



Minutes

Council Meeting

Tuesday 7 October 2025 at 1.00 pm

**Council Chambers (and by video conferencing)
East Gippsland Shire Council Corporate Centre
273 Main Street, Bairnsdale 3875**

Councillors

John White (Mayor), Sonia Buckley (Deputy Mayor), Arthur Allen,
Jodie Ashworth, Tom Crook, Barry Davis, Joanne Eastman,
Bernie Farquhar, and Ian Trevaskis

Attachments referenced in these minutes can be located in the meeting agenda on East Gippsland Shire Council's [website](#).

Vision

To foster inclusive, connected, communities and places where all East Gippslanders prosper, and endeavour not to leave anyone behind.

Our Strategic Themes

1. Community Wellbeing and Social Responsibility
2. Prosperity
3. Making the Most of What We've Got
4. Managing Council Well

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1 Procedural

1.1 Recognition of Traditional Custodians

Mayor Cr John White welcomed all to the Council meeting and acknowledged the traditional custodians.

East Gippsland Shire Council acknowledges the Gunaikurnai, Monero and Bidawel people as the Traditional Custodians of this land that encompasses East Gippsland Shire, and their enduring relationship with country. The Traditional Custodians have cared and nurtured East Gippsland for tens of thousands of years.

Council values their living culture and practices and their right to self-determination. Council pays respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in East Gippsland, their Elders, past, present, and future.

1.2 Purpose of Meeting

In accordance with Rule 4.3(3) of Council's Governance Rules, Fiona Weigall Chief Executive Officer, in consultation with the Mayor Cr John White and Councillors, has called an unscheduled Council meeting to consider an item relating to Council business.

Fiona Weigall Chief Executive Officer, as required under Rule 4.3(6) of Council's Governance Rules, has given notice on the Council website of the unscheduled Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 October 2025 at 1.00 pm.

1.3 Apologies

Fiona Weigall Chief Executive Officer

1.4 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil

1.5 Next Meeting

The next Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday 21 October 2025 at the Corporate Centre, 273 Main Street Bairnsdale commencing at 6.00 pm.

2 Officer Reports

2.1 Business Excellence

2.1.1 Annual Financial Statements 2024/25 and Performance Statement 2024/25

Authorised by Acting General Manager Business Excellence

Motion

That Council, having considered a recommendation from the East Gippsland Shire Council Audit and Risk Committee:

- 1. provides 'in principle' approval to the Financial Statements 2024/25 as provided at Attachment 1, subject to the Victorian Auditor - General's review;***
- 2. provides 'in principle' approval to the Performance Statement 2024/25 as provided at Attachment 2, subject to the Victorian Auditor - General's review; and***
- 3. appoints Councillors John White and Jodie Ashworth to certify the Financial Statements 2024/25 and the Performance Statement 2024/25 in their final form.***

Moved: Cr Sonia Buckley

Seconded: Cr Arthur Allen

Spoke for the motion: Cr Arthur Allen, Cr Sonia Buckley and Cr Joanne Eastman

Spoke against the motion: Nil

Closed the debate: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

For: Cr Arthur Allen, Cr Jodie Ashworth, Cr Sonia Buckley, Cr Tom Crook,
Cr Barry Davis, Cr Joanne Eastman, Cr Bernie Farquhar, Cr Ian Trevaskis and
Cr John White

Against: Nil

Abstained: Nil

3 Close of Meeting

Mayor Cr John White declared the Council Meeting closed at 1.22 pm.