

AUGUST 2026

ISSUE 40

OUR NEWS

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

It has been another busy and positive quarter across the District, with plenty happening within Council and across our communities.

A particular highlight was the successful Bucky's Beach Relay, which brought the community together while raising awareness and support for the proposed Elliston Community Sporting Facility. Congratulations and thank you to the organisers, volunteers, participants, sponsors and everyone else who helped make the event such a success.

The recent rainfall has also been very welcome after a challenging period and has brought renewed optimism for the season ahead. Unfortunately, the wet conditions have caused damage across parts of Council's road network and have delayed some planned maintenance and repair works. Council staff continue to inspect the network, prioritise areas requiring attention and undertake repairs as conditions allow. We appreciate the community's patience and encourage everyone to take care when travelling on local roads.

Council has recently adopted its Annual Business Plan and Budget, setting out our priorities for the coming year. Work continues on a number of important initiatives, including supporting the Lock Playspace project, the proposed Elliston Community Sporting Facility, options for the future provision of aged-care housing in Elliston and an engineering assessment of the Port Kenny Jetty and surrounding area.

Following the postponement of the South Australian local government elections, the next elections will now be held in 2027. I encourage all eligible residents and property owners to check that their enrolment details are current, particularly non-resident property owners who may need to enrol separately to participate.

Applications are now open for Council's new Town Beautification Fund, which will support community-led projects that improve the presentation and character of our towns. I encourage eligible community groups with project ideas to review the guidelines and consider submitting an application.

There is plenty of work ahead, along with some exciting opportunities for our communities. I look forward to keeping you informed as these initiatives progress and working with our community to achieve positive outcomes across the district.

- Nikki Becker, Chief Executive Officer



COUNCIL STAFF



FREYA LOCKE

Council is pleased to welcome Freya Locke to the team in the role of Open Space Maintenance and Cleaning Officer.

Freya plays an important part in helping maintain Council's public facilities and open spaces, ensuring they remain clean, safe and welcoming for residents and visitors across our district.

We are delighted to have Freya on board and look forward to the valuable contribution she will make to our community.

Council is pleased to announce the appointment of Luke Pryor as Acting Manager, Essential Services and Assets.

Many in our community will already know Luke through his previous role as Outdoor Leading Hand, where he has demonstrated a strong commitment to maintaining and improving Council's infrastructure and public spaces.

In his new role, Luke will lead the delivery of a range of essential services and oversee the management of Council's assets across the district.

We congratulate Luke on this appointment and look forward to his continued leadership and contribution in supporting our community.



LUKE PRYOR

**WE ARE
HIRING**
ELLISTON, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**ADMIN
SUPERSTARS
+
OUTDOOR
WORKERS**

For further information, please contact the District Council of Elliston
Phone: (08) 8687 9177 or Email: dce@elliston.sa.gov.au

ROAD CONDITION UPDATE

Recent rainfall across the District has been very welcome, bringing much-needed moisture to farms, gardens and the broader landscape. However, wet conditions can also have a significant impact on Council's unsealed road network.

Following rain, road surfaces can become soft and unstable, increasing the risk of potholes, rutting, corrugations and slippery conditions. Low-lying areas may also experience water pooling or washouts, and conditions can change quickly.

Council encourages all road users to take additional care when travelling. Please reduce your speed, allow extra stopping distance and avoid sudden braking or sharp steering. If you encounter water across a road, never assume it is safe to cross, as the depth may be difficult to judge and the road surface underneath may have been damaged.

Council staff continue to inspect the road network and prioritise areas requiring attention. In some locations, repair and maintenance works may need to be delayed until the road has dried sufficiently for heavy machinery to operate without causing further damage.

If you notice significant road damage or hazardous conditions, please report the location and details to Council so the matter can be assessed and prioritised.

Thank you for your patience while these conditions continue. Please drive carefully and according to the road and weather conditions.



ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

LINEMARKING

Council's targeted line marking program went ahead successfully at the Elliston Aerodrome and additional sites around Elliston community facilities and the Venus Bay boat ramp and carpark.



GRADING/SEALED/UNSEALED ROAD MAINTENANCE

Council's road maintenance program has continued across the District, with approximately one-third of the unsealed road network graded in recent months. Grading is scheduled when road and moisture conditions are suitable, as undertaking this work at the right time helps achieve a more effective and longer-lasting result.

Other works have included roadside flail mowing, weed spraying, drainage maintenance and vegetation management. This has included clearing along Anxious Bay Road to support the future extension of the coastal walking trail, together with routine verge maintenance in the Lock and Elliston townships.

Council will continue progressing its scheduled maintenance program while also responding to areas affected by the recent rainfall.

COUNCIL IN ACTION

The following provides a summary of key decisions and initiatives progressed by Council over the past three months.

ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN AND BUDGET 2026-27

LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2026-2036 INFRASTRUCTURE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN 2026-2036

Following a period of community consultation, Council has formally adopted several key strategic documents that will help guide the future of the District Council of Elliston.

Together, these documents provide a clear roadmap for Council's priorities, financial sustainability, asset management, community engagement and commitment to creating a more accessible and inclusive district.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Following community consultation, Council has adopted its Community Engagement Policy, which outlines how Council will engage with the community on matters that affect residents and ratepayers.

The policy provides a consistent framework for meaningful, transparent and accessible community engagement, ensuring residents have opportunities to provide feedback and help inform Council's decision-making.

FEES AND CHARGES 2026/2027

Council's updated Fees and Charges Schedule for 2026/2027 is now available.

These documents are available to view on our website or by visiting the Council office at 21 Beach Terrace, Elliston.

DISABILITY ACCESS AND INCLUSION PLAN (DAIP) 2025-2029

Council has also adopted its DAIP 2025-2029 following community consultation and engagement with people living with disability, carers, service providers and the broader community.

The DAIP outlines Council's commitment to creating a more accessible and inclusive district by identifying practical actions to improve access to Council services, information, facilities and community participation over the next four years.



DEVELOPMENT COMPLIANCE

Council will be increasing its focus on development compliance across the district. Where Council becomes aware of building work, land use or other development that may have occurred without the required approval, the matter may be investigated and the property owner may be required to lodge a retrospective development application or take steps to bring the development into compliance.

Unauthorised development may result in additional application costs, compliance action, expiation notices or prosecution under the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016. Current PlanSA fees also provide for an additional retrospective approval fee where approval is sought after development has already been undertaken.

Council's aim is to work with property owners to resolve concerns wherever possible; however, formal enforcement action may be taken where required. Residents are strongly encouraged to check whether approval is needed and speak with Council before commencing any building work or changing the use of land. Development applications can be lodged online through PlanSA.



TOWN BEAUTIFICATION FUND

Council is proud to introduce the new Town Beautification Fund, a community-focused initiative designed to support projects that enhance the appearance, character and liveability of our townships.

With \$50,000 allocated each financial year, the Fund provides an opportunity for local community organisations to bring forward ideas that create welcoming public spaces, celebrate local identity and leave a lasting legacy for future generations.

Council recognises that some of the best ideas come from the people who know their communities best. Whether it's improving streetscapes, creating attractive public gardens, installing public artwork, enhancing visitor spaces or developing other permanent community infrastructure, the Town Beautification Fund is about working together to make our towns even better places to live, work and visit.

Applications are open to incorporated not-for-profit community organisations across the district, with funding available for projects that deliver long-term benefits and encourage community participation. Following an assessment process, successful projects will receive funding to help turn great local ideas into reality.

The first round of applications for the 2026/27 Town Beautification Fund is now open and closes at 5.00pm Monday, 21 September 2026. Council encourages eligible community groups to start thinking about projects that will make a positive difference in their town.

Further information, including the funding guidelines and application form, is available on Council's website and through the Council Office.

ACTIVE TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Council is developing a new Active Transport Strategy to guide the future planning and delivery of walking and cycling infrastructure across the district.

The Strategy sets out a long-term vision for a connected network of trails, shared paths and pedestrian links that will improve accessibility, encourage healthier lifestyles, support tourism and strengthen connections between our townships.

A key feature of the Strategy is the proposed Wild West Coast Trail - a long-term vision to progressively connect the South Head Walking Trail at Venus Bay with the Elliston Coastal Trail and extend south towards Sheringa.

Community consultation and a district-wide network audit will be undertaken to help identify local priorities, existing walking routes and future opportunities, ensuring the final Strategy reflects community aspirations while positioning Council to secure future State and Commonwealth funding.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM STRATEGY

Work has commenced on developing a new strategy which will help guide future investment, tourism opportunities and economic growth across the district. Community members will have the opportunity to contribute through surveys, workshops and stakeholder engagement over the coming months. The strategy will explore opportunities to build on the district's strengths, including dark skies, coastal experiences, nature-based tourism and outdoor recreation.



Over recent months, the District Council of Elliston has continued to invest in projects and initiatives that strengthen our communities, improve local services and plan for the future.

ELLISTON FUN RUN

Council sponsored the Elliston Fun Run held on 20 June 2026, including waiving the Special Event Permit Fee and providing insurance support to help raise funds for Bucky's Beach Relay.

SAVE THE WAVES FILM FESTIVAL

Council provided sponsorship to bring the internationally recognised Save the Waves Film Festival to Elliston, supporting environmental awareness, community engagement and tourism.

ELLISTON SPORTS CENTRE DRAINAGE

Council donated rubble to the Elliston Sports Centre to improve drainage at the northern end of the grounds.

LOCK MEN'S AND WOMEN'S HEALTH NIGHT

Council has continued to support the Lock Men's and Women's Health Night, providing three cabins for the event while securing \$9,680 in external funding to help deliver this important community initiative.

ZEPHYR JONES - SHOREBIRDS EDUCATIONAL CALENDAR

Council has supported local artist Zephyr Jones with her Grassroots Grant application for a Shorebirds Educational Calendar.

ELLISTON'S 150TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS - 2028

Council will soon be inviting community members to nominate their interest in joining a planning committee to help celebrate this significant milestone. More information on this will be provided to the community in the coming weeks.

DROUGHT RESILIENCE INITIATIVES

Council has secured funding for three community water tanks to be installed in Port Kenny and Venus Bay.

CHILDCARE STRATEGY

Council has received \$10,000 to better understand the childcare needs of our wider community. Staff will develop and distribute a survey to identify the key childcare challenges currently facing parents and families. The findings will inform future planning and help determine potential actions and initiatives to address local childcare needs.

COASTAL AND MARINE INFRASTRUCTURE UNDER REVIEW

Council continues to advocate for and work with the Department for Infrastructure and Transport in relation to the Elliston and Port Kenny jetties, with a focus on future management and planning.

A consultant has been selected to undertake an engineering and sediment assessment on the Port Kenny jetty. Council is leading this project with the support of the Department for Infrastructure and Transport and the Coast Protection Board.

REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICES

Council supported discussions surrounding the future of local medical services through engagement with the Lower Eyre Medical Centre regarding the Elliston practice.

WATCH THIS SPACE COUNCIL IS COMING TO YOU

As part of Council's new Customer Service Policy, we're introducing monthly Open Door Sessions in Elliston and quarterly regional outreach visits to Lock, Port Kenny and Venus Bay. These sessions are designed to make Council more accessible, provide opportunities to ask questions, share ideas and discuss local priorities in an informal setting.

Watch this space for upcoming dates, times and locations—we look forward to seeing you there.

NORTHERN EYRE PENINSULA HEALTH ALLIANCE (NEPHA)

The Northern Eyre Peninsula Health Alliance warmly thanks everyone who shared their ideas during our community consultation and surveys in 2025.

Your feedback helped shape NEPHA's new Regional Coordination Service website, designed to make it easier to find healthcare services across the Northern Eyre Peninsula region.

The website brings together visiting healthcare calendars, a directory of local health services, and information about healthcare facilities and community wellbeing supports across Cleve, Elliston, Franklin Harbour, Kimba, Streaky Bay and Wudinna.

The website is being trialled until the end of 2027. Every time you use the website to find a service and click through to make a booking, you help demonstrate the value of the service and strengthen the case for ongoing funding.

The website builds on NEPHA's monthly healthcare newsletter, which will continue alongside the new online resource.



Your new healthcare information service

-  Visiting healthcare calendar
-  Service provider directory
-  Health and wellbeing news
-  Local events and updates



Visit nepha.com.au

Find services, visiting providers, news and updates

A regional initiative by the Northern Eyre Peninsula Health Alliance (NEPHA), representing the districts of Cleve, Cowell (Franklin Harbour), Elliston, Kimba, Streaky Bay and Wudinna.

Follow NEPHA's Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/nephealth

Contact NEPHA with feedback or questions:
info@nepha.com.au



Lock Health Advisory Committee with the NEPHA Project Team during consultation at Lock in 2025.

Keep an eye on the website and NEPHA's Facebook page for details of upcoming community information events, where you can learn more about the Regional Coordination Service and local healthcare services.

DOG AND CAT MANAGEMENT

The Dogs and Cats Online (DACO) system is now back online and available for pet owners to access.

Dog and cat registration renewals for the 2026–27 registration year are now open. Renewal notices are issued during July via your preferred contact method (email, SMS or post), and registrations must be renewed by 31 August 2026 to avoid late fees.

If you have a new dog over three months of age, it must be registered within 14 days of taking possession.

Responsible pet ownership starts with keeping your pet's information up to date. If you've recently moved, changed your phone number or email address, transferred ownership of a pet, or your pet has been desexed, be sure to update these details in DACO. Keeping your registration and contact information current helps Council and authorised agencies reunite lost pets with their owners quickly and ensures you continue to receive important registration reminders and notices.

Residents can access the DACO system and manage their registrations online via:
<https://dogsandcatsonline.com.au/>

If you require assistance with registering your pet, renewing your registration or updating your details, please contact the District Council of Elliston on (08) 8687 9177 or visit the Council Office at 21 Beach Terrace, Elliston. Our staff are happy to help.



2027 COUNCIL ELECTION UPDATE

South Australia's next local government elections will now be held in April 2027 following changes to State legislation. Voting will close on Wednesday, 7 April 2027.

While the election is still some time away, now is the perfect opportunity to check your enrolment details and become familiar with the key milestones leading up to the election.

Residents enrolled to vote in South Australian state elections are automatically enrolled for council elections. Eligible property owners, business owners, landlords, occupiers and eligible non-Australian residents who vote via the Council Supplementary Roll should note that the Supplementary Roll will close at 5.00 pm on Monday, 4 January 2027. To remain eligible to vote, anyone who votes via the Supplementary Roll must ensure they have submitted or renewed their enrolment before the roll closes.

Residents are also encouraged to check their enrolment details and confirm which voters roll they are enrolled on before this date.

2027 Election Key Dates

- Monday, 4 January 2027 (5:00 pm) – Close of voters rolls, including the Council Supplementary Roll
- Tuesday, 26 January 2027 – Nominations open
- Tuesday, 9 February 2027 (12:00 pm) – Nominations close and Caretaker Period commences
- Thursday, 11 March – Wednesday, 17 March 2027 – Voting packs mailed to enrolled voters
- Wednesday, 7 April 2027 (5:00 pm) – Close of voting (Polling Day)
- Saturday, 10 April 2027 (9:00 am) – Scrutiny and count of votes

Council will continue to keep the community informed as further election information becomes available. To learn more about voting, enrolment or becoming a candidate, visit www.councilelections.sa.gov.au.

EVENTS BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

AUSTRALIAN SALMON FISHING CHAMPIONSHIP

The 2026 Australian Salmon Fishing Championship is once again proving to be a valuable event for the Elliston district, attracting anglers from across South Australia and supporting local businesses throughout the winter months.

Now in its 32nd year, the Championship continues to build on its long-standing reputation as one of South Australia's premier land-based fishing competitions. It has been particularly rewarding to see so many familiar faces return year after year, with some competitors having taken part since the competition first began. Their ongoing support, alongside many first-time entrants, reflects the strong community spirit surrounding the event and the lasting appeal of Elliston as a winter fishing destination.

Ticket sales have continued to perform well throughout this year's competition, with participants travelling from across the state to experience our spectacular coastline, renowned salmon fishing and the warm hospitality of the local community. The event continues to provide an important boost to local businesses, accommodation providers and tourism operators during the quieter winter season.

Throughout the competition, anglers have shared photos of their catches and their time exploring the district, generating strong engagement across social media and helping showcase Elliston to a wider audience. This ongoing exposure reinforces Elliston's reputation as a premier fishing and nature-based tourism destination.



Council would like to sincerely thank the many sponsors, volunteers, ticket outlets and committee members whose support and dedication make the Australian Salmon Fishing Championship possible each year. Their commitment is instrumental in ensuring the event continues to grow and deliver lasting economic and community benefits for the district.

As the competition enters its final weeks, there is still time for anglers to purchase a ticket and be in the running for the remaining weekly, monthly and major prizes. We wish all competitors the very best of luck and look forward to celebrating another successful Championship.

For the latest competition news, weekly and monthly prize announcements, and other Championship updates, be sure to follow the Australian Salmon Fishing Championship Facebook page: facebook.com/asfc.elliston



*EVENTS BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER***LOCK MEN'S AND WOMEN'S HEALTH NIGHT**

The Lock Community Health and Welfare Centre Advisory Committee recently hosted a combined Men's and Women's Health Night, with a strong focus on mental health and wellbeing. The event attracted 80 attendees from across the district for an evening of learning, connection and laughter, whilst promoting preventative health.

Guest speaker Warren Davies, The Unbreakable Farmer, encouraged attendees to prioritise their wellbeing, reminding everyone that "our wellbeing is a bit like a wheel – sometimes we need an alignment to keep moving forward." He shared practical strategies to help individuals and communities recognise when support is needed and how to better look out for one another.

Bron Stedall from Pinion Advisory explored the tensions that can arise in farming life, highlighting that many conflicts are not caused by the issue itself, but by the way it is communicated. Attendees then participated in small group discussions, providing an opportunity to share experiences and work through practical solutions together.

Guests enjoyed pre-dinner nibbles followed by a delicious two-course meal, with a choice of locally smoked pork or steak served with vegetables, finished with a selection of desserts.

The evening concluded on a light-hearted note with comedian Marc Ryan, The Beautiful Bogan, whose entertaining performance had the audience laughing and enthusiastically involved throughout the show.

The Advisory Committee was delighted with the strong community support shown for the event and extends its sincere thanks to the many generous sponsors and dedicated volunteers whose contributions made the evening such a success.

- Melanie Cummins



WASTE COLLECTION CALENDARS JULY TO DECEMBER 2026

Our updated Waste Collection Calendars for July to December 2026 are now available on the District Council of Elliston website.

The calendars include:

- General waste collection dates
- Recycling collection dates

Separate calendars for:

- Elliston, Bramfield, Port Kenny, Sheringa & Venus Bay
- Lock

You can view or download your calendar here:

<https://www.elliston.sa.gov.au/council-services/waste-and-recycling-management>

Printed copies are also available from Council offices and a range of locations throughout the district for your convenience. If you are unable to collect a copy, please contact Council on (08) 8687 9177 and we can arrange to have one mailed to you.

Please note: These calendars cover July to December 2026 only. From 2027, Council will move to a calendar year format (January–December), with the 2027 Waste Collection Calendars to be issued in December 2026.

If you have any questions, please contact Council on (08) 8687 9177.



DO YOU KNOW WHAT CAN BE PLACED IN YOUR RECYCLING BIN?

- Cardboard boxes and egg cartons (no food present)
- Paper, envelopes, phone books
- Newspapers, magazines, catalogues and junk mail
- Aluminium/metal cans and metal lids (squash lid inside the can)
- Foil trays and aerosol cans (lid removed)
- Empty milk, juice and stock cartons (rinsed)
- Glass bottles and jars (emptied, lid removed, not broken)
- Hard plastic bottles and containers (rinsed with lid removed)
- Hard plastic bottle lids (separated from bottle or container)
- Plant pots



WASTE COLLECTION CALENDAR JULY - DECEMBER

Elliston, Bramfield, Port Kenny, Sheringa, Venus Bay

Yellow Recycling Bin Collection Day
Red General Waste Bin Collection Day

JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4	5						1	2	3	4	5	6		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				

WASTE TRANSFER STATIONS OPENING HOURS

Elliston: First Saturday of each month only
Wednesday 10:00am-12:00pm
Saturday 10:00am-12:00pm

Venus Bay: Open by appointment ONLY

Contact Us

Ph: 8687 9177
www.elliston.sa.gov.au



WASTE COLLECTION CALENDAR JULY - DECEMBER

Lock

Yellow Recycling Bin & Red Bin
Collection Day
Red General Waste Bin Collection Day

JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4	5						1	2	3	4	5	6		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				

WASTE TRANSFER STATIONS OPENING HOURS

Lock: Open by appointment ONLY

Contact Us

Ph: 8687 9177
www.elliston.sa.gov.au



TRANSFER STATIONS ELLISTON

- First Saturday of each month only - 10:00am to 12:00pm
- Wednesday - 10:00am to 12:00pm

LOCK

- Open by appointment only

VENUS BAY

- Open by appointment only

To book an appointment, or for further waste management information, contact Council.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

There are no current JPs in Venus Bay or Sheringa

ELLISTON	
Carrol Cooper	0427 839 126
Garry Fieldhouse	0428 347 315
Kym Gillett	0428 879 055
Dianne Penna	0499 102 010
LOCK	
Sylvia Dolphin	0428 918 104
James Siviour	0477 409 082
Jacinta Young	0417 416 500
PORT KENNY	
Graham Gunn	8625 5056
Ian Gunn	8625 5052

Spotted multiple sick or dead birds?



Avian influenza, or bird flu, is a highly contagious viral disease spread by wild birds. Large numbers of sick or dead birds are not normal and could be a sign of bird flu.

- ☒ **Avoid** contact with sick or dead birds and keep pets away.
- ☒ **Record** relevant details, including date, time, location, species and numbers.
- ☒ **Report** observations to the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888.

EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE
HOTLINE
1800 675 888



Learn more



pir.sa.gov.au/birdflu



Regional, Rural and Remote Home Care Workforce Support Program

Wanting to grow your career in care and support your community?



We're here to help local people step into local aged care roles.
We provide simple, supportive guidance to connect you with
opportunities in your community.



Support you with your resume,
interview preparation and
building confidence



Assist you with training
pathways and placement



Link you with local
aged care opportunities



Guide your new role with
mentoring and check-ins



workforce@skillshubs.com.au



1800 319 762



skillshubs.com.au



★ WANTED ★

Elliston's
150TH
BIRTHDAY
~ celebrations ~
— 2028 —

Celebrating
our past,
**INSPIRING
OUR FUTURE.**



Council will soon be inviting
community members to nominate
their interest in joining a
planning committee to help
celebrate this significant milestone.

If you're interested, please contact
the council on 08 8687 9177



Funded by



FIRE PREVENTION

**PREPARE TODAY,
PROTECT TOMORROW.**

A little preparation now can
make a big difference.



**FIRE DANGER
SEASON**

Check the CFS website
for the official dates
each year.

The District Council of Elliston is committed to working with our community to reduce the risk of bushfires and keep our district safe.

Landowners and occupiers have legal responsibilities under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005* to ensure their property is maintained and not a fire hazard.

PREPARE YOUR PROPERTY



KEEP GRASS SHORT

Slash or mow long grass and weeds to reduce fuel.



REMOVE HAZARDS

Clear rubbish, dead plants, branches, and other flammable materials.



CREATE DEFENDABLE SPACE

Maintain a clear area around homes, sheds and outbuildings.



CLEAN GUTTERS & ROOFS

Remove leaves, bark and debris that could ignite.



ENSURE ACCESS

Keep driveways and gates clear for emergency vehicles.



**PLAN.
PREPARE.
STAY INFORMED.**

- ✓ Make a Bushfire Survival Plan.
- ✓ Know your triggers to leave early.
- ✓ Download the Alert SA app.
- ✓ Monitor the CFS website and local updates.



Alert SA



BURN-OFF PERMITS

A Permit to Light a Fire (Schedule 9) may be required for:

- General burn-offs
- Agricultural burning
- Burning during the Fire Danger Season
- Township boundary burning

Permits must be obtained BEFORE you light a fire.

Contact Council or visit our website for more information and applications.



LANDOWNER RESPONSIBILITIES

Council may undertake inspections during the Fire Danger Season.

Failure to comply with notice requirements may result in:

- Fines
- Council undertaking the works and recovering costs

Let's work together to protect our homes, farms and community.



FIRE PREVENTION IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

Working together for a safer Elliston district.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

(08) 8687 9177 | dce@elliston.sa.gov.au
www.elliston.sa.gov.au



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

Stay up to date with local fire information and seasonal reminders.



DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ELLISTON

ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN & BUDGET 2026-2027

COMMUNITY SUMMARY

This summary provides an overview of Council's Annual Business Plan and Budget, highlighting the services we deliver, our investment priorities and how we are planning for a sustainable future.

OUR DISTRICT AT A GLANCE



POPULATION
1,041



**RATEABLE
PROPERTIES**
1,352



**TOTAL COUNCIL
AREA**
669,300ha



**SEALED
ROADS**
68km



**UNSEALED
ROADS**
1,087km



**RATES
REVENUE**
\$3.6M



**OPERATING
INCOME**
\$9.7M



**OPERATING
EXPENDITURE**
\$7.6M



**CAPITAL
WORKS**
\$2.2M

SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY

The District Council of Elliston delivers a broad range of services and infrastructure that support our communities and meet its legislative responsibilities. These services contribute to the liveability of the district and help ensure our communities remain safe, connected and sustainable.

CORE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Roads and infrastructure
- Planning and development
- Environmental health
- Waste collection and recycling
- Governance and financial management

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES

- Libraries
- Community facilities
- Parks and gardens
- Community events
- Economic development

FEE FOR SERVICE ACTIVITIES

- Visitor Information Centre
- Caravan parks
- Camping grounds
- Water supply services
- Private works

BUDGET AT A GLANCE

2026-2027

Council's 2026–2027 Annual Business Plan outlines a balanced and responsible approach to delivering services, maintaining infrastructure and supporting the community.

Key Financials

- Total Operating Income: **\$9.7M**
- Total Operating Expenditure: **\$7.6M**
- Adjusted Operating Deficit: **\$0.1M**

Where the money comes from

- Rates Revenue
- Grants and Subsidies
- User Charges and Fees
- Other Income



Capital Investment



\$3.6M

Rates Revenue



\$2.2M

Total Capital Works Program

Where the money is spent

- Employee Costs
- Materials, Contracts and Services
- Depreciation
- Other Operating Expenses



Investment Priorities

Council will invest in key infrastructure and assets across the district, including:

- Road renewals and upgrades
- Plant and equipment replacement
- Building and facility improvements

Rates and Community Impact

Council recognises the impact of rates on the community and remains committed to balancing affordability with the need to maintain services and infrastructure.

The 2026-2027 budget reflects:

- Continued investment in essential services
- A focus on long-term financial sustainability
- Responsible management of Council resources

Financial Sustainability

Council continues to monitor its financial performance against key indicators, including:

- Operating Surplus Ratio
- Asset Renewal Funding Ratio
- Net Financial Liabilities Ratio

CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM

Council's Capital Investment Program outlines the infrastructure and asset investment planned for the 2026-2027 financial year. The program focuses on maintaining and renewing existing assets while delivering targeted improvements that support our communities and long-term sustainability.



BUILDINGS AND OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE

Council will continue investing in community facilities and essential infrastructure, including:

- Community buildings and facilities
- Stormwater infrastructure
- Waste management facilities
- Water supply infrastructure
- Playspace improvements
- Town beautification projects

Projects include planning for the new Elliston Sporting Facility, Aged Care Homes, upgrades to Waste Transfer Stations, and other initiatives identified in the Capital Investment Program.

PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Council will continue renewing its vehicle and plant fleet to support the delivery of essential services across the district.

UNSEALED ROADS

Investment in the district's road network will continue through:

- Annual Unsealed Roads Program
- Palkagee Road (subject to grant funding)

TOTAL CAPITAL INVESTMENT: \$2.2 MILLION

Council's Capital Investment Program focuses on maintaining and renewing existing assets while delivering targeted improvements that support our communities and long-term sustainability.

FUNDING OUR BUSINESS PLAN

Council funds its services, infrastructure and operations through a combination of revenue sources, including rates, user charges, statutory charges and grants.

For the 2026–2027 financial year, total forecast revenue is \$9.7M, with \$3.6M proposed to be raised from general and other rates.

Council continues to focus on maintaining a balanced and sustainable revenue mix, reducing reliance on rates where possible through diversification of income sources.

An operating surplus of \$2.1M is forecast for 2026–2027. An adjustment for capital works of \$2.2M results in a deficit of \$0.1M for the year. This is consistent with Council's Long Term Financial Plan and financial sustainability objectives.

YOUR RATES 2026 TO 2027

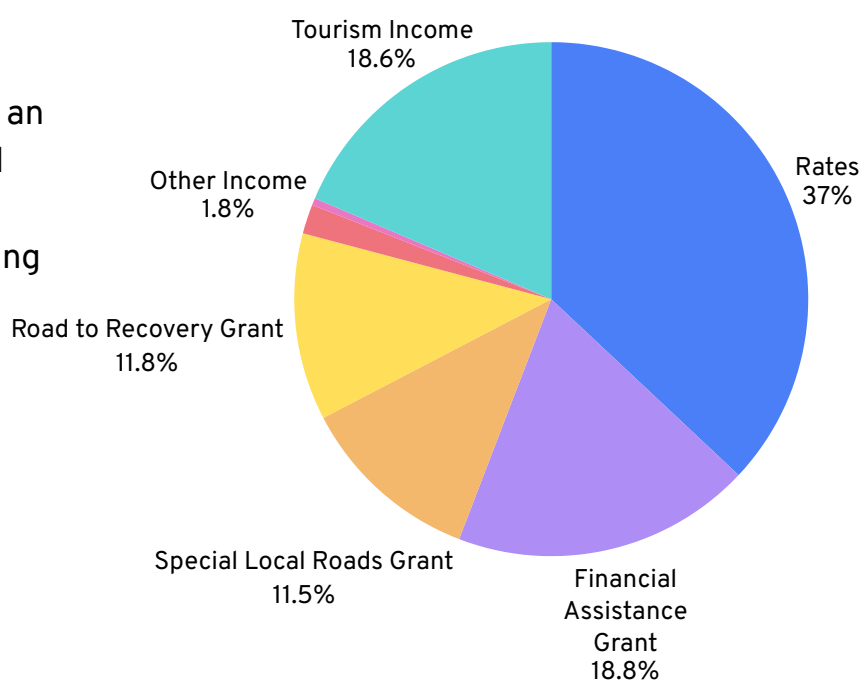
Council's Rating Policy provides a fair and equitable distribution of the rate burden while raising sufficient revenue to deliver essential services, maintain infrastructure and support the community. Rates are determined based on the total revenue required to fund Council's services, infrastructure and facilities with the rate burden distributed in accordance to Council's Rating Policy.

For 2026-2027, Council has:

- Increased the differential rate on vacant land to encourage development and support housing outcomes.
- Continued to apply differential general rates based on land use.
- Applied waste service charges based on the number of waste collection services provided.
- Continued to provide mandatory and discretionary rebates for eligible ratepayers.

GRANT FUNDING

Government grant funding plays an important role in helping Council deliver infrastructure, roads and community services while reducing reliance on rate revenue.



OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

The 2026–2027 Annual Business Plan focuses on the following priorities, which support the delivery of Council's Strategic Plan:

- continue to deliver essential services
- maintain long-term financial sustainability
- deliver the road renewal program
- maintain and renew essential infrastructure
- continue work on Aged Care Housing
- introduce a Town Beautification Fund
- commence planning for Elliston's 150th birthday
- develop a new Economic Development and Tourism Strategy
- advocate for improved medical services
- identify opportunities for improvements in intergenerational playspaces

ACHIEVEMENTS 2025-2026

Council successfully delivered a range of projects and initiatives identified in the 2025–2026 Annual Business Plan. Highlights included:

- Completion of the Elliston Aerodrome Reseal Project
- Completion of the Port Kenny and Venus Bay Masterplan
- Endorsement of the Elliston Town Centre Revitalisation Plan
- Adoption of a new Disability Access and Inclusion Plan
- Adoption of a new Community Engagement Charter
- Progression of the Coastal Hazard Adaption Plan
- Delivery of the road renewal program
- Commencement of planning for Aged Care Homes
- Continued to improve community engagement and progress initiatives supporting long term financial sustainability.

Council also continued to deliver its full range of statutory, regulatory and community services throughout the year while maintaining a responsible financial position.

FIND OUT MORE

To read the full Annual Business Plan and Budget 2026-2027, visit: www.elliston.sa.gov.au