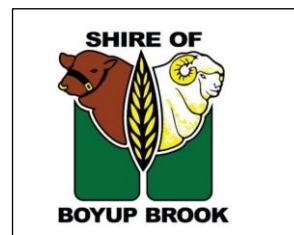


Date: 1 July 2026

To: Shire President
Deputy Shire President
Councillors
Community



Notice of Agenda – Special Council Meeting

A Special Council Meeting of the Shire of Boyup Brook will be held in the Council Chambers on 7 July 2026 at 5:00pm to consider the matters set out in the attached agenda.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leonard Long". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "L".

Leonard Long
Chief Executive Officer

Shire of Boyup Brook Corporate Values

-  **Proactive**
Embrace creativity, adaptability and continuous improvement seeking new ideas and solutions to address challenges and seize opportunities to ensure sustainability.
-  **Leadership & Teamwork**
Lead through collaboration, promote diversity, have pride in our work and partner with the community to achieve shared visions and aspirations.
-  **Accountability & Integrity**
Demonstrate respect, transparency, honesty and inclusivity in all interactions with the community.
-  **Commitment**
Build and share knowledge, act professionally and develop relationships that make a positive contribution to our community.
-  **Engaging Community**
Show respect, understanding and compassion for others and work collaboratively with community for better outcomes.



Contents

1. Declaration of Opening	4
2. Record of Attendance	4
2.1 Attendance	4
2.2 Apologies	5
3. Public Question Time	5
3.2 Public Question Time	5
4. Declarations of Interest	5
4.1 Financial and / or Proximity Interest	5
4.2 Disclosures of Impartiality Interest that may cause Conflict	5
5. Notice of Motion – Rescission of Resolution 26/05/122 of 28 May 2026	6
6. Reports of Officers	6
6.1 Chief Executive Officer	6
6.1.1 Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils – Reconsideration of Membership for a further six (6) months	6
7. Closure	12

Agenda

1. Declaration of Opening

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at ... pm.

Welcome to all Councillors, staff and members of the public in attendance.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians

We acknowledge the Kaniyang people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Please ensure that mobile phones are switched off or placed on silent for the duration of the meeting.

This meeting will be audio recorded and made available for public access on the Shire website.

Members of the public are reminded that no other visual or audio recording of this meeting is allowed without the permission of the Presiding Member.

Councillors are reminded to declare any conflict of interest as they arise in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995*.

2. Record of Attendance

2.1 Attendance

Shire President	Cr Helen O’Connell
Deputy Shire President	Cr Darren King
Councillors	Cr David Inglis
	Cr Philip Moore
	Cr Helen Hack
	Cr John Matthews

Council Officers

Chief Executive Officer	Leonard Long
Executive Officer	Magdalena Le Grange
Executive Manager Operational Services	Jason Forsyth
Executive Manager Corporate Services	Carolyn Mallett
Manager Financial Services	Malcolm Armstrong
Manager Community Services	Nicola Jones

Observers / Public Members

2.2 Apologies

Councillor

Cr Michael Wright

3. Public Question Time

- a. Public Question Time provides the public with an opportunity to put questions to the Council. Questions should only relate to the business of the Council and should not be a statement or personal opinion.
- b. During the Council meeting, after Public Question Time no member of the public may interrupt the meetings' proceedings or enter into conversation.
- c. Whenever possible questions should be submitted in writing at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting.
- d. All questions should be directed to the Presiding Member and only questions relating to matters affecting Council may be answered at an Ordinary Council Meeting and at a Special Council Meeting only questions that relate to the purpose of the meeting may be answered. Questions may be taken on notice and responded to after the meeting at the discretion of the Presiding Member.
- e. The Presiding Member will control Question Time and ensure each person wishing to ask a question states their name and address before asking the question. If the question relates to an item on the agenda the item number should also be stated. In general persons seeking to ask questions will be given two (2) minutes within which to address their question to Council. The Presiding Member may shorten or lengthen this time at their discretion.

3.2 Public Question Time

4. Declarations of Interest

4.1 Financial and / or Proximity Interest

4.2 Disclosures of Impartiality Interest that may cause Conflict

5. Notice of Motion – Rescission of Resolution 26/05/122 of 28 May 2026

6. Reports of Officers

6.1 Chief Executive Officer

6.1.1 Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils – Reconsideration of Membership for a further six (6) months	
File Ref:	Governance/Regional Partnerships/WBAC
Previous Items:	<i>OCM 28 May 2026, Item 10.5.5, Council Decision 26/05/122, OCM 26 March 2026, Item 10.5.12 Warren Blackwood Regional Trails Strategy and contextual WBAC membership review</i>
Applicant:	Nil
Author and Title:	Leonard Long, Chief Executive Officer
Declaration of Interest:	Nil
Voting Requirements:	Absolute Majority
Attachment Number	6.1.1A Correspondence form Minister for Treasury regarding FPC rates 6.1.1B Warren Blackwood Alliance Strategic Planning Outcomes

Moved: Seconded:

Officer Recommendation CM 26/07/...

That Council:

- 1. Pursuant to Regulation 10 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, revoke Council Resolution No. 26/05/122 made at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 May 2026,**
- 2. In its place, adopt the following resolution:**
- 3. Continue the Shire of Boyup Brook's membership of the Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils for a further period of six (6) months.**
- 4. Request the Chief Executive Officer present a further report to Council prior to the expiry of the six-month period detailing:**
 - the outcomes achieved regarding the proposed revised operational model of the Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils;**
 - the future benefits delivered to the Shire of Boyup Brook;**

1. *Determines that, due to ongoing uncertainty in Forest Products Commission equivalent-rates funding and the need to prioritise discretionary expenditure, the Shire of Boyup Brook withdraw from membership of the Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils at the earliest date permitted under WBAC's governing arrangements.*
2. *Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate continued participation in the Southern Forests & Valleys tourism program through a separate service agreement, memorandum of understanding, or other acceptable arrangement, for consideration as part of the 2026/2027 budget.*
3. *Notes that the Shire's participation in the Warren Blackwood Regional Trails Strategy continues until project completion in accordance with Council's March 2026 decision and is independent of ongoing WBAC membership.*

CARRIED 7/0

*For: Cr. O'Connell, Cr. King, Cr. Moore, Cr. Inglis, Cr. Matthews,
Cr. Wright, Cr. Hack
Against: Nil"*

Subsequent to that decision, discussions have occurred between the current Chief Executive Officer of WBAC and the Chair of the Alliance regarding the future direction of the organisation. Those discussions have identified significant changes are needed to the current operational model to deliver greater value and more tangible outcomes for member local governments.

In addition, the Shire has now received confirmation from the Minister for Treasury that the Forest Products Commission rates equivalent payments currently being paid to Treasury will not be returned to affected local governments.

These developments have occurred since Council made its decision and are considered significant enough to warrant Council reconsidering its position.

Report Detail

The Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils has historically operated primarily as a regional advocacy body representing the five-member local governments on issues of regional importance.

While this advocacy role remains important, discussions with the current Chief Executive Officer and Chair of WBAC have identified the need for

the Alliance to evolve into an organisation that delivers practical and measurable outcomes for its members.

The Chief Executive Officers of the member councils will be meeting to develop an operational model which will place a greater emphasis on collaborative service delivery, shared specialist resources, coordinated procurement, regional workforce initiatives, strategic project delivery and improved collaboration between member local governments.

The outcomes of the recent WBAC strategic planning workshop clearly demonstrate this change in direction. Opportunities identified include reducing duplication across member councils, increasing operational efficiencies through shared resources, establishing regional specialist positions, coordinated procurement, regional workforce planning, greater collaboration on infrastructure delivery and standardisation of systems and processes.

These initiatives have the potential to provide measurable financial and operational benefits to member councils while strengthening regional capability.

For the Shire of Boyup Brook, participation in this revised model has the potential to improve access to specialist expertise that would otherwise be difficult or costly to obtain independently. Opportunities also exist to reduce duplication of effort, improve procurement outcomes, strengthen regional grant applications and develop collaborative approaches to common operational challenges.

The Administration considers that this represents a significant shift from the operational model that existed when Council resolved to withdraw from the Alliance.

The second significant development relates to the Forest Products Commission rates issue.

Since Council's previous decision, the Shire has received formal correspondence from the Minister for Treasury confirming that the rates-equivalent revenue currently being paid by the Forest Products Commission into the State's Consolidated Account will not be returned to the affected local governments.

While this advice is disappointing, it provides certainty regarding the State Government's current position.

The Administration considers this outcome reinforces, rather than diminishes, the importance of maintaining a coordinated regional approach.

The financial impacts arising from the loss of Forest Products Commission rates continue to affect several local governments throughout the Warren Blackwood region. Rather than individual councils attempting to negotiate independently, a coordinated regional approach through the Alliance provides a significantly stronger platform from which to negotiate future funding arrangements directly with both the Forest Products Commission and the State Government.


The Administration believes the Alliance through a new operational model would be entering a new phase focused not only on advocacy but on delivering practical outcomes for member councils. This revised direction has the potential to significantly increase the value proposition of membership.

Accordingly, it is recommended that Council defer its previous decision to withdraw from the Alliance and instead retain membership for a further six-month period.

This will provide sufficient time for the revised operational model to be developed and for Council to assess whether the anticipated benefits could be realised before making a longer-term commitment.

At the conclusion of the six-month period, the Administration will present a further report evaluating the final operating model, the value the operational model could deliver to the Shire and progress made regarding future funding negotiations with the Forest Products Commission, together with a recommendation regarding ongoing membership.

Shire of Boyup Brook Strategic Community Plan 2021 – 2031

	Key Imperatives	Governance and Organisation
	Objective	Demonstrate effective leadership, advocacy, and governance.
	Outcome	Provide transparent decision making that meets our legal and regulatory obligations, reflects the level of associated risk, and is adequately explained to the community.

Other Strategic Links

- Warren Blackwood Sub-Regional Growth Plan.
- Warren Blackwood Alliance Strategic Planning Outcomes.

Statutory Environment

Nil

Sustainability and Risk Consideration

Economic – (Impact on the Economy of the Shire and Region)

Continued participation in the Warren Blackwood Alliance has the potential to deliver improved regional efficiencies, shared service opportunities and stronger regional advocacy.

A coordinated regional approach to future negotiations with the Forest Products Commission and the State Government is considered the most effective means of pursuing a sustainable long-term funding arrangement to offset the financial impacts resulting from the cessation of Forest Products Commission rate payments.

Social – (Quality of life to community and / or affected landowners)

Improved regional collaboration has the potential to strengthen the delivery of services, infrastructure and community initiatives throughout the Warren Blackwood region while improving the capacity of member local governments to respond to common regional challenges.

Policy Implications

Nil

Risk Management Implications

Shire of Boyup Brook’s commitment to the identification and management of risks that may impact on the achievement of its business objectives.

Risk Level	Comment
Moderate	Withdrawing from the Alliance prior to the implementation of the revised operational model may result in the Shire foregoing opportunities for regional collaboration, shared services, operational efficiencies and coordinated advocacy on matters of regional significance, including future funding arrangements with the Forest Products Commission.

Consultation

- Chair, Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils.
- Chief Executive Officer, Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils.

Resource Implications

Financial

Should Council resolve to remain a member for six months the cost to the Shire will be \$12,938. However, to ensure funds are available should the membership continue for the rest of the year a total of \$25,876 will be included in the 2026/2027 budget.

If Council does resolve to withdrawn from the WBAC after the 6 months the balance of the funds will be redirected with the approval of Council through a budget amendment.

Workforce

Nil

End

7. Closure

There being no further business the meeting closed at ...pm.

Presiding Member

Date