



TOWN OF
VICTORIA PARK



Special Council Meeting Agenda – 31 March 2026



WE'RE OPEN
VIC PARK

Please be advised that a **Special Council Meeting** will be held at **5:30 PM** on **Tuesday 31 March 2026** in the **Council Chambers**, Administration Centre at 99 Shepperton Road, Victoria Park.

Mr Carl Askew – Chief Executive Officer
27 March 2026

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1 Declaration of opening

Acknowledgement of the traditional owners

Ngany djerapiny Wadjak – Noongar boodja-k yaakiny, nidja bilya bardook.

I am honoured to be standing on Whadjuk - Nyungar country on the banks of the Swan River.

Ngany kaaditj Noongar moort keny kaadak nidja Wadjak Noongar boodja. Ngany kaaditj nidja Noongar birdiya – koora, ye-ye, boorda, baalapiny moorditj Noongar kaaditjin, moort, wer boodja ye-ye.

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land and respect Elders past, present and emerging, their continuing cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land, which continues to be important today.

Ngany youngka baalapiny Noongar birdiya wer moort nidja boodja.

I thank them for the contribution made to life in the Town of Victoria Park and to this region.

2 Announcements from the Presiding Member

2.1 Announcements from the Presiding Member

2.1 Recording and live streaming of proceedings

In accordance with regulation 14I of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, this meeting is being audio and video recorded and live streamed on the Town's website.

Under clause 39(1) of *the Meeting Procedure Local Law 2019* I do not give permission for any other person to record the proceedings of this meeting. By being present at this meeting, members of the public consent to the possibility that their image and voice may be live streamed to public. Recordings are also made available on the Town's website following the meeting.

2.2 Public question time and public statement time

As this is a Special Council Meeting, any public questions or statements must relate to the business of the agenda.

There are guidelines that need to be adhered to in our Council meetings and during question and statement time people speaking are not to personalise any questions, or statements about Elected Members, or staff or use any possible defamatory remarks.

In accordance with clause 40 of the *Town of Victoria Park Meeting Procedures Local Law 2019*, a person addressing the Council shall extend due courtesy and respect to the Council and the processes under which it operates and shall comply with any direction by the presiding member.

A person present at or observing a meeting shall not create a disturbance at a meeting, by interrupting or interfering with the proceedings, whether by expressing approval or dissent, by conversing or by any other means.

When the presiding member speaks during public question time or public statement time any person then speaking, is to immediately stop and every person present is to preserve strict silence so that the presiding member may be heard without interruption.

2.3 No adverse reflection

In accordance with clause 56 of the *Town of Victoria Park Meeting Procedures Local Law 2019*, both Elected Members and the public when speaking are not to reflect adversely on the character or actions of Elected Members or employees.

2.4 *Town of Victoria Park Meeting Procedures Local Law 2019*

All meetings of the Council, committees and the electors are to be conducted in accordance with the Act, the Regulations and the *Town of Victoria Park Meeting Procedures Local Law 2019*.

3 Attendance

Banksia Ward

Cr Claire Anderson
Cr Scott Ingram
Cr Peter Melrosa
Deputy Mayor Lindsay Miles

Jarraah Ward

Cr Andra Biondi
Cr Sky Croeser
Cr Jack Gordon-Manley
Cr Daniel Minson

Chief Executive Officer

Mr Carl Askew

Chief Operations Officer

Ms Alison Luobikis

Chief Community Planner

Mr David Doy

Chief Financial Officer

Mr Duncan Olde

Manager Governance and Risk

Mr Brett Douglas

Coordinator Governance and Risk

Mr Jordan McDermott

Meeting Secretary

Ms Winnie Tansanguanwong

Public Liaison

Ms Tomoko Kidahashi

3.1 Apologies

3.2 Approved leave of absence

4 Declarations of interest

4.1 Declarations of financial interest

A declaration under this section requires that the nature of the interest must be disclosed. Consequently, a member who has made a declaration must not preside, participate in, or be present during any discussion or decision-making procedure relating to the matter the subject of the declaration. An employee is required to disclose their financial interest and if required to do so by the Council must disclose the extent of the interest. Employees are required to disclose their financial interests where they are required to present verbal or written reports to the Council. Employees can continue to provide advice to the Council in the decision-making process if they have disclosed their interest.

4.2 Declarations of proximity interest

Elected members (in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Local Government [Rules of Conduct] Regulations 2007) and employees (in accordance with the Code of Conduct) are to declare an interest in a matter if the matter concerns: a) a proposed change to a planning scheme affecting land that adjoins the person's land; b) a proposed change to the zoning or use of land that adjoins the person's land; or c) a proposed development (as defined in section 5.63(5)) of land that adjoins the persons' land.

Land, the proposed land adjoins a person's land if: a) the proposal land, not being a thoroughfare, has a common boundary with the person's land; b) the proposal land, or any part of it, is directly across a thoroughfare from, the person's land; or c) the proposal land is that part of a thoroughfare that has a common boundary with the person's land. A person's land is a reference to any land owned by the person or in which the person has any estate or interest.

4.3 Declarations of interest affecting impartiality

Elected members (in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Local Government [Rules of Conduct] Regulations 2007) and employees (in accordance with the Code of Conduct) are required to declare any interest that may affect their impartiality in considering a matter. This declaration does not restrict any right to participate in or be present during the decision-making process. The Elected Member/employee is also encouraged to disclose the nature of the interest.

5 Public question time

6 Public statement time

7 Presentations

7.1 Petitions

7.2 Presentations

7.3 Deputations

8 Method of dealing with agenda business

9 Reports

9.1 WALGA Electoral Reform Discussion

Location	Town-wide
Reporting officer	Manager Governance and Strategy
Responsible officer	Manager Governance and Strategy
Voting requirement	Simple majority
Attachments	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Discussion Paper Electoral Reform [9.1.1 - 11 pages]2. Town of Victoria Park Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes - 15 October 2024 [9.1.2 - 128 pages]3. City of Gosnells Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes - 10 March 2026 [9.1.3 - 91 pages]4. City of Armadale Corporate Services Committee Minutes - 17 March 2026 [9.1.4 - 250 pages]5. City of Canning Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes - 17 March 2026 [9.1.5 - 172 pages]

Summary

WALGA has stated that it is seeking to obtain sector feedback that will ensure WALGA's positions reflect the sector's current views and enable timely and effective engagement with the anticipated State Government reform proposals.

Recommendation

That Council advise the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) that it supports Option ____ as outlined in this report.

Background

1. In June 2025, Hon Hannah Beazley MLA, Minister for Local Government, expressed support for a four-year election cycle, citing concerns about voter fatigue and the rising costs of conducting biennial elections.
2. These messages were repeated in Minister Beazley's address at WALGA's 2025 Local Government Convention, which also raised the possibility of compulsory voting.
3. On 13 February 2026, a WALGA Electoral Reform Discussion Paper was released by WALGA, requesting Council-endorsed feedback to inform WALGA's advocacy on anticipated Local Government electoral reforms. Specifically, the expected proposal by the State Government for full spill elections every 4 years; and compulsory voting at Local Government elections.
4. Due to an administrative error, the WALGA Electoral Reform Discussion Paper was not sent to the Town, with the Town being made aware of it via a third party.

5. A Concept Forum was held on 24 March 2026 to discuss the matters the subject of the WALGA Electoral Reform Discussion Paper, and the position of the Elected Members was mixed. Notes will be circulated from that meeting once they are finalised.

Discussion

6. A similar paper was discussed at the Town of Victoria Park Ordinary Council Meeting held on 15 October 2024, Resolution 238/2024, with Council supporting 4-year terms with a 2-year spill (as it currently stands) and compulsory voting at Local Government Elections.
7. The key elements of the impact of the proposed changes are ventilated in the WALGA Electoral Reform Discussion Paper. Notably:
 - i. elections are currently managed by the Western Australian Electoral Commission (WAEC).
 - ii. a change to a four-year cycle with a four-year spill would reduce costs by reducing the number of elections. However, the cost of each election may increase. This is delineated in the Discussion Paper;
 - iii. the WAEC uses the number of vacancies and expected participation rates to inform quotations for the conduct of elections;
 - iv. full spill elections would double the number of vacancies, with possible increased costs associated with printing and postage and increased staffing for the count. However, in-person elections become more cost effective than postal elections at higher participation rates.
8. The current position of our SECCA Partner and WALGA Zone colleagues is detailed in the attachments below:

Relevant documents

1. WALGA Electoral Reform Discussion Paper;
2. Attachment 3 City of Gosnells Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes - 10 March 2026 (see page 11 to 13)
3. Attachment 4 City of Armadale Corporate Services Committee Minutes - 17 March 2026 (see page 248 to 250)
4. Attachment 5 City of Canning Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes - 17 March 2026 (see page 17 to 18)

Options for Consideration

The following options are listed for Council to consider:

Option 1:

- i. support a 4-year term, with half spill elections every 2 years
- ii. support Compulsory voting at Local Government Elections; or

Option 2:

- i. support a 4-year term, with full spill every 4 years
- ii. support compulsory voting at Local Government Elections; or

Option 3:

- i. support a 4-year term, with full spill every 4 years; and
- ii. non-compulsory voting at Local Government Elections; or

Option 4:

- i. support a 4-year term, with half spill elections every 2 years; and
- ii. support non-compulsory voting at Local Government Elections.

Legal and policy compliance

[Elections D2025/059060](#)

[Section 4.5 of the Local Government Act 1995](#)

[Section 4.65 of the Local Government](#)

Financial implications

Current budget impact	There is no immediate budget impact.
Future budget impact	If changes are made, there will be a budget impact. However, the exact impact is not capable of being determined at this time.

Risk management consideration

Risk impact category	Risk event description	Risk rating	Risk appetite	Risk Mitigation
Financial	Not applicable	High	Low	Not applicable
Environmental	Not applicable		Medium	Not applicable
Health and safety	Not applicable		Low	Not applicable
Data, Information Technology and Cyber	Not applicable		Medium	Not applicable
Assets	Not applicable		Medium	Not applicable
Compliance Breach	Not applicable		Low	Not applicable
Reputation	The Town does not provide a position		Low	TREAT by endorsing a position on the Local Government Elections by WALGA

Service delivery interruption	Not applicable	Medium	Not applicable
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Engagement

Internal engagement	
Elected Members	Concept Forum held to inform on options of Discussion Paper

Strategic alignment

Civic Leadership	
Community Priority	Intended public value outcome or impact
CL3 - Accountability and good governance.	Providing feedback to WALGA on advocacy positions relating to Local Government Elections may impact future change on this issue.

10 Public question time

11 Public statement time

12 Meeting closed to the public

12.1 Matters for which the meeting may be closed

12.2 Public reading of resolutions which may be made public

13 Closure