Team provided advice and guidance via email and telephone to assist the applicant in addressing the outstanding requirements.	$2,500.00
Rajasthani Kutumb of Victoria Inc.	Rajkov Diwali Event	Application deferred to allow additional time to address outstanding application requirements, including clarification and adjustment of the catering costs requested, which exceeded the maximum 20 per cent of the grant amount permitted under the grant guidelines, as well as confirmation of the event location and event date. The Grants Team provided advice and guidance via email and telephone to assist the applicant in addressing these requirements.	$2,500.00
St Jude's Parish Scoresby	Establishment of a Men's Club	Application deferred as the proposed project/activity start date is prior to the Council meeting at which the application is scheduled to be considered. Under the Minor Grants Program Guidelines, projects or activities must commence after the Council meeting date at which funding is approved. The Grants Team has provided advice and guidance via email and telephone regarding this requirement and will continue to work with the applicant, encouraging them to amend the	$2,500.00

		project start date so the application can be considered in a future Minor Grants round.	
Total			**$7,500.00**

4. Refuse four ineligible applications under the Minor Grants Program requesting a total of $8,369.90 as detailed below:

Applicant Name	Project Title	Reason for ineligibility	Amount Requested
Ferntree Gully News	CNAV Conference 2026 - Accommodation	The application seeks funding solely for accommodation costs associated with attending a conference in Geelong, outside Knox. Accommodation costs primarily benefit individual attendees and do not provide a direct benefit to Knox residents.	$1,942.00
Glen Park Community Centre	Safe and comfortable seating	The organisation is located outside the Knox municipality. As per the grant guidelines, funding is only available where the organisation or activity is located within the Knox municipality, or where the program/activity can demonstrate that it predominantly supports and benefits Knox residents.	$2,298.00
Shishukunj Melbourne Inc.	Jeevan Ghadtar Shibir	Seeking funding for a three-day youth camp. As per the grant guidelines, camps that include overnight stays are not eligible for funding.	$2,500.00
Uncle Nine Neighbourhood Centre Inc.	Knox Active Holidays: Youth Pickleball & Badminton Sports Day	Organisation is based outside Knox, and insufficient information was provided to demonstrate a clear benefit to Knox residents. Despite requests for additional information, inconsistencies remained regarding the organisation's details, proposed activity locations, and target participants.	$1,629.90
Total			**$8,369.90**

5. Note that should the recommended Minor Grants be approved by Council, the remaining budget for 2026-2027 will be $97,755.62 after GST adjustments.

1. DISCUSSION

1.1 Background

The Minor Grants Program provides a pool of grant funding that can respond monthly to requests for small amounts of funding to assist with short term, one-off projects or initiatives that are relatively minor in nature.

The objective of the Minor Grants Program is to be an accessible and responsive funding source to assist a wide range of community-led activities across the municipality and support volunteer effort and civic participation.

It operates under the principles of other Knox Council grants programs to ensure:

- Funded projects will provide benefit to the Knox community and help meet Council objectives;
- Co-operation and collaboration between groups will be encouraged;
- The grant process will be consistent, equitable and transparent; and
- The grant process will support and strengthen community groups in developing local solutions to local needs.

Applications are assessed against criteria specified in the Community Grants Guidelines (approved in April 2026), to determine the eligibility of the applicant organisation and the eligibility of the grant application.

The Guidelines and Council's Grant Framework Policy set out an open and transparent grant program that meets the principles of good governance and is compliant with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020.

In accordance with the Guidelines, applications for funding have been assessed by the Chief Executive Officer, or delegate, for Council's approval.

This report presents to Council the recommendations for recent Minor Grant applications in accordance with the Guidelines.

1.2 Applications Recommended for Approval

Seventeen applications have been assessed this month, requesting grants totaling $38,784.35 (including GST). Of the seventeen, ten are recommended for approval, with eight recommended for full funding and two for partial funding. A summary of the projects recommended is in Attachment 1.

1.3 Applications Recommended for Deferral

Three applications are recommended for deferral to the October 2026 Mid-Month Meeting of Council as we await further information regarding their application:

- Society of St Vincent de Paul (Victoria), Boronia Conference;
- Rajasthani Kutumb of Victoria Inc.; and
- St Jude's Parish Scoresby.

These groups will be encouraged to provide the additional information prior to the deadline for the October 2026 Mid-Month Meeting of Council.

1.4 Applications Recommended Ineligible

Four applications have been assessed as ineligible and are recommended for no funding:

- Ferntree Gully News;
- Glen Park Community Centre;
- Shishukunj Melbourne Inc.; and
- Uncle Nine Neighbourhood Centre Inc.

2. ENGAGEMENT

Engagement is undertaken with organisations in relation to their grant applications whenever possible and if necessary, to clarify details regarding their applications prior to Council's consideration.

Advice or information may be sought from Officers across Council in relation to either the applying organisation or the proposed project, or both, if considered necessary.

The Guidelines specify assessment can occur by the Chief Executive Officer, or delegate, and make recommendation for Council's determination.

3. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Minor Grants Program allows Council to respond promptly to requests from Knox- based community groups for small amounts of funding to assist a variety of community-based programs, projects or activities. Council's Minor Grants are a simple and streamlined source of funding that can make a significant difference for local community organisations in need of short-term, specific purpose assistance.

4. CLIMATE CHANGE CONSIDERATIONS

Implementation of the recommendation is considered to have no direct implications or has no direct impacts upon Council's Net Zero 2030 target, the Community Net Zero 2040, exposure to climate risks or climate change adaptation.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no environmental considerations associated with this report.

6. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The approval of Minor Grants is managed within Council's adopted budget. The 2026-2027 budget provides $160,614.00 for the Minor Grants Program plus returned grants of $373.34 which increased the budget to $160,987.34.

Funding commitments to date are summarised below:

Yearly Summary 2026-27	Total Amount Approved at Council Meeting (Excluding GST)
July 2026	$29,324.54
August 2026	$14,196.28
September 2026	$
October 2026	$
November 2026	$

Yearly Summary 2026-27	Total Amount Approved at Council Meeting (Excluding GST)
December 2026	$
January 2027	$
February 2027	$
March 2027	$
April 2027	$
May 2027	$
Totals (Year to Date)	**$43,520.82**

Recommended applications for the September period total $19,710.90 (excluding GST).

If approved as recommended, the remaining Minor Grants budget for 2026-27 will total $97,755.62 (excluding GST).

7. RISKS

Any risks associated with administering the Minor Grant Program are managed through the implementation of Council's Grant Framework Policy Grant Guidelines. All Minor Grants must be acquitted, and evidence of expenditure must be provided by the organisation.

The Guidelines and Council's Grant Framework Policy set out an open and transparent grant program that meets the principles of good governance and is compliant with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020.

In accordance with the Guidelines, applications for funding have been assessed by the Chief Executive Officer, or their delegate, for Council or delegate approval as appropriate.

8. COUNCIL AND HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN 2025-2029

Enhancing community connection to vital services and resources

Strategy 1.3 - Local businesses and our economy are strong and resilient and there are increased employment opportunities through development, attracting investment, embracing technology and innovation, and advocacy.

Strategy 1.5 - Our community's health and wellbeing is improved through proactive planning, delivery, partnerships and advocacy that enable access to services, education and programs.

Embracing connection, inclusion and diversity

Strategy 2.1 - Our community's diverse needs are addressed by ensuring equity and inclusion are considered in decision making and strategic planning.

Strategy 2.2 - Cultural diversity is celebrated through assisting, participating in, facilitating and delivering accessible programs, initiatives and events in partnership with our community, community groups and service providers.

Strategy 2.4 - There are opportunities for social connection and active living through planning, provision of facilities, program delivery and support for local groups.

Leading, listening and governing responsibly

Strategy 4.2 - Our diverse community is informed and has opportunities to participate and provide feedback through clear and meaningful communication and engagement.

Strategy 4.4 - The changing needs of our community are met through informed policy and strategy that maximises value, collaboration and partnerships with other councils and local organisations.

9. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

10. STATEMENT OF COMPATIBILITY

There are no legislative obligations under the Human Rights Charter, Child Safe Standards or the Gender Equity Act that are incompatible with the recommendation in this report.

11. CONFIDENTIALITY

There is no content in this report that meets the definition of confidential information from the Local Government Act 2020.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - Mid Month Minor Grant Council Report Applications - September 2026 [**4.2.1** - 10 pages]

Minor Grant Program Applications
September 2026

Australian Jazz Museum

Application Number	2627-MGP004		
Organisation Name	Australian Jazz Museum		
Grant Program	Minor Grants Program		
Project Title	Jazz on the Move		
Project Start Date	05/10/2026	**Project End Date**	30/09/2027
Knox Beneficiaries	300		
Total Amount Requested	$2014.97		
Request Details	The Australian Jazz Museum (AJM) seeks support to deliver Jazz on the Move, a mobile community outreach program bringing live jazz, music appreciation, and Australian jazz history directly to Knox communities. Rather than expecting audiences to visit the museum, AJM volunteers and musicians will travel to retirement villages, community centres, libraries, schools, and other local venues with a portable display, audio equipment, and educational materials. Each session will include a live or recorded jazz performance, an engaging presentation on Australia's jazz heritage, opportunities for storytelling and discussion, and hands-on displays of historical photographs, posters, and memorabilia. The project will make jazz more accessible to residents of all ages, particularly older adults and those with limited mobility, while showcasing the unique cultural collection preserved by the Australian Jazz Museum. Funding will support the purchase of essential portable equipment, including two vocal microphones ($353.98), a portable PA system ($529.00), microphone cables ($31.99), and the production of 10 short educational videos ($1,100.00) that will enhance program delivery and extend community access to Australian jazz history beyond face-to-face sessions.		
Community Benefit	This project strengthens social connection, lifelong learning, and community wellbeing by making cultural experiences accessible to people who may be unable to visit the museum. Older adults, including retirement village residents, will enjoy opportunities to reminisce, share memories, and connect through music, helping reduce social isolation and support positive ageing. School presentations will introduce young people to Australia's rich jazz heritage, encouraging intergenerational learning and appreciation of local culture. The program also creates meaningful volunteer opportunities for AJM members, who will share their knowledge and passion with the community. By bringing music, history, and conversation into neighbourhood venues across Knox, the project promotes inclusion, celebrates local cultural heritage, and encourages ongoing participation in community arts and cultural activities.		

Minor Grant Program Applications
September 2026

Fab Nobs Theatre Inc

Application Number	2627-MGP051		
Organisation Name	Fab Nobs Theatre Inc		
Grant Program	Minor Grants Program		
Project Title	LED THEATRE LIGHTS		
Project Start Date	15/09/2026	**Project End Date**	30/12/2026
Knox Beneficiaries	305		
Total Amount Requested	$2000.00		
Request Details	Funding will support the purchase of four Beamz Pro BTF440Z Mini Fresnel Zoom 4x40W RGBW LED stage lights. Fab Nobs is gradually replacing its old incandescent stage lights with energy-efficient LED lighting. The existing incandescent lights use more power, generate significant heat, and require more frequent globe replacement. The new LED lights will help reduce energy consumption, lower heat output, and create a more comfortable environment for performers on stage. These lights are not permanent fixtures. They are attached to existing lighting bars and can be moved and repositioned as required when lighting rigs are changed for different productions and events. The longer lifespan of LED globes will also reduce ongoing replacement requirements and maintenance costs.		
Community Benefit	The LED lights are much more environmentally friendly and more user friendly for our technicians, designers and other volunteers helping with lighting rigging and plotting. Our junior and adult performers will be able to perform at a higher and more comfortable level without a reduced possibility of overheating on stage. The reduced amount of power usage will reduce our carbon footprint and mean that funds can be channelled elsewhere. We perform and rehearse all year round including the Summer months. Less radiant heat from the stage will also increase the comfort of our audiences.		

Minor Grant Program Applications
September 2026

Guy Turner Reserve Tennis Club INC.

Application Number	2627-MGP064		
Organisation Name	Guy Turner Reserve Tennis Club INC.		
Grant Program	Minor Grants Program		
Project Title	Court 5 line replacement		
Project Start Date	22/09/2026	**Project End Date**	23/09/2026
Knox Beneficiaries	120		
Total Amount Requested	$2500.00		
Request Details	Risk & Safety Impact: The lines on court 5 (en tout cas surface) of our tennis club have become loose, raised and broken in several locations and have become a severe liability, creating direct trip hazards during play that cause acute ankle sprains and joint injuries. Unseated metal fasteners also damage the sub-base, accelerating court erosion and compromising play integrity. Remediation Scope of Work -Extraction: Remove compromised tape sections and pull degraded metal fasteners. -Base Preparation: Regrade, moisten, and compact crushed brick dust to restore a flush foundation. -Installation: Lay heavy-duty, UV-stabilized PVC tape along high-tension sightlines, anchoring with galvanized nails. -Integration: Dress with fine clay matrix and roll to ensure a seamless, non-hazard playing surface.		
Community Benefit	replacing all the damaged court lines that currently present a likely risk to injury will make the court safe for all players at our club including our night tennis teams, junior teams, social players, casual use members and non-members, kids participating in coaching (including kids from other clubs affiliated with our coaching partner) and kids from primary schools in the local area involved in tennis in schools programs		

Minor Grant Program Applications
September 2026

Rotary Club of Boronia Inc.

Application Number	2627-MGP056		
Organisation Name	Rotary Club of Boronia Inc.		
Grant Program	Minor Grants Program		
Project Title	Men's Hub Mental Health Project - Safety Items		
Project Start Date	28/09/2026	**Project End Date**	23/11/2026
Knox Beneficiaries	150		
Total Amount Requested	$2458.00		
Request Details	Funding will support the purchase of a defibrillator and comprehensive first aid kit to improve safety at the Men's Hub program held at the Scout Hall on Chandler Road. To provide the Men's Hub activity within the Scout Hall in Chandler Road the safety equipment items they need to ensure we can meet any incident that occurs. At least 15 men and 4 Rotarians attend the session each Wednesday and they are not all in great health. A comprehensive First Aid Kit is to be purchased A defibrillator to be purchased.		
Community Benefit	Should an accident or incident happen we will be able to respond and save a life. Members are trained in the use of the safety equipment.		

Minor Grant Program Applications
September 2026

Rowville Eagles FC

Application Number	2627-MGP053		
Organisation Name	Rowville Eagles FC		
Grant Program	Minor Grants Program		
Project Title	Pavilion audio equipment		
Project Start Date	01/10/2026	**Project End Date**	31/10/2026
Knox Beneficiaries	90		
Total Amount Requested	$2500.00		
Request Details	Our not-for-profit community soccer club is seeking funding to purchase portable audio and event equipment to support club activities and improve communication for players, families, volunteers, officials, and spectators. The equipment includes speakers, a mixer, wireless microphones, lighting, speaker stands, and associated cables. The club conducts weekly training sessions, match days, tournaments, presentations, awards nights, fundraising activities, and community events throughout the year. Existing equipment is outdated, unreliable, and unable to adequately support the growing number of participants and attendees across our programs. The proposed equipment will provide clear public announcements, support presentations and ceremonies, recognise player achievements, and assist with important safety and emergency communications. It will also improve the quality and professionalism of events that bring the community together. As a volunteer-run organisation, this investment will provide lasting value by enhancing participation, inclusion, safety, and community connection while supporting continued club growth.		
Community Benefit	This project will provide significant benefits to the local community by improving the quality, accessibility, and safety of events conducted by our soccer club. The equipment will be used by hundreds of players, families, volunteers, officials, and community members who attend matches, tournaments, social events, and club programs throughout the year. The audio system will enable clear communication of important announcements, match information, presentations, and emergency messages, ensuring all attendees can participate safely and effectively. The equipment will also support inclusive community events, presentations, awards nights, fundraising activities, and junior development programs. By improving the club's ability to host community events and activities, the project will encourage greater participation in sport, strengthen community connections, support volunteer engagement, and promote healthy and active lifestyles. The equipment will have ongoing use for many years, providing lasting value and benefiting a broad cross-section of the community beyond the soccer club itself.		

Minor Grant Program Applications
September 2026

Sherbrooke Little Athletics Club

Application Number	2627-MGP066		
Organisation Name	Sherbrooke Little Athletics Club		
Grant Program	Minor Grants Program		
Project Title	Uniforms for Athletes		
Project Start Date	01/10/2026	**Project End Date**	31/03/2027
Knox Beneficiaries	30		
Total Amount Requested	$2482.48		
Request Details	The request is for funding to purchase competition t-shirts and singlets that do not include branding, logos, or promotional material. The shirts will create a strong sense of team identity and belonging while ensuring that all participating children have appropriate competition apparel, regardless of their family’s financial circumstances.		
Community Benefit	Providing uniforms to Little Athletics participants directly supports our members and wider community by creating a sense of identity, pride, and motivation for young athletes, helping them to feel more included and confident to participate in athletics. It also helps in removing a key financial barrier that often prevents children from accessing organised sport. Uniform costs can be a significant burden for families, particularly those experiencing financial hardship or with multiple children in sport. By supplying uniforms at no cost, we ensure that all young people—regardless of their economic circumstances—can participate fully and confidently in Little Athletics. The project will also enhance the visibility and identity of the Little Athletics club at competitions, helping to promote a positive team environment and strengthen connections between athletes, families, coaches and volunteers.		

Minor Grant Program Applications
September 2026

The Basin Cricket Club

Application Number	2627-MGP052		
Organisation Name	The Basin Cricket Club		
Grant Program	Minor Grants Program		
Project Title	Gecko cricket pitch cover spindle project		
Project Start Date	28/09/2026	**Project End Date**	29/03/2027
Knox Beneficiaries	300		
Total Amount Requested	$2500.00		
Request Details	Funding for a new Gecko cricket pitch cover spindle for Batterham Oval 1 following the emergency purchase of a new Gecko cover at the beginning of the football season.		
Community Benefit	Safe and correct storage to maintain the pitch cover. Ensuring the pitch cover is maintained and in working order to cover the cricket pitch during football season. A working pitch cover spindle will also ensure the cricket pitch is protected and in working order for cricket season. Providing the spindle will also allow us to positively work together with the current Council and Gecko contract to maintain Batterham Oval 1. Injury prevention. Player safety. Easy ground transitions between seasons. Guaranteed playability of the ground.		

Minor Grant Program Applications
September 2026

Waverley Social Enterprises

Application Number	2627-MGP048		
Organisation Name	Waverley Social Enterprises		
Grant Program	Minor Grants Program		
Project Title	Bayswater De-escalation and Occupational Violence & Aggression (OVA) Training for Support Mentors		
Project Start Date	01/10/2026	**Project End Date**	15/10/2026
Knox Beneficiaries	100		
Total Amount Requested	$2500.00		
Request Details	Waverley Social Enterprises is seeking $2,500 toward a half day De-escalation and Occupational Violence and Aggressionn training for support mentors at our Bayswater site, delivered by Resolution Education. Since acquiring Bayswater in January 2026, we have grown employment opportunities for people with disability at the site from approximately 40 to almost 70 workmates. People with disabilities need additional supports for change management - the ADS supports that inclusive change management. As we operate at a 1:3 mentor to workmate ratio, this growth has required a corresponding increase in support mentors, from around 13 to approximately 24. This training will equip up to 20 staff and support mentors in their capacity to assist in de-escalation training. Resolution Education was selected as sole provider, with Council's confirmation that a single quote is acceptable, based on their site-specific customisation methodology. This session addresses an urgent capability gap created directly by this growth.		
Community Benefit	This training directly benefits Knox residents through the safety and wellbeing of Bayswater's supported workmates. Since January 2026, employment opportunities for people with disability at the site have grown from approximately 40 to almost 70, requiring a matching increase in support mentors under our 1:3 ratio, from around 13 to approximately 24, without corresponding training investment. Equipping this expanded mentor team with structured de-escalation skills reduces the risk of workplace incidents escalating, protecting both workmates and staff from harm and creating a more consistent, predictable environment for a rapidly growing team. It strengthens Waverley's duty of care obligations at a site whose workforce has nearly doubled in six months. Beyond the immediate cohort, these skills embed safer practice into daily operations at scale, supporting Knox's broader interest in local organisations providing sustainable, safe employment pathways for residents with disability.		

Studfield Wantirna Community News

Minor Grant Program Applications
September 2026

Application Number	2627-MGP065		
Organisation Name	Studfield Wantirna Community News		
Grant Program	Minor Grants Program		
Project Title	CNAV Conference 2026		
Project Start Date	09/10/2026	**Project End Date**	10/10/2026
Knox Beneficiaries	4		
Total Amount Requested	$1459.00 – **Partial funding of $400 for conference fees recommended**		
Request Details	Four volunteers from Studfield Wantirna Community News are looking for support to attend the Community Newspaper Association of Victoria Conference in October 2026. The Conference includes an opportunity to connect with other volunteer community newspaper teams from across Victoria. The conference includes workshops and forums to help with skill building and knowledge sharing about all aspects of running a community newspaper and community association. Conference attendees can also participate in the annual awards night which acknowledges the best efforts of the volunteers in a number of categories. Two of the volunteers attending are new members of the SWCN team and it will be very beneficial for them to have the opportunity to network, learn and participate in the conference. Team members attending past conferences have found them to be very helpful and motivational.		
Community Benefit	SWCN is an entirely volunteer driven community newspaper. It's purpose is to strengthen the local community by publishing a free community newspaper every second month. The paper contains news and information relevant to local people, focussing on the suburbs of Wantirna, Wantirna Sth, Scoresby, Knoxfield and Bayswater. It highlights local achievements, promote local businesses and supports local initiatives. SWCN encourages local groups and service providers to share information and articles for publication. It gives local people the opportunity to connect with the community and to be informed about activities, events and celebrations. The Paper helps to address social isolation by encouraging participation and fosters harmony and tolerance through sharing stories of people from diverse backgrounds. The CNAV conference supports the SWCN Volunteers to work to a high standard and helps them to feel supported and valued for the work they do to benefit the local community.		

Minor Grant Program Applications
September 2026

The Basin Community House Inc

Application Number	2627-MGP063		
Organisation Name	The Basin Community House Inc		
Grant Program	Minor Grants Program		
Project Title	The Basin Progress Kitchen Equipment Update		
Project Start Date	01/11/2026	**Project End Date**	01/11/2027
Knox Beneficiaries	960		
Total Amount Requested	$2500.00 – **Partial funding of $842.49 for Food Warmer and Hot Water Urn recommended**		
Request Details	TBCH is seeking funding to purchase an oven, hot-water urn and pie warmer for the Basin Progress Hall. These appliances will improve the functionality of the hall's kitchen and enable hirers to safely prepare, heat and serve food and hot beverages during community programs, meetings, celebrations and events. The existing kitchen has limited equipment, reducing its usefulness for many community activities. The new appliances will provide practical, flexible facilities for local groups, volunteers, families and other hall users. By improving the kitchen's capacity, the project will enhance the hirer experience, support a broader range of community activities and make the Basin Progress Hall a more welcoming, functional and accessible community venue.		
Community Benefit	This project will provide hall hirers with a safer, more practical and effective kitchen for preparing, heating and serving food and hot beverages. The new appliances will support a wider range of community activities, including meetings, celebrations, workshops, social gatherings and community meals. Hirers will have greater flexibility and will be less reliant on bringing their own equipment. Improved kitchen facilities will make the Basin Progress Hall more attractive and useful to local groups, families and community organisations. This may increase hall use, strengthen community participation and support opportunities for people to connect. The project will also improve the overall experience of hirers and volunteers while ensuring the hall remains a welcoming, functional and affordable community venue for Knox residents.		

4.3 Amendment C196Knox - Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO) Stage 1 to the Knox Planning Scheme - Outcomes from Public Exhibition

Final Report Destination: Council
Paper Type: For Decision
Author: Strategic Planner, Simon Chitre
Manager: Manager City Futures, Shiranthi Widan
Executive: Director, City Liveability, Jonathan McNally

SUMMARY
The purpose of this report is to brief Council on the outcomes of public exhibition of Amendment C196Knox, and to seek adoption of the amendment prior to lodging the amendment with the Minister for Planning for final approval.

The amendment proposes to remove references to specific trees from the Vegetation Protection Overlay – Schedule 2 (VPO2) that no longer exist. This has been confirmed by site inspections conducted by ENSPEC, arboricultural consultants, in the technical report which informed the amendment.

Council resolution of 15 December 2025 and authorisation request
On 15 December 2025, Council adopted the ENSPEC report and resolved to seek authorisation to prepare and exhibit a planning scheme amendment to make the corrections to the VPO2. Council also resolved to seek exemptions under Section 20(2) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 given the administrative nature of the amendment.

Council officers submitted the amendment to the Minister for Planning for authorisation in January 2026. On 13 March 2026, officers from the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) (under delegation from the Minister for Planning), granted authorisation subject to minor updates to the Explanatory Report and Instruction Sheet. DTP officers also consented to the exemptions from notice sought by Council.

Low impact amendment pathway
During consideration of Council's authorisation request, DTP officers determined that the amendment should proceed under the new low impact amendment pathway. This is a new category of amendment that was introduced through the Planning Amendment (Better Decisions Made Faster) Act 2026 through updates to section 16N(2) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987. DTP officers consider this amendment to be low impact given its administrative nature.

Public exhibition and submissions
On 4 May 2026, Amendment C196knox was placed on public exhibition for one month, with exhibition closing on 4 June 2026. One submission was received during the exhibition period. The only submission received during public exhibition was from the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action stating they have considered the amendment and do not oppose the amendment. Officers consider the submission does not result in any changes to the amendment. There are no matters arising from public exhibition that require further consideration.

Next steps
Officers recommend Council adopt the amendment and submit the amendment to the Minister for Planning for final approval. The amendment will come into effect at the time a notice of the amendment is published in the Victoria Government Gazette.

RECOMMENDATION
That Council resolve to:

1. Adopt Amendment C196knox provided at **Attachment 1** pursuant to Section 29 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.
2. Submit Amendment C196knox to the Minister for Planning for approval in accordance with Section 31(1) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person as the Chief Executive Officer nominates) to undertake administrative changes to Amendment C196knox and associated planning controls that do not change the intent of the controls.

1. DISCUSSION
The purpose of this report is to brief Council on the outcomes of public exhibition of Amendment C196knox, and to seek adoption of the amendment prior to lodging the amendment with the Minister for Planning for approval.

What the amendment does
The amendment proposes to remove references to specific trees from the Vegetation Protection Overlay – Schedule 2 (VPO2) that no longer exist. This has been confirmed by site inspections conducted by ENSPEC, arboricultural consultants, in the technical report which informed the amendment (**Attachment 2**).

The amendment does not introduce any new tree controls or additional planning permit requirements and seeks to make updates through deletion. However, if other vegetation identified under the VPO2 remains on the land, the VPO2 will continue to apply, and a planning permit may still be required for vegetation removal.

Context of the amendment
The amendment comprises Stage 1 of a wider project to review vegetation protection controls in the Knox Planning Scheme. Stages 2 and 3 of the project would involve a larger review of how the VPO operates in the Knox Planning Scheme more generally and is yet to commence. The scope of Stages 2 and 3 also need to be considered in light of recent reforms to the Victorian planning system which are prioritising delivery of housing. These subsequent stages are subject to further consideration and future budget considerations.

Previous Council Resolution
On 15 December 2025, Council resolved to adopt the background technical study prepared by ENSPEC, arboricultural consultants, and seek authorisation to prepare and exhibit a planning scheme amendment to implement the recommendations. Council also resolved to seek exemptions from notice under Section 20(2) of the Act.

The Council resolution of 15 December 2025 is provided below:

1. Adopt the ENSPEC Report (Attachment 1) dated January 2025.
2. Endorse the draft planning scheme amendment documents (Attachment 2 and 3) to be submitted to the Minister for Planning.
3. Write to the Minister for Planning to request authorisation to prepare and exhibit an amendment to the Knox Planning Scheme in accordance with Sections 8A(4) and 20(2) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to implement the recommendations contained in the ENSPEC Report.
4. Following receipt of authorisation from the Minister for Planning, exhibit the amendment in accordance with any conditions, or exemptions granted, by the Minister for Planning.
5. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person nominated by the Chief Executive Officer) to:
    a. Undertake administrative changes to the amendment that do not change the intent of the amendment.
    b. Undertake any changes required under the Minister for Planning's authorisation prior to the commencement of exhibition.

Authorisation and Notice Exemptions

Council officers submitted the amendment to the Minister for Planning for authorisation in January 2026. On 13 March 2026, officers from the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) (under delegation from the Minister for Planning), granted authorisation subject to minor updates to the Explanatory Report and Instruction Sheet.

Under Section 20(2) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, a Planning Authority is able to apply for exemptions from notice where the amendment does not have significant implications for planning in Victoria. Council resolved to seek exemptions from notice in a local newspaper and the Victoria Government Gazette given the administrative nature of the amendment.

Officers sought exemptions from notice on this basis, and DTP officers consented to the exemptions sought by Council, with public exhibition limited to Prescribed Ministers and direct notification to affected property owners. An exemption cannot be sought from notice to Prescribed Ministers.

Low Impact Amendment

During the course of seeking authorisation, DTP officers advised Council officers that the amendment would likely be considered under the new low impact amendment pathway. This is a new category introduced via section 16N(2) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 following the implementation of the Planning Amendment (Better Decisions Made Faster) Act 2026.

Amendments can be categorised as low, medium or high impact. Due to the administrative nature of the amendment, DTP considered it appropriate to class this as a low impact amendment. Council officers agreed to the amendment proceeding on this basis.

Under the low impact amendment pathway, submissions do not require referral to an independent planning panel for consideration and therefore no requirement exists to preset panel dates. Council officers are able to determine whether submissions result in any changes to an amendment.

Public exhibition
On 4 May 2026, Amendment C196knox was placed on public exhibition for one month, with exhibition closing on 4 June 2026. Under the notice exemptions, written notification was sent to Prescribed Ministers and direct written notification provided to affected property owners. Further details are provided in the engagement section below.

One submission was received during public exhibition from the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action stating they have considered the amendment and do not oppose the amendment. Officers consider the submission does not result in any changes to the amendment. There are no matters arising from public exhibition that require further consideration.

Recommendation
It is recommended that Council resolve to adopt the amendment and submit the amendment to the Minister for Planning for final approval. The amendment documentation is provided at Attachment 1.

The outcomes of public exhibition do not require any further consideration or changes to the amendment.

2. ENGAGEMENT

Public exhibition of the amendment was undertaken from 4 May to 4 June 2026. Direct written notification was sent to all 26 affected property owners and occupiers advising of the amendment and inviting submissions. On 13 April 2026, Council received consent to exemptions from notice in a local newspaper and the Victoria Government Gazette under section 20(2) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

The amendment webpage was included on Council's website, providing information about the amendment and a list of the affected properties. A link was provided to the amendment exhibition website of DTP where the exhibition documents were available to view. A link to the amendment webpage was also provided in the letters sent to affected owners and occupiers and Prescribed Ministers.

One submission was received during the exhibition period, from the Department of Energy, Environment, and Climate Action (DEECA). DEECA offered no objection to the amendment.

3. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The amendment is an administrative update to correct the VPO2 Schedule. The amendment is expected to have positive social implications by ensuring the Knox Planning Scheme is up to date in identifying significant vegetation in Knox.

4. CLIMATE CHANGE CONSIDERATIONS

The amendment is an administrative update to correct the VPO2 Schedule and mapping. There will be no climate change considerations arising from the amendment.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The amendment is an administrative update to correct the VPO2 Schedule and mapping. There will be no environmental considerations arising from the amendment.

6. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The Stage 1 planning scheme amendment is being resourced by 2025/26 City Futures operating budget.

7. RISKS

If the amendment is not progressed, there is a risk of delays in the statutory planning process by requiring assessments for trees listed in the VPO2 which no longer exist.

The current VPO2 schedule may cause confusion for property owners/applicants given its out of date nature including use of incomplete addresses. There may be financial and resource implications by delaying officers' time in dealing with VPO2 matters, when time could be spent on other matters.

Furthermore, amending the VPO2 Schedule has been identified in the last three planning scheme reviews as a matter requiring to be addressed. In the view of officers, Council should act on the recommendations to correct the VPO2 Schedule and finalise the amendment.

8. COUNCIL AND HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN 2025-2029

Caring for and enhancing our environment

Strategy 3.1 - Our environment is healthy and sustainable by considering environmental factors when planning for and making decisions.
Strategy 3.2 - Green spaces and waterways are protected, enhanced and enjoyed through planning, promotion and maintenance of our built and natural environment.

Leading, listening and governing responsibly

Strategy 4.1 - Council demonstrates its accountability through transparent and responsible decision-making and working together productively.
Strategy 4.3 - Council services are efficient and optimised through ongoing improvement, and focused investment in innovation, technology and capability.

9. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

10. STATEMENT OF COMPATIBILITY

There are no legislative obligations under the Human Rights Charter, Child Safe Standards or the Gender Equity Act that are incompatible with the recommendation in this report.

11. CONFIDENTIALITY

There is no content in this report that meets the definition of confidential information from the Local Government Act 2020.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - Amendment C196knox [**4.3.1** - 39 pages]
2. Attachment 2 - Knox C196knox - ENSPEC VPO2 Review of 27 sites [**4.3.2** - 29 pages]

Planning and Environment Act 1987

Knox Planning Scheme

Amendment C196Knox

Explanatory Report

Overview

The amendment makes corrections to the Vegetation Protection Overlay- Schedule 2 (VPO2) ordinance and maps to delete entries and properties where trees have been removed.

Where you may inspect this amendment

The amendment is available for public inspection, free of charge, during office hours at the following places:

During office hours, at the office of the planning authority, Knox City Council, Civic Centre, 511 Burwood Highway Wantirna South.

The amendment can also be inspected free of charge at the Department of Transport and Planning website at planning.vic.gov.au/public-inspection or by contacting the office on 1800 789 386 to arrange a time to view the amendment documentation.

Details of the amendment

Who is the planning authority?

This amendment has been prepared by the Knox City Council, which is the planning authority for this amendment.

Land affected by the amendment

The amendment proposes to apply to specific properties across the municipality where the Vegetation Protection Overlay – Schedule 2 (VPO2) currently applies for the protection of Significant Exotic and Non-Indigenous Native Trees. The land affected by the amendment includes public and private land. The sites correspond to entries within the existing VPO2.

A mapping reference table is attached at Attachment 1 to this Explanatory Report.

What the amendment does

The amendment seeks to amend the VPO2 planning scheme maps and ordinance in the Knox Planning Scheme to delete specific entries and properties across the municipality where existing vegetation controls are now redundant.

Specifically, the amendment proposes to:

Ordinance Changes

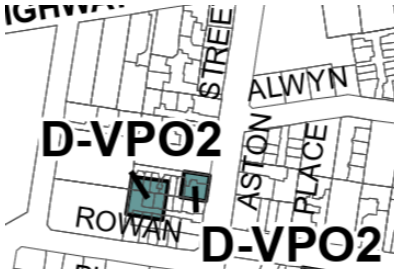
• Amend the table under section 5.0 of the VPO2 schedule to delete a total of 28 entries; and

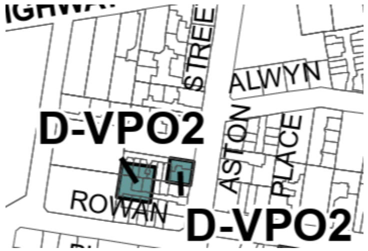
Mapping Changes

• Amend the relevant VPO2 maps to delete 24 map references in specific locations.

An explanation of the proposed changes are provided in the table below.

Table 1: Description of Proposed Changes

ENSPEC Entry Number Recommendation and Address	Proposed Scheme Change & Tree Information	Proposed Mapping Change - D-VPO Area to be deleted (y/n)	Extract of polygon from maps
Entry 3 Boronia Road, east of Dandenong Creek trail, west of Eastlink, on northern side of road, under the powerlines Wantirna Recommendation: Delete	No change to VPO2 Schedule. ENSPEC confirmed no significant trees on site.	Y- Delete from Map C196Knox Map No 1VPO2 Exhibition	
Entry 7 6, 8, 10 and 12 Rowan Pl or 16 Elm St, Bayswater Recommendation: Delete	1 x Golden Elm *Ulmus procera* Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as 16 Elm Street Bayswater	Y- Delete from Knox C196knox Map No 2VPO2 Exhibition	

ENSPEC Entry Number Recommendation and Address	Proposed Scheme Change & Tree Information	Proposed Mapping Change - D-VPO Area to be deleted (y/n)	Extract of polygon from maps
Entry 9 6, 8, 10 and 12 Rowan Pl or 16 Elm St, Bayswater Recommendation: Delete	1 x Ash *Fraxinus* sp. Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Alwyn Street Bayswater	Y- Delete from Knox C196knox Map No 2VPO2 Exhibition	
Entry 16 574 and 572 Mountain Hwy Service Rd or 21 Peck St, Bayswater Recommendation: Delete	2 x Elm Ulmus sp Remove 2 entries from VPO2 Schedule listed as Mountain Highway Bayswater	Y- Delete from Knox C196knox Map No 2VPO2 Exhibition	

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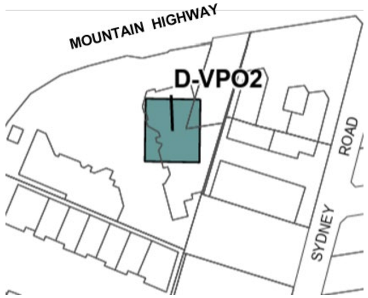
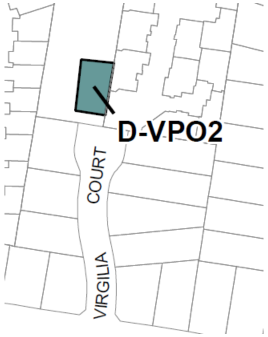
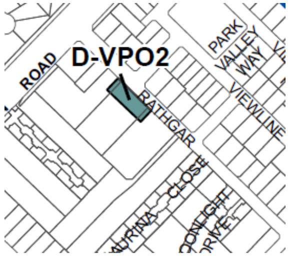
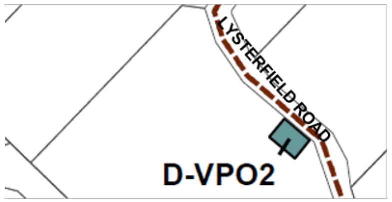
ENSPEC Entry Number Recommendation and Address	Proposed Scheme Change & Tree Information	Proposed Mapping Change - D-VPO Area to be deleted (y/n)	Extract of polygon from maps
Entry 19 546 Mountain Highway, Bayswater Recommendation: Delete	1 x Monterey Pine *Pinus radiata* Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Mountain Highway Bayswater	Y- Delete from Knox C196knox Map No 2VPO2 Exhibition	
Entry 22 765 Mountain Highway, Bayswater Recommendation: Delete	1 x Oak Quercus sp Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Mountain Highway Bayswater	Y- Delete from Knox C196knox Map No 2VPO2 Exhibition	

ENSPEC Entry Number Recommendation and Address	Proposed Scheme Change & Tree Information	Proposed Mapping Change - D-VPO Area to be deleted (y/n)	Extract of polygon from maps
Entry 24 9 Virgilia Court, Rowville Recommendation: Delete	1 x Blue Gum/ Eucalyptus globulus Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as 9 Virgilia Court Rowville	Y- Delete from Knox C196knox Map No 9VPO2 Exhibition	
Entry 29 10 Rathgar Road, Lysterfield Recommendation: Delete	Amount not specified - Sugar Gums/ Eucalyptus cladocalyx Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Rathgar Road, Lysterfield	Y- Delete from Knox C196Knox Map No 7VPO2 Exhibition	
Entry 37 350 Lysterfield Road, Lysterfield Recommendation: Delete	1 x Mealy Stringybark/ Eucalyptus cephalocarpa Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Lysterfield Road, Lysterfield	Y- Delete from Knox C196Knox Map No 7VPO2 Exhibition	

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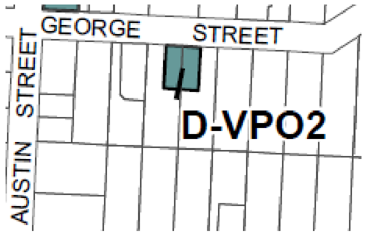
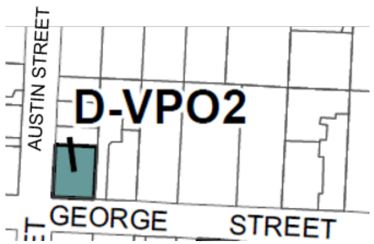
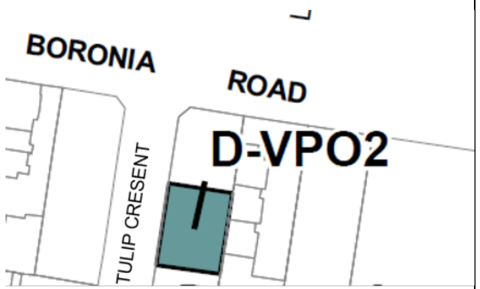
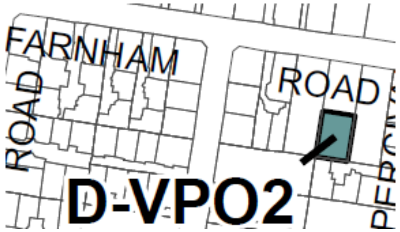
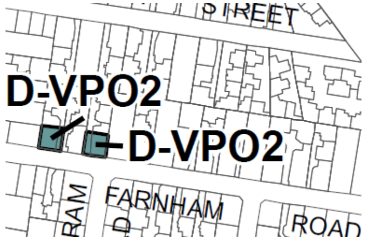
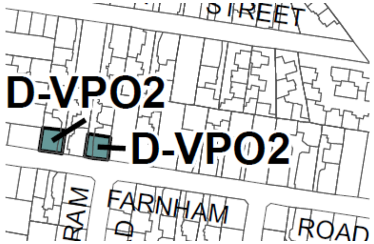
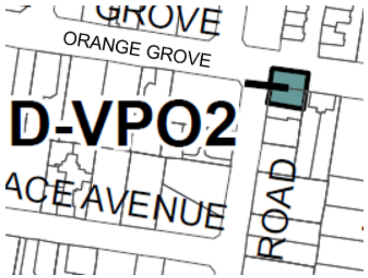
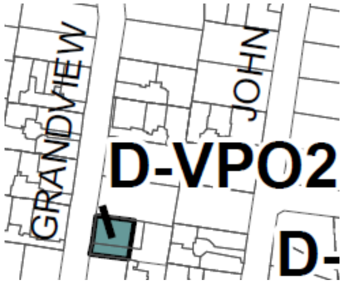
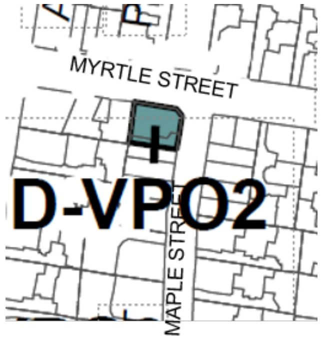
ENSPEC Entry Number Recommendation and Address	Proposed Scheme Change & Tree Information	Proposed Mapping Change - D-VPO Area to be deleted (y/n)	Extract of polygon from maps
Entry 47 43 Station St, Ferntree Gully Recommendation: Delete	1 x Monterey Pine Pinus radiata Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Station St, Ferntree Gully	N- Cypress Pine tree remains at the location and is listed in the VPO2 Schedule	Not Applicable
Entry 59 8 & 10 George Street, Ferntree Gully Recommendation: Delete	3 x Pinus sp. / Pines Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as George St, Ferntree Gully	Y- Delete from Knox C196Knox Map no 7VPO2 Exhibition	
Entry 61 1 George Street, Ferntree Gully Recommendation: Delete	1 x Norfolk Pine/ Araucaria heterophylla Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Cnr Austin St & George St, Ferntree Gully	Y- Delete from Knox C196Knox Map no 7VPO2 Exhibition	

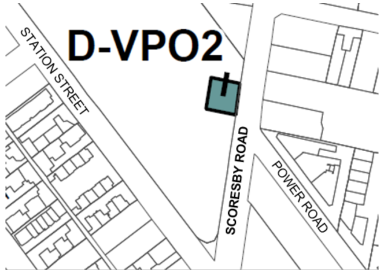
ENSPEC Entry Number Recommendation and Address	**Proposed Scheme Change & Tree Information**	**Proposed Mapping Change - D-VPO Area to be deleted (y/n)**	**Extract of polygon from maps**
Entry 65 Unit 1 and 2, 9 Springfield Rd, Boronia Recommendation: Modify to Unit 2 only	14 x Monterey Pine trees. Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Springfield Rd, Ferntree Gully.	N- Ash Fraxinus tree remains at the location and is listed in the VPO2 Schedule	Not Applicable
Entry 69 180 Boronia Rd, Boronia Recommendation: Delete	1 x Ash Fraxinus sp. Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Tulip Crescent, Boronia	Y- Delete from C196Knox Map no 2VPO2 Exhibition	
Entry 75 24 Farnham Rd, Bayswater Recommendation: Delete	5 x Monterey Pine Pinus radiata Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Farnham Rd, Bayswater	Y- Delete from C196Knox Map no 2VPO2 Exhibition	

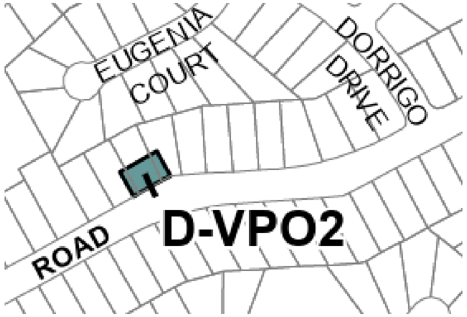
ENSPEC Entry Number Recommendation and Address	Proposed Scheme Change & Tree Information	Proposed Mapping Change - D-VPO Area to be deleted (y/n)	Extract of polygon from maps
Entry 76 Unit 1/1 Farnham Rd, Bayswater Recommendation: Delete	1 x Oak (Quercus sp) and 1 x Elm (Ulmus sp) Remove both entries from VPO2 Schedule listed as Farnham Rd, Bayswater.	Y- Delete from C196Knox Map no 2VPO2 Exhibition	
Entry 77 Unit 1/5 Farnham Rd, Bayswater Recommendation: Delete	1 x Oak (Quercus sp) and 1 x Elm (Ulmus sp) Remove both entries from VPO2 Schedule listed as Farnham Rd, Bayswater.	Y- Delete from C196Knox Map no 2VPO2 Exhibition	
Entry 79 1/43 Orange Grove, Bayswater Recommendation: Delete as no large trees on the property	No change to VPO2 Schedule. ENSPEC confirmed no large trees on site at this location. No listed trees are associated with this polygon.	Y- Delete from C196Knox Map no 2VPO2 Exhibition	

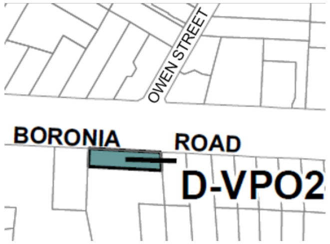
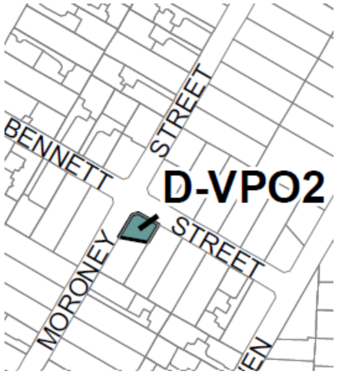
Page **9** of **23**

ENSPEC Entry Number Recommendation and Address	Proposed Scheme Change & Tree Information	Proposed Mapping Change - D-VPO Area to be deleted (y/n)	Extract of polygon from maps
Entry 80 45 Orange Grove, Bayswater Recommendation: Retain as Large Q. palustris present. Appears heavily pruned	No change to VPO2 Schedule. ENSPEC recommended there is a large Q.Palutris tree present. Retain mapping polygon given significant tree was identified on site.	N	Not applicable
Entry 82 27 and 29 Grandview Grove, Bayswater Recommendation: Delete	3 x Cypress Pines Cupressus sp Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Grandview Rd, Bayswater	Y- Delete from C196Knox Map no 2VPO2	

ENSPEC Entry Number Recommendation and Address	Proposed Scheme Change & Tree Information	Proposed Mapping Change - D-VPO Area to be deleted (y/n)	Extract of polygon from maps
Entry 83 30 Coolibah Cres, Bayswater Recommendation: Delete	1 x Silky Oak Grevillea robusta Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Coolabah Street, Bayswater	Y- Delete from C196Knox Map no 2VPO2	
Entry 88 2 Myrtle Street, Bayswater Recommendation: Delete	2 x Monterey Pine Pinus radiata Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Myrtle St, Bayswater	Y- Delete from C196Knox Map no 2VPO2	

ENSPEC Entry Number Recommendation and Address	Proposed Scheme Change & Tree Information	Proposed Mapping Change - D-VPO Area to be deleted (y/n)	Extract of polygon from maps
Entry 90 Opposite Corner Scoresby & Power Rds, Bayswater Recommendation: Delete	1 x Monterey Pine Pinus radiata Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Cnr Scoresby & Power Rds Bayswater	Y- Delete from C196Knox Map no 2VPO2	
Entry 91 6 Highmoor Avenue, Bayswater Recommendation: Modify the VPO2 Schedule to remove the Ash Fraxinus tree Large tree visible on historical imagery behind existing oak removed ~2018 looks consistent with a Fraxinus. One substantial Quercus robur (English Oak) remains in VPO	1x Ash Fraxinus Species Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Cnr Alwyn & Highmoor Rds, Bayswater	N- Retain VPO2 Polygon to protect the Oak and Monterey Pine tree still remaining on the property	Not applicable

ENSPEC Entry Number Recommendation and Address	**Proposed Scheme Change & Tree Information**	**Proposed Mapping Change - D-VPO Area to be deleted (y/n)**	**Extract of polygon from maps**
Entry 98 53 Miller Road, The Basin Recommendation: Delete	2 x Monterey Pines Pinus radiata Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Miller Rd, The Basin	Y- Delete from C196Knox Map no 3VPO2	
Entry 106 25-27 Timewell Crescent, Boronia Recommendation: Delete	1 x Oak, Quercus sp Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Timewell Cres, The Basin	Y- Delete from C196Knox Map no 3VPO2	

ENSPEC Entry Number Recommendation and Address	Proposed Scheme Change & Tree Information	Proposed Mapping Change - D-VPO Area to be deleted (y/n)	Extract of polygon from maps
Entry 122 34 Boronia Road, Boronia Recommendation: Delete	1 x Silky Oak/ Grevillea robusta Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Boronia Rd, Boronia	Y- Delete from C196Knox Map no 3VPO2	
Entry 124 8 Bennett Street, Boronia Recommendation: Delete	1 x Elm/ Ulmus sp Remove entry from VPO2 Schedule listed as Cnr Bennet St & Moroney Rd, The Basin	Y- Delete from C196Knox Map no 3VPO2	

Strategic assessment of the amendment

Why is the amendment required?

The proposed amendment seeks to remove redundant planning controls from the Knox Planning Scheme, specifically ordinance and mapping corrections in the VPO2, where it has been established that trees are no longer present on the land.

These trees were initially identified through a report prepared by Practical Ecology titled 'Review of the Vegetation Protection Overlay Schedule 2, Knox Planning Scheme, November 2020'. The sites have since been verified by inspections and analysis by ENSPEC consultants in September 2024. ENSPEC provided a report of their findings titled Vegetation Protection Overlay Schedule 2 - Review of 27 selected sites, January 2025.

The updates to the VPO2 mapping and ordinance will ensure that planning permit applications will not need to unnecessarily consider any provision in VPO2 for vegetation that has been removed on the land.

How does the amendment implement the objectives of planning in Victoria?

The amendment implements the objectives of planning in Victoria under section 4(1) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act) by:

(a) providing for the fair, orderly, economic and sustainable use and development of the land, and
(b) *providing for the protection of natural and man-made resources and the maintenance of ecological processes and genetic diversity.*

This amendment provides for the fair and economic use and development of land by removing erroneous entries in the VPO2 Schedule, which will make the schedule more accurate. This will reduce planning assessment timeframes for affected land. .

The schedule will still protect the remaining significant exotic and non indigenous native trees in the VPO2 Schedule. Therefore, this amendment provides for the maintenance of natural resources and ecological processes.

How does the amendment address any environmental, social and economic effects?

The amendment is unlikely to have any detrimental environmental, social and economic effects. The amendment seeks to make corrections to existing planning provisions that currently provide protection for vegetation that no longer exists at the locations identified in Attachment 1 to this Explanatory Report. This will provide a net community benefit by reducing unnecessary planning permit triggers under the Knox Planning Scheme.

In regard to aboriginal cultural heritage, Site 3 in the ENSPEC Report is affected by Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity. This site is proposed to be removed from the VPO2 map as no listed tree is on the land. Therefore, it is considered this amendment would not cause any impact on aboriginal cultural heritage.

Does the amendment address climate change?

The amendment is administrative in nature and does not have any impact on climate change. The amendment has met the requirements of Ministerial Direction No.22 Climate Change Considerations.

Does the amendment address relevant bushfire risk?

The amendment has no relevant bushfire risk.

Does the amendment comply with the requirements of any other Minister's Direction applicable to the amendment?

The amendment is consistent with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes under section 7(5) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 as required for all Planning Scheme Amendments.

The amendment complies with Ministerial Direction No. 11 (Strategic Assessment of Amendments) under section 12 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. The amendment is consistent with this direction which ensures a comprehensive strategic evaluation of a planning scheme amendment and the outcomes it produces.

How does the amendment support or implement the Planning Policy Framework and any adopted State policy?

The amendment responds to the Planning Policy Framework (PPF) by supporting Clause 12 (Environmental and Landscape Values) to protect the health of ecological systems and conserve areas with identified environmental and landscape values.

The amendment will ensure that vegetation identified in the VPO2 schedule will continue to contribute to protecting and enhancing Victoria's biodiversity, meeting objective Clause 12.01-1S of the Knox Planning Scheme.

How does the amendment support or implement any relevant strategic plan or policy statement adopted by a Minister, government department or public authority?

The amendment supports the objectives of Plan Victoria by creating a more efficient VPO2 Schedule.

Is the amendment consistent with the delivery of the relevant housing target set out in the Planning Policy Framework?

The amendment has no impact on the delivery of housing targets.

How does the amendment support or implement the Municipal Planning Strategy?

The amendment is consistent with the Vision identified in Clause 02.02 of the Knox Planning Scheme. The amendment will improve efficiency of applying the Knox PPF by ensuring planning provisions accurately reflect existing conditions. No other objectives or strategies of the MPS are affected.

How does the amendment balance any competing policy objectives or strategies?

The corrections to the VPO2 Schedule will not create any competing policy objectives.

Does the amendment make proper use of the Victoria Planning Provisions?

The amendment makes proper use of the Victoria Planning Provisions by making corrections to existing provisions through the VPO2 Schedule in the Knox Planning Scheme.

How does the amendment address the views of any relevant agency?

The amendment does not affect any government or utility service agencies.

Does the amendment address relevant requirements of the Transport Integration Act 2010?

The amendment is not considered to have a significant impact on the transport system.

How does the amendment have regard to the principles set out in the *Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murron) Act 2017* in relation to Yarra River land and other land, the use or development of which may affect Yarra River land?

The amendment does not impact the protection of the Yarra River as Knox is not located within proximity of the Yarra River.

Resource and administrative costs

What impact will the new planning provisions have on the resource and administrative costs of the responsible authority?

The amendment is considered procedural in nature and will not have any significant impact on the resource and administrative costs of Knox City Council.

The amendment will reduce council officer time in dealing with enquiries and planning applications of properties affected by redundant VPO2 controls.

Attachment 1 – Mapping reference table

Location	Land/Area Affected	Mapping Reference	Proposed Overlay changes	Proposed deletion changes
Boronia Road, east of Dandenong Creek trail, west of Eastlink, on northern side of road, under the powerlines Wantirna		Knox C196knox 008d-vpoMap01 Exhibition		D-VPO2
6, 8, 10 and 12 Rowan Pl or 16 Elm St Bayswater	16 Elm Street Bayswater	Knox C196knox 002d-vpoMap02 Exhibition	Delete 1 x Golden Elm *Ulmus procera* from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2
6, 8, 10 and 12 Rowan Pl or 16 Elm St Bayswater	Alwyn Street Bayswater	Knox C196knox 002d-vpoMap02 Exhibition	Delete 1 x Ash *Fraxinus* sp from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2
574 and 572 Mountain Hwy Service Rd or 21 Peck St Bayswater	Mountain Highway Bayswater	Knox C196knox 001d-vpoMap02 Exhibition	Delete 2 x Elm *Ulmus* sp from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2
546 Mountain Highway Bayswater	Mountain Highway Bayswater	Knox C196knox 001d-vpoMap02 Exhibition	Delete 1 x Monterey Pine *Pinus Radiata* from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2
765 Mountain Highway Bayswater	Mountain Highway Bayswater	Knox C196knox 002d-vpoMap02 Exhibition	Delete *1 x Oak Quercus sp*	D-VPO2

Location	Land/Area Affected	Mapping Reference	Proposed Overlay changes	Proposed deletion changes
			from VPO2 Schedule	
9 Virgilia Court Rowville	9 Virgilia Court Rowville	Knox C196knox 007d-vpoMap09 Exhibition	Delete *1 x Blue Gum/ Eucalyptus globulus* from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2
10 Rathgar Road Lysterfield	Rathgar Road, Lysterfield	Knox C196knox 006d-vpoMap07 Exhibition	Delete *Sugar Gums/ Eucalyptus cladocalyx* from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2
350 Lysterfield Road Lysterfield	Lysterfield Road, Lysterfield	Knox C196knox 006d-vpoMap07	Delete *1x mealy stringybark/ Eucalyptus cephalocarpa* from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2
43 Station St Ferntree Gully	Station St, Ferntree Gully		Delete 1 x Monterey Pine Pinus radiata from VPO2 Schedule	
8 & 10 George Street, Ferntree Gully	George St, Ferntree Gully	Knox C196knox 005d-vpoMap07 Exhibition	Delete *3 x Pinus sp. / Pines* from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2

Location	Land/Area Affected	Mapping Reference	Proposed Overlay changes	Proposed deletion changes
1 George Street, Ferntree Gully	Cnr Austin St & George St, Ferntree Gully	Knox C196knox 005d-vpoMap07 Exhibition	Delete1 x Norfolk Pine/ Araucaria heterophylla from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2
Unit 1 and 2, 9 Springfield Rd Boronia	Springfield Rd, Ferntree Gully (Monterey Pine trees).		Delete *Monterey pines* from VPO2 Schedule-	
180 Boronia Rd Boronia	Tulip Crescent, Boronia	Knox C196knox 004d-vpoMap02 Exhibition	Delete *1 x Ash Fraxinus sp* from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2
24 Farnham Rd Bayswater	Farnham Rd, Bayswater	Knox C196knox 002d-vpoMap02 Exhibition	Delete *5 x Monterey Pine Pinus radiata* from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2
Unit 1/1 Farnham Rd Bayswater	Farnham Rd, Bayswater.	Knox C196knox 002d-vpoMap02 Exhibition	Delete *1 x Oak (Quercus sp) and 1 x Elm (Ulmus sp)* from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2

Location	Land/Area Affected	Mapping Reference	Proposed Overlay changes	Proposed deletion changes
Unit 1/5 Farnham Rd Bayswater	Farnham Rd, Bayswater	Knox C196knox 002d-vpoMap02 Exhibition	Delete *1 x Oak (Quercus sp) and 1 x Elm (Ulmus sp)* from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2
1/43 Orange Grove Bayswater	-	Knox C196knox 002d-vpoMap02 Exhibition	-	D-VPO2
45 Orange Grove Bayswater	-	-	-	-
27 and 29 Grandview Grove Bayswater	Grandview Rd, Bayswater	Knox C196knox 002d-vpoMap02 Exhibition	Delete *3 x Cypress Pines Cupressus sp* from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2
30 Coolibah Cres, Bayswater	Coolabah Street, Bayswater	Knox C196knox 002d-vpoMap02 Exhibition	Delete *1 x Silky Oak Grevillea robusta* from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2
2 Myrtle Street Bayswater	Myrtle St, Bayswater	Knox C196knox 002d-vpoMap02 Exhibition	Delete *2 X Monterey Pine Pinus radiata* from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2

Location	Land/Area Affected	Mapping Reference	Proposed Overlay changes	Proposed deletion changes
Opposite Corner Scoresby & Power Rds, Bayswater	Cnr Scoresby & Power Rds Bayswater	Knox C196knox 002d-vpoMap02 Exhibition	Delete *1 x Monterey Pine Pinus radiata* from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2
6 Highmoor Avenue, Bayswater	Cnr Alwyn & Highmoor Rds, Bayswater	-	Delete *1x Ash Fraxinus Species* from VPO2 Schedule	-
53 Miller Road The Basin	Miller Rd, The Basin	Knox C196knox 003d-vpoMap03 Exhibition	Delete *2 x Monterey Pines Pinus radiata* from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2
25-27 Timewell Crescent Boronia	Timewell Cres, The Basin	Knox C196knox 003d-vpoMap03 Exhibition	Delete *1 x Oak, Quercus sp* from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2
34 Boronia Road Boronia	Boronia Rd, Boronia	Knox C196knox 003d-vpoMap03 Exhibition	Delete *1 x Silky Oak/ Grevillea robusta* from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2
8 Bennett Street Boronia	Cnr Bennet St & Moroney Rd, The Basin	Knox C196knox 003d-vpoMap03 Exhibition	Delete 1 x Elm/ Ulmus sp from VPO2 Schedule	D-VPO2

Planning and Environment Act 1987

Knox Planning Scheme

Amendment C196knox

Instruction sheet

The planning authority for this amendment is the Knox Planning Scheme.

The Knox Planning Scheme is amended as follows:

Planning Scheme Maps

The Planning Scheme Maps are amended by a total of 8 attached map sheets.

Overlay Maps

1. Amend Planning Scheme Map Nos. 1VPO, 2VPO, 3VPO, 7VPO and 9VPO in the manner shown on the eight attached maps marked ‘Knox Planning Scheme, Amendment C196knox’.

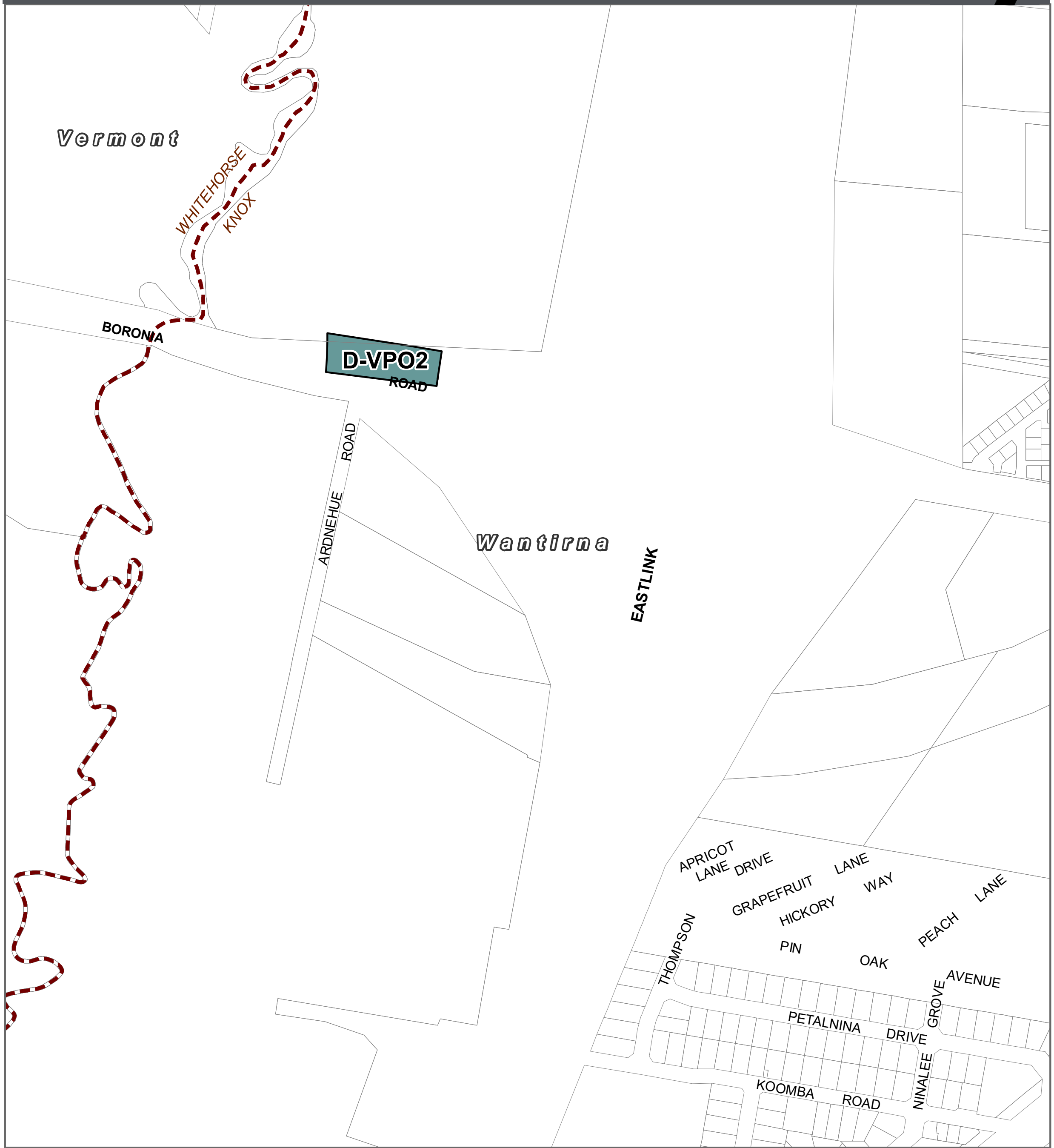
Planning Scheme Ordinance

The Planning Scheme Ordinance is amended as follows:

2. In **Overlays** – Clause 42.02, replace Schedule 2 with a new Schedule 2 in the form of the attached document.

End of document

KNOX PLANNING SCHEME - LOCAL PROVISION
AMENDMENT C196knox



LEGEND

D-VPO - Area to be deleted from a Vegetation Protection Overlay

Local Government Area

Part of Planning Scheme Map 1VPO

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Metres

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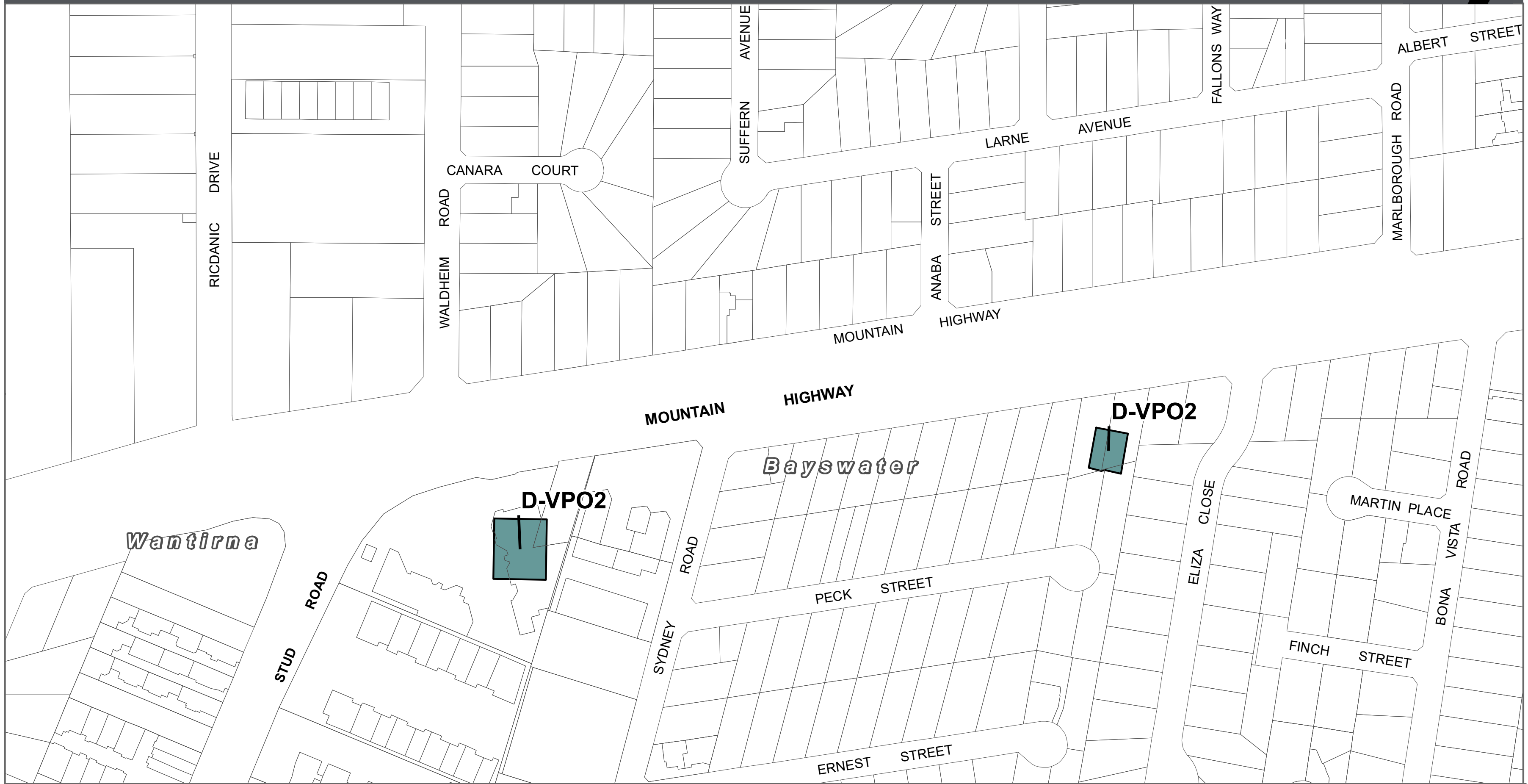
008

KNOX PLANNING SCHEME - LOCAL PROVISION

AMENDMENT C196knox



LEGEND

- D-VPO - Area to be deleted from a Vegetation Protection Overlay
- Local Government Area

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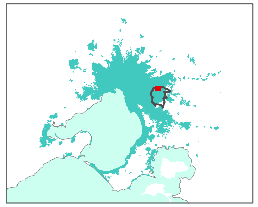
Part of Planning Scheme Map 2VPO



001

KNOX PLANNING SCHEME - LOCAL PROVISION
AMENDMENT C196knox

LEGEND

D-VPO - Area to be deleted from a Vegetation Protection Overlay

Local Government Area

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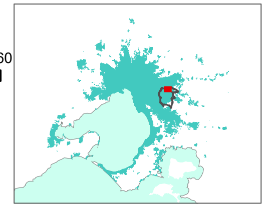
Part of Planning Scheme Map 2VPO



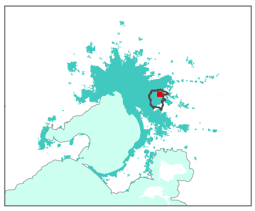
002

KNOX PLANNING SCHEME - LOCAL PROVISION
AMENDMENT C196knox

LEGEND

D-VPO - Area to be deleted from a Vegetation Protection Overlay

Local Government Area



Part of Planning Scheme Map 2VPO

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Metres

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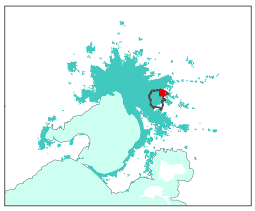
004

KNOX PLANNING SCHEME - LOCAL PROVISION
AMENDMENT C196knox

LEGEND

- D-VPO - Area to be deleted from a Vegetation Protection Overlay
- Local Government Area
- Urban Growth Boundary



Part of Planning Scheme Map 3VPO

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0 180 360
Metres

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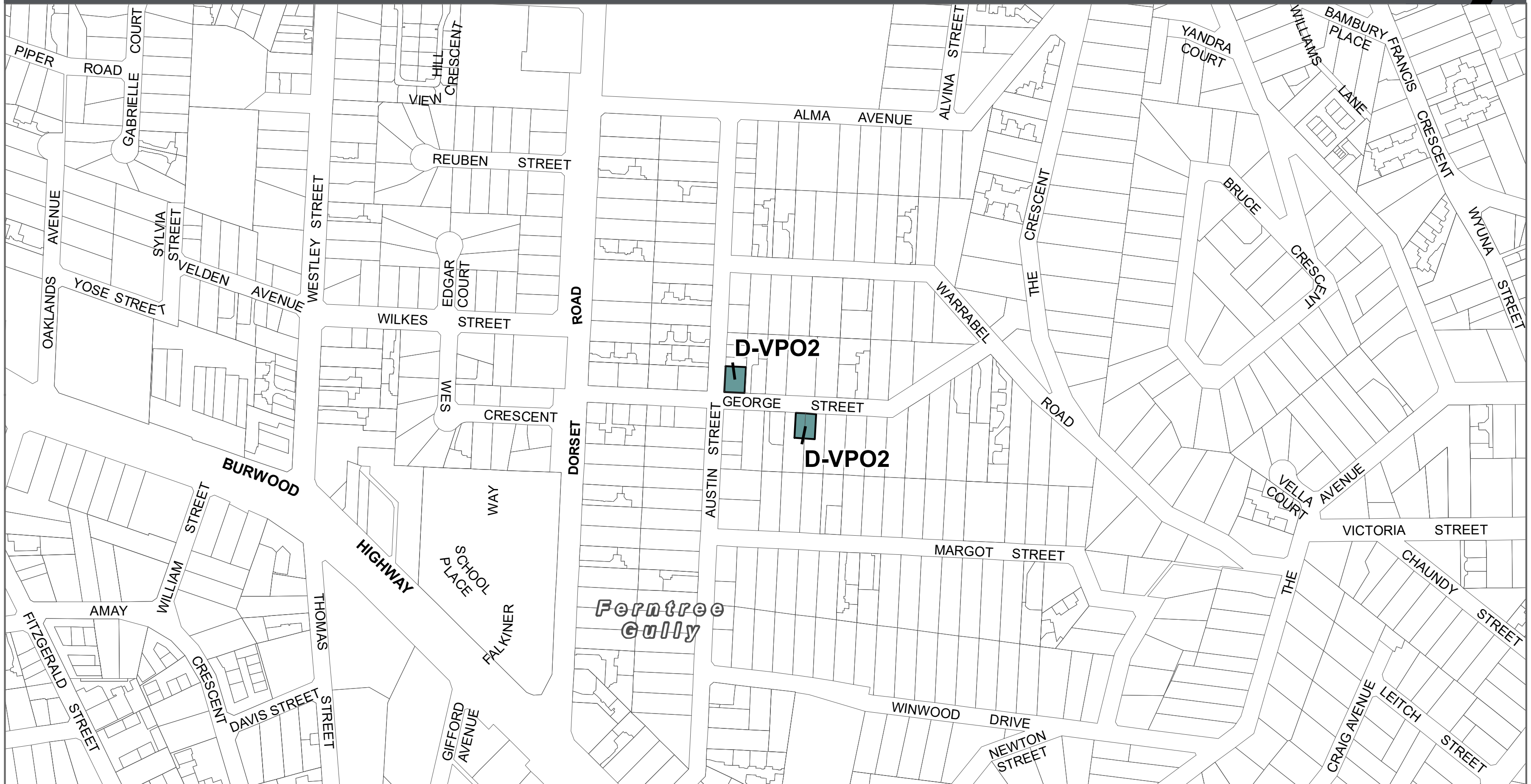
003

KNOX PLANNING SCHEME - LOCAL PROVISION

AMENDMENT C196knox



LEGEND

- D-VPO - Area to be deleted from a Vegetation Protection Overlay
- Local Government Area

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Metres

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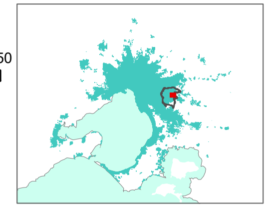
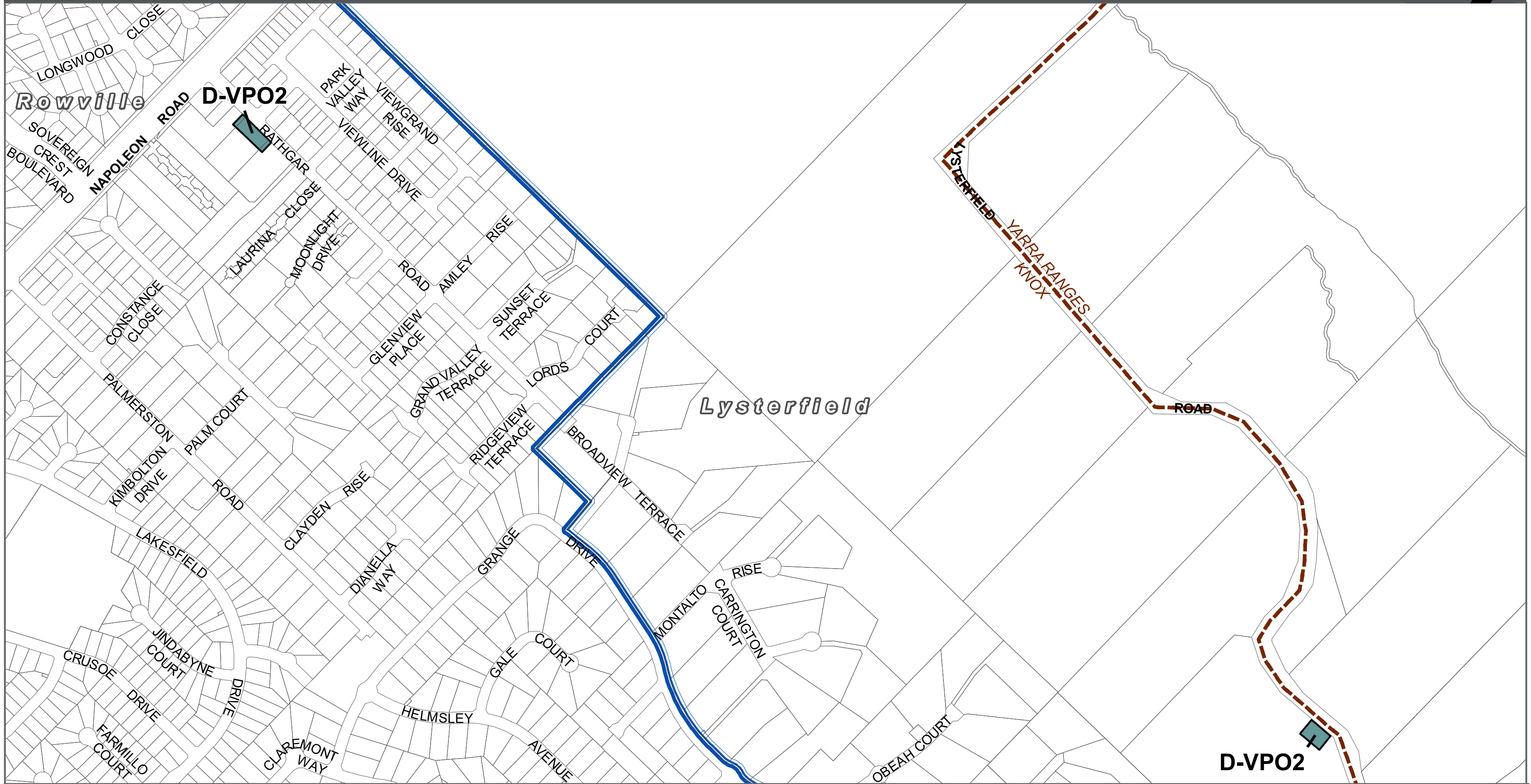
Part of Planning Scheme Map 7VPO



005

KNOX PLANNING SCHEME - LOCAL PROVISION
AMENDMENT C196knox



LEGEND
- D-VPO - Area to be deleted from a Vegetation Protection Overlay
- Local Government Area
- Urban Growth Boundary

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0 125 250
Metres

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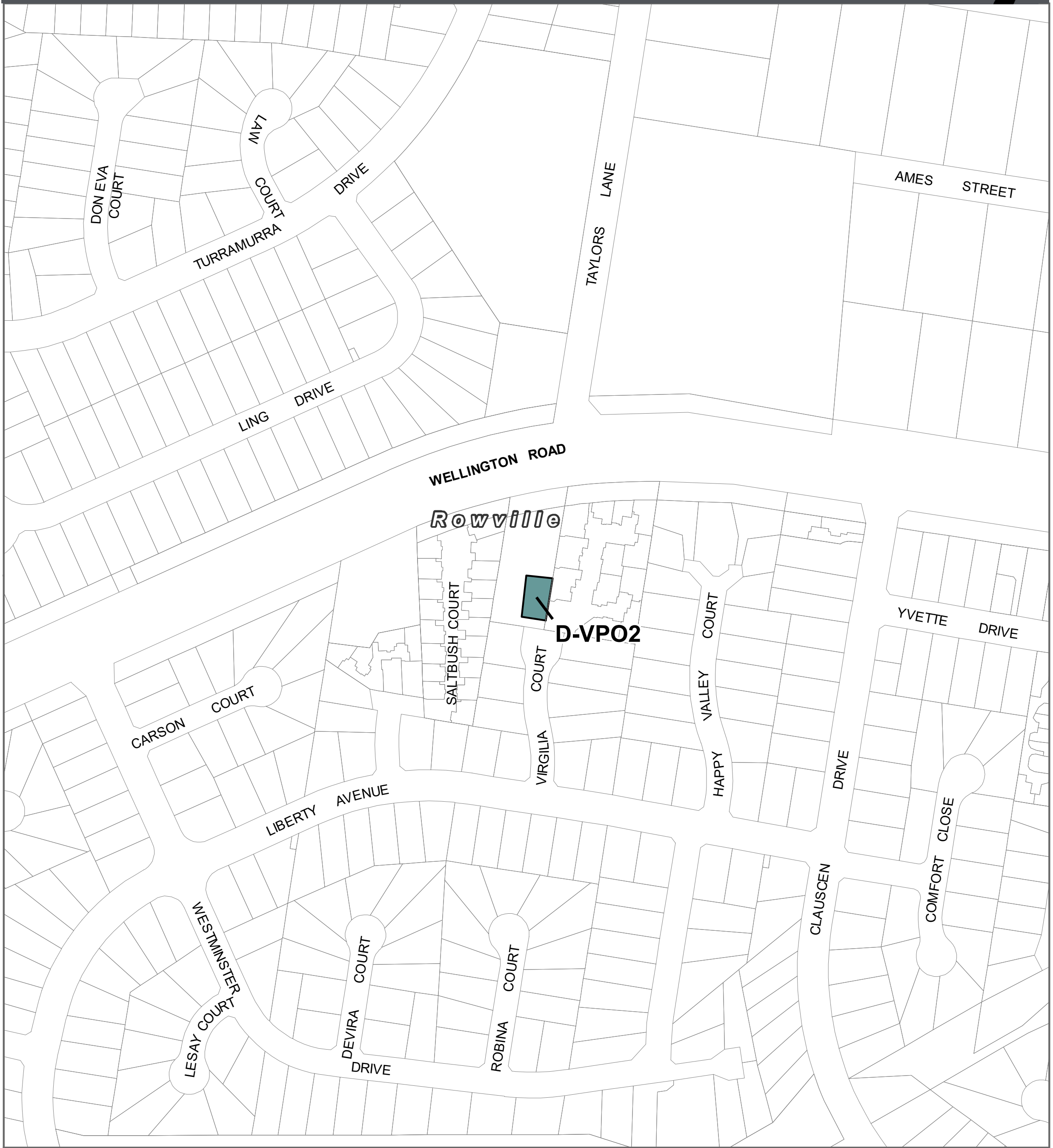
Part of Planning Scheme Map 7VPO

006

KNOX PLANNING SCHEME - LOCAL PROVISION

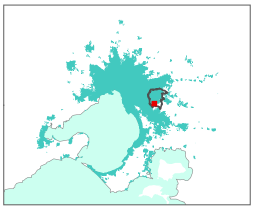
AMENDMENT C196knox



LEGEND

D-VPO - Area to be deleted from a Vegetation Protection Overlay

Local Government Area



Part of Planning Scheme Map 9VPO

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Metres

VICTORIA State Government
Department of Transport and Planning

007

KNOX PLANNING SCHEME

05/11/2021
C180knox

SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 42.02 VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **VPO2**.

SIGNIFICANT EXOTIC AND NON INDIGENOUS NATIVE TREES

1.0 Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected

05/11/2021
C180knox

The *Vegetation Assessment and Protection Strategy for the City of Knox* (Water Ecoscience, February 1998) has identified exotic and non indigenous native trees in the municipality which are significant for their beauty and the interest they bring to the landscape. The trees identified as significant were either large individuals (over 10 metres high or with more than 10 metres spread or a trunk diameter of more than 30 centimetres measured 1.2 metres above the base of the tree) or groups of trees.

2.0 Vegetation protection objectives to be achieved

05/11/2021
C180knox

To protect vegetation of special significance, natural beauty, interest and importance.

3.0 Permit requirement

05/11/2021
C180knox

A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop vegetation listed in this schedule.

4.0 Application requirements

05/11/2021
C180knox

None specified.

5.0 Decision guidelines

~~05/11/2021~~ --/--/----
~~C180knox~~ Proposed C196knox

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.02, in addition to those specified in Clause 42.02 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The location of existing vegetation on the land and the areas of vegetation to be removed.
- The compatibility of any buildings and works with existing vegetation proposed to be retained.

Location	Melways reference	Significant vegetation		Number of trees
		Common name	Botantical name	
~~9 Virgilia Crt, Rowville~~	~~Mel 82 A3~~	~~Blue Gum~~	~~Eucalyptus globulus~~	~~1~~
Cnr Sydney Rd & Phyllis St, Bayswater	Mel 74 C5	Sugar Gum	Eucalyptus cladocalyx	1
Mountain Hwy, Bayswater	Mel 64 E4	Spotted Gum	Eucalyptus maculata	1 + 3
Mountain Hwy, Bayswater	Mel 64 E4	Ironbark	Eucalyptus tricarpa	1
Selman Ave, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 C4	Ironbark	Eucalyptus tricarpa	1
~~Rathgar Rd, Ferntree Gully~~	~~Mel 73 K10~~	~~Sugar Gums~~	~~Eucalyptus cladocalyx~~	~~A number~~
Dorset Rd, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 A1	Buxton Gums	Eucaluptus crenulata	1
~~16 Elm St, Bayswater~~	~~Mel 64 E4~~	~~Golden Elm~~	~~Ulmus procera~~	~~1~~

KNOX PLANNING SCHEME

Location	Melways reference	Significant vegetation		Number of trees
		Common name	Botantical name	
Burwood Hwy, Ferntree Gully	Mel 73 H2	Mature Oak	Quercus robur	1
Burwood Hwy, Ferntree Gully	Mel 73 H2	Poplar	Populus sp.	5
Burwood Hwy, Ferntree Gully	Mel 73 H2	Elm	Ulmus sp.	1
Gearon Ave, Rowville	Mel 82 C4	Elm	Ulmus sp.	1
Lakesfield Dve, Ferntree Gully	Mel 73 J11	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	A number
Lakesfield Dve, Ferntree Gully	Mel 73 J11	Cypress Pine	Cupressus	1
Boronia Rd, Boronia	Mel 64 K10	Cypress Pine	Cupressus sp.	1
Sheffield Rd, The Basin	Mel 65 J7	Chandler's Oak	Quercus robur	1
Lysterfield Rd, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 B5	Elms	Ulmus procera	A number
Lysterfield Rd, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 B5	Oaks	Quercus robur	A number
Lysterfield Rd, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 B5	Plane Trees	Platanus orientalis	A number
Cnr Sasses Ave & Begonia Rd, Bayswater	Mel 64 E6	Oak	Quercus robur	1
Napoleon Rd, Ferntree Gully	Mel 73 H10	Oaks	Quercus sp.	2
Goodwin St, The Basin	Mel 65 F6	Poplar	Populus sp.	1
Woodvale Rd, Boronia	Mel 64 J9	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	2
Stonehaven Ave, Boronia	Mel 64 J10	Cypress Pines	Cupressus sp.	2
~~Tulip Cres, Boronia~~	~~Mel 64 J9~~	~~Ash~~	~~Fraxinus sp.~~	~~1~~
Cypress Ave, Boronia	Mel 64 K10	Silky Oak	Grevillea robusta	1
Springfield Rd, Ferntree Gully	Mel 64 J10	Liquidambar	Liquidambar styraciflua	1
Springfield Rd, Ferntree Gully	Mel 64 J10	~~Monterey Pines~~Ash	~~Pinus radiata~~Fraxinus sp.	~~14~~1
~~Springfield Rd, Ferntree Gully~~	~~Mel 64 J10~~	~~Ash~~	~~Fraxinus sp.~~	~~1~~
Catherine St, Boronia	Mel 64 K7	Monterey Pine	Pinus radiata	1
Central Ave, Boronia	Mel 64 K7	Monterey Pine	Pinus radiata (remnants)	hedge
Next to Boronia Railway Station	Mel 64 K7	Monterey Pine	Pinus radiata	30 (hedge)
~~Farnham Rd, Bayswater~~	~~Mel 64 H6~~	~~Monterey Pine~~	~~Pinus radiata~~	~~5~~
~~Farnham Rd, Bayswater~~	~~Mel 64 G5~~	~~Oak~~	~~Quercus sp.~~	~~1~~
~~Farnham Rd, Bayswater~~	~~Mel 64 G5~~	~~Elm~~	~~Ulmus sp.~~	~~1~~

KNOX PLANNING SCHEME

Location	Melways reference	Significant vegetation		Number of trees
		Common name	Botantical name	
~~Farnham Rd, Bayswater~~	~~Mel 64 G5~~	~~Monterey Pine~~	~~Pinus radiata~~	~~5~~
~~Cnr Scoresby & Power Rds, Bayswater~~	~~Mel 64 G4~~	~~Monterey Pine~~	~~Pinus radiata~~	~~1~~
Pine Rd, Bayswater	Mel 64 F5	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Orange Gve, Bayswater	Mel 64 F5	Mock Thuja	Thujopsis dolabrata	1
Orange Gve & Imperial Rd, Bayswater	Mel 64 D5	Cypress Pines	Cupressus sp.	2
Elm St, Bayswater	Mel 64 E5	Monterey Pine	Pinus radiata	1
~~Myrtle St, Bayswater~~	~~Mel 64 E4~~	~~Monterey Pine~~	~~Pinus radiata~~	~~2~~
Devenish Rd, Bayswater	Mel 64 G7	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Devenish Rd, Bayswater	Mel 64 G7	Cypress Pine	Cupressus sp.	hedge
Orchard Rd, Bayswater	Mel 64 E3	Cypress Pine	Cupressus sp.	1
Orchard Rd, Bayswater	Mel 64 E3	Monterey Pine	Pinus radiata	1
Orchard Rd, Bayswater	Mel 64 E3	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Armstrong Rd, Bayswater	Mel 64 D3	Cypress Pine	Cupressus sp.	2
Victoria Rd, Bayswater	Mel 64 D3	Poplars	Populus sp.	2
Albert Ave, Boronia	Mel 65 D6	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Edward St, Upper Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 H7	Oaks	Quercus sp.	A number
Edward St, Upper Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 H7	Poplars	Populus sp.	A number
Edward St, Upper Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 H7	Willows	Salix sp.	A number
Edward St, Upper Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 H7	Hawthorn	Crataegus	A number
Edward St, Upper Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 H7	Cypress Pines	Cupressus sp.	A number
Cnr Townley & Ferndale Rds, Upper Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 G6	Willow	Salix sp.	1
Grandview Cres, Upper Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 F7	Monterey Pine	Pinus radiata	2
Fern Rd, Upper Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 E7	Cypress Pines	Cupressus sp.	10 (hedge)
Fern Rd, Upper Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 E7	Canary Island Palm	Phoenix canariensis	1
William St, Upper Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 G6	Cypress Pines	Cupressus sp.	group
Mount View Rd, Upper Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 F6	Canary Island Palms	Phoenix canariensis	2
Station St, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 C3	Cypress Pine	Cupressus sp.	1

KNOX PLANNING SCHEME

Location	Melways reference	Significant vegetation		Number of trees
		Common name	Botantical name	
~~Station St, Ferntree Gully~~	~~Mel 74 C3~~	~~Monterey Pine~~	~~Pinus radiata~~	~~1~~
Chatham Ave, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 C1	Ash	Fraxinus sp.	1
Blind Creek opposite Chatham Ave	Mel 74 C1	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	group
Bennet St, Boronia	Mel 65 C8	Elm	Ulmus sp.	1
Albert Ave, Boronia	Mel 65 C8	Liquidambar	Liquidambar styraciflua	1
Elsie St, Boronia	Mel 65 B7	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	20 (hedge)
Albert Ave, Boronia	Mel 65 C6	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Clover Crt, Boronia	Mel 65 D5	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	8 (hedge)
Mountain Hwy, Broronia	Mel 65 D4	Silky Oak	Grevillea robusta	1
Mountain Hwy, Bayswater	Mel 64 ~~B4~~D4	~~Monterey Pine~~Oak	~~Pinus radiata~~Quercus sp.	~~1~~3
~~Mountain Hwy, Bayswater~~	~~Mel 64 C4~~	~~Elm~~	~~Ulmus sp.~~	~~1~~
~~Mountain Hwy, Bayswater~~	~~Mel 64 C4~~	~~Elm~~	~~Ulmus sp.~~	~~1~~
~~Mountain Hwy, Bayswater~~	~~Mel 64 D4~~	~~Oak~~	~~Quercus sp.~~	~~3~~
Mountain Hwy, Bayswater	Mel 64 D4	Silky Oak	Grevillea robusta	1
Mountain Hwy, Bayswater	Mel 64 D4	Canary Island Palm	Phoenix canariensis	1
Mountain Hwy, Bayswater	Mel 64 D4	Cypress Pines	Cupressus sp.	2
~~Mountain Hwy, Bayswater~~	~~Mel 64 F3~~	~~Oak~~	~~Quercus sp.~~	~~1~~
Mountain Hwy, Bayswater	Mel 64 E5	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	5 (hedge)
Mountain Hwy, Bayswater	Mel 64 E5	Cypress Pines	Cupressus sp.	2 hedges each with 9 trees
Cnr Ash & Elm Rds, Bayswater	Mel 64 E5	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
~~Grandview Rd, Bayswater~~	~~Mel 64 E5~~	~~Cypress Pines~~	~~Cupressus sp.~~	~~3~~
~~Coolabah St, Bayswater~~	~~Mel 64 F5~~	~~Silky Oak~~	~~Grevillea robusta~~	~~1~~
~~Alwyn St, Bayswater~~	~~Mel 64 E4~~	~~Ash~~	~~Fraxinus sp.~~	~~1~~
Cnr Alwyn & Highmoor Rds, Boronia	Mel 64 F4	Monterey Pine	Pinus radiata	1
Cnr Alwyn & Highmoor Rds, Boronia	Mel 64 F4	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
~~Cnr Alwyn & Highmoor Rds, Boronia~~	~~Mel 64 F4~~	~~Ash~~	~~Fraxinus sp.~~	~~1~~
Boronia Rd, Boronia	Mel 65 B6	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	1
Boronia Rd, Boronia	Mel 65 B9	Oak	Quercus sp.	1

KNOX PLANNING SCHEME

Location	Melways reference	Significant vegetation		Number of trees
		Common name	Botanical name	
Boronia Rd, Boronia	Mel 65 B9	~~Silky~~ Oak	~~Grevillea robusta~~Quercus sp.	1
~~Boronia Rd, Boronia~~	~~Mel 65 B9~~	~~Oak~~	~~Quercus sp.~~	~~1~~
Boronia Rd, Boronia	Mel 65 B9	Cypress Pine	Cupressus sp.	1
Boronia Rd, Boronia	Mel 65 C9	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Boronia Rd, Boronia	Mel 65 C9	Cypress Pine	Cupressus sp.	1
Boronia Rd, Boronia	Mel 65 C9	Cypress Pines	Cupressus sp.	hedge
Augusta Rd, The Basin	Mel 65 G7	Oaks	Quercus sp.	2
Augusta Rd, The Basin	Mel 65 G7	Canary Island Palm	Phoenix canariensis	1
Augusta Rd, The Basin	Mel 65 G7	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	3
Augusta Rd, The Basin	Mel 65 G7	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	16
Augusta Rd, The Basin	Mel 65 G7	Elm	Ulmus sp.	1
Augusta Rd, The Basin	Mel 65 F8	Cypress Pines	Cupressus sp.	3
Stuart St, The Basin	Mel 65 F8	Oaks	Quercus sp.	2
Verbena Ave, The Basin	Mel 65 E8	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	2
Verbena Ave, The Basin	Mel 65 E8	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Waratah Ave, The Basin	Mel 65 E9	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	16
Arcadia Ave, The Basin	Mel 65 E8	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	4
Arcadia Ave, The Basin	Mel 65 E8	Monterey Pine	Pinus radiata	1
Arcadia Ave, The Basin	Mel 65 E8	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Powan Ave, The Basin	Mel 65 E8	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	2
Arcadia Ave, The Basin	Mel 65 E8	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Arcadia Ave, The Basin	Mel 65 E7	Monterey Pine	Pinus radiata	1
Arcadia Ave, The Basin	Mel 65 E7	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	6
Cnr Mount View Rd, The Basin	Mel 65 D7	Monterey Pine	Pinus radiata	1
Cnr Mount View Rd, The Basin	Mel 65 D7	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Cnr Mount View Rd, The Basin	Mel 65 D7	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	3
~~Timewell Cres, The Basin~~	~~Mel 65 D8~~	~~Oak~~	~~Quercus sp.~~	~~1~~
Mount View Rd, The Basin	Mel 65 E9	Canary Island Palm	Phoenix canariensis	1
Harcourt Rd, Boronia	Mel 65 D9	Oaks	Quercus sp.	2
Moncoe St, Boronia	Mel 65 C9	Monterey Pine	Pinus radiata	1
Moncoe St, Boronia	Mel 65 C9	Cypress Pines	Cupressus sp.	4

KNOX PLANNING SCHEME

Location	Melways reference	Significant vegetation		Number of trees
		Common name	Botantical name	
Owen St, Boronia	Mel 65 C9	Oaks	Quercus sp.	5
Owen St, Boronia	Mel 65 C9	Liquidambar	Liquidambar styraciflua	1
Owen St, Boronia	Mel 65 C8	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Harcourt Rd, Boronia	Mel 65 C8	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	10
Moroney St, Boronia	Mel 65 C8	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Moroney St, Boronia	Mel 65 C8	Elm	Ulmus sp.	1
~~Cnr Bennet St & Moroney Rd, The Basin~~	~~Mel 65 C8~~	~~Elm~~	~~Ulmus sp.~~	~~1~~
Miller Rd, The Basin	Mel 65 D6	Elms	Ulmus sp.	4
The Basin P The Basin	Mel 65 F6	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	20
The Basin Primary School, The Basin	Mel 65 F6	Oaks	Quercus sp.	8
Mountain Hwy, The Basin	Mel 65 E6	Oaks	Quercus sp.	16
Mountain Hwy, The Basin	Mel 65 E6	Elms	Ulmus sp.	A number
Mountain Hwy, The Basin	Mel 65 E6	Poplars	Populus sp.	A number
Mountain Hwy, The Basin	Mel 65 E6	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	2
Mountain Hwy, The Basin	Mel 65 D5	Canary Island Palm	Phoenix canariensis	1
Miller Rd, The Basin	Mel 65 E6	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	4
~~Miller Rd, The Basin~~	~~Mel 65 D6~~	~~Monterey Pines~~	~~Pinus radiata~~	~~2~~
Shalimar Cres, The Basin	Mel 65 D6	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	4
Shalimar Cres, The Basin	Mel 65 D6	Canary Island Palms	Phoenix canariensis	2
Dorset Rd, Boronia	Mel 65 A11	Monterey Pine	Pinus radiata	1
Leitch St, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 B4	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Craig Ave, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 B4	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	2
Victoria St, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 C3	Liquidambar	Liquidambar styraciflua	1
Austin St, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 A3	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	5
~~Cnr Austin St & George St, Ferntree Gully~~	~~Mel 74 A3~~	~~Norfolk Island Pine~~	~~Araucaruia heterophylla~~	~~1~~
~~George St, Ferntree Gully~~	~~Mel 74 A3~~	~~Pines~~	~~Pinus sp.~~	~~3~~
Cnr George St & Warrabel Rd, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 A3	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Cnr George St & Warrabel Rd, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 A3	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	4
Warrabel Rd, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 A3	Liquidambars	Liquidambar styraciflua	2

KNOX PLANNING SCHEME

Location	Melways reference	Significant vegetation		Number of trees
		Common name	Botantical name	
Alma Ave, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 A2	Monterey Pine	Pinus radiata	1
Alma Ave, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 B2	Monterey Pine	Pinus radiata	1
Alma Ave, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 B2	Monterey Pines	Pinus radiata	3
Alma Ave, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 B2	Liquidambar	Liquidambar styraciflua	1
Alma Ave, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 B2	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Yandra Crt, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 B2	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Yandra Crt, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 B2	Monterey Pine	Pinus radiata	1
The Avenue, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 B3	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Francis Cres, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 B2	Oaks	Quercus sp.	2
Francis Cres, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 B2	Cypress Pines	Cupressus	hedge
Francis Cres, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 A1	Oaks	Quercus sp.	2
Francis Cres, Ferntree Gully	Mel 74 A1	Monterey Pine	Pinus radiata	1
Conn St, Ferntree Gully	Mel 73 H4	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Basin-Olinda Rd, The Basin	Mel 65 G7	Oak	Quercus sp.	1
Lysterfield Rd, Lysterfield	Mel 74 D11	Monterey Pine	Pinus radiata	1
~~Lysterfield Rd, Lysterfield~~	~~Mel 74 D11~~	~~Mealy Stringybark~~	~~Eucalyptus cephalocarpa~~	~~1~~
493 Scoresby Road, Ferntree Gully	73 D5	English Oak	Quercus robur	1

6.0 **Background documents**

Vegetation Assessment and Protection Strategy for the City of Knox (Water Ecoscience, February 1998)

Vegetation Survey of Linear Reserves – A Management Strategy for Riparian and Flood Plain Vegetation (Reid, J. et. al. September 1997)

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WATERLOO. 2017

NORTHERN TERRITORY
HUMPTY DOO 0836

Vegetation Protection Overlay Schedule 2

Review of 27 selected sites

Completed for: Knox City Council

Version	Approved	Issued
1.0	C. Hinton	04/10/2024
1.1	C. Hinton	09/12/2024
1.2	C. Hinton	22/01/2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Knox City Council has a Vegetation Protection Overlay within its Planning Scheme. Schedule 2 (VPO2) of the Overlay has a list of sites with vegetation protection controls based on a report completed in 1998.

Council has identified 27 VPO2 sites where it believes the protected tree(s) have been removed since the Schedule was gazetted and has engaged ENSPEC to review these sites in the field.

Each site was assessed from the public realm to assess whether the tree or trees are still present, or whether it is practical to make this determination from outside the property. In all cases it was considered that a determination could be made without entering the site.

A determination as to the presence of the tree(s) was made for each site considering that the listed tree(s) had to be sufficiently large to have been assessed as significant in 1998. Each site was photographed from a public street.

In summary, 24 of the supplied 27 sites are recommended for deletion as the trees protected under VPO2 are no longer present. Two sites appear to have trees remaining that are consistent with VPO2 (65, 80) although site 65 should be modified as it currently affects 2 properties but only 1 of these contains the tree. One further site is recommended for modification (91) as it has a worthy tree within the VPO2 but it is a different species to that cited in the Schedule.

Figure 1 - Map of assessed sites

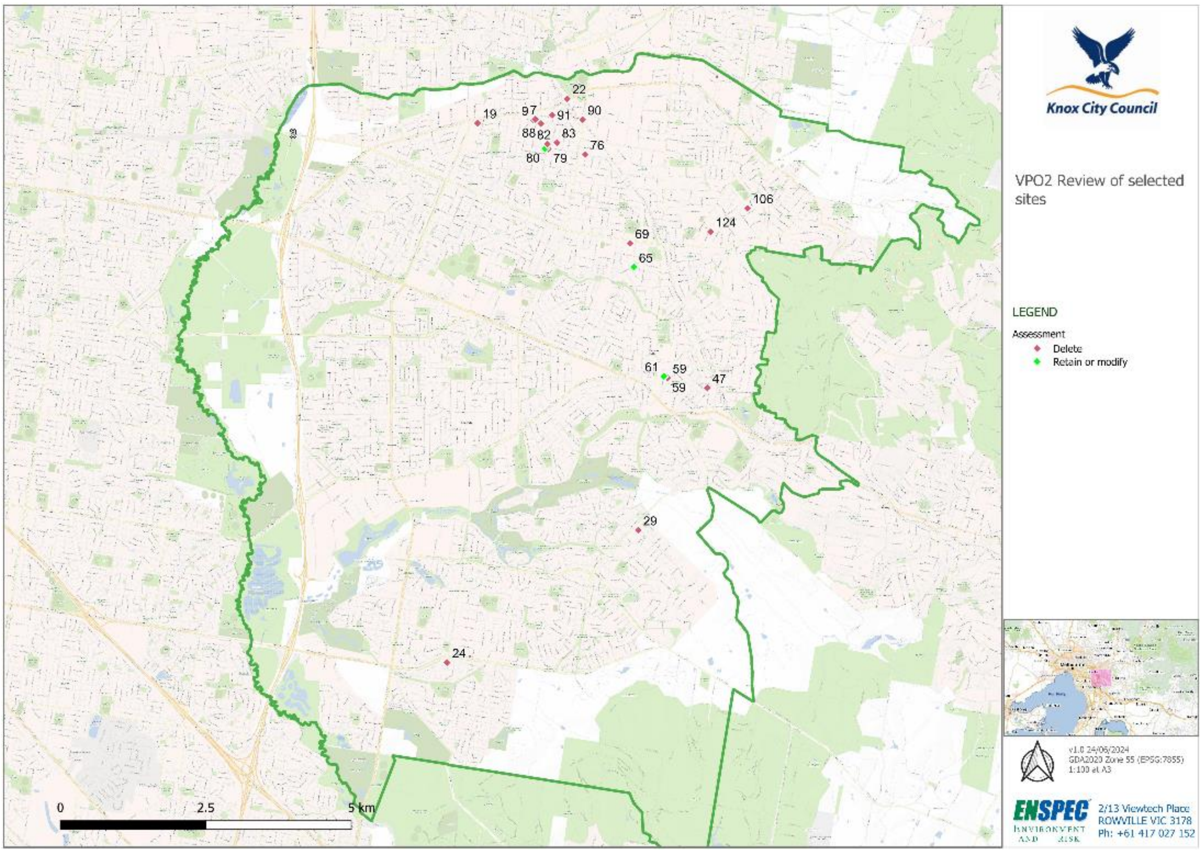


Table 1 - Results and recommendations summary

Polygon	Recommendation	Suburb	Address of trees	Assessment
3	Delete	Wantirna	Boronia Road, east of Dandenong Creek trail, west of Eastlink, on northern side of road, under the powerlines	No tree of appropriate species or size. Current trees are too young to have been significant at time of gazetting the VPO.
7	Delete	Bayswater	6, 8, 10 and 12 Rowan Pl or 16 Elm St	No tree of appropriate species or size.
9	Delete	Bayswater	6, 8, 10 and 12 Rowan Pl or 16 Elm St	No tree of appropriate species or size.
16	Delete	Bayswater	574 and 572 Mountain Hwy Service Rd or 21 Peck St	No tree of appropriate species or size. Could not clearly see rear of property but no elm tree seen emergent over rooftops as would be expected for a tree of the appropriate age.
19	Delete	Bayswater	546 Mountain Highway	No tree of appropriate species or size.
22	Delete	Bayswater	765 Mountain Hwy	No tree of appropriate species or size.
24	Delete	Rowville	9 Virgilia Court	No tree of appropriate species or size.
29	Delete	Lysterfield	10 Rathgar Rd	No tree of appropriate species or size.
37	Delete	Lysterfield	350 Lysterfield Road	No tree of appropriate species or size.
47	Delete	Ferntree Gully	43 Station St	No tree of appropriate species or size.
59	Delete	Ferntree Gully	8 & 10 George Street, Ferntree Gully	No tree of appropriate species or size.
61	Delete	Ferntree Gully	1 George Street	No tree of appropriate species or size.
65	Modify to Unit 2 only	Boronia	Unit 1 and 2, 9 Springfield Rd	*Fraxinus angustifolia* ssp. *angustifolia* (Desert Ash) of sufficient size in front of unit 2.
69	Delete	Boronia	180 Boronia Rd	No tree of appropriate species or size.
75	Delete	Bayswater	24 Farnham Rd	No tree of appropriate species or size.
76 or 77	Delete	Bayswater	Unit 1/1 Farnham Rd Unit 1/5 Farnham Rd	No tree of appropriate species or size.
79	Delete	Bayswater	1/43 Orange Grove	No tree of appropriate species or size.
80	Retain	Bayswater	45 Orange Grove	Large *Quercus palustris* (Pin Oak) present. Appears heavily pruned.
82	Delete	Bayswater	27 and 29 Grandview Grove	No tree of appropriate species or size. Dual occupancy dwelling built in front yard.
83	Delete	Bayswater	30 Coolibah Cres	No tree of appropriate species or size.
88	Delete	Bayswater	2 Myrtle St	No tree of appropriate species or size.
90	Delete	Bayswater	Opposite Corner Scoresby & Power Rds. now a train station staff parking facility	No tree of appropriate species or size.
91	Modify to apply to existing *Quercus robur*	Bayswater	6 Highmoor Ave	Large tree visible on historical imagery behind existing oak removed ~2018 looks consistent with a *Fraxinus*. One substantial *Quercus robur* (English Oak) remains in VPO.
98	Delete	The Basin	53 Miller Rd	No tree of appropriate species or size.
106	Delete	Boronia	25-27 Timewell Crescent	No tree of appropriate species or size.
122	Delete	Boronia	34 Boronia Road	No tree of appropriate species or size.
124	Delete	Boronia	8 Bennett Street	No tree of appropriate species or size.

2. BRIEF & INSPECTION METHODOLOGY

Knox City Council has a Vegetation Protection Overlay within its Planning Scheme. Schedule 2 (VPO2) of the Overlay has a list of sites with vegetation protection controls.

Council has identified 27 VPO2 sites where it believes the protected tree has been removed since the Schedule was gazetted and has engaged ENSPEC to review these sites in the field.

Each site was assessed from the public realm to assess whether the tree or trees are still present, or whether it is practical to make this determination from the public realm.

A determination as the presence of the tree was made for each site and each site was photographed from a public street.

3. DATE OF INSPECTION

The site visits were Conducted on 17 & 18 September 2024.

4. ARBORIST CONDUCTING ASSESSMENT

Field assessment

Name of Arborist	**Michele Dengo**
Qualifications	Diploma of Arboriculture Quantified Tree Risk Assessment (QTRA) #7646
Phone number	0428 001 484
E-mail Address	michele.dengo@enspec.com

Project supervision and report preparation

Name of Arborist	**Craig Hinton**
Qualifications	B. App. Sci. (Hort. [Env. Hort.]) Diploma of Arboriculture Diploma of Ecology Dip. App. Sci. (Hort.) Licenced Professional Registered Consulting Arborist #AL1100 Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) Quantified Tree Risk Assessment (QTRA) #3968 VALID Tree Risk-Benefit Validator Cert. IV Assessment and Workplace Training
Industry experience	1994-current, 29 years in consultancy, local government, utility, industry development & research
Phone number	+61 428 193 626
E-mail Address	craig.hinton@enspec.com

Arboriculture Report

5. OVERVIEW

The Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO) has the following purpose –

- To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.
- To protect areas of significant vegetation.
- To ensure that development minimises loss of vegetation.
- To preserve existing trees and other vegetation.
- To recognise vegetation protection areas as locations of special significance, natural beauty,
- interest and importance.
- To maintain and enhance habitat and habitat corridors for indigenous fauna.
- To encourage the regeneration of native vegetation.

A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation specified in a schedule to the VPO.

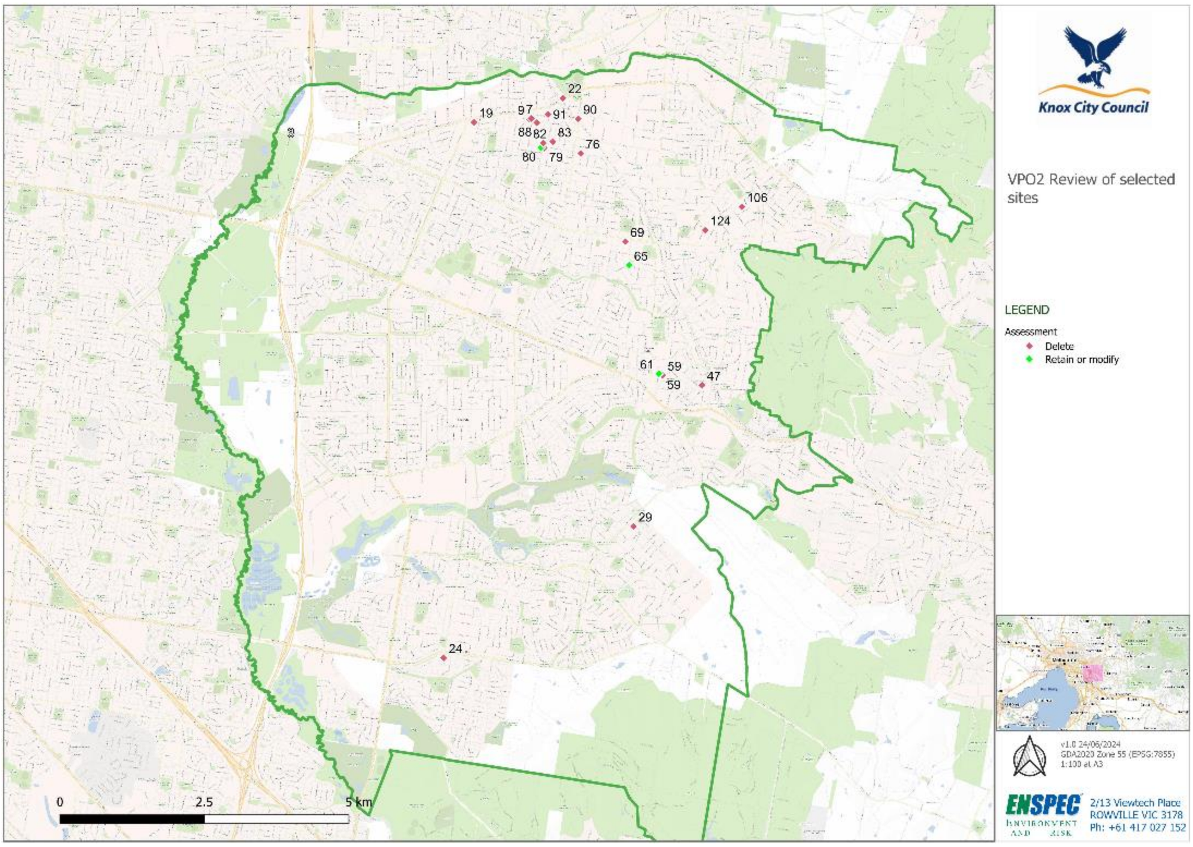
Schedule 2 of the VPO (VPO2) is titled "SIGNIFICANT EXOTIC AND NON INDIGENOUS NATIVE TREES" and aims to "protect vegetation of special significance, natural beauty, interest and importance". The schedule list locations and in most cases specific tree species as protected.

VPO2 is based on the *Vegetation Assessment and Protection Strategy for the City of Knox* (Water Ecoscience, February 1998).

VPO2 is now based on information that is over 26 years old and Council has identified that some of the trees and vegetation have since been removed, with or without a permit. There are 142 mapped sites within the VPO2 spatial data. 27 sites have been identified by Council for review for this project.

It is clear from reviewing the spatial presentation of VPO2 that the Overlay has been applied to specific trees within each site based on the size and location of the polygon in relation to the affected property.

Figure 2 - Map of assessed sites



6. RESULTS

Each site was assessed from the public road for the listed species, considering that the site was originally assessed in 1998 and that the tree should be of a commensurate size to have been deemed significant at that time.

6.a. Summary

A summary of the site assessment and recommendation for each site is provided in the following table. A detailed site assessment with photograph is provided at s6.b and a full presentation of the supplied information and site assessment notes is provided in Appendix 1.

Table 2 - Recommendations summary

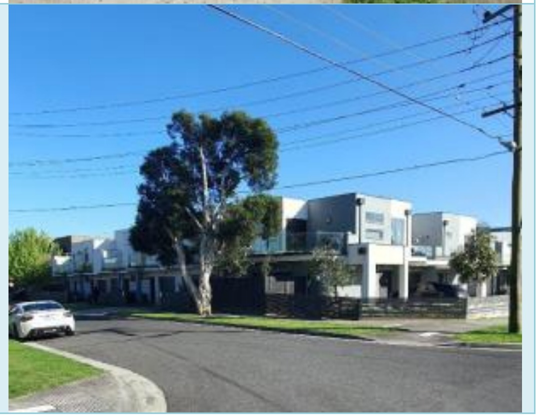
Polygon	Recommendation	Suburb	Address of trees	Filed notes
3	Delete	Wantirna	Boronia Road, east of Dandenong Creek trail, west of Eastlink, on northern side of road, under the powerlines	Mixed indigenous species. A. melanoxylon, A. dealbata, E. ovata. Trees are too young to have been significant at time of gazetting the VPO.
7	Delete	Bayswater	6, 8, 10 and 12 Rowan Pl or 16 Elm St	No tree of appropriate species or size.
9	Delete	Bayswater	6, 8, 10 and 12 Rowan Pl or 16 Elm St	No tree of appropriate species or size.
16	Delete	Bayswater	574 and 572 Mountain Hwy Service Rd or 21 Peck St	No elm at front. Could not clearly see rear of property but no elm tree seen emergent over rooftops as would be expected for a tree of the appropriate age. Yellow-foliaged tree, possibly Golden Ash, appears to be at 21 Peck St outside VPO.
19	Delete	Bayswater	546 Mountain Highway	2x E. saligna on site. No Pinus.
22	Delete	Bayswater	765 Mountain Hwy	No tree of appropriate species or size.
24	Delete	Rowville	9 Virgilia Court	No E. globulus in front garden or rear garden
29	Delete	Lysterfield	10 Rathgar Rd	No Sugar Gum on site visible on northwest corner. Conifer hedge at southwest corner.
37	Delete	Lysterfield	350 Lysterfield Road	No mature eucalypt in VPO polygon.
47	Delete	Ferntree Gully	43 Station St	No Pinus radiata visible from frontage of the property
59	Delete	Ferntree Gully	8 & 10 George Street, Ferntree Gully	No tree in front setback of 8
59	Delete	Ferntree Gully	8 & 10 George Street, Ferntree Gully	No tree in front set back of 10
61	Delete	Ferntree Gully	1 George Street	No Araucaria heterophylla present in front garden. Agonis flexuosa beside.
65	Modify to Unit 2 only	Boronia	Unit 1 and 2, 9 Springfield Rd	Fraxinus sp. of sufficient size in front of unit 2.
69	Delete	Boronia	180 Boronia Rd	No tree of appropriate species or size.
75	Delete	Bayswater	24 Farnham Rd	No Pinus radiata visible from front yard. No emergent tree at rear seen above roofline.
76	Delete	Bayswater	Unit 1/5 Farnham Rd	No tree at front or on East side along driveway.
77	Delete	Bayswater	Unit 1/1 Farnham Rd	No tree in VPO.
79	Delete	Bayswater	1/43 Orange Grove	No large trees on property.
80	Retain	Bayswater	45 Orange Grove	Large Q. palustris present. Appears heavily pruned.
82	Delete	Bayswater	27 and 29 Grandview Grove	No tree. Dual occupancy dwelling built in front yard.
83	Delete	Bayswater	30 Coolibah Cres	No Grevillea robusta growing in this site.
88	Delete	Bayswater	2 Myrtle St	No large trees present on site.
90	Delete	Bayswater	Opposite Corner Scoresby & Power Rds. now a train station staff parking facility	No tree in carpark

Polygon	Recommendation	Suburb	Address of trees	Filed notes
91	Modify to apply to Quercus robur	Bayswater	6 Highmoor Ave	No Fraxinus on site. Large tree visible on historical imagery behind existing oak removed ~2018 looks consistent with a Fraxinus. One Quercus robur remains in VPO. Possible misidentification? One Quercus canariensis elsewhere on the site.
98	Delete	The Basin	53 Miller Rd	No Pinus radiata in front garden. Large eucalypt in VPO.
106	Delete	Boronia	25-27 Timewell Crescent	No Quercus visible. Could not see all the way to the rear of property but a tree of sufficient age should be visible from street and on aerials.
122	Delete	Boronia	34 Boronia Road, Boronia. May need property owner approval to view trees	No Grevillea robusta visible from street. Tree of sufficient age would be visible.
124	Delete	Boronia	8 Bennett Street	No elm at front or rear of property in VPO.

6.b. Site assessments with site photo

A full presentation of the supplied data and result is provided in Appendix 1.

Supplied Council information				ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	**Suburb**	**Address of trees**	**What type of tree is it and how many?**	**Field notes**	**Species**	**DBH**	**Height**	**Canopy widest**	**Health**	**Photo**
3	Wantirna	Boronia Road, east of Dandenong Creek trail, west of Eastlink, on northern side of road, under the powerlines	No identified trees located in VPO Schedule 2.	Mixed indigenous species. *A. melanoxylon, A. dealbata, E. ovata.* Trees are too young to have been significant at time of gazetting the VPO.	mixed natives	12	7	4	Healthy	

Supplied Council information				ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	**Suburb**	**Address of trees**	**What type of tree is it and how many?**	**Field notes**	**Species**	**DBH**	**Height**	**Canopy widest**	**Health**	**Photo**
7	Bayswater	6, 8, 10 and 12 Rowan Pl or 16 Elm St	1 x Golden Elm *Ulmus procera*		no tree					
9	Bayswater	6, 8, 10 and 12 Rowan Pl or 16 Elm St	1 x Ash *Fraxinus* sp.		no tree					

Supplied Council information				ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	**Suburb**	**Address of trees**	**What type of tree is it and how many?**	**Field notes**	**Species**	**DBH**	**Height**	**Canopy widest**	**Health**	**Photo**
16	Bayswater	574 and 572 Mountain Hwy Service Rd or 21 Peck St	1 x Elm *Ulmus* sp.	No elm at front. Could not clearly see rear of property but no elm tree seen emergent over rooftops as would be expected for a tree of the appropriate age. Yellow-foliaged tree, possibly Golden Ash, appears to be at 21 Peck St outside VPO.	no tree					
19	Bayswater	546 Mountain Highway	1 x Monterey Pine *Pinus radiata*	2x E. *saligna* on site. No *Pinus*.	no tree					

Supplied Council information				ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	Suburb	Address of trees	What type of tree is it and how many?	Field notes	Species	DBH	Height	Canopy widest	Health	Photo
22	Bayswater	765 Mountain Hwy	1 x Oak *Quercus* sp.		no tree					
24	Rowville	9 Virgilia Court	1 x Blue Gum/ *Eucalyptus globulus*	No *E. globulus* in front garden or rear garden	no tree					

Supplied Council information				ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	**Suburb**	**Address of trees**	**What type of tree is it and how many?**	**Field notes**	**Species**	**DBH**	**Height**	**Canopy widest**	**Health**	**Photo**
29	Lysterfield	10 Rathgar Rd	Amount not specified- Sugar Gums/ *Eucalyptus cladocalyx*	No *E. cladocalyx* on site visible on northwest corner. Conifer hedge at southwest corner.	no tree					
37	Lysterfield	350 Lysterfield Road	1x mealy stringybark/ *Eucalyptus cephalocarpa*	No mature eucalypt in VPO polygon.	no tree					

Supplied Council information				ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	**Suburb**	**Address of trees**	**What type of tree is it and how many?**	**Field notes**	**Species**	**DBH**	**Height**	**Canopy widest**	**Health**	**Photo**
47	Ferntree Gully	43 Station St	1 x Monterey Pine *Pinus radiata*	No *Pinus radiata* visible from frontage of the property	no tree					
59	Ferntree Gully	8 & 10 George Street, Ferntree Gully	3 x Pinus sp. / Pines	No tree in front setback of 8	no tree					

Supplied Council information				ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	**Suburb**	**Address of trees**	**What type of tree is it and how many?**	**Field notes**	**Species**	**DBH**	**Height**	**Canopy widest**	**Health**	**Photo**
59				No tree in front set back of 10	no tree					
61	Ferntree Gully	1 George Street	1 x Norfolk Pine/ *Araucaria heterophylla*	No *Araucaria heterophylla* present in front garden. Agonis flexuosa beside.	*Liquidambar styraciflua*	50	13	10	Healthy	

Supplied Council information				ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	**Suburb**	**Address of trees**	**What type of tree is it and how many?**	**Field notes**	**Species**	**DBH**	**Height**	**Canopy widest**	**Health**	**Photo**
65	Boronia	Unit 1 and 2, 9 Springfield Rd	1 X Ash *Fraxinus* sp.	*Fraxinus* sp. of sufficient size in front of unit 2.	Fraxinus angustifolia ssp. angustifolia (Desert Ash)	45	12	10	Healthy	
69	Boronia	180 Boronia Rd	1 x Ash *Fraxinus* sp.		no tree					

Supplied Council information				ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	**Suburb**	**Address of trees**	**What type of tree is it and how many?**	**Field notes**	**Species**	**DBH**	**Height**	**Canopy widest**	**Health**	**Photo**
75	Bayswater	24 Farnham Rd	5 x Monterey Pine *Pinus radiata*	No *Pinus radiata* visible from front yard. No emergent tree at rear seen above roofline.	no tree					
76 or 77	Bayswater	Unit 1/5 Farnham Rd	76 or 77 (already included for both trees to be deleted but no previous information about the trees. Oak, Elm and Monterey Pine to be deleted) No information provided about the trees from Practical Ecology Report.	No tree at front or on East side along driveway.	no tree					

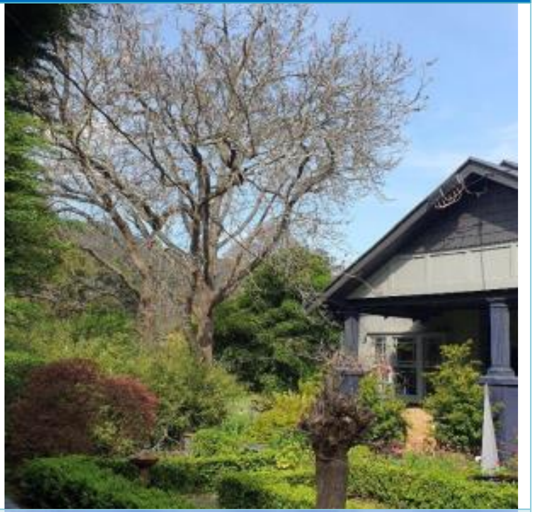
Supplied Council information				ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	**Suburb**	**Address of trees**	**What type of tree is it and how many?**	**Field notes**	**Species**	**DBH**	**Height**	**Canopy widest**	**Health**	**Photo**
76 or 77	Bayswater	Unit 1/1 Farnham Rd	76 or 77 see above	No tree in VPO.						
79	Bayswater	1/43 Orange Grove	Practical Ecology report does not mention the trees for this polygon. Not able to identify which tree it is in the schedule	No large trees on property.	no tree					

Supplied Council information				ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	**Suburb**	**Address of trees**	**What type of tree is it and how many?**	**Field notes**	**Species**	**DBH**	**Height**	**Canopy widest**	**Health**	**Photo**
80	Bayswater	45 Orange Grove	Practical Ecology report does not mention the trees for this polygon. Not able to identify which tree it is in the schedule	Large *Q. palustris* present. Appears heavily pruned.	*Quercus palustris*	60	16	13	Healthy	
82	Bayswater	27 and 29 Grandview Grove	3 x Cypress Pines *Cupressus* sp.	No tree. Dual occupancy dwelling built in front yard.	no tree					

Supplied Council information				ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	**Suburb**	**Address of trees**	**What type of tree is it and how many?**	**Field notes**	**Species**	**DBH**	**Height**	**Canopy widest**	**Health**	**Photo**
83	Bayswater	30 Coolibah Cres	1 x Silky Oak *Grevillea robusta*	No *Grevillea robusta* growing in this site.	no tree					
88	Bayswater	2 Myrtle St	2 X Monterey Pine *Pinus radiata*	No large trees present on site.	no tree					

Supplied Council information				ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	**Suburb**	**Address of trees**	**What type of tree is it and how many?**	**Field notes**	**Species**	**DBH**	**Height**	**Canopy widest**	**Health**	**Photo**
90	Bayswater	Opposite Corner Scoresby & Power Rds. now a train station staff parking facility	1 x Monterey Pine *Pinus radiata*	No tree in carpark	no tree					
91	Bayswater	6 Highmoor Ave	1 x Ash *Fraxinus* sp.	No *Fraxinus* on site. Large tree visible on historical imagery behind existing oak removed ~2018 looks consistent with a *Fraxinus*. One substantial *Quercus robur* remains in VPO. Possible misidentification? One *Quercus canariensis* elsewhere on the site.	*Quercus robur*	90	14	20	Healthy	

Supplied Council information				**ENSPEC field assessment**						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	**Suburb**	**Address of trees**	**What type of tree is it and how many?**	**Field notes**	**Species**	**DBH**	**Height**	**Canopy widest**	**Health**	**Photo**
98	The Basin	53 Miller Rd	2 x Monterey Pines *Pinus radiata*	No *Pinus radiata* in front garden. Large eucalypt in VPO.	no tree					
106	Boronia	25-27 Timewell Crescent	1 x Oak, *Quercus* sp.	No *Quercus* visible. Could not see all the way to the rear of property but a tree of sufficient age should be visible from street and on aerials.	no tree					

Supplied Council information				ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	Suburb	Address of trees	What type of tree is it and how many?	Field notes	Species	DBH	Height	Canopy widest	Health	Photo
122	Boronia	34 Boronia Road, Boronia. May need property owner approval to view trees	1 x Silky Oak/ *Grevillea robusta*	No *Grevillea robusta* visible from street. Tree of sufficient age would be visible.	no tree					
124	Boronia	8 Bennett Street	1 x Elm/ *Ulmus* sp.	No elm at front or rear of property in VPO.	no tree					

7. CONCLUSION

Two supplied sites, 59 & 76 or 77, have been split for the assessment, resulting in 29 results for the Project.

In summary, 26 sites are recommended for deletion as the trees protected under VPO2 are no longer present. Two sites appear to have trees remaining that are consistent with VPO2 (65, 80), although one of these should be modified as the VPO2 currently affects 2 properties at that location. One further site is recommended for modification (91) as it has a worthy tree within the VPO2 but it is a different species to that cited in the Schedule.

8. DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ENSPEC Pty Ltd and their employees are specialists who use their knowledge, training and education (qualifications), infield learning experiences, personal experiences research, diagnostic tools, scientific equipment to examine trees, recommend measures to enhance the beauty, health and preservation of trees, to reduce the risk of living near trees.

Trees are living organisms that can be affected by pests, diseases and natural events outside of ENSPEC control. ENSPEC and their employees cannot detect every condition that affects a trees health, condition and structural integrity. Conditions are often hidden within trees and below ground where humans cannot naturally see. Unless otherwise stated, ENSPEC's employee's observations have been visually made from ground level.

In the event that ENSPEC recommends retesting or inspection of trees at stated intervals, or ENSPEC recommends the installation engineering solutions, ENSPEC must inspect the engineering solution at intervals of not greater than 12 months, unless otherwise specified in writing. It is the client's responsibility to make arrangements with ENSPEC to conduct re-inspections.

Intervention treatments of trees may involve considerations beyond the scope of ENSPEC's service, such as property boundaries and ownership, disputes between neighbours, sight lines, landlord-tenant matters and other related incidents. ENSPEC cannot take such issues into account unless complete and accurate information is given prior or at the time of the site inspection. Likewise, ENSPEC Pty Ltd cannot accept responsibility for the authorisation or non-authorisation of any recommended treatment or remedial measures undertaken.

ENSPEC Pty Ltd cannot guarantee that a tree will be healthy or safe under all circumstances or for a specified period of time after our initial inspection and recommendations.

If this written report is to be used in a court of law, or any other legal situation, or by other parties ENSPEC must be advised in writing prior to the written report being presented in any form to any other party. All written reports must be read in their entirety. At no time shall part of the written assessment be referred to unless taken in full context with the whole written report.

Clients may choose to accept or disregard the recommendations of the assessment and written report.

Notwithstanding anything in the report, express or implied, the client is not entitled to recover from ENSPEC Pty Ltd, its employees, agents and/or subcontractors any damages for business interruption or loss of actual or anticipated revenue, income or profits or any consequential, special, contingent or penal damage, whatsoever, and the client releases ENSPEC Pty Ltd from any such liability. Without limitation of the foregoing, a party shall at all times be limited (to the extent permitted by law) damages in the amount paid by the Client to ENSPEC Pty Ltd for ENSPEC Pty Ltd services. The limitation applies whether the claim is based on warranty, contract, statute, tort (including negligence) or otherwise.

9. APPENDIX 1 – FULL SITE DATA AND SITE ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Supplied Council information							ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	Recommendation	Suburb	Address of trees	What type of tree is it and how many?	Checked in QGIS	Planning officers - Checked this is correct?	Comments	Species	DBH	Height	Canopy widest	Health	VPO ufi
3	Delete	Wantirna	Boronia Road, east of Dandenong Creek trail, west of Eastlink, on northern side of road, under the powerlines	No identified trees located in VPO Schedule 2.	Trees not identified in Practical Ecology Report. Aerial image shows trees having grown over time with no clear evidence of tree removal. Location difficult to determine as there is no exact address given. Appears that polygon is located on north side of Boronia Road under the power lines. Planning Permit No. P-2015-6704 removed native vegetation and weeds, approved 30th September 2015 - applicant was VicRoads but veg removal was for south side of road & outside polygon area.	No- not listed in VPO2 Schedule, however listed for deletion in report, there is no information about the trees to be deleted and no Melways Reference). The location of the corner Boronia Road and Dandenong Creek Trail is 63 D5.	Mixed indigenous species. *A. melanoxylon, A. dealbata, E. ovata.* Trees are too young to have been significant at time of gazetting the VPO.	mixed natives	12	7	4	Healthy	1257764
7	Delete	Bayswater	6, 8, 10 and 12 Rowan Pl or 16 Elm St	1 x Golden Elm *Ulmus procera*	It would appear tree was removed between Oct 2014 & March 2015	Yes		no tree					12544584
9	Delete	Bayswater	6, 8, 10 and 12 Rowan Pl or 16 Elm St	1 x Ash *Fraxinus* sp.	No planning permits in Pathways. Between October 2015 to February 2016 quite a lot of vegetation has been removed from the southern part of the polygon. December 2017 northern part of the site has been developed with units. Between February 2018 and October 2018 southern part of polygon been developed with units. Units developed and finished by 2020. May need to check with statutory planning if there are any planning permits for unit development and associated tree removal.	Yes		no tree					12544585
16	Delete	Bayswater	574 and 572 Mountain Hwy Service Rd or 21 Peck St	1 x Elm *Ulmus* sp.	Aerial image appears to show tree on Peck Street removed between January 2017 and December 2017. No record of tree removal from Pathways or planning applications evident. The practical ecology report mentions just one Elm tree is to be deleted	Yes (The two Elm trees at Melways Reference 64 C4 in VPO2 to be deleted)	No elm at front. Could not clearly see rear of property but no elm tree seen emergent over rooftops as would be expected for a tree of the appropriate age. Yellow-foliaged tree, possibly Golden Ash, appears to be at 21 Peck St outside VPO.	no tree					1257758
19	Delete	Bayswater	546 Mountain Highway	1 x Monterey Pine *Pinus radiata*	Aerial imagery shows no tree in polygon since at least 2003. No planning permits for tree removal on Pathways. Tree can be removed from the schedule	Yes	2x E. *saligna* on site. No *Pinus*.	no tree					1257760
22	Delete	Bayswater	765 Mountain Hwy	1 x Oak *Quercus* sp.	Tree was there in March 2009 and clearly removed by January 28, 2011. Planning permit approved to remove Pin Oak tree on March 5, 2010 (P/2010/6151)	Yes		no tree					1257748
24	Delete	Rowville	9 Virgilia Court	1 x Blue Gum/ *Eucalyptus globulus*	Unclear - trees in polygon. Blue gum said to be removed but can't verify from aerial	Yes	No *E. globulus* in front garden or rear garden	no tree					1257879
29	Delete	Lysterfield	10 Rathgar Rd	Amount not specified- Sugar Gums/ *Eucalyptus cladocalyx*	Not conclusive - possibly trees removed in NW corner removed?	Yes	No *E. cladocalyx* on site visible on northwest corner. Conifer hedge at southwest corner.	no tree					1257873
37	Delete	Lysterfield	350 Lysterfield Road	1x mealy stringybark/ *Eucalyptus cephalocarpa*	Can't appear to find tree on aerials or on Streetview. No planning permit history. Large site. Difficult to understand where tree could be. Tree could be at the back of the property?	Yes	No mature eucalypt in VPO polygon.	no tree					1257877

Supplied Council information							ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	**Recommendation**	**Suburb**	**Address of trees**	**What type of tree is it and how many?**	**Checked in QGIS**	**Planning officers - Checked this is correct?**	**Comments**	**Species**	**DBH**	**Height**	**Canopy widest**	**Health**	**VPO ufi**
47	Delete	Ferntree Gully	43 Station St	1 x Monterey Pine *Pinus radiata*	In 2011, aerial photos appear to show that veg has been removed within polygon area. Google maps does not appear to show any trees removed within same time period. There is evidence	Yes	No *Pinus radiata* visible from frontage of the property	no tree					1257857
59a	Delete	Ferntree Gully	8 & 10 George Street, Ferntree Gully	3 x Pinus sp. / Pines	Tree possibly removed between 2007-2009 in the front setback of 8 & 10 George Street. Not clear how many trees were removed. No Planning Permit history for tree removal. Planning Permit 2007-6476-A (Dwelling extension) had no reference to tree/vegetation removal as presumably works had no impact to trees or trees not there. Google maps shows tree removed in front setback of 8 George Street - unsure of the species however.	Yes	No tree in front setback of 8	no tree					1257884
59b	Delete						No tree in front set back of 10	no tree					1257884
61	Delete	Ferntree Gully	1 George Street	1 x Norfolk Pine/ *Araucaria heterophylla*	Inconclusive from aerials. Appears that a tree removed between 2005 & 2007 - located in front property boundary or on road reserve on George Street. Unsure if this was a Norfolk Pine or not. Google Street View - appears there may have been a tree in the south-eastern corner next to 3 George Street, in 2008 - not the clearest visual though. No Planning Permit history.	Yes	No *Araucaria heterophylla* present in front garden. Agonis flexuosa beside.	Liquidambar styraciflua	50	13	10	Healthy	1257885
65	Modify to Unit 2 only	Boronia	Unit 1 and 2, 9 Springfield Rd	1 X Ash *Fraxinus* sp.	Appears that between 2003 & 2005, veg in the front yard has been removed. Unclear what veg it is. Apparently, no permits for veg removal.	Yes	*Fraxinus* sp. of sufficient size in front of unit 2.	Fraxinus angustifolia spp. angustifolia	45	12	10	Healthy	1257838
69	Delete	Boronia	180 Boronia Rd	1 x Ash *Fraxinus* sp.	Between 2017 & 2018, veg has been removed via planning permit no# P/2011/6122 for development of 15 dwellings in 3/storey apartment building. Ash tree confirmed dead by Council Arborist & ok to be removed.	Yes		no tree					1257828
75	Delete	Bayswater	24 Farnham Rd	5 x Monterey Pine *Pinus radiata*	Unclear - veg within the VPO2 polygon that has been removed could be along property's western side or southern rear boundaries. No planning permits listed in the system.	Yes	No *Pinus radiata* visible from front yard. No emergent tree at rear seen above roofline.	no tree					1257785

Supplied Council information							ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	Recommendation	Suburb	Address of trees	What type of tree is it and how many?	Checked in QGIS	Planning officers - Checked this is correct?	Comments	Species	DBH	Height	Canopy widest	Health	VPO ufi
76	Delete	Bayswater	Unit 1/5 Farnham Rd	76 or 77 (already included for both trees to be deleted but no previous information about the trees. Oak, Elm and Monterey Pine to be deleted) No information provided about the trees from Practical Ecology Report.	Re: No. 77 - could be tree at front (within polygon) or tree at back (out of polygon) of dwelling. Between 2009 & 2011, veg was removed from the northern-western corner of the front yard. Unclear what type of tree it was. Couldn't find any relevant planning permits. Also, tree at rear of dwelling but on lot 1/1 but outside polygon, appears to have been removed between 2013 & 2016. Again, no relevant planning permits.	Yes	No tree at front or on East side along driveway.	no tree					1257784
77	Delete	Bayswater	Unit 1/1 Farnham Rd	76 or 77 see above	Re: No. 76 - Appears that between Feb & Oct 2018, tree removed from near front boundary. Unsure what tree species it was. No relevant planning permit granted for tree removal.		No tree in VPO.						
79	Delete	Bayswater	1/43 Orange Grove	Practical Ecology report does not mention the trees for this polygon. Not able to identify which tree it is in the schedule	It is not clear in the VPO2 schedule, Practical Ecology Report and aerial photo review which tree has been removed and when this happened and what property this is. Aerial photo review appears to have shown trees have grown and not been removed. Planning permit P/1999/3293 issued for the construction of three dwellings in June 1999, no report viewable on KX. Looked on Street View trees do not appear to have changed significantly over last 15 years approximately.	No (Polygon address not matching Melways Reference and different to listing in VPO Schedule. The intersection of Orange Grove and Imperial Avenue has a Melways Reference of 64 D5).	No large trees on property.	no tree					1257779
80	Retain	Bayswater	45 Orange Grove	Practical Ecology report does not mention the trees for this polygon. Not able to identify which tree it is in the schedule	Tree in southwestern corner removed between 2013 and 2014. This tree removed possibly could have been the tree mentioned in the VPO2. Vegetation appears to have grown over time on the site. Planning Application P/2001/6541 granted in March 2001 for the removal of 2 trees, no report available on KX to view. Looked on Street View trees do not appear to have changed significantly over last 15 years approximately.	No (Polygon address not matching Melways Reference and different to listing in VPO Schedule. The intersection of Orange Grove and Imperial Avenue has a Melways Reference of 64 D5).	Large *Q. palustris* present. Appears heavily pruned.	Quercus palustris	60	16	13	Healthy	1257778
82	Delete	Bayswater	27 and 29 Grandview Grove	3 x Cypress Pines *Cupressus* sp.	Planning permit (P/1998/990/A) approved for dual occupancy approved on 14 November 1997. Amendment approved on 8 April 2009 to remove 2 cypress trees in the southwest corner of the property. Checked google maps street view and aerials and no trees appear to have been removed. The trees in southwestern corner of the property along driveway do not appear to be significant. There is a large pine tree that was removed and potentially two other large trees from appears to be 23 or 25 Grandview Grove removed between January 2008 and September 2013.	Yes	No tree. Dual occupancy dwelling built in front yard.	no tree					1257774

Supplied Council information							ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	**Recommendation**	**Suburb**	**Address of trees**	**What type of tree is it and how many?**	**Checked in QGIS**	**Planning officers - Checked this is correct?**	**Comments**	**Species**	**DBH**	**Height**	**Canopy widest**	**Health**	**VPO ufi**
83	Delete	Bayswater	30 Coolibah Cres	1 x Silky Oak *Grevillea robusta*	P/2009/6365. A Grevillea robusta does not grow on your property and it appears the tree identified in the WATER ECOscience report has been incorrectly identified. Schedule 2 of the Vegetation Protection Overlay only applies to the Grevillea robusta and not the Hymenosporum flavidum (Native Frangipani) that is growing within the front setback. • There are no other controls relating to vegetation on your property, therefore you do not require a permit to remove the Native Frangipani. Applicant appeared to remove the Native Frangipani between 2009 and 2013 to build the garage. The large significant tree in the front setback, the Ghost Gum is an Angophora costata (Smooth-barked Apple Myrtle) is not covered by VPO Schedule 2.	Yes	No *Grevillea robusta* growing in this site.	no tree					1257773
88	Delete	Bayswater	2 Myrtle St	2 X Monterey Pine *Pinus radiata*	Tree on Maple Street frontage (SE Cnr) appears to have been removed between 2015 & 2016. Unsure if correct tree. Another possibility is the site was redeveloped from one dwelling into 5 dwellings sometime between when the schedule was incorporated (circa 1998) and 2001 (earliest aerials showing 5 dwellings on the site). Planning Permit P/1998/252 granted for multi-dwelling development in Sept 1997.	Yes	No large trees present on site.	no tree					12544586
90	Delete	Bayswater	Opposite Corner Scoresby & Power Rds now a train station staff parking facility	1 x Monterey Pine *Pinus radiata*	Tree removed between January & March 2014. Assumed to be correct tree. Can't find relevant planning permit - other permits for tree pruning/removal exist, but not close to this date range and not the correct tree. Tree potentially removed in association with rail upgrade.	Yes	No tree in carpark	no tree					1257755
91	Modify to apply to Quercus robur	Bayswater	6 Highmoor Ave	1 x Ash *Fraxinus* sp.	Lots of vegetation present in February 2018 but removed by October 2018. Planning permit P/2017/6393 allowed for 10 trees to be removed, permit approved 19 July 2017. Permit allowed for removal of one pine tree and pruning of one oak tree. All the other trees they wanted to remove did not trigger a planning permit. The ash tree is not included in the assessment or the permit to be allowed to be removed. Maybe ash tree removed illegally?	Yes (Address needs to be updated to be Bayswater)	No *Fraxinus* on site. Large tree visible on historical imagery behind existing oak removed ~2018 looks consistent with a *Fraxinus*. One substantial *Quercus robur* remains in VPO. Possible misidentification? One *Quercus canariensis* elsewhere on the site.	Quercus robur	90	14	20	Healthy	1257752
98	Delete	The Basin	53 Miller Rd	2 x Monterey Pines *Pinus radiata*	Checked aerials, can't see evidence of pine trees having been there. Planning Permit VS_2016_9074 issued July 2016 but for a Peppermint Gum under the SLO3.	Yes (only 2 Monterey Pines specified in the report to be removed)	No *Pinus radiata* in front garden. Large eucalypt in VPO.	no tree					1257790
106	Delete	Boronia	25-27 Timewell Crescent	1 x Oak, *Quercus* sp.	Difficult to determine if the Oak tree has been removed, due to a large number of trees in the frontage. Planning Permit Number P/2012/6524 issued in July 2012 for: The removal of one (1) Eucalyptus bicostata (Southern Blue Gum) and the pruning of one (1) Eucalyptus saligna (Sydney Blue Gum), so not the tree within VPO2. Possibly the VPO2 tree has been removed between 2011 and 2012 on the boundary between 25 and 27 Timewell Crescent to build an outbuilding.	Yes	No *Quercus* visible. Could not see all the way to the rear of property but a tree of sufficient age should be visible from street and on aerials.	no tree					1257809

Supplied Council information							ENSPEC field assessment						
VPO 2 Polygon ID	**Recommendation**	**Suburb**	**Address of trees**	**What type of tree is it and how many?**	**Checked in QGIS**	**Planning officers - Checked this is correct?**	**Comments**	**Species**	**DBH**	**Height**	**Canopy widest**	**Health**	**VPO ufi**
122	Delete	Boronia	34 Boronia Road, Boronia. May need property owner approval to view trees	1 x Silky Oak/ *Grevillea robusta*	Silky Oak cannot be found on site, possibly obscured by hedge. The hedge is not part of the VPO protection, covered by HO. Planning permit issued for construction of a front fence, but with no VPO2 implications. Silky Oak possibly set back further from the front.	Yes	No *Grevillea robusta* visible from street. Tree of sufficient age would be visible.	no tree					1257833
124	Delete	Boronia	8 Bennett Street	1 x Elm/ *Ulmus* sp.	Checked aerials, Streetview can't identify Elm Tree that was removed. Possibly removed along Moroney Street between 2010 and 2014, but tree did not appear significant. Require arborist to confirm.	Yes (Melways Reference for corner of Bennett Street and Moroney Street is actually 65C9. Report and VPO2 Schedule refers to Melways Reference 65C8)	No elm at front or rear of property in VPO.	no tree					1257825

4.4 Ferntree Gully Cemetery Trust Annual Report for the Year Ended 30 June 2026

Final Report Destination: Council
Paper Type: For Decision
Author: Head of Governance, Saskia Weerheim
Manager: Manager Governance and Risk, Andrew Dowling
Executive: Director Customer and Performance, Matt Kelleher

SUMMARY
This report presents Council, as Trustee for the Ferntree Gully Cemetery, with relevant statutory documentation for the 2025-2026 financial year of operations for consideration and adoption, prior to submission to the Department of Health.

The report also provides Council as Trustee with an overview of work undertaken to support the Ferntree Gully Cemetery in the 2025-2026 financial year including an overview of sales and other enquiries including right of interment queries.

RECOMMENDATION
That Council, as the Trustee for the Ferntree Gully Cemetery Trust, resolve to:
1. Receive and adopt in principle the draft audited Financial Statements for the Ferntree Gully Cemetery Trust for the year ended 30 June 2026 (Attachment 1).
2. Authorise the Mayor and Councillor _______ and Councillor _______ to sign the draft audited Financial Statements for the Ferntree Gully Cemetery Trust for the year ended 30 June 2026 (Attachment 1).
3. Approve in principle the draft audited Financial Statements for the Ferntree Gully Cemetery Trust for the year ended 30 June 2026 (Attachment 1) being provided to the Independent Auditor for audit sign off.
4. Note the Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of the Ferntree Gully Cemetery Trust will be provided to the Trust upon completion and formal sign-off by the appointed auditor.
5. Receive and adopt the Abstract of Accounts from the Trust Members of the Ferntree Gully Public Cemetery for the 2025-2026 financial year (Attachment 2) and authorise the Mayor and Councillor _______ and Councillor_______ to sign the Abstract of Accounts on behalf of the Trust for submission to the Department of Health.
6. Note other work undertaken supporting the operations of Ferntree Gully Cemetery in the 2025-2026 financial year in as set out in the officers' report.

1. DISCUSSION
Knox City Council is Trustee for the Ferntree Gully Cemetery Trust and has a statutory obligation to complete yearly reporting of the financials to the Department of Health for the Cemetery, pursuant to the Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003 (Vic). This report presents the Trust with the financials for the Ferntree Gully Cemetery along with an overview of the year's work, including sales, development of Cemetery Operations Manuals and an overview of the landscape master planning work that has continued in this financial year.

1.1 Financial Statements

The following documentation is provided for consideration and adoption:

- Draft audited financial statements for the Ferntree Gully Cemetery Trust for the year ended 30 June 2026 (Attachment 1); and
- Draft Abstract of Accounts from the Trust Members of the Ferntree Gully Public Cemetery for the 2025-2026 financial year (Attachment 2) for submission to Department of Health.

The above documents were prepared with the assistance of Council's Financial Operations Department. An independent audit of the Ferntree Gully Cemetery Trust Financial Statements 2025-2026 was conducted by Stephen O'Kane Accountants and Auditors in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.

The Financial Statement is required to be signed by three Trust Members, being three Councillors in this instance. Following the Council Meeting, the signed Financial Statements for the Ferntree Gully Cemetery Trust for the year ended 30 June 2026 (Attachment 1) will be provided to the Independent Auditor for audit sign off. The Independent Auditor Report will then be issued. The report will be provided to Councillors and published on Council's website.

The Abstract of Accounts details a summary of financial operations, rights of interment and interment information and a general condition report of the Cemetery, in the form prescribed by the Department of Health. The Abstract of Accounts is required to be signed by three Trust members, being three Councillors in this instance.

1.2 Sales in 2025-2026 Financial Year

Following strong sales in the previous two financial years, and with no new ashes interment opportunities becoming available, only five ashes interment positions remained available for sale at the end of the 2024-2025 financial year. Enquiries during 2025-2026 resulted in two sales, leaving three ashes interment positions available for sale as at 30 June 2026.

Burials continued during the reporting period through the use of existing interment positions, generating ongoing revenue for the Cemetery Trust. No new burial positions are currently available for sale. Revenue was also generated through the sale of plaques and monuments during the financial year.

1.3 Cemetery Landscape Masterplan

Council adopted the Ferntree Gully Cemetery Masterplan on 15 December 2025 following a second round of community engagement. The Masterplan provides a strategic framework for the future development of the Cemetery, with a focus on meeting community demand for interment and memorialisation options and generating revenue to support the Trust's ongoing operating costs and obligation to maintain the Cemetery in perpetuity.

The Masterplan seeks to balance future development with the Cemetery's environmental and historical significance and, due to the limited undeveloped land available, focuses on ashes interment and memorialisation options rather than new burial positions. This approach enables the most efficient use of the remaining land while establishing future revenue opportunities to support the Cemetery's long-term sustainability.

At the time of preparing this report, the concept design process is being finalised with an external consultant landscape architect, with the project being developed in collaboration with Council's Major Projects team. A precinct-based approach has been adopted to provide a longer-term framework for the staged delivery of works across the site. Major Projects will lead the planning and delivery of the project, drawing on its specialist project management expertise and working in partnership with relevant internal teams, consultants and key stakeholders to support successful delivery.

The Foothills area has been identified as the first priority area for delivery, as it provides the best opportunity to commence works. In particular, the area provides an opportunity to deliver new niche walls at the rear of the Cemetery, providing a logical starting point for implementation of the Landscape Masterplan.

A pipeline of works has also been established to support the progressive development of the broader precinct. The intention is that revenue generated through each stage of development will contribute towards funding subsequent stages, creating a sustainable cycle of investment and enabling works to be delivered progressively as funding becomes available.

Following completion and adoption of the concept design, detailed design will be undertaken prior to construction. Further community engagement will also be undertaken before determining the final concept design for implementation in the Foothills precinct.

This approach provides a practical and coordinated pathway to commence implementation in the area where delivery is most achievable. Timely progression of the works is critical given the ongoing demand for ashes interment positions and the limited number of positions currently available for sale. Progressing the project will enable new positions to be brought to market and generate the revenue required to support the Cemetery Trust's ongoing operations and its obligation to fund the perpetual maintenance of the Cemetery.

1.4 Enquiries - Ashes Positions

During this reporting period, officers have maintained a register of expressions of interest for new ashes interment positions to better understand and monitor ongoing community demand.

At the time of reporting, 88 enquiries had been received, demonstrating a clear and sustained level of interest in securing an interment position at Ferntree Gully Cemetery. This level of demand, together with recent sales activity, reinforces the need to progress the Landscape Masterplan and development of new ashes interment opportunities in a timely manner.

1.5 Historical Right of Interment Enquiries

Cemetery staff within the Governance team play a critical role in managing Right of Interment (ROI) enquiries, as required under the Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003 (Vic). This responsibility ensures that all interments, memorials and maintenance works are lawfully authorised by the rightful ROI holder on behalf of the Trust.

In 2025–2026, the team managed 83 ROI enquiries and 38 monument applications. A significant proportion of these matters are complex, particularly where interment rights were acquired many years ago and historical records are limited or incomplete. Resolving these enquiries can require considerable customer engagement and detailed review of death certificates, Wills and other supporting legal documentation to establish family lineage and confirm legal ownership.

Providing clarity around ownership of an ROI is important for families, giving them confidence that interments and memorials can proceed appropriately. It also ensures the Cemetery Trust maintains accurate and complete records of interment rights and ownership, supporting sound administration and decision-making into the future. Given the age and history of the Cemetery, it is anticipated that ROI enquiries will continue to be a consistent and often complex area of work into the future.

1.6 Operations and Administration Management Manuals

A key focus of this financial year has been on strengthening the operational and administrative framework supporting the Cemetery Trust. An Operations Manual and Administration Management Manual have been developed by the Operations and Governance teams respectively to document key processes, establish consistent practices and provide clear guidance for the ongoing management of the Cemetery.

Council acknowledges the Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust for generously providing its Operations Manual, which has been used as a valuable reference in developing the Ferntree Gully Cemetery's Operations Manual.

This work supports greater consistency and continuity in service delivery, reduces reliance on individual staff knowledge and strengthens succession planning by ensuring critical processes and organisational knowledge are captured and accessible. It also provides a sound foundation for future staff and officers responsible for the administration and operation of the Cemetery.

1.7 Renewal of Positions

As previously reported, officers have continued reviewing Cemetery records to identify memorial positions where the 25-year fixed tenure has expired or is due to expire. Approximately 40 ashes positions have been identified where the memorial tenure has expired or will expire within the next three years. In the coming months, officers will commence the process of contacting relevant right of interment holders and renewing eligible memorials, with a move towards perpetual tenure providing greater certainty for families and reducing the ongoing administrative burden associated with fixed-term arrangements.

Where memorial tenure has expired, the Cemetery Trust is required to follow legislated processes, including prescribed notice periods and notification requirements. Families will have the opportunity to transfer the memorial to perpetual tenure for a fee or alternatively, relinquish the position and make arrangements for the ashes to be collected and memorialised elsewhere.

1.8 Cemetery Grant

It is noted that the Department of Health administers the Cemetery Grants Program, and officers will pursue grant funding opportunities where appropriate to support relevant components of the Cemetery Masterplan. Grant applications are assessed twice annually, in March and October.

As the grant guidelines do not align with the timing of the concept design development, officers propose to submit an application in the October 2026 round for wayfinding signage, with a further application for construction costs to be considered as part of one of the 2027 funding rounds.

2. ENGAGEMENT

Not applicable.

3. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Implementation of the recommendation is considered to have no direct social implications.

4. CLIMATE CHANGE CONSIDERATIONS

Implementation of the recommendation is considered to have no direct implications or has no direct impacts upon Council's Net Zero 2030 target, the Community Net Zero 2040, exposure to climate risks or climate change adaptation.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Implementation of the recommendation is considered to have no direct environmental implications.

6. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The Financial Statements reflect a loss of $68,870 from Ferntree Gully Cemetery operations in 2025-2026, reflecting a decrease of $128,641 from the previous financial year and $124,322 from the 2023-2024 financial year.

This operating loss arises in the context of strong sales in previous financial years exhausting supply of available ashes interment positions for sale. This has resulted in a corresponding decline in revenue from new interment sales and highlights the importance of progressing the Cemetery Masterplan to create new interment opportunities and establish sustainable future revenue streams.

Income – Sales and Fees

During the financial year, the Cemetery generated income through the sale of Gateway positions, conversions of tenure to perpetual tenure, and renewals of existing tenure. Fees were also received for transfers of rights of interment. There were 26 burials, consistent with the previous financial year, and 35 ashes interments, also unchanged from the previous financial year. The Cemetery received income from monument and plaque fees. Income from sales and fees for the reporting year total $120,420.

This represents a decline of $144,187 from $264,607 in 2024-2025, again, reflecting reduced availability of ashes positions and the resulting limitation on sales.

As previously noted, there were a total of 3 ashes interment positions available for sale as at 30 June 2026 and a total of ten unsold burial positions. The burial positions are not currently being offered for sale, and instead continue to be held as reserve capacity as a risk mitigation measure; due to the quality of historical records at the Cemetery and lack of certainty that all physical positions correctly align with the rights of interment issued.

Costs

As a separate legal and financial entity, the Ferntree Gully Cemetery Trust operates its accounts separately to those of Knox City Council. Cemetery operations are funded through a cost recovery model where the Trust pays Council a management fee, being $192,126 in financial year 2025-2026, which covers:

- Operational services provided by the Engineering & Operations Department;
- Administrative, sales and management services provided primarily by the Governance and Risk Department; and
- Financial advice and accounting services, provided by Financial Operations.

Management fees for the financial year reflect five quarterly payments due to the timing of payments and the treatment of an accrual from the previous financial year. This resulted in an additional payment being recognised during the year; however, this does not represent an increase in the quarterly management fee or an additional period of management services.

Another notable one-off cost in this financial year was the finalisation of development of the draft Masterplan. An outstanding balance remained at the beginning of the financial year, representing the final two agreed instalments to the consultant for completing the community engagement process and finalisation of the draft Masterplan. These costs were payable to the consultant in accordance with the agreed staged payment arrangements, with payment made through agreed instalments linked to the completion of the relevant project milestones. These instalments were paid in the 2025-2026 financial year.

Investments

As at 30 June 2026, the Ferntree Gully Cemetery Trust held cash and financial assets (term deposits) of $1,371,208, a decrease of $109,892 or just over 7%. The term deposits generated $44,284 in interest income during the financial year.

While the Trust currently remains a going concern, Council continues to receive income from the Cemetery under the current cost recovery arrangement. Forward financial projections indicate that, if payments to Council continue at the current rate, the Cemetery's financial reserves are expected to be exhausted within approximately three years. Viewed in conjunction with pending construction costs for the new ashes interment opportunities in the Foothills area, this highlights the importance of progressing new sales opportunities to establish sustainable future revenue streams.

Council may need to consider the current financial arrangement and level of cost recovery from the Trust as part of future planning, while recognising the potential for new interment and memorialisation opportunities to generate additional revenue over the coming years and improve the Cemetery's long-term financial position.

7. RISKS

The major risk identified for the Trust's consideration of the Annual Report relates to balancing the statutory obligation to ensure the Cemetery is maintained in perpetuity with the ongoing costs associated with that maintenance. While the Trust is required to preserve the Cemetery's condition and ensure its ongoing accessibility for future generations, this responsibility must be managed against the financial resources available.

The Cemetery is currently operating at a loss, with Council continuing to recover the costs of operating and maintaining the Cemetery through the current financial arrangement. As available interment positions have now been exhausted, the Trust's ability to generate sufficient new revenue in the short term is limited, increasing the financial pressure on its reserves and highlighting the need to consider the sustainability of the current funding and cost recovery arrangements.

Revenue generation opportunities in the Foothills precinct from new ashes interment and memorialisation opportunities were a key factor in the decision to progress this precinct as a priority. Timely progression of the concept designs for this precinct into implementation is a significant mitigation measure for this financial risk. Delays in moving from planning to delivery would prolong the period in which the Trust has limited capacity to generate new revenue, placing further pressure on reserves and the current cost recovery arrangements.

8. COUNCIL AND HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN 2025-2029

Enhancing community connection to vital services and resources

Strategy 1.5 - Our community's health and wellbeing is improved through proactive planning, delivery, partnerships and advocacy that enable access to services, education and programs.

Leading, listening and governing responsibly

Strategy 4.1 - Council demonstrates its accountability through transparent and responsible decision-making and working together productively.

9. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

10. STATEMENT OF COMPATIBILITY

There are no legislative obligations under the Human Rights Charter, Child Safe Standards or the Gender Equity Act that are incompatible with the recommendation in this report.

11. CONFIDENTIALITY

There is no content in this report that meets the definition of confidential information from the Local Government Act 2020.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - EOFY Annual Accounts - FTG Cemetery - 2025 - 2026 [**4.4.1** - 17 pages]
2. Attachment 2 - Abstract of Accounts 2025-26 [**4.4.2** - 8 pages]

FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY TRUST

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY TRUST

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY TRUST
STATEMENT BY THE TRUSTEE

In the opinion of the Trustee of the Ferntree Gully Cemetery Trust:

1 (a) The accompanying financial statements are drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the results and the state of affairs of the Trust at 30 June 2026; and

(b) At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Trust will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

2 The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with AASB Accounting Standards.

Dated at Wantirna South this day of 2026

Mayor

Councillor

Councillor

FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY TRUST

COMPREHENSIVE INCOME STATEMENT

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	Note	June 2026 $	June 2025 $
Income			
Plot sales	1.3	32,746	158,931
Burial fees	1.3	51,795	61,564
Monument fees	1.3	5,050	5,720
Plaque fees	1.3	30,829	38,392
Investment income	1.3	44,284	46,684
Total income		164,704	311,291
Expenses			
Management fees	5(c)	192,126	184,737
Plaques		18,625	21,519
Operating costs	2.1(a)	10,466	33,028
Utilities	2.1(b)	1,002	979
Depreciation	2.2	11,355	11,257
Total expenses		233,574	251,520
Profit/(loss) for the year		(68,870)	59,771
Total comprehensive result		(68,870)	59,771

The above comprehensive income statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY TRUST
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 June 2026

	Note	June 2026 $	June 2025 $
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	3.1(a)	271,208	381,100
Trade and other receivables	3.1(c)	8,429	6,961
Other financial assets	3.1(b)	1,100,000	1,100,000
Total current assets		1,379,637	1,488,061
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	4.1	842,486	849,490
Total non-current assets		842,486	849,490
Total assets		2,222,123	2,337,551
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	3.2(a)	2,173	48,730
Total current liabilities		2,173	48,730
Total liabilities		2,173	48,730
Net assets		2,219,951	2,288,821
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		2,219,951	2,288,821
Total equity		2,219,951	2,288,821

The above balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY TRUST
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	Accumulated surplus	
	June 2026 $	June 2025 $
Balance at beginning of the financial year	2,288,821	2,229,050
Comprehensive result	-68,870	59,771
Balance at end of the financial year	2,219,951	2,288,821

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY TRUST
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	Note	June 2026 Inflows/ (Outflows) $	June 2025 Inflows/ (Outflows) $
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts			
Plot sales		32,746	158,931
Burial fees		56,975	67,720
Plaque fees		33,912	42,231
Monument fees		5,050	5,720
Interest received		43,519	65,946
Net GST refund		18,461	15,709
		190,663	356,257
Payments			
Payments to suppliers		(296,203)	(215,638)
		(296,203)	(215,638)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	6.1	(105,540)	140,619
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(4,350)	(17,295)
Proceeds from disposal of financial assets		1,100,000	1,100,000
Purchase of financial assets		(1,100,000)	(1,100,000)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		(4,350)	(17,295)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(109,890)	123,324
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		381,100	257,776
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year		271,208	381,100

The above statement of cash flows should be read with the accompanying notes.

FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

Note 1 Overview

Introduction

The Ferntree Gully Cemetery was established in 1873. Knox City Council took over responsibility as Trustee in 1982. The sole purpose of the Trust is to administer the Ferntree Gully Cemetery.

Statement of compliance

These financial statements are a general purpose financial report that consists of a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Capital Works and Notes accompanying these financial statements. The general purpose financial report complies with the Australian Accounting Standards (AAS), other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, the *Local Government Act 2020, and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

Accounting policy information

1. 1 Basis of accounting

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported. Specific accounting policies applied are disclosed in sections where the related balance or financial statement matter is disclosed.

The accrual basis of accounting has been used in the preparation of these financial statements, whereby assets, liabilities, equity, income and expenses are recognised in the reporting period to which they relate, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The financial statements are based on the historical cost convention unless a different measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.
The financial statements are in Australian dollars. Minor discrepancies in tables between totals and the sum of components are due to rounding.

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated judgements are based on professional judgement derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and also in future periods that are affected by the revision. Judgements and assumptions made by management in the application of AAS's that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates relate to the determination of depreciation on infrastructure (refer to Note 4).

FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

Note 1 Overview (cont'd)

Unless otherwise stated, all accounting policies are consistent with those applied in the prior year. Where appropriate, comparative figures have been amended to accord with current presentation, and disclosure has been made of any material changes to comparatives.

1. 2 Going concern

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are satisfied that the entity is trading as a going concern. However the Trustees also note that the ability of the entity to continue as a going concern in the long term is uncertain due to the lack of sustainable operating profits or cash flows from core business activities, particularly as all available burial plots have been sold.

1. 3 Revenue recognition

Income is recognised when the Trust obtains control of the contribution or the right to receive the contribution, it is probable that the economic benefits comprising the contribution will flow to the Trust, and the amount of the contribution can be measured reliably.

1. 4 Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Income and expenses are recognised net of the amount of associated GST. Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	June 2026 $	June 2025 $
Note 2 The cost of delivering services		
2. 1 Materials and Services		
(a) Operating costs		
Audit fee	2,325	2,000
Refund pre-purchased plots	-	8,747
Other operating costs	8,141	22,281
	10,466	33,028
(b) Utilities		
Telephone	1,002	979
	1,002	979
Total material and services	11,468	34,007
2. 2 Depreciation		
Depreciation expense	11,355	11,257
Total depreciation and amortisation	11,355	11,257

Refer to note 4.1 for a more detailed breakdown of depreciation and amortisation charges and accounting policy.

FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	June 2026 $	June 2025 $
Note 3 Investing in and financing our operations		
3. 1 Financial assets		
(a) Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash at Bank	14,149	20,503
Cash at Call	257,059	360,597
Total cash and cash equivalents	271,208	381,100
(b) Other financial assets		
Current		
Term deposits	1,100,000	1,100,000
Total current other financial assets	1,100,000	1,100,000
Non-current		
Term deposits	-	-
Total non-current other financial assets	-	-
Total other financial assets	1,100,000	1,100,000
Total cash and cash equivalents and other financial assets	1,371,208	1,481,100

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of 90 days or less, net of outstanding bank overdrafts (if applicable).

Financial assets including investments such as term deposits are held to maturity and measured at amortised cost.

Other financial assets are valued at fair value, at balance date. Term deposits are measured at original cost. Any unrealised gains and losses on holdings at balance date are recognised as either a revenue or expense. Other financial assets include term deposits and those with original maturity dates of three to 12 months are classified as current, whilst term deposits with maturity dates greater than 12 months are classified as non-current.

Note 3 Investing in and financing our operations (cont'd)

(c) Trade and other receivables

Current		
Plot debtors	-	-
Accrued interest	4,310	3,545
Net GST receivable	4,119	3,416
Total current trade and other receivables	8,429	6,961

Receivables are carried at cost. A provision for doubtful debts is recognised when there is objective evidence that an impairment has occurred.

No provision has been made for doubtful debts.

FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	June 2026 $	June 2025 $
3. 2 Payables		
(a) Trade and other payables		
Current		
Trade payables	2,173	48,730
Total Current Trade and other payables	2,173	48,730

3. 3 Commitments

The Trustee does not have any outstanding commitments in relation to the Ferntree Gully Cemetery.

3. 4 Number of graves, ashes and interment positions available

Description	No.	No.
Foothills graves	6	6
Ashes Garden	-	-
Rose garden	-	-
Ashes vault - single	-	-
Wall of Remembrance	-	-
Memorial Rose Garden	-	-
Lawn F	1	1
Methodist Section B	2	2
Roman Catholic Section D	1	1
The Grove Niche Walls	-	-
Grove 386 - 616	-	-
Gateway	3	5
	13	15

FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

Note 4 Assets we manage

4. 1 Property, Plant and equipment

Summary of property, plant and equipment

	At cost $	Accumulated Depreciation $	Written Down Value $
2026			
Land at cost	554,721	-	554,721
Infrastructure	359,088	(88,618)	270,470
Works in Progress - Assets	17,295	-	17,295
	931,104	(88,618)	842,486

	At cost $	Accumulated Depreciation $	Written Down Value $
2025			
Land at cost	554,721	-	554,721
Infrastructure	354,738	(77,264)	277,474
Works in Progress - Assets	17,295	-	17,295
	926,754	(77,264)	849,490

Land	
At cost 1 July 2025	554,721
Written down value of land at 30 June 2026	554,721
Infrastructure	
At cost 1 July 2025	354,738
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2025	(77,264)
Movements in Cost	
Acquisition of assets at cost	4,350
	281,824
Movements in accumulated depreciation	
Depreciation	(11,355)
	(11,355)
At cost 30 June 2026	359,088
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2026	(88,619)
Written down value of infrastructure at 30 June 2026	270,470

Note 4 Assets we manage (cont'd)

Works in Progress - Assets

Opening Working Progress at 1 July 2025	17,295
Additions	
Transfers	-
Write offs	-
Closing work in progress	17,295

The closing work in progress includes $17,295 in site preparation costs, for the Ferntree Gully Cemetery Trust Masterplan.

FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

Note 5 People and relationships

(a) Trustee

The Trustee of Ferntree Gully Cemetery Trust is Knox City Council.

(b) Key Management Personnel

The Councillors of Knox City Council during the year were:

Councillor Paige Kennett (Mayor)	Councillor from 1 July 2025 to 20 November 2025 Mayor from 20 November 2025 to current
Councillor Chris Duncan (Deputy Mayor)	Councillor from 1 July 2025 to 20 November 2025 Deputy Mayor from 20 November 2025 to current
Councillor Lisa Cooper	Mayor from 1 July 2025 to 20 November 2025 Councillor from 20 November 2025 to current
Councillor Glen Atwell	Deputy Mayor from 1 July 2025 to 20 November 2025 Councillor from 20 November 2025 to current
Councillor Peter Lockwood	Councillor from 1 July 2025 to current
Councillor Robert Williams	Councillor from 1 July 2025 to current
Councillor Meagan Baker	Councillor from 1 July 2025 to current
Councillor Parisa Considine	Councillor from 1 July 2025 to current
Councillor Susan Pearce	Councillor from 1 July 2025 to current

The Councillors received no remuneration from the Trust in connection with its management.

(c) Other Related Party Disclosures

Knox City Council’s Finance department provides ongoing financial advice and accounting services to the Trustees. These services are included in the management fee of $192,126 payable by the Trust to the Council for the year.

FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	June 2026 $	June 2025 $
Note 6 Other matters		
6. 1 Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus		
Profit/(loss) for the year	(68,870)	59,771
Non-cash adjustments:		
Add back depreciation expense	11,355	11,257
Change in assets and liabilities		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(1,468)	24,704
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(46,557)	44,887
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	(105,540)	140,619

Abstract of accounts 2025-26

Submitted in accordance with s. 52 / s. 57 of the *Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003*. Due 1 September 2026.

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Cemetery trust name	FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY

General account/s

Income	$	Expenditure	$
Balance in bank at start of financial year	$ 381,100.00	Secretary and other administrative staff**	
Cash in hand at start of financial year		Grounds staff**	
Investments at start of financial year	$ 1,100,000.00	Gravedigging**	
Interest received*	$ 43,519.00	Contractors**	$ 257,896.00
Fees received for cemetery products/ services (graves, memorials, interments, etc.)*	$ 128,683.00	Memorialisation**	$ 18,625.00
Other income*	$ 18,461.00	Office expenses**	$ 18,448.00
Transfers from perpetual maintenance account/s		Buildings (new construction)**	
Department of Health grants		Insurance**	
Other grants and donations		Works (new areas, repairs, fencing, drainage, etc.)**	$ 4,350.00
Unpresented cheques		Other expenses**	$ 1,236.00
		Balance in bank at end of financial year	$ 271,208.00
		Cash in hand at end of financial year	
		Investments at end of financial year	$ 1,100,000.00
Total	$ 1,671,763.00	**Total**	$ 1,671,763.00

VICTORIA State Government | Department of Health

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☐ Confirm the **totals of the income and expenditure columns are equal**. A discrepancy between the two column totals may indicate an error in the recorded data.

☐ Confirm **bank statement/s displaying the closing bank and investment balances** are attached.

☐ Confirm a **review** or **audit** is attached**, if the trust meets the threshold**. Trusts with an annual income (total of the three rows marked *) or expenditure (total of the 10 rows marked **) of $250,000 up to $1 million must attach a review of their accounts. Trusts with an annual income (*) or expenditure (**) of more than $1 million must attach an audit. See *Abstract of accounts checklist* for more information.

Perpetual maintenance account/s

Complete this section if your trust has a separate account/s designated for perpetual maintenance funds. <u>Do not re-enter bank account or investment information already entered in the 'General account' section</u>. The income and expenditure totals must balance.

Income	$		Expenditure	$
Balance at start of financial year			Expenditure / transfer to general account	
Interest received			Balance at end of financial year	
New funds received				
Total	**$ -**		**Total**	**$ -**

☐ Confirm the totals of the income and expenditure columns are equal. A discrepancy between the two column totals may indicate an error in the recorded data.

☐ Confirm **bank statement/s displaying the closing perpetual maintenance account/s balances** are attached.

Assets and liabilities

Record the total value of assets in each category. If the trust has no assets or liabilities, enter a zero at both totals.

Assets	$
Key structures (Examples: office, mausoleum, chapel, toilet facility, niche wall)	
Minor structures (Examples: rotunda, shed, seating)	
Major machinery (Examples: tractor, ride-on mower)	
Small machinery (Examples: mechanical and electrical equipment, computer, printer, grave shoring)	
Miscellaneous equipment (Examples: hand tools, wheelbarrow)	
Total	**$ -**

Liabilities	$
Monies owed to a third party	
Monies committed to expenditure	
Other	
Total	**$ -**

Right of interment (ROI) and interment information

Cemetery name	FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY

Where accurate numbers are not available, please provide estimates.

If your trust manages multiple cemeteries (active or closed), please provide information for each site in a separate table by making copies of this page.

Bodily remains

Question	Response
Number of ROI for bodily remains (at-need) sold in 2025-26	Nil
Number of ROI for bodily remains (pre-need) sold in 2025-26	Nil
Number of interments of bodily remains (first burial in a plot) in 2025-26	8
Number of interments of bodily remains (second or subsequent burial in a plot) in 2025-26	18

Cremated remains

Question	Response
Number of ROI for cremated remains (both at-need and pre-need) sold in 2025-26	8
Number of interments of cremated remains (in graves and memorials such as niche walls) in 2025-26	35

Cemetery Capacity

Question	Response
Total number of bodily remains interred since the establishment of the cemetery	6318
Number of unsold ROI for bodily remains at 30 June 2026 Include the estimated number of plots that could be created in areas of the cemetery that have the potential to be developed. The department collects this information to understand the remaining burial capacity in Victorian cemeteries.	0*
Estimate how many more years there will be ROI for bodily remains (at-need) available for sale in the cemetery (including in areas that are yet to be developed)	0

Statutory declarations

Three trust members (the chairperson and two other trust members) must execute a statutory declaration.

Statutory declaration – trust member 1 (chairperson)

Name:	
Address:	
Occupation:	

I, (name, address and occupation stated above), make the following statutory declaration under the **Oaths and Affirmations Act 2018**:

The above abstract of accounts for the financial year 2025-26 is true and correct for the trust mentioned below.

Cemetery trust:	Ferntree Gully Cemetery

I declare that the contents of this statutory declaration are true and correct and I make it knowing that making a statutory declaration that I know to be untrue is an offence.

Signature of person making declaration:	
Declared at: **(City, town or suburb in the state of Victoria)**	
Date:	

Statutory declaration witness

Note: See Checklist for details on how to witness statutory declarations remotely via audio visual link.
Note: Stamp of name, capacity and/or address accepted in table below.

Name:	
Capacity in which authorised to witness statutory declaration:	
Address:	

I, (name, capacity and address stated or stamped above), am an authorised statutory declaration witness* and I sign this document in the presence of the person making the declaration:

Signature of statutory declaration witness:	
Date:	

*A person authorised under s. 30(2) of the **Oaths and Affirmations Act 2018** to witness the signing of a statutory declaration

Statutory declaration – trust member 2

Name:	
Address:	
Occupation:	

I, (name, address and occupation stated above), make the following statutory declaration under the **Oaths and Affirmations Act 2018**:

The above abstract of accounts for the financial year 2025-26 is true and correct for the trust mentioned below.

Cemetery trust:	Ferntree Gully Cemetery

I declare that the contents of this statutory declaration are true and correct and I make it knowing that making a statutory declaration that I know to be untrue is an offence.

Signature of person making declaration:	
Declared at: (City, town or suburb in the state of Victoria)	
Date:	

Statutory declaration witness

Note: See Checklist for details on how to witness statutory declarations remotely via audio visual link.
Note: Stamp of name, capacity and/or address accepted in table below.

Name:	
Capacity in which authorised to witness statutory declaration:	
Address:	

I, (name, capacity and address stated or stamped above), am an authorised statutory declaration witness* and I sign this document in the presence of the person making the declaration:

Signature of statutory declaration witness:	
Date:	

*A person authorised under s. 30(2) of the **Oaths and Affirmations Act 2018** to witness the signing of a statutory declaration

Statutory declaration – trust member 3

Name:	
Address:	
Occupation:	

I, (name, address and occupation stated above), make the following statutory declaration under the **Oaths and Affirmations Act 2018**:

The above abstract of accounts for the financial year 2025-26 is true and correct for the trust mentioned below.

Cemetery trust:	Ferntree Gully Cemetery

I declare that the contents of this statutory declaration are true and correct and I make it knowing that making a statutory declaration that I know to be untrue is an offence.

Signature of person making declaration:	
Declared at: (City, town or suburb in the state of Victoria)	
Date:	

Statutory declaration witness

Note: See Checklist for details on how to witness statutory declarations remotely via audio visual link.
Note: Stamp of name, capacity and/or address accepted in table below.

Name:	
Capacity in which authorised to witness statutory declaration:	
Address:	

I, (name, capacity and address stated or stamped above), am an authorised statutory declaration witness* and I sign this document in the presence of the person making the declaration:

Signature of statutory declaration witness:	
Date:	

*A person authorised under s. 30(2) of the **Oaths and Affirmations Act 2018** to witness the signing of a statutory declaration

Submission

Under s. 52(3) of the *Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003*, a cemetery trust must submit a report for each financial year to the Secretary of the Department of Health by 1 September in the following financial year.

End of financial year bank, investment and perpetual maintenance account statements must be provided with this form and emailed to the Divisional Portfolio Entity and Appointments Advisory Unit at <cemeteries@health.vic.gov.au>.

Email is the department's preferred method to receive the abstract and accompanying documents. If you do not have access to email, the documents can be posted to:

The Manager
Divisional Portfolio Entity and Appointments Advisory Unit
Department of Health
GPO Box 4057
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

To receive this document in another format, phone 1800 034 280, using the National Relay Service 13 36 77 if required, or Divisional Portfolio Entity and Appointments Advisory Unit <cemeteries@health.vic.gov.au>.

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Available at Class B cemetery trust financial reporting and financial procedures <https://www.health.vic.gov.au/cemeteries-and-crematoria/class-b-cemetery-trust-financial-reporting-and-procedures>

5 Notices Of Motion

6 Supplementary Items

7 Urgent Business

8 Confidential Items