



**SHIRE OF GNOWANGERUP**  
BORDEN GNOWANGERUP ONGERUP

## Welcome to this special community newsletter.



We're pleased to advise the Gnowangerup Council adopted the 2025/26 budget at a Special Council Meeting on Wednesday 30 July 2025.

Developed over several months, the budget reflects

Council's commitment to strengthening local infrastructure, supporting economic growth, and planning for a sustainable future.

The 2025/26 Annual Budget has a number of key projects, with a strong focus on maintaining and upgrading the Shire's road network and critical infrastructure. A rate revenue increase of \$440k (9%) to achieve these essential projects and maintain operations at appropriate service levels is required. This will be leveraged with grant revenue to maximise the benefit to the Shire.

This newsletter provides a breakdown of expenditure and sources of funds for the 2025/26 financial year, which I encourage residents to read.

Earlier this year we undertook a major review of the Strategic Community Plan, and invited our community to provide input on the future strategic planning for our district.

The feedback we received provided the basis for the new Council Plan 2025-2035, adopted earlier this month. This plan identifies our priorities over the long term and sets the strategic direction for our annual budgets.

We express appreciation to the Shire's administration for the process of preparing the Budget, encompassing detailed analysis and preparation, executive review and council member workshops.


If you have any feedback or queries, please contact myself or another council member as your views are important to us.

On behalf of the Council, I extend our sincere thanks to our ratepayers for your continued support and contribution to our local community, enabling the delivery of essential services and projects that enhance our community to be a place where people stay, grow and thrive.

Kate O'Keeffe  
Shire President

# 2025-2026 ANNUAL BUDGET OVERVIEW


## HIGHLIGHTS

\$3.5m 

### ROAD UPGRADES

\$2.2m 

### HOUSING

\$338k 

### INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES

## OUR SHIRE



**4,265 sq km**  
Area



**226 km Sealed**  
**838 km Unsealed**  
Road Length

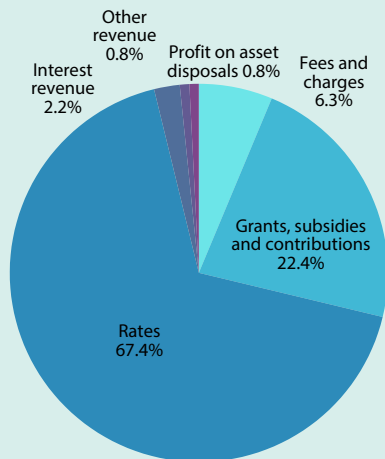


**1,211**  
Shire Population

# 2025-2026 ANNUAL BUDGET OVERVIEW

## REVENUE

# \$11.0m



Rates	\$5,343,961
Grants, subsidies and contributions	\$1,778,687
Fees and charges	\$499,566
Interest revenue	\$173,930
Other revenue	\$64,690
Profit on asset disposals	\$63,217

### Surplus at 1 July 2025

**\$3,691,476**

### Early payment of 2025/26 Financial Assistance Grants

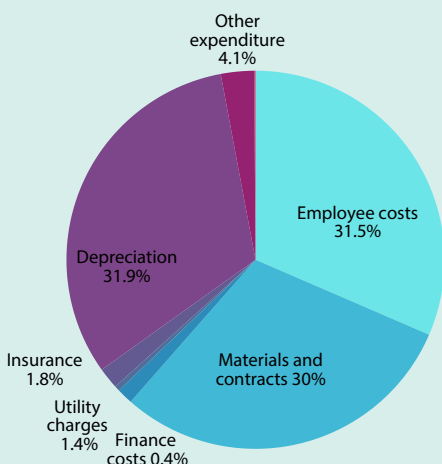
**\$1,082,957**

Receipt of the 2025/26 allocation of the Financial Assistance Grants in June 2025 is a major component of the surplus at the start of the budget year. The Shire has budgeted for a balanced budget with no surplus forecast at the end of the budget year.

Budgeted revenue is forecast to increase by \$1.1m (11%) from 2024/25, with rates revenue increasing by \$440k (9%).

## OPERATING EXPENDITURE

# \$13.3m



Employee costs	\$4,190,858
Materials and contracts	\$3,991,044
Utility charges	\$182,449
Depreciation	\$4,248,904
Finance costs	\$59,340
Insurance	\$242,674
Loss on asset disposals	\$14,250
Other expenditure	\$378,520

There is an increase of 13% in operating expenditure budgeted this year, from \$11.8m budgeted in 2024/25.

## KEY INITIATIVES

### Road Network

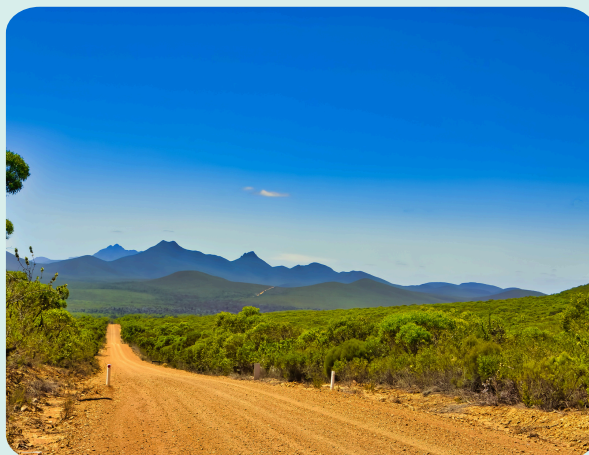
The Shire maintains over 1,000 kilometres of roads, with 80% unsealed.

Maintaining our road network to meet the needs of our community is a priority and the Shire is developing a 10-year Road Network Management Plan to maximise the impact of every dollar spent, provide a clear roadmap for future maintenance and, improve communication with the community about road investment.

Securing long term gravel supplies for future roadworks is a focus this year.

The 2025/26 road works program includes:

- Cowallellup Road resheet \$105,000
- Sandalwood Road resheet \$108,613
- Jackitup Road North resheet \$90,000
- Jackitup Road West resheet \$75,000
- Old Ongerup Road resheet \$160,000
- Magitup Road resheet \$140,000
- Oakdale Road resheet \$35,000
- Tieline Road resheet \$95,000
- Tieline Road reconstruct & reseal and floodways \$381,766
- Borden-Bremer Bay Road widening \$1,450,000
- Kwobrup Road widening \$600,809



# 2025-2026 ANNUAL BUDGET OVERVIEW

## Housing

The shortage of housing is a key focus area, with a range of initiatives planned including strong advocacy measures.

In 2025/26 we will develop of a comprehensive business case to assess the the feasibility of the Quinn Street development, which proposes up to 13 new dwellings for essential government workers (such as teachers and nurses) and Shire staff. Council has adopted a stage gate project management model to ensure good governance and cost control.

The Shire has committed just over \$2 million to construct four staff houses in Whitehead Road & McDonald Street. The timing of construction will depend on the progress of the Quinn Street project.

## Economic Development

Community consultation identified the caravan park and airport as key tourism and economic development opportunities.

In 2025/26 we will conduct strategic reviews and explore future options for both facilities.

To support economic development initiatives, we have established of a Community and Economic Development Manager role within the Shire administration.

## Infrastructure

In 2025/26 the Shire is planning upgrades to key infrastructure:

- Shire Depot extension \$335,000
- Ongerup sewerage system upgrade \$50,000
- Airport water tank \$33,000
- Airport runway drainage \$68,000

# KEY INITIATIVES

## Waste Management

Current waste and recycling practices require improvement, particularly in handling contaminated materials.

This budget includes funding to:

- Assess the future of each waste site
- Review operation costs and usage charges
- Plan for long-term, environmentally responsible waste management

## Plant and Equipment

Supporting improvement in operational efficiency and worker safety, the Shire will invest in:

- Backhoe \$268,000
- Plant trailer (low loader) \$80,000
- Slip on water tank unit \$80,000
- Motor vehicles \$230,000
- IT systems and equipment \$100,000



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