Shire of CUE
Queen of the Murchison

Confirmed Minutes

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

16 June 2026

SHIRE OF CUE
Ordinary Meeting of Council
MINUTES

Held in the Council Chambers, 73 Austin Street Cue on
Tuesday, 16 June 2026 commencing at 18:00

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING

The meeting was opened at 06:01 PM

The Presiding Member welcomed those present and read the following disclaimer:

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of Cue for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during this Meeting.

It is strongly advised that persons do not act on what is heard at this Meeting and should only rely on written confirmation of council's decision, which will be provided within fourteen (14) days of this Meeting.

PRESENT:
Shire President Les Price
Deputy Shire President Ron Hogben
Councillor Julie Humphreys
Councillor Norm Lyon
Councillor Jacquie Lacy

STAFF:
Chief Executive Officer Richard Towell
Deputy Chief Executive Officer Lisa Keen
Executive Assistant Janelle Duncan
Accountant Ahmed Khan
Senior Admin Officer Stephanie Wandek
Contract Environmental Health Officer Maurice Walsh
Youth Coordinator Ben Andrew

GALLERY:
1 person

2 APOLOGIES ON BEHALF OF ABSENT ELECTED MEMBERS AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr Cian Lyon

3 DISCLOSURE OF MEMBER'S INTERESTS

Nil

4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Council Decision: 01062026	**Voting Requirement:** Simple Majority
MOVED: Cr Jacquie Lacy	**SECONDED: Cr Julie Humphreys**

That the Minutes of Ordinary Meeting 19 May 2026 are confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.

CARRIED: 5/0
FOR: Shire President Price, Deputy Shire President Hogben, Councillor Humphreys, Councillor Lyon, Councillor Lacy
AGAINST: None

6 APPLICATION FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

7 DEPUTATIONS

Nil

8 PETITIONS

Nil

9 ANNOUNCEMENTS WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Method of Dealing with Agenda Business

As part of the Shire's efforts to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of meetings, tonight's meeting will include the opportunity for matters to be considered by Council en bloc.

Matters not to be included in en bloc decisions are those which require:

- Absolute Majority;
- Matters to be determined behind closed doors;
- Declared interests made in relation to the item; and

- Deputations or Statements made in relation to the item.

Before commencing the process, the Presiding Member provides a brief explanation of the 'en bloc' method of decision making, for the benefit of any members of the public in the gallery.

The following items have been identified to be decided upon by voting en bloc:

- 10.1 Accounts and Statements of Account
- 10.2 Financial Statements

After reading out all reports identified to be decided on by 'en bloc', Elected Members are given the opportunity to have any reports removed that they deem not appropriate to be included in this process.

Once all are agreed, a mover and seconder will propose a motion for the en bloc decision.

"That the recommendations contained in items 10.1 and 10.2 be adopted en bloc".

Cr Jacquie Lacy requested 10.1 be removed for discussion.

REPORTS

10 REPORTS

10.1 ACCOUNTS AND STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNT

APPLICANT: Shire of Cue

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: Nil

AUTHOR: Lisa Keen - Deputy Chief Executive Officer

DATE: 1 June 2026

Matters for Consideration:

To receive the List of Accounts paid for the period 1 May 2026 - 31 May 2026.

Background:

The Local Government, under its delegated authority to the CEO to make payments from municipal and trust funds, is required to prepare a monthly list of accounts showing each account paid and present it to Council at the next Ordinary Council meeting. The list of accounts prepared and presented to Council must form part of the minutes of that meeting.

Comments:

The list of accounts are for the month of May 2026.

Statutory Environment:

Local Government (Financial Management Regulations) 1996 – Clause 13.

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Nil

Strategic Implications:

Nil

Consultation:

Richard Towell, Chief Executive Officer

Officers Recommendation: **Voting Requirement:** Simple Majority

That Council receive the attached payments for the period 1 May 2026 - 31 May 2026, which have been made in accordance with delegated authority under s5.42 of the *Local Government Act 1995.*

MAY 2026

Municipal Fund Bank EFTs	EFT 16173 - 16299	$	500,675.34
Direct Debit Fund Transfer	General	$	45,926.81
Direct Debit Fund Transfer	CEO Credit Card	$	3,160.33
Payroll		$	151,149.41
Cheques		$	0.00
Total		$	**700,911.89**

Council Decision: 02062026 **Voting Requirement:** Simple Majority

MOVED: Cr Ron Hogben **SECONDED: Cr Norm Lyon**

That Council receive the attached payments for the period 1 May 2026 - 31 May 2026, which have been made in accordance with delegated authority under s5.42 of the *Local Government Act 1995.*

MAY 2026

Municipal Fund Bank EFTs	EFT 16173 - 16299	$	500,675.34
Direct Debit Fund Transfer	General	$	45,926.81
Direct Debit Fund Transfer	CEO Credit Card	$	3,160.33
Payroll		$	151,149.41
Cheques		$	0.00
Total		$	**700,911.89**

CARRIED: 5/0
FOR: Shire President Price, Deputy Shire President Hogben, Councillor Humphreys, Councillor Lyon, Councillor Lacy
AGAINST: None

10.2 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

APPLICANT: Shire of Cue

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: Nil

AUTHOR: Lisa Keen - Deputy Chief Executive Officer

DATE: 1 June 2026

Matters for Consideration:

The attached monthly Financial Report is for the period ending May 2026 and includes the following statements and notes:

- Statement of Financial Activity
- Major Variances
- Net Current Funding Position
- Statement of Financial Position
- Cash and Investments
- Trust Fund
- Cash Backed Reserve
- Receivables
- Capital Disposals
- Borrowings
- Capital Acquisitions
- Rate Revenue
- Grants and Contributions

Background:

Under the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, a monthly Financial Report must be submitted to an Ordinary Council meeting within two months after the end of the month to which the statement relates. The monthly Financial Report presents an overview of the financial position of the local government at the end of each month. The monthly Financial Report must be adopted by Council and form part of the minutes.

Comments:

The monthly Financial Report is for the month of May 2026.

Statutory Environment:

Local Government (Financial Management Regulations) 1996 – Clause 14.

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Nil

Strategic Implications:

Nil

Consultation:

Richard Towell, Chief Executive Officer

Officers Recommendation: **Voting Requirement:** Simple Majority

That Council receive the attached monthly Financial Report, prepared in accordance with the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, for the period ending May 2026.

Council Decision: 03062026 **Voting Requirement:** Simple Majority

MOVED: Cr Julie Humphreys **SECONDED: Cr Jacquie Lacy**

That Council receive the attached monthly Financial Report, prepared in accordance with the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, for the period ending May 2026.

CARRIED: 5/0
FOR: Shire President Price, Deputy Shire President Hogben, Councillor Humphreys, Councillor Lyon, Councillor Lacy
AGAINST: None

10.3 RATES - DIFFERENTIAL RATES

APPLICANT: Shire of Cue

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: Nil

AUTHOR: Lisa Keen - Deputy Chief Executive Officer

DATE: 1 June 2026

Matters for Consideration:

To approve the advertising for the proposal to apply differential rates and minimum payments in the 2026-2027 financial year.

Background:

Section 6.36 of the *Local Government Act 1995* requires that local public notice be given as per *Section 1.7* of the *Local Government Act 1995* before imposing any differential general rates or minimum payments.

Electors and ratepayers are to be invited to lodge a submission in respect of the proposed rates and minimum payments within twenty one (21) days of the notice being published and the local government is to consider any submissions received before imposing the proposed rates and minimum payments.

Comments:

In consideration of the Long Term Financial Plan (which includes an increase in rates of 3.7%), the latest CPI reading for Perth of 4.6% and the Local Government Cost Index forecast for 2026-2027 of 3.1%, it is recommended that rates be increased across all categories by an average 4%. The increase also applies to minimum rates. Taking into account a decrease in mining tenements with around twenty five tenements less than the previous year, the proposed model will yield an increase in revenue for rates of 4% over last years rates levied.

It is proposed the rate in the dollar for GRV Mining Transient Workforce Facilities be 50% greater than the rate in the dollar for GRV General and Commercial. This reflects the additional cost burden associated with servicing the higher density facilities.

The following table shows the rate in the dollar for each category over the past four years.

Rate in the Dollar Comparison

Rate Category	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Proposed

GRV - GENERAL	10.3088	10.6180	10.7241	11.2900	11.7416
GRV - COMMERCIAL	10.3088	10.6180	10.7241	11.2900	11.7416
GRV - VACANT LAND	10.3088	10.6180	10.7241	11.2900	11.7416
GRV - M&T WORKFORCE FACILITIES	15.4632	15.9271	16.0863	16.9350	17.7732
UV - MINING TENEMENTS	27.2500	25.8201	25.5075	24.2390	24.8212
UV - PASTORAL	8.0990	8.3122	8.3953	8.8910	8.9123
Minimum Payment					
GRV - GENERAL	477	491	495	515	536
GRV - COMMERCIAL	477	491	495	515	536
GRV - VACANT LAND	477	491	495	515	536
GRV - M&T WORKFORCE FACILITIES	477	491	495	515	536
UV - MINING TENEMENTS	477	491	495	515	536
UV - PASTORAL	477	491	495	515	536

It is proposed that the GRV Commercial rate be maintained at the same rate as the GRV General rate and then a discount be applied to commercial properties. This discount is subject to the property owner paying their rates in full, on time and is not in arrears. The discount rate to be applied is proposed at twenty percent (20%).

The average increase of 4% across all categories, increases revenue by $121,402 compared to last year's rates levied, an increase of 4% in total rates levied. The proposed revenue to be collected is $86,010 greater than the amount allocated in our Long-Term Financial Plan for 2026-2027.

Due to changes in rateable values from the revaluation on UV Pastoral properties, which take effect from 1 July 2026, there will be fluctuations on the rates payable for individual properties within this category. The revaluation has resulted in the total rateable value of the UV Pastoral category being increased by $40,117.

The proposed rates model for 2026-2027 is shown in the tables below:

Rate Average increase of 4%				
Rate Category	**Rate in $**	**Number of Properties**	**Rateable Value**	**Rates Levied**
GRV - GENERAL	11.7416	83	547,934	64,336
GRV - COMMERCIAL	11.7416	7	487,440	57,233
GRV - VACANT LAND	11.7416	0	0	0
GRV- M&T WORKFORCE FACILITIES	17.7732	5	598,432	106,361
UV - MINING TENEMENTS	24.8212	338	11,044,664	2,741,418
UV - PASTORAL	8.9123	13	553,285	49,310
Minimum payment				
GRV - GENERAL	536	54	148,317	28,944

GRV - COMMERCIAL	536	0	0	0
GRV - VACANT LAND	536	33	5,142	17,688
GRV- M&T WORKFORCE FACILITIES	536	0	0	0
UV - MINING TENEMENTS	536	137	154,121	73,432
UV - PASTORAL	536	5	18,623	2,680
Totals		**675**	**13,557,958**	**3,141,402**

The table below shows a rate model comparison to surrounding Shire's for Council to consider:

	Cue	**Yalgoo**	**Mt Magnet**	**Sandstone**	**Meekatharra**
Rate Category	**Proposed**	**2025 / 2026**	**2025 / 2026**	**2025 / 2026**	**2025 / 2026**
GRV - General	11.7416	8.3088	10.3445	7.2850	9.8325
GRV - Commercial	11.7416	8.3088	12.2342	7.2850	9.8325
GRV - Vacant Land	11.7416	8.3088	10.3445	7.2850	9.8325
GRV - M&T Workforce Facilities	17.7732	31.5618	18.3168	41.0620	0.0000
UV - Mining Tenements	24.8212	33.9488	35.3117	29.6820	25.0000
UV - Pastoral	8.9123	7.3286	7.0913	6.7240	8.7975
Minimum Payments					
GRV - General	536	300	475	200	414
GRV - Commercial	536	300	475	200	414
GRV - Vacant Land	536	300	475	200	414
GRV - M&T Workforce Facilities	536	300	800	200	0
UV - Mining Tenements	536	300	475	400	650
UV - Pastoral	536	300	475	400	518

Objects and Reasons

Where council intend to impose differential rates, it is required to provide the objects of and reasons for each proposed rate and minimum payment. In the notice of intention to levy rates, Council is to advise electors and ratepayers of the time and place where this document can be inspected. The Objects and Reasons for the 2026-2027 rating proposal is attached.

In accordance with *Section 6.33(3)* of the *Local Government Act 1995*, Ministerial approval will be required for the above rating proposal as the highest proposed differential rate is more than twice the lowest proposed differential rate.

In accordance with *Section 6.35 of the Local Government Act 1995*, it is proposed that a single minimum rate be imposed across all rate categories. It is proposed to increase the minimum rate 4% which is in-line with most other rate categories. Therefore, the proposed minimum rate will increase to $536.00 per assessment.

Statutory Environment:

Local Government Act 1995, Section 1.7, Local Public Notice
Local Government Act 1995, Part 6 - Division 6 - Subdivision 2, Categories of Rates and Service Charges
Local Government Act 1995 - Section 6.33, Differential General Rates

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Council needs to ensure that rate revenue remains at a level where the Shire can continue to maintain its current level of services to ratepayers and the community. The proposed rates will provide an additional $86,010 in revenue compared to the long-term financial plan.

Strategic Implications:

Shire of Cue Strategic Community Plan 2023 – 2038

Consultation:

Richard Towell, Chief Executive Officer

Officers Recommendation: **Voting Requirement:** Simple Majority

That Council:
1. Acknowledge that Council has reviewed its expenditure and considered efficiency measures as part of its budget deliberations.
2. Authorise the CEO to advertise the Shire of Cue's intention to levy the following differential rates.

	Minimum	**Rate in $**
Rate Category	**Rates $**	**(cents)**
GRV - GENERAL	536	11.7416

GRV - COMMERCIAL	536	11.7416
GRV - VACANT LAND	536	11.7416
GRV- M&T WORKFORCE FACILITIES	536	17.7732
UV - MINING TENEMENTS	536	24.8212
UV - PASTORAL	536	8.9123

3. Adopt the Objects and Reasons for the 2026-2027 differential rates
4. If no objections are received during the public consultation period, that Council:
   (a) adopt the above rates for the 2026-2027 financial year; and
   (b) make an application to the Minister for Local Government for approval to impose differential general rates that are more than twice the lowest differential rate being imposed.

Council Decision: 04062026 **Voting Requirement:** Simple Majority

MOVED: Cr Julie Humphreys **SECONDED: Cr Jacquie Lacy**

That Council:

1. Acknowledge that Council has reviewed its expenditure and considered efficiency measures as part of its budget deliberations.
2. Authorise the CEO to advertise the Shire of Cue's intention to levy the following differential rates.

	Minimum	**Rate in $**
Rate Category	**Rates $**	**(cents)**
GRV - GENERAL	536	11.7416
GRV - COMMERCIAL	536	11.7416
GRV - VACANT LAND	536	11.7416
GRV- M&T WORKFORCE FACILITIES	536	17.7732
UV - MINING TENEMENTS	536	24.8212
UV - PASTORAL	536	8.9123

3. Adopt the Objects and Reasons for the 2026-2027 differential rates
4. If no objections are received during the public consultation period, that Council:
   (a) adopt the above rates for the 2026-2027 financial year; and
   (b) make an application to the Minister for Local Government for approval to impose

differential general rates that are more than twice the lowest differential rate being imposed.

CARRIED: 5/0
FOR: Shire President Price, Deputy Shire President Hogben, Councillor Humphreys, Councillor Lyon, Councillor Lacy
AGAINST: None

10.4 AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE - APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT DEPUTY OF THE PRESIDING MEMBER

APPLICANT:	Shire of Cue
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:	Nil
AUTHOR:	Richard Towell - Chief Executive Officer
DATE:	10 June 2026

Matters for Consideration:

Amendment of the appointment of Mr Stephen Manning from the Independent Deputy Presiding Member to Independent Deputy of the Presiding Member to the Shire of Cue Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC).

Background:

At the Ordinary meeting of Council held 19 May 2026, Council appointed Mr David Price as Independent Presiding Member of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee, and appointed Mr Stephen Manning as Independent Deputy Presiding Member of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee. This item is being presented back to Council to correct the anomaly that requires the Council to appoint a Deputy of the Presiding Member to be in compliance with *section 7.1B* of the *Local Government Act.* The appointment of an Independent Deputy Presiding Member is optional under the new reforms for audit committees and the same individual cannot serve as both the deputy of the presiding member and the deputy presiding member.

Recent amendments to the Local Government Act 1995 now require Council to establish an Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee with independent representation. Council is required to appoint an Independent Presiding Member and an Independent Deputy of the Presiding Member to the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee to ensure compliance with legislative requirements and strengthen governance oversight.

Comments:

Regulations provide for the transition from existing audit committees to Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees, provided they meet the requirements of independent members and implement changes by 30 June 2026.

The functions of ARIC include –
receive and review reports related to local government compliance audits required under the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulations,

- make recommendations to the council on actions to be taken in relation to those reports,
- receive and review reports on the effectiveness of the local government's systems and procedures in relation to financial management, legislative compliance, and risk management, and make recommendations to the council on improvements to those systems and procedures,
- receive and review reports on any actions the local government is required to take under the *Local Government Act 1995*, or has decided to take in relation to a compliance audit report or report into the effectiveness of the local government's systems and procedures, and
- perform any function conferred on the ARIC prescribed in the regulations or another written law.

Following discussions with Council and consideration of suitable candidates, Mr David Price and Mr Stephen Manning were approached to fulfil the two required roles. Both candidates have agreed to accept the roles if appointed.

Statutory Environment:

Local Government Act 1995, Section 7.1A.
7.1A. Establishment of audit, risk and improvement committee

(1) A local government must establish a committee of its council under section 5.8 to be called the audit, risk and improvement committee.

(2) The following provisions apply in respect of the membership of the audit, risk and improvement committee —
(a) an employee of the local government is not to be a member;
(b) no member is to be nominated by, or is to be appointed to represent, any employee of the local government;
(c) section 5.10(1)(b) does not apply.

(3) The presiding member of the audit, risk and improvement committee cannot be a council member of the local government or of any other local government.

(4) Any deputy presiding member of the audit, risk and

improvement committee cannot be a council member of the local government or of any other local government.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995 - SECT 7.1B

7.1B . Deputy of presiding member or of deputy presiding member

(1) The local government must appoint a person under section 5.11A to be a deputy of the presiding member of the audit, risk and improvement committee.

(2) In addition to the requirement of section 5.11A(2)(c), the deputy of the presiding member cannot be a council member of any other local government.

(3) If section 5.14 applies to a meeting of the audit, risk and improvement committee, the committee members present at the meeting must choose the deputy of the presiding member, if present, to preside at the meeting.

(4) If the local government appoints a person under section 5.11A to be a deputy of the deputy presiding member of the audit, risk and improvement committee, in addition to the requirement of section 5.11A(2)(c), the appointed deputy cannot be a council member of any other local government.

Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 – Regulation 19

19. Transitional provisions relating to establishment of audit, risk and improvement committees

(1) This regulation is made for the purposes of Schedule 9.3 clause 81(2) of the Act.

(2) If a term used in this regulation is given a meaning in Schedule 9.3 clause 69(1) of the Act, it has the same meaning in this regulation.

(3) This regulation applies to a local government if, immediately before amendment day —

(a) the membership of the local government's existing audit committee accords with section 7.1A(2)(a) and (b) (as inserted by the Local Government Amendment Act 2024 section 87); and

(b) none of the members of the existing audit committee is a member who was appointed under section 5.10(1)(b); and

(c) the presiding member of the existing audit committee, and any deputy presiding member of the existing audit committee, is not a council member of the local government or of any other local government; and

(d) a deputy of the presiding member is in place under section 5.11A and the deputy is not a council member of the local government or of any other local government; and

(e) if there is a deputy presiding member and a deputy of the deputy presiding member is in place under section 5.11A, the deputy is not a council member of the local government or of any other local government.

(4) The local government is taken to have established, at the beginning of amendment day, the existing audit committee as the local government's audit, risk and improvement committee (and to have complied with Schedule 9.3 clause 69(2) of the Act accordingly).

(5) If, immediately before amendment day, there is in effect a delegation to the

existing audit committee of any of the local government's powers or duties, the delegation continues in effect on and after amendment day as a delegation to the audit, risk and improvement committee taken to be established under subregulation (4).
(6) Subregulations (4) and (5) do not prevent the local government from establishing, during the period of 6 months referred to in Schedule 9.3 clause 69(2) of the Act, a new audit, risk and improvement committee that replaces the audit, risk and improvement committee taken to be established under subregulation (4).

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Independent members are entitled to remuneration in accordance with the range set by the Salary and Allowances Tribunal and determined by Council. Allocations will be made in future budgets to accommodate these costs.

Strategic Implications:

Shire of Cue Strategic Community Plan 2023-2038:Leadership Objective
Outcome 2.1 A strategically focused and unified Council functioning efficiently
2.1.3 Maintain accountability and financial responsibility

Consultation:

Lisa Keen, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Council Members
Kirsty Martin - Executive Manager Member Services, WALGA

Officers Recommendation: **Voting Requirement:** Absolute Majority

That Council, pursuant to the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996*, -

- Amends the appointment of Mr Stephen Manning as the Independent Deputy of the Presiding Member of the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee.

Council Decision: 05062026	**Voting Requirement:** Absolute Majority
MOVED: Cr Julie Humphreys	**SECONDED: Cr Ron Hogben**

That Council, pursuant to the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996*, -

- Amends the appointment of Mr Stephen Manning as the Independent Deputy of the Presiding Member of the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee.

CARRIED: 5/0
FOR: Shire President Price, Deputy Shire President Hogben, Councillor Humphreys, Councillor Lyon, Councillor Lacy
AGAINST: None

10.5 SHIRE OF CUE PUBLIC HEALTH PLAN 2026-2031

APPLICANT: Shire of Cue

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: Nil

AUTHOR: Lisa Keen - Deputy Chief Executive Officer

DATE: 10 June 2026

Matters for Consideration:

Adoption of the Draft Shire of Cue Public Health Plan 2026-2031

Background:

The Public Health Act 2016 places a responsibility on local governments to consider the health and wellbeing of their communities through strategic planning and coordinated action.

The Act requires local governments to prepare a Public Health Plan that:

- Is consistent with the State Public Health Plan.
- Identifies local public health needs and priorities.
- Outlines actions to improve health outcomes.
- Is reviewed at least every five years.
- Is made publicly available following adoption.

The Shire of Cue has developed its first Public Health Plan covering the period 2026-2031.

Development of the Plan included:

- Review of State and regional health datasets.
- Analysis of available demographic and health information.
- Community health survey and consultation process.
- Consideration of local service availability and community needs.
- Alignment with the Shire of Cue Strategic Community Plan 2023-2038 and Corporate Business Plan.
- Review of relevant State Government public health priorities.

Comments:

The Shire of Cue is a remote regional community located approximately 650 kilometres north-east of Perth and services a resident population of approximately 219 people (2021 census). While Cue benefits from a strong sense of community and resilience, the town faces unique health challenges associated with remoteness and limited service availability.

Healthcare access remains a significant issue, with Cue serviced by a nursing outpost and visiting medical services. The nearest hospital is located in Meekatharra and access to specialist and allied health services is limited.

The Plan acknowledges that health outcomes are influenced by a wide range of social, economic, environmental and cultural factors. In remote communities such as Cue, challenges including access to healthcare, housing, transport, food security, mental health support and opportunities for physical activity can significantly impact community wellbeing.

Regional health data for the Midwest indicates rates of high-risk alcohol consumption, diabetes, heart disease, psychological distress and certain cancers exceed the Western Australian average. Whilst localised health data for Cue is limited due to the small population base, these regional indicators provide valuable insight into the health risks and challenges likely to be experienced within the community.

The Public Health Plan is structured around four key pillars that align with both the State Public Health Plan and local priorities:

Promote

Supporting healthy lifestyles, social inclusion, physical activity, healthy eating and mental wellbeing.

Prevent

Reducing preventable illness, injury and disease through education, awareness and

early intervention initiatives.
Protect
Maintaining safe and healthy environments through environmental health services, emergency management, food safety, public amenities and regulatory compliance.
Enable
Creating supportive environments that improve access to services, strengthen community capacity and encourage partnerships that improve health outcomes.

The Plan identifies a range of practical initiatives that can be delivered by the Shire in partnership with government agencies, health providers, schools, sporting groups, community organisations and local businesses.

Alignment with State Public Health Priorities
The Shire of Cue Public Health Plan has been developed in accordance with the strategic directions of the State Public Health Plan and contributes to the achievement of the State's public health objectives through local action.

The Plan aligns with the State priority areas of:

- Aboriginal health and wellbeing.
- Prevention of chronic disease.
- Promotion of mental health and wellbeing.
- Healthy ageing.
- Environmental health protection.
- Injury prevention and community safety.
- Climate resilience and emergency preparedness.
- Health equity and access to services.

The Plan recognises that local government plays an important role in influencing the social and environmental determinants of health and supporting healthier communities through leadership, advocacy, partnerships and service delivery.

Statutory Environment:

Local Government Act 1995
Part 5 Administration
Division 5 Annual reports and planning
5.56. Planning for the future
(1) A local government is to plan for the future of the district.
(2) A local government is to ensure that plans made under subsection (1) are in accordance with any regulations made about planning for the future of the district.

Part 2 Constitution of local government
Division 2 Local governments and councils of local governments
2.7. Role of council
(6) The council has the other functions given to it under this Act or any other written

law.

Public Health Act 2016
Division 2 - Functions of local governments
16 Functions of local governments A local government has the following functions in relation to the administration of this Act -
(a) to initiate, support and manage public health planning for its local government district;
(b) to develop and implement policies and programmes to achieve the objects of this Act within its local government district;
(c) to perform the functions that are conferred on local governments by or under this Act;

Part 5 Public health plans
45. Local public health plans
(1) A local government must prepare a public health plan (a local public health plan) that applies to its local government district.
(2) A local public health plan must be consistent with the State public health plan.
(4) A local public health plan must -
(a) identify the public health needs of the local government district; and
(b) include an examination of data relating to health status and health determinants in the local government district; and
(c) establish objectives and policy priorities for - (i) the promotion, improvement and protection of public health in the local government district; and (ii) the development and delivery of public health services in the local government district; and
(d) identify how, based on available evidence, the objectives and policy priorities referred to in paragraph (c) are proposed to be achieved; and
(e) describe how the local government proposes to work with the Chief Health Officer and other bodies undertaking public health initiatives, projects and programmes to achieve the objectives and policy priorities referred to in paragraph (c); and
(f) include a strategic framework for the identification, evaluation and management of public health risks in the local government district and any other matters relating to public health risks in the local government district -
(i) that the local government considers appropriate to include in the plan; or (ii) that are required to be included in the plan by the Chief Health Officer or the regulations; and (g) include a report, in accordance with the regulations, on the performance by the local government of its functions under this Act.

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Implementation of initiatives identified within the Plan will be considered through annual budget deliberations, grant funding opportunities and operational planning processes.

Adoption of the Plan does not commit Council to expenditure beyond approved budgets.

Strategic Implications:

Shire of Cue Strategic Community Plan 2023 – 2038
2.1.2 Continue to improve and review organisational plans
3.1.1 increase affordable housing options for existing residents and to attract new families
3.1.2 Investigate opportunities to improve health services in town to provide greater and more timely access for the community
3.1.3 Provide, maintain and improve community infrastructure and facilities
3.1.4 Monitor and investigate measures to ensure water sustainability
3.2.1 Develop community facilities to provide places and activities for young people
3.2.3 Encourage healthy living and social interaction
3.2.4 Support provision of emergency services, support and encourage community volunteers
3.2.5 Support a safe community environment

Consultation:

Community engagement undertaken during development of the Plan included:

- Public Health Survey.
- Review of feedback from strategic planning processes.
- Review of available health and demographic data.

The priorities and actions contained within the Plan reflect both community feedback and evidence-based public health planning principles.

Richard Towell, Chief Executive Officer
Maurice Walsh, Environmental Health Officer

Officers Recommendation: **Voting Requirement:** Simple Majority

That Council:

1. Adopts the Shire of Cue Public Health Plan 2026-2031 as attached.
2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to make minor administrative, formatting and legislative reference amendments where required prior to publication.
3. Publishes the adopted Shire of Cue Public Health Plan 2026-2031 in accordance with the requirements of the Public Health Act 2016.

4. Notes that implementation of actions contained within the Plan will be considered through future annual budgets, operational planning processes and external funding opportunities

Council Decision: 06062026	**Voting Requirement:** Simple Majority
MOVED: Cr Jacquie Lacy	**SECONDED: Cr Norm Lyon**

That Council:

1. Adopts the Shire of Cue Public Health Plan 2026-2031 as attached.
2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to make minor administrative, formatting and legislative reference amendments where required prior to publication.
3. Publishes the adopted Shire of Cue Public Health Plan 2026-2031 in accordance with the requirements of the Public Health Act 2016.
4. Notes that implementation of actions contained within the Plan will be considered through future annual budgets, operational planning processes and external funding opportunities.

CARRIED: 5/0
FOR: Shire President Price, Deputy Shire President Hogben, Councillor Humphreys, Councillor Lyon, Councillor Lacy
AGAINST: None

10.6 ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT OR APPOINTMENT OF CEO POLICY

APPLICANT: Shire of Cue

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: Nil

AUTHOR: Richard Towell - Chief Executive Officer

DATE: 10 June 2026

Matters for Consideration:

Adoption of the Draft Temporary Employment or Appointment of CEO Policy.

Background:

The Chief Executive Officer is appointed by Council pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 and is responsible for the day-to-day management of the local government.

From time to time, circumstances arise where the CEO is absent due to annual leave, personal leave, professional development, extended leave or where the position becomes temporarily vacant.

The Local Government Act 1995 requires that a local government adopts a policy relating to the temporary appointment of an Acting CEO.

The purpose of the policy is to provide transparency, accountability and consistency in the appointment process whilst ensuring continuity of local government operations.

The attached policy has been prepared to meet these legislative requirements.

Comments:

The proposed policy establishes the principles and process to be followed when appointing a person to temporarily undertake the functions of the CEO.

The policy addresses:

- Circumstances in which an Acting CEO may be appointed.
- Authority for appointments.
- Appointment duration.
- Appropriate governance and accountability measures.
- Legislative compliance obligations.

The policy provides flexibility for the CEO to delegate authority for short-term absences while ensuring Council oversight for longer-term arrangements.

The policy reflects the practical realities of small regional local governments where operational continuity is critical and staffing resources may be limited.

The proposed policy has been developed having regard to guidance material issued by the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety and relevant provisions of the *Local Government Act 1995.*

Statutory Environment:

Local Government Act 1995
Part 5 Administration Division 4 Local government employees
5.36. Local government employees
(1) A local government is to employ -
(a) a person to be the CEO of the local government; and
(2) A person is not to be employed in the position of CEO unless the council -
(a) believes that the person is suitably qualified for the position; and

(b) is satisfied with the provisions of the proposed employment contract.*
** Absolute majority required.*

5.39C. Policy for temporary employment or appointment of CEO
(1) A local government must prepare and adopt a policy that sets out the process to be followed by the local government in relation to the following -*
(a) the employment of a person in the position of CEO for a term not exceeding 1 year;
(b) the appointment of an employee to act in the position of CEO for a term not exceeding 1 year
** Absolute majority required.*
(2) A local government may amend the policy.*
** Absolute majority required*
(3) When preparing the policy or an amendment to the policy, the local government must comply with any prescribed requirements relating to the form or content of a policy under this section.
(4) The CEO must publish an up-to-date version of the policy on the local government's official website. (Section 5.39C inserted: No. 16 of 2019 s. 22.)

5.42. Delegation of some powers and duties to CEO (1) A local government may delegate to the CEO the exercise of any of its powers or the discharge of any of its duties under -*

5.43. Limits on delegations to CEO
A local government cannot delegate to a CEO any of the following powers or duties -

a. *any power or duty that requires a decision of an absolute majority of the council;*

Policy Implications:

The proposed policy will become a Council policy forming part of the Shire's Policy Manual.

Financial Implications:

Nil

Strategic Implications:

The policy supports good governance, organisational continuity and legislative compliance.

The policy aligns with the Strategic Community Plan objective of maintaining effective leadership, sound governance and organisational sustainability.

Consultation:

Lisa Keen, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Officers Recommendation: **Voting Requirement:** Absolute Majority

That Council:

1. Adopts the "Temporary Employment or Appointment of CEO" policy as attached.
2. Instructs the CEO to publish the policy on the Shire's website

Council Decision: 07062026 **Voting Requirement:** Absolute Majority

MOVED: Cr Julie Humphreys **SECONDED: Cr Ron Hogben**

That Council:
1. Adopts the "Temporary Employment or Appointment of CEO" policy as attached.
2. Instructs the CEO to publish the policy on the Shire's website

CARRIED: 5/0
FOR: Shire President Price, Deputy Shire President Hogben, Councillor Humphreys, Councillor Lyon, Councillor Lacy
AGAINST: None

06:55pm Mrs Janelle Duncan left the chamber

11 MOTIONS BY MEMBERS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

12 MOTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

Nil.

13 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE

Nil.

CLOSED COUNCIL

Nil.

14 MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED

Nil

CLOSURE

15 CLOSURE

The Presiding Member thanked those present for attending the meeting and declared the meeting closed at 06:57 PM.

To be confirmed at Ordinary Meeting on the 21 July 2026.

Signed: ....

Presiding Member at the Meeting at which time the Minutes were confirmed.