



**North Eastern Wheatbelt
Regional Organisation of Councils**

Executive Meeting

Tuesday 3 February 2026

Dowerin Community Club

MINUTES

9.30am Morning Tea
10am Executive Meeting
1pm NEWTRAVEL

www.newroc.com.au

E caroline@newroc.com.au

ANNUAL CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

| MONTH | ACTIVITY |
|-----------|---|
| January | |
| February | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🔥 Council refreshes itself on NEWROC Vision, Mission, Values (review Vision and Mission every other year) 🔥 Council reviews NEWROC project priorities / strategic plan |
| March | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🔥 WDC attendance to respond to NEWROC project priorities 🔥 Submit priority projects to WDC, Regional Development and WA Planning |
| April | 🔥 NEWROC Budget Preparation |
| May | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🔥 NEWROC Draft Budget Presented 🔥 NEWROC Executive Officer Contract/Hourly Rate Review (current contract expires June 2027) |
| June | 🔥 NEWROC Budget Adopted |
| July | |
| August | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🔥 Information for Councillors pre-election 🔥 NEWROC Audit |
| September | |
| October | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🔥 NEWROC CEO and President Handover (every 2yrs) 🔥 NEWROC Dinner |
| November | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🔥 NEWROC Induction of new Council representatives (every other year) 🔥 Review NEWROC MoU (every other year) |
| December | 🔥 NEWROC Christmas / End of Year Drinks |

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Compliance

Media Releases

NEWROC Rotation

Shire of Mt Marshall

Shire of Nungarin

Shire of Wyalkatchem

Shire of Koorda

Shire of Mukinbudin

Shire of Trayning

Shire of Dowerin (Oct 2025 – Oct 2027)

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NORTH EASTERN WHEATBELT REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS

Minutes for the Executive Meeting on February 3 2026 at the Dowerin Club commencing at 10am.

MINUTES

1. OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Manisha Barthakur welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 10am.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

2.1. Attendance

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Manisha Barthakur | CEO, NEWROC and CEO, Shire of Dowerin |
| Peter Naylor | CEO Shire of Trayning |
| Tanika McLennan | CEO Shire of Mukinbudin |
| Lana Foote | DCEO, Shire of Koorda |
| Ben McKay | CEO, Shire of Mt Marshall |
| Ian McCabe | A/CEO, Shire of Wyalkatchem |
| Selina Sergeant | A/CEO Shire of Nungarin |
| Caroline Robinson | Executive Officer, NEWROC |

2.2. Apologies

| | |
|-------------|------------------------|
| David Nayda | CEO, Shire of Nungarin |
| Zac Donovan | CEO Shire of Koorda |

2.3. Guests

Merrick Agnew, Business Development Manager, Snap Send Solve (online)

2.4. Leave of Absence Approvals / Approved

Ian McCabe will be concluding as A/CEO at the end of February.

3. Declarations of Interest and Delegations Register

3.1. Delegation Register

Please find below a delegations register as per the new policy adopted in March 2017:

| Description of Delegations | Delegatee | Delegated to | Approval |
|---|-----------|--------------|-------------------|
| Records Management | CEO | NEWROC EO | Council |
| NEWROC Financial Management | CEO | NEWROC EO | Council Dec 2017 |
| Bendigo Bank Signatory (NEWROC) | CEO | NEWROC EO | Council Dec 2017 |
| Bendigo Bank Signatory (Shire of Dowerin) | Council | CEO | Council Dec 2017 |
| NEWROC Website | CEO | NEWROC EO | Council June 2017 |

4. Presentations

Merrick Agnew, Business Development Manager, presented on the Snap Send Solve application (online) (10.05am – 10.30am)

5. Status Report

| PROGRAM | KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2025 | DEC STATUS REPORT |
|--|--|--|
| INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICE DELIVERY | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regional shared engineering resource model presented to members 2. Continued advocacy on power, telecommunications and provision of GP services (demonstrated) 3. Community benefit framework (renewable energy) developed for the NEWROC (and individual Shire adoption) 4. Regional subsidiary application completed and submitted for one service in the NEWROC 5. Volunteer first responders (ambulance) report completed with associated action plan and presented to all branches, St Johns and key stakeholders. | <p>1a. HR resource draft policies (Jan 2026) 5a. Presentation to State National MPs and ongoing work to develop a position</p> <p>Regional Housing Fund Grant application submitted.</p> |
| TOURISM SECTOR DEVELOPMENT | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NEWTRAVEL Accommodation Strategy completed, adopted and funding avenues identified, with one application submitted in 2025 2. Continued oversight of the NEWROC Town Team Builder. | <p>1a. Attended two accommodation working group meetings</p> |
| SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wheatbelt Business Network presentation to members with one collaborative low cost project pitched | |
| LOCAL COMMUNITY REVITALISATION | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continued oversight of the NEWROC Town Team Builder with forward projects presented to Council 2. Regional waste site identified and endorsed by host Council 3. Funding received towards the waste project that assists with implementation 4. Community engagement and education completed across all Shires regarding changes to waste management | <p>2a. ASK Waste Management Site Report Plan completed</p> |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| REGIONAL BRAND ESTABLISHMENT | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Brand guidelines adopted2. Website updated and current3. Regular communication across Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn4. Presentation at Wheatbelt Futures Forum5. Attendance at ALGA.6. Advocacy plan implemented and reported against (during ALGA attendance).7. Demonstrated regular communication with Wheatbelt Development Commission and RDA Wheatbelt. Attendance annually at NEWROC Council (once). | 7a. Met in person with Rob Cossart. Joint ROC Forum coordination. |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|

ACTION: EO to convene a meeting with the Executive and the consultant on the Human Resources policies.

Housing Project

- Town Action Plans in progress
- Australian Housing Fund is a potential future grant opportunity

6. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 7 October 2025 have previously been circulated.

RESOLUTION

That the Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 7 October 2025 be received as a true and correct record of proceedings.

Moved B McKay

Seconded I McCabe

CARRIED 7/0

6.1. Business Arising

Public Health Plan: Free health reports are available from WACHS (Health promotion team) to assist Shires develop their Plans.

New legislation - Multicultural Act (WA).

ACTION: EO to make a contribution to the WALGA discussion paper on the new Multicultural Act.

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS**7.1. Income, Expenditure and Profit and Loss**

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| FILE REFERENCE: | 42-2 Finance Audit and Compliance |
| REPORTING OFFICER: | Caroline Robinson |
| DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: | Nil |
| DATE: | 2 October 2025 |
| ATTACHMENT NUMBER: | |
| CONSULTATION: | |
| STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT: | Nil |
| VOTING REQUIREMENT: | Simple Majority |

COMMENT

Account transactions for the period 1 December 2025 to 31 January 2026

| Date | Description | Reference | Credit | Debit | Running Balance |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| BB NEWROC | | | | | |
| Funds-5557 | | | | | |
| Opening Balance | | | 120,433.99 | 0.00 | 120,433.99 |
| 01 Dec 2025 | Ask Waste Management | Landfill Report | 4,840.00 | 0.00 | 125,273.99 |
| 01 Dec 2025 | Payment: Ask Waste Management | Trading Refund | 0.00 | 4,840.00 | 120,433.99 |
| 01 Dec 2025 | Bendigo Bank | Bank Fee | 0.00 | 1.20 | 120,432.79 |
| 01 Dec 2025 | Payment: Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils Inc | INV-0048 (Housing) | 0.00 | 5,500.00 | 114,932.79 |
| 01 Dec 2025 | Payment: Econisis | PQ24125-2 (Housing) | 0.00 | 6,930.00 | 108,002.79 |
| 01 Dec 2025 | Ask Waste Management | Landfill Report | 0.00 | 4,840.00 | 103,162.79 |
| 01 Dec 2025 | Payment: 150Square | INV-0465 | 0.00 | 4,226.48 | 98,936.31 |
| 02 Dec 2025 | Xero Australia | XERO | 0.00 | 33.25 | 98,903.06 |
| 05 Dec 2025 | Payment: Shire of Trayning | INV-0140 | 14,300.00 | 0.00 | 113,203.06 |
| 05 Dec 2025 | Payment: Shire Of Nungarin | INV-0138 | 14,300.00 | 0.00 | 127,503.06 |
| 08 Dec 2025 | Payment: Econisis | PQ24125-3 (Housing) | 0.00 | 6,930.00 | 120,573.06 |
| 08 Dec 2025 | Payment: Alyce Smith | 2114 (TTM) | 0.00 | 3,872.00 | 116,701.06 |
| 10 Dec 2025 | Payment: Shire of Dowerin | INV-0139 | 14,300.00 | 0.00 | 131,001.06 |
| 16 Dec 2025 | Payment: Shire of Mt Marshall | INV-0143 | 14,300.00 | 0.00 | 145,301.06 |
| 16 Dec 2025 | Payment: Shire of Mt Marshall | INV-0144 | 14,300.00 | 0.00 | 159,601.06 |
| 19 Dec 2025 | Payment: Shire Of Mukinbudin | INV-0142 | 14,300.00 | 0.00 | 173,901.06 |
| 01 Jan 2026 | Bendigo Bank | Bank Fee | 0.00 | 2.40 | 173,898.66 |
| 02 Jan 2026 | Xero Australia | XERO | 0.00 | 33.25 | 173,865.41 |
| 12 Jan 2026 | Payment: Econisis | PQ24125-4 (Housing) | 0.00 | 1,980.00 | 171,885.41 |
| 12 Jan 2026 | Payment: Audit Partners Australia | INV-6545 | 0.00 | 1,210.00 | 170,675.41 |
| 12 Jan 2026 | Payment: 150Square | INV-0470 | 0.00 | 4,072.63 | 166,602.78 |
| 12 Jan 2026 | Payment: NEWTRAVEL INC | 0001213 (Accom) | 0.00 | 7,000.00 | 159,602.78 |
| Total BB NEWROC Funds-5557 | | | 90,640.00 | 51,471.21 | 159,602.78 |
| Closing Balance | | | 159,602.78 | 0.00 | 159,602.78 |
| Total | | | 90,640.00 | 51,471.21 | 39,168.79 |

Balance Sheet

North Eastern Wheatbelt Regional Organisation of Councils

As at 29 January 2026

29 JAN 2026

Assets

Bank

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| BB NEWROC Funds-5557 | 159,602.78 |
| BB Term Deposit Account-1388 | 324,363.98 |
| Total Bank | 483,966.76 |

Current Assets

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Sundry Debtors Control | 28,600.00 |
| Total Current Assets | 28,600.00 |

Total Assets 512,566.76

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| ATO Integrated Client Account | 3,876.00 |
| GST | 232.34 |
| Rounding | 0.21 |
| Unpaid ATO Liabilities | (1,543.00) |
| Total Current Liabilities | 2,565.55 |

Total Liabilities 2,565.55

Net Assets 510,001.21

Equity

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Current Year Earnings | 18,624.75 |
| Retained Earnings | 491,376.46 |
| Total Equity | 510,001.21 |

Note – Term Deposit (\$330,543.78) was reinvested for 6 months at 3%p.a with Bendigo Bank – 26 December 2025.

RESOLUTION

That the income and expenditure from 1 December 2025 to 31 January 2026 and balance sheet be received.

Moved P Naylor

Seconded T McLennan

CARRIED 7/0

7.2. 2024/25 AUDIT

FILE REFERENCE: 031-1 Finance and Audit
REPORTING OFFICER: Caroline Robinson
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: Nil
DATE: 29 January 2026
ATTACHMENT NUMBER: #1 Audit 2024/25
CONSULTATION:
STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT: Nil
VOTING REQUIREMENT: Simple Majority

COMMENT

The NEWROC Audit has been completed with no adverse findings.

RESOLUTION

NEWROC Executive recommends the 2024/25 audit to the NEWROC Council.

Moved I McCabe

Seconded B McKay

CARRIED 7/0

8. MATTERS FOR DECISION

8.1. KEY WORKER HOUSING

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| FILE REFERENCE: | 091-1 Housing |
| REPORTING OFFICER: | Caroline Robinson |
| DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: | Nil |
| DATE: | 29 January 2026 |
| ATTACHMENT NUMBER: | #2 NEWROC Key Worker Housing Reports |
| CONSULTATION: | Grant Arthur - WDC |
| STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT: | Nil |
| VOTING REQUIREMENT: | Simple Majority |

COMMENT

NEWROC has received the Key Worker Housing business cases and summaries.

NEWROC (Dowerin, Wyalkatchem and Mukinbudin) has made an application to the Regional Housing Support Fund.

RESOLUTION

NEWROC Executive receives the Key Worker Housing reports.

Moved I McCabe

Seconded P Naylor

CARRIED 7/0

8.2. WASTE PROJECT

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| FILE REFERENCE: | 103-1 Waste Management General |
| REPORTING OFFICER: | Caroline Robinson |
| DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: | Nil |
| DATE: | 29 January 2026 |
| ATTACHMENT NUMBER: | #3 Landfill Site Identification - Preliminary GIS Investigation |
| CONSULTATION: | ASK Waste Management |
| STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT: | Nil |
| VOTING REQUIREMENT: | Simple Majority |

COMMENT

ASK Waste Management was engaged by the NEWROC to investigate potential areas that may be suitable for siting a regional landfill that could service the NEWROC region.

The purpose of the investigation was to conduct a high-level search, using publicly available datasets, to exclude areas clearly not suitable, and thereby identify areas that may be suitable for siting a landfill.

This report details the datasets used in the GIS assessment and provides maps showing four potentially suitable areas for development of a regional landfill site in the Shire of Mt Marshall.

The next step of the project is to select one or more areas for closer investigation to select potential individual sites – this is up to the Shire of Mt Marshall Council. This may include investigation of existing bore water data, land ownership, possible impacts on visual amenity, and community perception. It should be noted that, once a site is selected, detailed on-site investigations such as geotechnical investigations, flora and fauna studies, and hydrogeological assessments will be required to obtain development approval.

RESOLUTION

NEWROC Executive receives the Landfill Site Identification Report.

Moved B McKay

Seconded T McLennan

CARRIED 7/0

8.3. WA RECYCLING MODERNISATION FUND

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| FILE REFERENCE: | 103-1 Waste Management General |
| REPORTING OFFICER: | Caroline Robinson |
| DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: | Nil |
| DATE: | 29 January 2026 |
| ATTACHMENT NUMBER: | #4 Guidelines #5 Regional Landfill Strategy Detailed Assessment |
| CONSULTATION: | |
| STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT: | Nil |
| VOTING REQUIREMENT: | Simple Majority |

BACKGROUND

Western Australian Recycling Modernisation Fund for regional and remote local government is open. Grants up to \$1 million are available to local governments in regional and remote areas for waste recycling improvements.

The Recycling Modernisation Fund, a joint Australian Government and the Government of Western Australia initiative, aims to expand recycling infrastructure and capability by building resource recovery systems and supporting responses to the national ban on waste export.

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation is enabling waste infrastructure projects through a local government competitive funding round.

Grants from \$50,000 up to \$1 million (excluding GST) per project will be available to local government authorities in regional or remote communities to improve the viability of sorting, processing and recycling waste.

Eligible projects will be able to demonstrate solutions to increase collection, sorting, storage, reprocessing and recycling capacity for:

- plastics
- tyres
- paper and cardboard.

Investments that improve resource recovery or more economical collection and separation of materials will be considered. Projects must be completed and operational by 1 June 2027 at the latest.

The WA Government and the Australian Government will jointly contribute a maximum of two thirds of project costs, with applicants required to fund at least one third. Applicants that provide more than the minimum proportion of project funding may be considered more competitive.

Guidelines are available [here](#).

COMMENT

In 2019, NEWROC engaged ASK Waste Management to assess our waste facilities and develop achievable concepts to improve waste management across the region. The findings were documented in a *Regional Landfill Strategy Feasibility Study*.

The NEWROC decided in 2021 to further investigate Option 4 of the *Regional Landfill Strategy* which involved:

- Development of the Wyalkatchem site as a Regional Landfill to receive waste from all the NEWROC communities.
- Converting the other landfills in the region to waste transfer stations that would be used to receive waste in front lift skip bins that would be collected on a weekly basis and transported to the Regional Landfill.
- Securing all waste sites against unauthorised access using remote access technologies and the provision of swipe card access to ratepayers.

ASK was engaged by NEWROC to undertake detailed financial modelling of Option 4 and to produce a series of recommendations that NEWROC could follow to progress implementation of the project.

ASK Waste Management has also completed two landfill assessment reports (Shire of Wyalkatchem and Shire of Mt Marshall).

The *Regional Landfill Strategy Detailed Assessment* (attached) needs the capital and operational costings updated (completed in 2021) and a regional landfill site in the NEWROC needs to be selected (following a review by the Shire of Mt Marshall).

What's needed for the grant:

- Business case for recycling
- Confirmation of employment as a result of the project
- Quotes for goods and services (even if completed internally)
- Proof of co-contribution
- Planning approvals
- Approval for a regional landfill site

EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

NEWROC Executive recommends:

- that the NEWROC applies for the WA Recycling Modernisation Fund on behalf of the group
- each member local government contributes financially to the grant (in kind or cash)
- the NEWROC contributes up to 20% of the total project cost
- NEWROC engages Grants Empire (quote pending) to assist with the preparation of the grant.

Alternative motion (L.Foote)

The NEWROC applies for the WA Recycling Modernisation Fund on behalf of the group. Agenda items go to the next OCM of each member local government seeking approval for the contributions in kind or in cash. The NEWROC contributes up to 20% of the total project cost. The NEWROC allocate \$5000 to engage Grants Empire to assist with the preparation of the grant.

RESOLUTION

That the NEWROC applies for the WA Recycling Modernisation Fund on behalf of the group for nine transfer stations.

The NEWROC contributes the required co-contribution minimum of the total project cost.

NEWROC engages Grants Empire at a cost of \$5000 to assist with the preparation of the grant.

Moved B McKay

Seconded I McCabe

CARRIED 7/0

8.4. JOINT ROC FORUM

FILE REFERENCE: 130-1 Economic Services General
REPORTING OFFICER: Caroline Robinson
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: Nil
DATE: 29 January 2026
ATTACHMENT NUMBER: #6 RSVP list
 #7 Draft speeches
CONSULTATION: Rob Cossart
 WEROC EO
 ROEROC EO
STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT: Nil
VOTING REQUIREMENT: Simple Majority

COMMENT

Attached is the RSVP list to the Made in the Eastern Wheatbelt event.

Below is the agenda:

| Time | Topic | Notes |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---|
| 8.30am | Tea and coffee over networking | Informal |
| 8.50am | Guests are seated | Caberet - Set seating |
| 9am | Welcome | Lachlan Hunter, Member for the Central Wheatbelt |
| 9.15am | Key Worker Housing | Presented by ROEROC President |
| 9.30am | Workforce | Presented by WEROC President |
| 9.45am | Economic Diversification | Presented by NEWROC President |
| 10am | Listening Session | 2 x lead questions on each table to assist in discussions. ROC Executive Officers support note taking |
| 10.30am | Reflections | Ms Emily Hamilton MLA, Parliamentary Secretary; Member for Joondalup (representing Minister Winton) |
| 10.35am | Wrap Up, Thank you and Close | Rob Cossart, Wheatbelt Development Commission |
| 10.45am | Morning Tea | All guests |
| 11.15am | Invited guests depart | |
| 11.30am | ROC Working Session | A facilitated working session across the three ROCs. |
| 1pm | Lunch | |
| | WEROC meeting | |

A briefing for each of the ROC Presidents will take place on Monday 1 February.

The Wheatbelt Development Commission CEO is currently reviewing the presentations and speeches. The CEO has assisted us with Ministerial engagement.

The NEWROC EO will brief host, Lachlan Hunter MP.

A Sense Making Summary will be produced after the Forum and distributed to all attendees.

NOTED: Speeches be reviewed by the Executive.

8.5. EXECUTIVE OFFICER PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

FILE REFERENCE: 130-1 Economic Services General
REPORTING OFFICER: Caroline Robinson
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: Nil
DATE: 29 January 2026
ATTACHMENT NUMBER: #8 Economic Development Strategy
CONSULTATION:
STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT: Nil
VOTING REQUIREMENT: Simple Majority

COMMENT

Current performance indicators are below. They align with the Economic Development Strategy (attached).

The Executive Officer has highlighted what has been achieved (green), ongoing (acqua) and not achieved (red).

| PROGRAM | KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2025 |
|--|--|
| INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICE DELIVERY | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regional shared engineering resource model presented to members 2. Continued advocacy on power, telecommunications and provision of GP services (demonstrated) 3. Community benefit framework (renewable energy) developed for the NEWROC (and individual Shire adoption) 4. Regional subsidiary application completed and submitted for one service in the NEWROC 5. Volunteer first responders (ambulance) report completed with associated action plan and presented to all branches, St Johns and key stakeholders. |
| TOURISM SECTOR DEVELOPMENT | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NEWTRAVEL Accommodation Strategy completed, adopted and funding avenues identified, with one application submitted in 2025 2. Continued oversight of the NEWROC Town Team Builder. |
| SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wheatbelt Business Network presentation to members with one collaborative low cost project pitched |
| LOCAL COMMUNITY REVITALISATION | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continued oversight of the NEWROC Town Team Builder with forward projects presented to Council 2. Regional waste site identified and endorsed by host Council 3. Funding received towards the waste project that assists with implementation 4. Community engagement and education completed across all Shires regarding changes to waste management |

**REGIONAL BRAND
ESTABLISHMENT**

1. Brand guidelines adopted
 2. Website updated and current
 3. Regular communication across Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn
 4. Presentation at Wheatbelt Futures Forum
 5. Attendance at ALGA.
 6. Advocacy plan implemented and reported against (during ALGA attendance).
 7. Demonstrated regular communication with Wheatbelt Development Commission and RDA Wheatbelt. Attendance annually at NEWROC Council (once).
-

Key projects /activities in the pipeline over the next 12 months:

- Joint ROC Forum
- NEWROC Worker Housing grant applications
- Waste grant applications
- St John's Ambulance project
- Microgrid governance and grant application
- Elected member and staff training day
- Human resource policies

ACTION: Email to Executive and submit suggested KPIs, hold a planning session with NEWROC at March meeting.

9. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

9.1. LIVE SHEEP TRANSITION

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| FILE REFERENCE: | 130-1 Economic Services General |
| REPORTING OFFICER: | Caroline Robinson |
| DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: | Nil |
| DATE: | 29 January 2026 |
| ATTACHMENT NUMBER: | |
| CONSULTATION: | |
| STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT: | Nil |
| VOTING REQUIREMENT: | Simple Majority |

COMMENT

Communication from the Transition Advocate:

Grant Program Updates and Round 2 Opportunities

There are three grants currently being assessed. They are:

- Supply Chain Capacity run by the WA government

Outcomes for Round 1 of the Supply Chain Capacity Program, designed to assist producers and processors fund capital works, are expected to be announced in the coming weeks. Applications for Round 2 of the program are expected to open shortly afterwards.

- Farm Business Transition run by the Commonwealth
- Livestock Transport Industry Transition run by the Commonwealth

Grant application assessments are underway for Round 1 of the Farm Business Transition Program and the Livestock Transport Industry Transition Program and are expected to be announced in Q1 2026.

Applications for Round 2 of the Farm Business Transition Program are expected to open mid-2026. For updates and further information, monitor your email inbox and the Transition Assistance webpage at agriculture.gov.au/2028.

Enhancing Market Demand Program Outcomes

The outcomes of the Enhancing Market Demand Grants Program have been [announced](#), with the full list of recipients available on the [Transition Assistance page](#).

Strategic Steering Group and WA Roadmap to 2028 - Get Involved!

Work on the WA Roadmap is well underway.

As I discussed in the last update, a dedicated 'Have Your Say' page has been created to give everyone the opportunity to share their feedback on the priorities for the WA sheep industry, either through an online questionnaire or by submitting a written response.

If you are interested in providing input, scan the QR code below, or visit: <https://www.thefutureflock.com.au/wa-roadmap-to-2028>.

The WA Roadmap is being guided by The Strategic Steering Group who commissioned a report late last year to use best available data to establish the current state of the WA sheep industry. The report is now available on the WA Roadmap website: <https://www.thefutureflock.com.au/wa-roadmap-to-2028>

The WA Roadmap facilitators, Cath Botta and Andrew Huffer, having been working hard to make sure that the Roadmap reflects what industry wants.

Over the next few weeks Cath and Andrew will work with the Strategic Steering Group to consult with the sector by conducting a series of workshops and focus group interviews to further refine the Roadmap work to date.

Cath and Andrew bring extensive facilitation, engagement and analysis experience from across the agricultural sector to the table and are well-placed to help develop a practical and future focused plan that can guide investment choices until 2028 and beyond.

Information was noted.

9.2. LOCAL GOVERNMENT RURAL HEALTH FUNDING ALLIANCE

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| FILE REFERENCE: | 071-1 Health General |
| REPORTING OFFICER: | Caroline Robinson |
| DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: | Nil |
| DATE: | 29 January 2026 |
| ATTACHMENT NUMBER: | #9 Impact Assessment Report |
| CONSULTATION: | |
| STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT: | Nil |
| VOTING REQUIREMENT: | Simple Majority |

COMMENT

The Local Government Rural Health Funding Alliance has made a 26/27 Federal Budget submission to relieve the cash funding local governments in the Alliance pay to attract and retain GPs.

As part of the submission the Alliance commission an economic impact report on local government expenditure on GPs. This information is valuable for the NEWROC.

The Local Government Rural Health Funding Alliance has also made a submission to the Financial Sustainability of Local Government Inquiry.

Information was received.

9.3. DRAFT RENEWABLE ENERGY PLANNING CODE

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| FILE REFERENCE: | 050-1 Legislation |
| REPORTING OFFICER: | Caroline Robinson |
| DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: | Nil |
| DATE: | 29 January 2026 |
| ATTACHMENT NUMBER: | |
| CONSULTATION: | |
| STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT: | Nil |
| VOTING REQUIREMENT: | Simple Majority |

COMMENT

The draft Renewable Energy Planning Code (Code) is a new planning code made under Part 3A of the *Planning and Development Act 2005* and in accordance with the Planning and Development (Planning Codes) Regulations 2024.

The purpose of the Code is to provide a clear and consistent framework for assessing energy infrastructure that supports the generation, storage and transmission of renewable energy across Western Australia.

The draft Code has been prepared to provide clearer guidance to industry, local government and communities by:

- introducing a consistent development assessment framework for renewable energy infrastructure across Western Australia;
- establishing clear development standards and application requirements;
- improving certainty in managing potential land use and environmental impacts, such as noise and landscape considerations.

The initial focus of the Code is on wind farms, with flexibility to expand to other renewable energy developments in the future, including solar farms and battery energy storage systems.

Once finalised, the Code will take effect when incorporated into a local planning schemes.

Feedback is welcome, with comment specifically sought on the draft Code and supporting Guidelines.

Submission period: **12 December 2025 until 5pm 10 April 2026.**

Submissions and information is available here: [Renewable Energy Planning Code | Have Your Say, WA!](#)

Information was received.

10. GENERAL UPDATES

ROC Invite to be re-sent to all members.

11. 2026 MEETING SCHEDULE

| | | | |
|----|-----------|--|----------------------|
| 16 | February | Joint ROC day; Made in the Eastern Wheatbelt (Perth) | |
| 3 | March | Council | Shire of Mt Marshall |
| 7 | April | Executive | Shire of Koorda |
| 5 | May | Council | Shire of Mukinbudin |
| 2 | June | Executive and NEWTRAVEL | Shire of Trayning |
| 7 | July | Council | Shire of Dowerin |
| 4 | August | Executive | Shire of Mt Marshall |
| 1 | September | Council | Shire of Koorda |
| 6 | October | Executive and NEWTRAVEL | Shire of Nungarin |
| 3 | November | Council | Shire of Wyalkatchem |

12. CLOSURE

Meeting was closed at 12pm.