

ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN AND BUDGET SUMMARY 26/27



MEANS
THE WORLD



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Each year, our Annual Business Plan and Budget is an opportunity to look at what our community needs now, while continuing to plan for the future of our City.

This year's adopted budget continues to invest in the services, places and infrastructure our community relies on every day, while supporting a City that is safer, greener, more connected and more welcoming.

We know rising costs are being felt by many households, and this has been front of mind throughout the budget process. Council has worked carefully to balance affordability with the need to maintain essential services, renew infrastructure and deliver projects that matter to our community.

After listening to community feedback throughout consultation and reviewing the latest financial information, Council adopted an average residential rate increase of 4.50%, plus 1.42% from new property growth. This is lower than the 5.11% proposed in the draft budget.

In 2026/27, we will continue to invest in roads, footpaths, stormwater, waste, libraries, parks and open spaces. We will also progress projects including the St Clair Community Precinct Facility, Chief Street streetscape upgrade, Woodville Town Hall upgrades and Community Renewables at sporting clubs, alongside support for local businesses, events, arts and culture.

Thank you to everyone who shared feedback during consultation. We look forward to delivering these projects and services, continuing to make our City a place where everyone feels welcome and connected.

Mayor Angela Evans

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A Evans".

PLACES THAT BRING US TOGETHER



The places we use every day help shape how connected we feel to our community — whether it's a main street, local shop, café, library, park or community space.

Through the 2026/27 Annual Business Plan and Budget, we are investing in projects that make these places safer, greener, more welcoming and easier to access.

From streetscape upgrades and local centre revitalisation to shopfront improvements and support for local businesses, these projects help create neighbourhoods where people can connect, participate and feel proud of where they live.

Projects like the Chief Street streetscape upgrade and local centre revitalisation work will help improve how people move through, use and experience these important local places.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Our City continues to grow and change, and we are investing in projects that support safer streets, greener places, local businesses, community spaces and better connections. The projects below highlight what we delivered or progressed in 2025/26, alongside key priorities planned for 2026/27.

What we achieved in 2025/26

\$550k – Gleneagles Reserve upgrade

Improving Gleneagles Reserve to support better stormwater management, open space and environmental outcomes.



\$5.3m – Renown Park Living Streets

Creating greener, safer and more connected streets through road renewal, stormwater upgrades, planting and pedestrian improvements.



\$595k – Improved records and workflow systems

Making it easier for staff to manage requests, share information and respond to community needs.



\$2.0m – Trimmer Parade stormwater upgrade

Upgrading stormwater infrastructure to help manage local flooding and better protect homes, streets and community assets.



\$50k – Events and festivals sponsorship

Helping bring local events and festivals to life across our City.



Our objectives for 2026/27

\$4.5m – Chief Street, Brompton streetscape upgrade

Delivering a safer, greener and more connected street between Port Road and Hawker Street.



\$4.4m – St Clair Community Precinct Facility

Creating a new community facility and additional car parking to support local sport and community use.



\$2.5m – Community Renewables at sporting clubs

Helping local sporting clubs become more sustainable through renewable energy upgrades.



\$1.7m – Woodville Town Hall upgrades

Improving sound, lighting and internal infrastructure to support performances, events and community use.



\$160k – Business Support Program

Supporting local businesses through programs that strengthen our local economy and vibrant places.



OUR COMMUNITY VISION

The Community Plan 2040 is our aspirational plan that sets the vision for our community and organisation. Every day, we work towards the five key pillars decided upon with the collective help of our community. These are:



**LOCAL
NEIGHBOURHOODS**



**VALUING
NATURE**



**VIBRANT
PLACES**



**CONNECTING
AND BELONGING**



**OUR TRANSFORMING
CITY**

SHARE YOUR STORY WITH US

What makes living in our City so special?

What do you enjoy?

Scan the QR Code to visit our Community Vision portal and share your stories.



FINANCES AT A GLANCE



Rates	\$156.8m
Statutory Charges	\$6.0m
User Charges	\$4.8m
Grants - Operating	\$8.3m
Grants - Capital	\$1.4m
Investment Income	\$0.1m
Reimbursements	\$0.4m
Other Income	\$0.1m
Borrowings	\$8.6m



Governance	\$5.8m
Corporate Services	\$23.4m
Customer Service and Communication	\$5.4m
Fleet Services	\$7.4m
Public Health and Safety	\$5.4m
Planning	\$7.6m
Libraries	\$6.8m
Community Services	\$3.5m
Urban Projects/Economic Development	\$3.1m
Engineering	\$38.7m
Open Space and Recreation	\$33.8m
Property Services	\$4.5m
Waste Management	\$20.7m
Water Business	\$1.7m
Environmental Management	\$3.6m
Asset Management	\$4.3m
Loan Servicing	\$2.0m

BUDGET SNAPSHOT



*4.50% is the average residential rate increase; other land use types average 5.11%.

Core Operating Services: Parks and Reserves, Roads and Pathways, Planning and Development, 5 Library Services and 7 Community Centres, Waste Services

Annual Operating Services: Business Support Programs, Greening Our City, Events and Festivals

Capital Works Projects: Roads and Path works, Sporting Club upgrades, Public and Street Lighting

RATE RELIEF OPTIONS

 Ratepayers experiencing financial hardship can call us to organise a payment arrangement specific to their financial circumstances.

 There is an automatic cap that limits rates increases to 12.5% for residential ratepayers (conditions apply).

 If you are rated vacant land for 2026/27 and you are building a home you intend to live in for at least 12 months from completion, you may be eligible for a Residential Construction Rebate. Applications must be received before 30 June 2027.

 Ratepayers who hold a seniors card may be eligible to postpone any amount in excess of \$500. Interest will accrue on postponed balances.

 Community organisations occupying land for health and community services, religious purposes and educational institutions may be eligible to a rebate varying from 25% to 100% and can apply online.

Rate relief may be subject to further criteria. Contact us on 8408 1111 to discuss your options or refer to charlessturt.sa.gov.au/raterelief for eligibility criteria and application forms.

RATES INFORMATION AND PAYMENTS

Rates can be paid in full by 1 September or in four quarterly instalments due 1 September, 1 December, 1 March and 1 June using a number of payment methods as outlined on the rates notice. Under the Local Government Act 1999, rates not paid by the due date are automatically charged fines and penalty interest. More information at charlessturt.sa.gov.au/rates

To help save on carbon emissions, you can opt to receive your rates notices digitally. For more information on how to get your notice via email, visit charlessturt.sa.gov.au/ezybill

Rates are a property tax where the amount each ratepayer contributes is based on their relative property values. The Council determines the cost of the services and infrastructure it will provide and then levies the amount of rates needed to

provide those services and infrastructure after allowing for other revenue sources.

To determine the rate in the dollar and amount each ratepayer contributes, Charles Sturt purchases valuations from Office of the Valuer-General. If you do not agree with their valuation of your property contact the Office of the Valuer-General within 60 days of receiving your annual rates notice by phone 1300 653 346 or email OVGObjections@sa.gov.au

The Regional Landscape levy is a State tax. Under the Landscape South Australia Act 2019, Councils are required to collect the levy on all rateable properties on behalf of the State Government. Enquiries should be directed to the Green Adelaide Board by phone 8463 3733 or at landscape.sa.gov.au