

Kalamunda Connect

Winter 2026, Edition 19



**2026-27 Budget Overview
Rates FAQs**

**Project Updates:
Hartfield Park, Ray Owen Oval
High Wycombe Community Hub**

**Place to Space
KalaVision - Council Plan**



Dear Residents,

As we move into the new financial year, we are experiencing significant cost-of-living pressures at both a local and global level. We prepared the 2026/27 budget in a challenging financial environment, with rising costs, growing community expectations and a larger asset base to maintain. Like many households, we are seeing higher prices for materials, construction, insurance and essential services. These increases directly affect the cost of delivering the infrastructure and programs our community relies on every day.

We are proud to have delivered key infrastructure projects our community has been looking forward to, including the Ray Owen Oval Extension and Norm Sadler Pavilion. These projects support our local sporting and community groups and play an important role in community life. We are also planning for the future, with the tender process for the proposed High Wycombe Community Hub now underway.

Despite these challenges, we are entering a period of transformation and celebrating the people and places that make the City of Kalamunda such a vibrant community. As part of this, we recently completed an organisational restructure and created a new Place team. This team builds on our strong community development approach and strengthens our focus on place-based thinking, collaboration and community-led projects.

We are already seeing the impact of this work, with the City proudly taking out the Metropolitan and Peel category at the 2026 Local Government Minister's Place Innovation Awards for the Wattle Grove Community Dog Park. The award is testament to the collaboration and connection with the passionate local community in Wattle Grove.

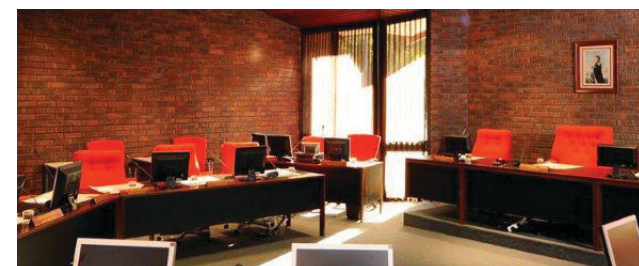
We will continue to look for ways to innovate and work more efficiently so we can support our growing community without placing further pressure on ratepayers. We are reviewing our long-term financial planning, exploring new revenue opportunities and making sure we align every dollar we spend with our community's priorities.

I hope you enjoy this winter edition of Connect. During the Makuru season, take the time to explore and enjoy Kalamunda as your winter playground.

Warm regards,

Mayor Margaret Thomas JP

COUNCIL MEETINGS



Schedule of agenda briefing forums and council meetings for 2026.

Venue: Council Chambers, City of Kalamunda Administration Building, 2 Railway Road, Kalamunda.

Both Public Agenda Briefing Forums and Ordinary Council Meetings commence at 6:30pm.

Public Agenda Briefing Forum

July Tuesday 14	August Tuesday 11
September Tuesday 8	October Tuesday 13
November Tuesday 10	December Tuesday 8

Ordinary Council Meeting

July Tuesday 28	August Tuesday 25
September Tuesday 22	October Tuesday 27
November Tuesday 24	December Tuesday 15

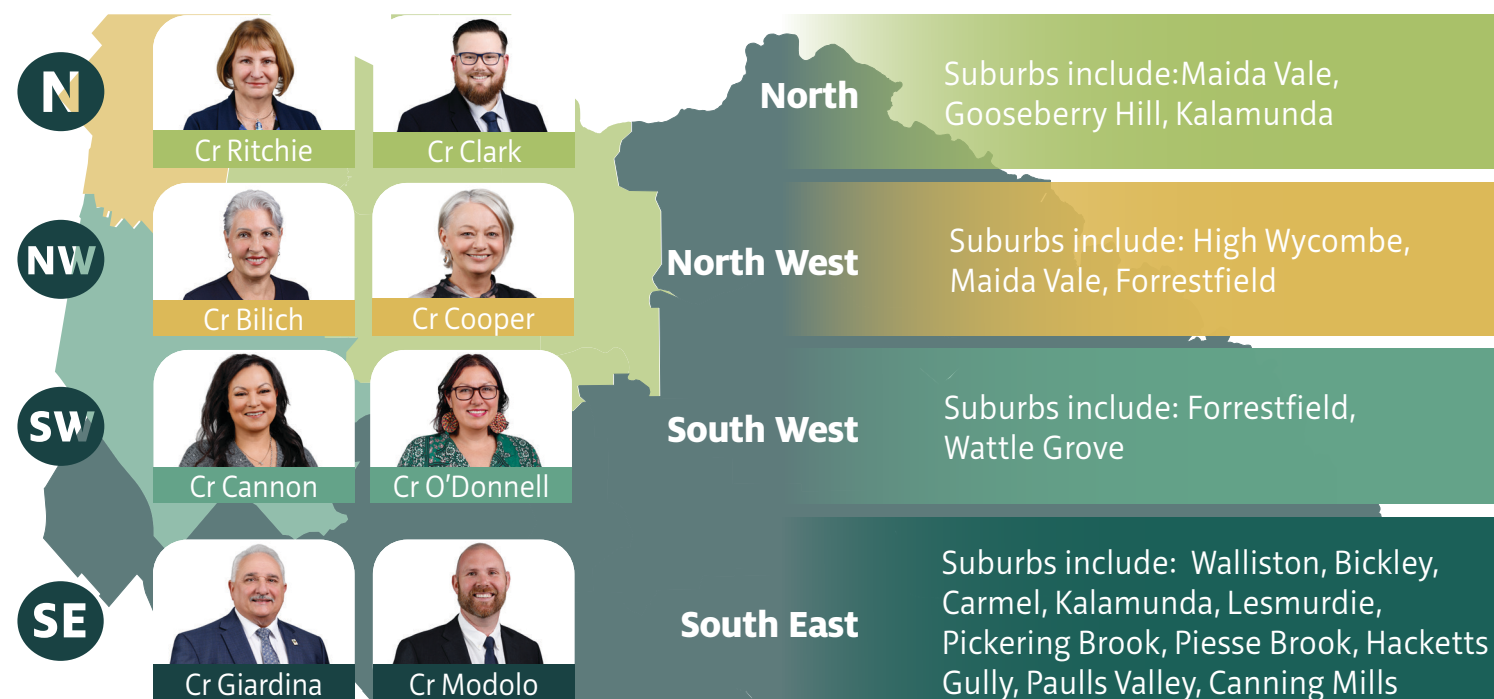


Scan the QR code for the latest information on Council Meetings.

MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS



Mayor
Margaret Thomas JP



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kalamunda.wa.gov.au/newsletters

Stay connected through socials.

@cityofkalamunda



What's on in the City?

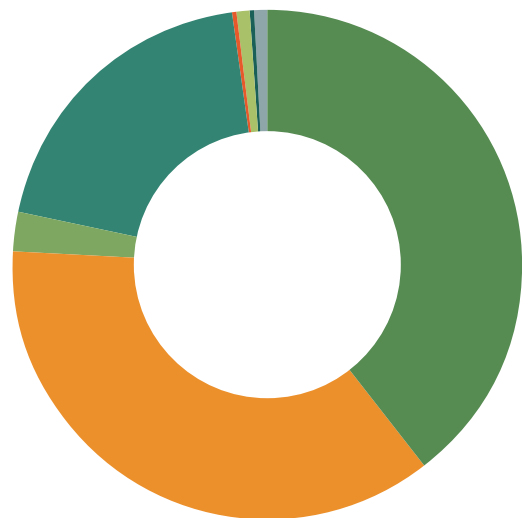


Scan the QR code and see the latest events.

kalamunda.wa.gov.au/whats-on

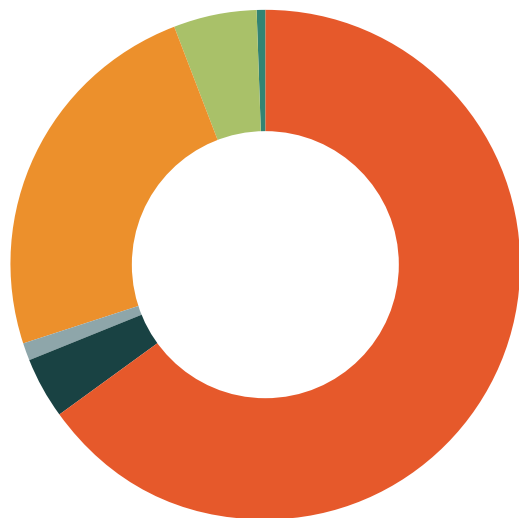
Budget Expenditure 2026-2027

Operating Expenses 2026-2027



Employee Costs	39.5%
Materials & Contracts	36.6%
Utility Charges	2.3%
Depreciation of non-current assets	19.5%
Interest Expenses	0.3%
Insurance Expenses	0.8%
Loss on Asset Disposal	0.2%
Other Expenditure	0.8%

Operating Revenue 2026-2027



Rates	65.2%
Operating Grants & Subsidies	3.9%
Contribution, Reimbursements & Donations	0.9%
Fees & Charges	24.3%
Interest Earnings	5.3%
Other Revenue	0.4%

Significant Projects 2026-2027

Roads

- Canning Road (Welshpool Road East to Glenisla Road) - Widening and Safety Upgrade
- Kalamunda Road and Hawkevale Road - New Roundabout
- Kalamunda Road (Hawkevale Road to Wittenoom Road) - Road Resurfacing
- Milner Road - Forrestfield Industrial Area
- Patterson Road Bickley - Road Resurfacing (Stage 3)
- Sultana Road West - Forrestfield Industrial Area
- Lewis Road and Welshpool Road East - Intersection Improvement (Stage 1, Design and Service Relocations)
- High Wycombe - LCURSP project, Wittenoom Road, Hamilton Road, Newburn Road, Edney Road, Berle Way
- Juniper Way and Agati Place - Road Resurfacing
- Pioneer Park, LCURSP- Dawson Avenue, Bougainvillea Avenue, Albizia Close, Cypress Road
- East Terrace Reserve-LCURSP Projects- Temby Avenue, Heath Road, Yorna/Alpine Road, Cotherstone Road, Recreation Road
- Williams Street - Installation of Safety Barriers
- Lenori Road - LCURSP project- Lansdowne Road, Davies Crescent
- Falls Road, Lesmurdie - Embayed Parking
- Kalamunda Road (Midland Road to David Street) - Road Resurfacing
- Ridge Hill Road (Midland Road to Bridle Drive) - Road Resurfacing
- Hillside Crescent - Road Resurfacing including Lenori Road, Onslow Close & end of Wattle Avenue
- Maida Vale Recreation Reserve LCURSP Projects- Ridge Hill Road, Zig Zag Scenic Drive, Williams Street, Gooseberry Hill Road, Sadler Drive
- Cook Place & Heather Road - Road Resurfacing
- Bonser Road (Stage 2) - Forrestfield Industrial Area
- Abernethy Road (SLK 2.54 to 2.74 southbound) - Road Resurfacing
- Road Minor Renewals Program
- Abernethy Road (SLK 2.25 to 2.38 northbound west lane) - Road Resurfacing

Land & Buildings

- High Wycombe Community Hub Construction
- Hartfield Park Forrestfield - New AFL & Little Athletics Pavilion
- Scott Reserve High Wycombe: Sport Pavilion Redevelopment
- Hartfield Park Forrestfield: Expansion Of FUFC Facilities
- Jack Healey Centre - Combined Building Renewals
- Walliston Transfer Station - Hardstand & Community Reuse Shop
- Kalamunda Library - Air Conditioning Renewal
- Kalamunda Archery Club Renewal Works

Plant & Equipment

- Fleet - Light Fleet Replacement Program
- Fleet - Major Plant Replacement Program (Heavy)

Parks & Ovals

- Expansion & upgrade of lighting at Morrison Oval
- Maida Vale Reserve - Netball Courts Resurfacing of 12 Courts
- Maida Vale Reserve - Playground Renewal

Footpaths

- Canning Road, Kalamunda - Signalised Pedestrian Crossing By Haynes Street

Other Infrastructure

- Yule Brook (Stage 2) - CELL 9
- Yule Brook (Stage 1) - CELL 9
- Woodlupine Creek Undeveloped Reserve - CELL 9
- Willow Lakes POS - CELL 9

Capital Works Expenditure 2026-2027



Why have rates increased?

For the 2026/27 financial year, the City has adopted rate increases across its rating categories to ensure it can continue to provide essential services, maintain community infrastructure and remain financially sustainable.

This year is also a Gross Rental Value (GRV) revaluation year. Landgate, an independent State Government agency, reassesses the rental values of metropolitan properties every three years. For the 2026/27 revaluation, the average GRV across the City increased by approximately 32%. While property valuations have changed, the City adjusts the Rate in the Dollar as part of its annual budget process to ensure the total rates revenue required to fund Council services is raised fairly across all properties.

The City relies on rates revenue to deliver a wide range of services and infrastructure for the community, including local roads, parks and reserves, waste services, community facilities, bushfire management, street lighting, public safety initiatives, and the maintenance and renewal of public assets. The cost of providing these services continues to increase due to higher prices for construction materials, electricity, fuel, insurance, plant and equipment, contracted services, and employee costs.

Economic conditions have also contributed to increased operating costs. According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the Consumer Price Index increased by 4.6% over the 12 months to the March 2026 quarter, with many costs experienced by local governments increasing at an even greater rate. The City's average residential (General GRV) rates increase is 5.8%, which reflects rising operating costs and is comparable with other metropolitan local governments.

Council carefully considers the annual budget and aims to balance affordability with the need to provide quality services and invest in the community's future. The City also offers a range of payment options and assistance for ratepayers who may experience difficulty meeting their rates obligations.

Can I make a special payment arrangement with the City?

For 2026/27 the Administration fee for special payment arrangements remains at \$20 and includes interest of 11% that will accrue on the overdue balance until it is paid in full.

If you are unable to pay your rates instalments due to financial distress, you can also apply for a payment arrangement by direct debit.

Direct Debit to be paid by 24/02/2027 – weekly/fortnightly/ monthly (interest of 11% will accrue)

Can someone appeal the valuation of a property?

If you feel that the valuation applied on your property is incorrect, you may lodge an objection with Landgate Valuation Services, within 60 days of the issue of their rates notice. For more information, please ask them contact Landgate directly on (08) 9273 7373 or visit their website landgate.wa.gov.au

Landgate has further information on valuations for rating and taxing on their website.



Scan the QR code for more information

How are rates calculated?

Rates are calculated by multiplying a property's valuation by the rate in the dollar set by Council. The valuation for each property is determined by the Valuer General and is either a Gross Rental Value (GRV) or Unimproved Value (UV).

Gross Rental Value (GRV) is the fair annual rental value of your property and is an estimate of how much you could expect to receive if you were to rent your property.

Where the property is vacant land, an equivalent GRV, based on 3% of the property value, is used.

For properties situated in the City of Kalamunda, the Unimproved Value (UV) is the site value of the land. In general, this means the value of the land as if it were vacant with no improvements except for merged improvements. Merged improvements relate to improvements such as clearing, draining, and filling.

The valuations provided to the City for GRV properties are reviewed on a Tri-annual basis by Landgate. 2026/2027 is a revaluation year and Landgate has provided the City with new valuations, with the date of valuation being 1 August 2024. These valuations will be in force from 1 July 2026.

GRV values are reflective of the estimated rental yield per year of the property. Example of how rates are calculated:

A property that has the following:

Gross Rental Value = \$33,500
Rate in the Dollar = 0.053450 cents {GRV - General}
Annual Rates amount = \$33,500 x 0.053450
= \$1,790.58
(Minimum rates for this category are \$1,400. If the rates amount equalled \$1,400 or less, then this Minimum would be applied on the rates assessment)

Unimproved Value = \$475,000
Rate in the Dollar = 0.003270 cents (UV - General)
Annual Rates amount = \$475,000 x 0.003270
= \$1,553.25
(Minimum rates for this category are \$1,400. If the rates amount equalled \$1,400 or less, then this Minimum would be applied on the rates assessment)

Financial Hardship Rates Assistance information

The City of Kalamunda is offering rates assistance for those ratepayers who are experiencing financial hardship.

For payment of rates, the City is offering no penalty interest or administration fee to be applied on the rates account. In addition to this, an extension for payment of the rates outside of the payment options provided for on the rate notice will be provided for eligible ratepayers. The guidelines and application form are found on the City of Kalamunda's website on the Rates page, under the heading of the "Pay Your Rates" section and found under the "Payment Difficulties?" heading.

Applications open on 1 July 2026 and close on 30 June 2027.

What is the Emergency Services Levy (ESL)?

All property owners in Western Australia contribute to the fire and emergency services through the Emergency Services Levy (ESL).

Local Governments collect the levy on behalf of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES). All funds collected are forwarded directly to DFES, who then redistribute the money to emergency services throughout the State.

For further information on the Emergency Services Levy please contact DFES on 1300 136 099 or visit their website.

OUR CITY
OUR FUTURE

ALL KalaVisionaries Shape Future Council Plan

The City is working on the development of its Council Plan, and thanks to more than a thousand people ('KalaVisionaries') who shared their views during the consultation, the Plan is shaping up to be a true reflection of the priorities and aspirations of our community.

Over six weeks, the City invited feedback to inform the development of the Council Plan. 'Pop ups' at shopping centres and events, direct mail, posters and ads in the local paper ensured the opportunity to participate was shared across our community.

The future of the City of Kalamunda belongs to all of us. This consultation was an opportunity to help shape what our City looks like in 10 years' time – the places we protect, the opportunities we create and the kind of community we want to be.

The team is now busy reviewing the feedback and synthesising it with the themes identified in other major consultations such as the Local Planning Strategy.

Together this data will inform the development of a Draft Council Plan, which will then be advertised for comment before being finalised later this year.



ALL Community Guides City's Planning Direction

The City is taking a bold step forward in planning for the future, with Council endorsing the Directions for the Local Planning Strategy following extensive community input.

Approximately 1,000 contributions were received through surveys, workshops and targeted engagement with key groups.

This milestone completes Phase 1 of the review of the City's Local Planning Strategy and Scheme. The endorsed directions will shape the draft Strategy and set a long-term vision to guide sustainable growth, strengthen neighbourhoods and centres, protect natural and rural landscapes, and support a resilient local economy aligned with infrastructure.

Importantly, this phase captured community values to help shape the City's planning framework. A draft Local Planning Strategy is expected to be released for public feedback in early 2027. At the same time, work will begin on a new Local Planning Scheme, anticipated to be ready for community consultation in late 2027.

The Local Planning Strategy is just one way in which the City of Kalamunda's community is helping shape the future of our city. Check out Engage Kalamunda to learn more.

To view the full community engagement report, go to <https://engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/local-planning-strategy>.

Closing the gap on engagement

Community consultation processes have become more inclusive and culturally responsive. Engagement for the High Wycombe Hub and Local Planning Strategy saw Aboriginal participation increase significantly, from around three participants to between 12 and 23, reflecting stronger involvement from local residents and Traditional Owners supporting more culturally appropriate, place-based engagement.



Scan the QR code to keep up to date

PLACE TO SPACE

ALL Together, We Create Place

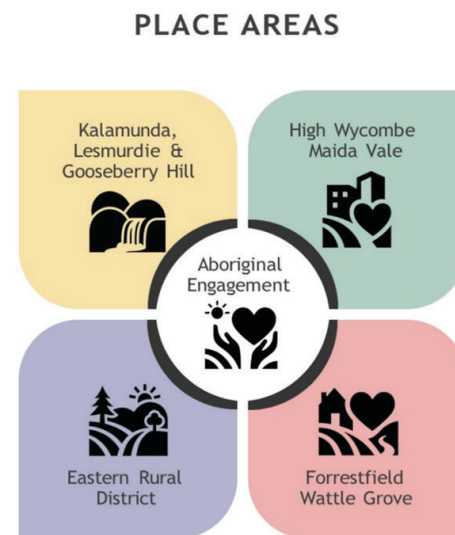
The City is embracing a fresh, community-led approach to shaping Kalamunda, one that puts people, connection and local character at the heart of everything we do.

Alongside this, we continue to deliver our core services in Aboriginal Engagement, Early Years, Youth, Health & Wellbeing, Seniors and Disability, supporting our community at every stage of life.

Placemaking is about bringing people together to create spaces that feel welcoming, meaningful and uniquely ours. It starts with listening, grows through collaboration, and comes to life through the people who use and care for these places every day.

Our mission is simple: to work alongside our community to create vibrant, inclusive places across Kalamunda, empowering people, building local pride, and creating lasting positive change.

We'd love you to be part of it.



NW Highlight: Goals for Fleming

Twelve-year-old Riley Hadfield had a simple idea and with support from the City's High Wycombe Place Team and the wider community, it's become a fantastic local success story.

Riley envisioned a space where kids and adults could enjoy a casual kick all year round. Through determination and community spirit, he gathered over 270 petition signatures, 190 impact statements, and strong support from local clubs, businesses and the City of Kalamunda.

This is a powerful example of what happens when young people and community come together, creating a space that brings families together, encourages active outdoor fun, and can be enjoyed all year round.

Testimonial: "I can't wait until I'm a grown-up, with my own kids, I'll drive past the goals and tell them 'I made that happen!'"



SE Highlight: Wattle Grove Community Dog Park

Wattle Grove is home to the City's first ever community led dog park, thanks to the passion and teamwork of local residents delivered in partnership with the City and the Town Team Movement.

The idea was sparked by residents Naomi, Sandy and Michael, who presented their vision to Council in March 2025 for a welcoming space where dogs can play and neighbours can connect. A Wattle Grove Town Team has now been formed to care for the park into the future and run events.

Testimonial: "One lady came up to me, and her dog is hearing impaired and she was so thankful for this area because it's a safe zone for her dog"



N Highlight: Legacy Lantern Ceremony

Held on 2 May 2026, the Legacy Lantern Ceremony is a gentle community event that brings people together to remember and honour loved ones who have died. It provides a safe and supportive space to acknowledge grief, celebrate lives, and reflect on the memories and connections that shape us.

Participants decorate lanterns with messages to those they have lost before lighting a candle and, at sunset, setting the lanterns afloat on Stirk Lake. A moment for families and friends to share a moving evening of remembrance, connection, and support.

The ceremony reminds us that grief reflects love, and that through community, no one has to carry their loss alone.



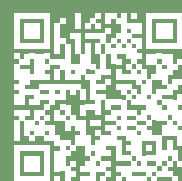
SW Highlight: Create Forrestfield

A passionate group of locals is working together to make Forrestfield an even better place to live, work and visit.

Driven by action and positivity, these locals don't wait for change – they create it, building a stronger, more connected community. Their focus is to beautify Forrestfield, bring people together, and give all ages and abilities a voice in shaping their neighbourhood.

Their first project brought colour and pride to the area with a vibrant rainbow path installed in a local park.

Testimonial:
"All the people who passed by on the day loved it."



Scan the QR code to keep up to date with Place

SE Highlight: Aboriginal Engagement

The City continues to strengthen its commitment to cultural heritage, protocols and meaningful engagement with Aboriginal communities.

Aboriginal Heritage Monitors have been engaged at Maamba Reserve to meet Section 18 requirements, with two local Traditional Owner businesses contracted to provide cultural oversight during project works. Local Traditional Owners have also been engaged to deliver Welcome to Country and smoking ceremonies, supporting culturally safe practices and building stronger relationships with Aboriginal residents across events and initiatives.

This collaborative approach is also evident in community-led events. The Foothills Fusion Festival was shaped by input from the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, highlighting a shared desire to celebrate culture alongside others in the Foothills' diverse community.



BUILDING OUR CITY

Updates in infrastructure, recreation, and local amenities, improving quality of life and future-proofing key community spaces.

SE Hartfield Park Stage 2

Hartfield Park Stage 2 continues to progress across a number of key sporting and community facilities, with works now advancing in both construction and transition phases.

The Tennis and Bowls projects are moving from design into build, while significant progress is also being made on the AFL and Little Athletics Pavilion, where stud wall framing and roof and wall cladding have been completed.

At the Rugby facilities, brickwork, door frames, plumbing, electrical works, rendering and floor preparation are continuing, with further internal and roofing works planned as part of the ongoing construction program.

Progress is also continuing on the Forrestfield United Football Club (FUFC) modular project, with framing and external components moving ahead in line with the program. With both FUFC modular project and Rugby league to be completed in July, the City is planning a joint opening event to celebrate the completion. Both projects will allow both codes to grow their respective sports, and create a more inclusive environment for all teams.



SE Ray Owen Oval Ready for Play!

The rejuvenated Ray Owen Oval is getting closer to being play-ready, with new turf and expanded facilities.

Home to Kalamunda Cougars Football Club and the Lesmurdie Cricket Club, Ray Owen Oval will become a multi-use space for local sport and the wider community. The oval is on track to be ready for play by Spring 2026.

The project is supported by a \$5 million investment through the WA Government's PlayOn WA program, helping deliver better community infrastructure across Western Australia, and funding from WA Football and the Western Australian Cricket Association.



NW Norm Sadler Pavilion

The Norm Sadler Pavilion is a vital community hub and proud home of the Kalamunda Rangers and Kalamunda City Football Club. Used year-round for baseball, cricket, football (soccer), tee-ball and softball, the upgraded pavilion supports the continued growth of local clubs.

The City of Kalamunda reconstructed and expanded the pavilion to improve accessibility, safety and comfort. Upgrades include new changerooms, toilets, a first aid room, improved social spaces, secure storage and an expanded viewing platform.

The project is supported by a \$2.4 million investment through the WA Government's PlayOn WA program, helping deliver better community infrastructure across Western Australia.



NW A Safer Intersection: Elizabeth Street & Railway Road Roundabout

The City of Kalamunda is on track to complete works at the Elizabeth Street and Railway Road intersection, with safety improvements now clearly visible. The new roundabout is operational, with central island kerbing in place to help slow traffic and reduce the risk of crashes.

Minor works, including the construction of mountable concrete aprons around the central island, form part of the project. These aprons help manage vehicle speeds while ensuring buses and trucks can move through the roundabout safely.

This project is supported by \$685,000 in funding through the Australian Government's Black Spot Program.



Did you know?

The City has also increased engagement with Aboriginal businesses through local procurement opportunities. Tier 1 contractors such as Roadline Civil Contractors have partnered with Equity Civil and Drainage to deliver local works, creating pathways for collaboration and employment.

NW City progressing Proposed High Wycombe Community Hub

The proposed Community Hub is planned as a major aquatic, recreation and community facility for the foothills. Located next to the High Wycombe train station, it will support a growing population and provide improved access to health, fitness and leisure opportunities.

In 2025, the City engaged with the community to take feedback on the project. There was strong participation from local residents through surveys, pop ups and workshops. Feedback gathered during this phase is now being used to inform the detailed design of the facility.

At the 26 May 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council resolved to commence the two-step tender process to shortlist and then select contractors for the High Wycombe Community Hub, including geothermal works, with a final decision to be made after tenders are reviewed.

The project also aims to support local employment during construction and operation. Further updates will be provided as the project progresses through design, approvals and procurement stages. Visit the project's Engage page for more information.

<https://engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/major-projects>

PROPOSED HIGH WYCOMBE

Community Hub Outcomes Report

Visit the Project's Engage page to download the full report

Scan the QR code for more info

SPORT AND RECREATION



Photo by Amy Winter

ALL The Community Funding Program continues to support the aspirations of local clubs, community groups, and rising sports stars.

The Community Funding Program has supported clubs and groups undertake training, playing, planning and growth. On the other hand, the Kalamunda Sports Star Funding helps young athletes cover travel costs to State and National competitions.

Delivered twice a year, the program champions grassroots growth and celebrates local talent—ensuring our community continues to thrive both on and off the field.

Mark your calendars for the next round of funding.

Community Funding Program

Round 1 | 2026/27

Opens: 1 September 2026

Closes: 31 October 2026

Kalamunda Sports Star Awards

Round 1 | 2026/27

Opens: 1 September 2026

Closes: 31 October 2026



Scan the QR code to find out more

For more information contact the Club Development team sport@kalamunda.wa.gov.au as conditions apply to all funding programs.

SW

What's on at Hartfield Park Recreation Centre?



Active Adults: Move more, Enjoy More

Building physical activity into your everyday life doesn't have to be difficult. Our program for mature adults over 50 offers a simple way to add activity to your day, with a range of classes and exercises to keep you moving, with a side of social benefits!



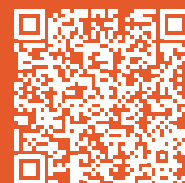
Get Sporty, Get Social!

Stay active, connect with others and have fun with our Social Sports sessions!

Suitable for all skill levels, enjoy Badminton, Pickleball, Squash, Table Tennis and mixed sports sessions while boosting your health and social life.



Scan this QR code for Active Seniors



Scan this QR code for Social Sports

COMMUNITY HUBS & SAFETY

ALL More than rules: meet the people behind the badges

Curiosity and connection filled High Wycombe Library as residents met the people who help keep our neighbourhoods safe and welcoming.

The City of Kalamunda's Ranger team hosted a "Meet the Rangers" community session, giving residents a rare behind the scenes look at their day to day work. Attendees asked thoughtful questions and learned about the wide range of responsibilities Rangers manage, from animal management and parking compliance to roadside safety and responding to complex community concerns.



Rangers shared how they make decisions in the field, balance competing priorities and work in challenging situations. The open discussion helped clear up common misconceptions and gave many residents a new appreciation for the role.

Following the positive response, the City is exploring more Meet the Rangers sessions across local libraries and community venues, strengthening connections between residents and the Community Safety team.

Supporting our community through bushfire

ALL

Fear and uncertainty swept through the community in the early hours of Wednesday 1 January 2026, when a bushfire ignited and spread rapidly through difficult terrain near Kalamunda, Maida Vale and surrounding suburbs.

The New Year's Day fire was a stark reminder of how quickly summer conditions can turn dangerous. The City of Kalamunda acted swiftly, working closely with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, the Department of Communities and other partners to support residents.

With roads closed and more than 2,000 properties without power, the City activated an evacuation centre at High Wycombe at 3:00am. The centre operated until 5:00pm the following day and hosted a community briefing with the Mayor and the DFES Incident Controller.

In the weeks that followed, more than 50 residents attended After the Fire: Community Check In.

To stay informed and prepared, visit the City's website for bushfire preparedness tips and sign up for emergency alerts. Being prepared helps protect you, your family and your community.



GREENING OUR CITY

Highlighting the City's commitment to sustainability, environmental education, and resilience against climate impacts.



ALL Plants for Residents: Happy homes for native plants

The annual Plants for Residents program continues to grow in popularity, with more than 10,000 native tube stock plants finding new homes at the City of Kalamunda's collection day at Woodlupine Community Centre on Saturday 6 June 2026.

The City once again partnered with nursery Trillion Trees to nurture the tube stock, ready for collection.

To make distribution fair and accessible, the City continued with a lottery-based expression of interest process, with nearly 2,000 residents applying during the EOI period held in April.

There were four themed plant packs to choose from, including Habitat, Biodiversity, Wildflower, or Urban Forest, all selected to encourage the creation of natural habitats in backyards and verges.

The program will return in 2027, so keep an eye on the City's website and Facebook page for updates in the new year.



ALL From food scraps to fresh produce for schools

Most people don't see what happens to their food scraps. Now, local students at Maida Vale Primary School are changing that.

The City of Kalamunda recently donated 20 bags of FOGO compost to the school, giving students the opportunity to see firsthand how organic waste can be turned into a valuable resource.

Students are using FoGo compost, made from household food and garden waste, to bring their school garden back to life. The project shows how everyday actions at home can turn into real results.

The school's garden will support learning across multiple year levels, helping students explore how living things grow and respond to their environment, while building an understanding of sustainability and environmental responsibility.

Students have already embraced the hands-on nature of the project, with one Year 5 student describing it as "really fun... especially getting our hands all dirty and gross."

The initiative highlights how small choices can support the environment while creating hands-on learning opportunities for young people.

From kitchen scraps to compost to a thriving garden, it's a simple idea with a powerful impact.

For more information about the City's FOGO program, including how to get involved, visit www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/fogo

ARTS & CULTURE

Connecting our community through events, arts & culture



ALL Stories spark imagination at Kalamunda Readers Festival

On a magical weekend in March, the City of Kalamunda was treated to literary inspiration and storytelling magic, when local authors came to the Perth Hills for the inaugural Kalamunda Readers Festival. Writers including Rachael Johns, Sara Foster, and Michael Trant sparked the imagination for our 776 adult attendees with their riveting panel discussions, author talks, and creative writing workshops. Kids weren't left out of the fun, with a special Children's Day celebration that taught 153 participants how to create comics, signed their favourite books, and hosted a very special storytime.

Hosting a large event like this is a wonderful way to promote literature and a love of reading. If you enjoyed this event, why not head along to your closest City of Kalamunda Library branch and see what other events and programs they have on? Head to our website or check out our Facebook page for more information

2026 Zig Zag Gallery program out now!

Scan QR code to view program.
kalamunda.wa.gov.au/gallery

ALL Zig Zag Gallery: Farmer Exhibition

The Peter Farmer Snr & Jnr exhibition drew strong visitation across December and January, showcasing a standout intergenerational collaboration at Zig Zag Gallery.

Titled Chirriger Kwilla – An Exploration of Noongar Totems, the exhibition brought together celebrated Noongar artist Peter Farmer Snr and his son Peter Farmer Jnr, presenting new works created especially for the show. Running from December 2025 to January 2026, the exhibition explored the artists' ancestral totems, including the Chirriger (Blue Wren), Kwilla (Great White Shark) and Kaarl (Fire), offering visitors a deeply personal insight into culture, identity and connection to Country.

The exhibition contributed to strong summer visitation, drawing locals and visitors into the Zig Zag Cultural Centre and supporting activity across the Kalamunda town centre.

Keep an eye on upcoming exhibitions and events at Zig Zag Gallery.

WINTER ELEVATED

JUNE TO AUGUST



EXPERIENCE
**PERTH
HILLS**
KALAMUNDA



**DISCOVER
KALAMUNDA
THIS WINTER**