

# Related Documentation

## **Ordinary Meeting**

**Thursday, 26 March 2026**

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# Thriving Futures: Sunshine Coast Youth Plan 2026-31

Ordinary Meeting  
26 March 2026

# Snapshot

**50,000 young people,  
growing to 70,000 in 2041**



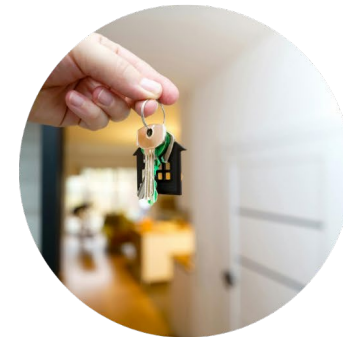
**Future leaders,  
and leaders now!**



**Values:  
Friends; Nature**



**Challenges:  
Liveability; Connections**



# Community Engagement

## Phase 1: Youth priorities

2 June - 15 July 2025 (6 weeks)

**Pop-up events**  
12 locations  
450 young people



**Youth Forum**  
85 young people  
14 schools



**Online Survey**  
582 young people

## Phase 2: Feedback on Draft Youth Plan

27 October - 24 November 2025 (4 weeks)

**Workshops**  
5 locations  
54 young people



**Online Survey**  
54 respondents  
34 young people



Up to **1,200**  
young people

# Young Leaders Academy Involvement

## Contribution of Youth Leaders 2025:

- Ensured the voices of young people were heard
- Provided engagement advice
- Co-created and co-facilitated the Youth Forum
- Engaged with young people at pop-up events

**Thank you!**



# Youth Plan



Theme 1

## We belong here

Things to do; Space to hang out;  
Connections; Mental health

6 actions



Theme 2

## We are valued

Representation; Recognition;  
Having a say

7 actions



Theme 3

## We have opportunities

Careers; Transport;  
Environment; Advocacy

5 actions

# Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- a) receive and note the report titled "Thriving Futures: Sunshine Coast Youth Plan 2026-31" and
- b) endorse the Thriving Futures: Sunshine Coast Youth Plan 2026-31 (Appendix A).



# Establishing a proposed Dark Sky Reserve

Ordinary Meeting  
26 March 2026  
Item 8.2





Sunshine Coast  
Environment and Liveability  
Strategy 2017-2041  
Part A: Strategic Directions  
2023 Refresh



*Recognising, protecting and celebrating our dark skies.*

# Strategic context



Map showing the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area and the proposed Sunshine Coast Dark Sky Reserve area. The reserve area is shaded in purple and includes locations such as Belli Park, Cooooloolabin, Kenilworth, Mapleton, Obi Obi, Flaxton, Montville, Witta, Maleny, Conondale, and Peachester. Surrounding local government areas include Gympie Regional Council, Noosa Shire Council, Somerset Regional Council, and Moreton Bay Regional Council. Other locations marked include Eumundi, Coolum Beach, Maroola, Maroochydore, Mooloolaba, Eudlo, Landsborough, Caloundra, and Glass House Mountains. The Bruce Highway and Blackall Range are also indicated.

Legend:  
■ Proposed Sunshine Coast Dark Sky Reserve  
□ Sunshine Coast Local Government Area

Credit: Dr Ken Wishaw

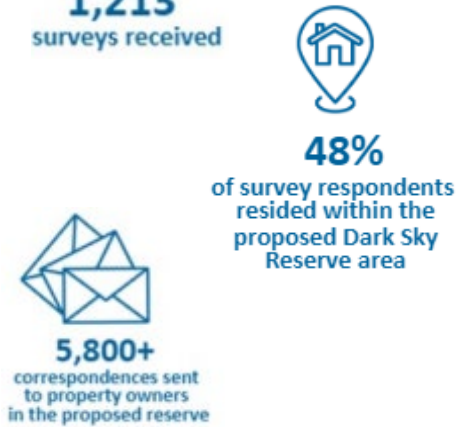
# Project status



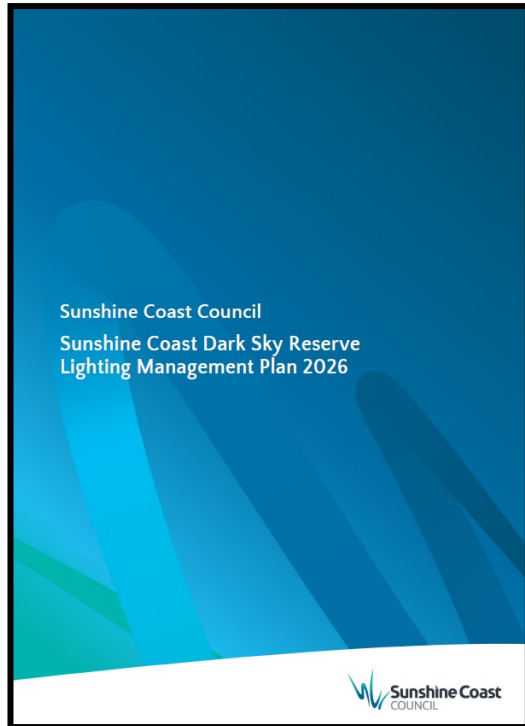
# Engagement outcomes

2024

2025



# Lighting Management Plan



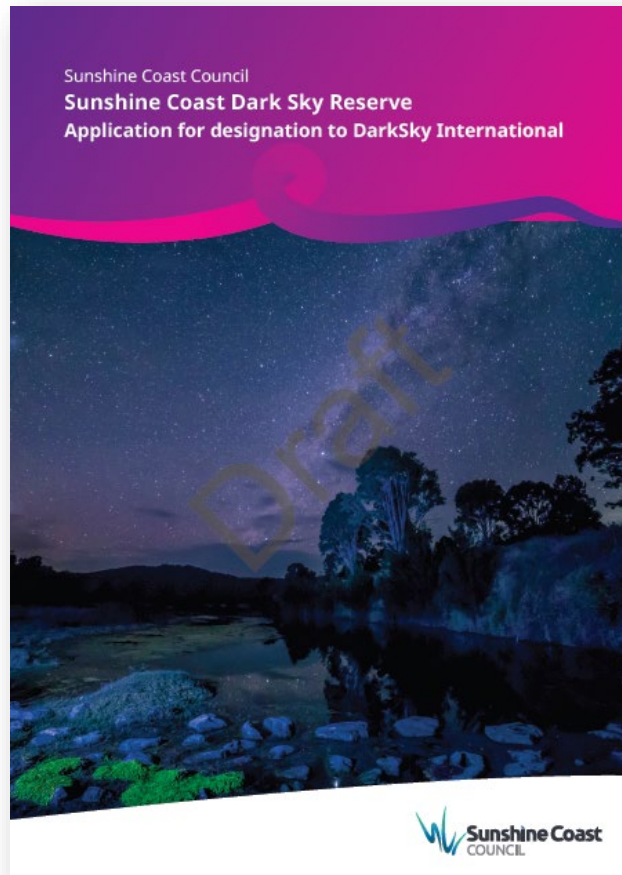
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Old



New



*To provide direction and shape the selection, placement, installation, and operation of outdoor lighting.*



# DarkSky

## INTERNATIONAL



*An evidence-based application.*

# Officer recommendation

## That Council:

- a) receive and note the report titled "Establishing a proposed Sunshine Coast Dark Sky Reserve"
- b) adopt the Sunshine Coast Dark Sky Reserve Lighting Management Plan 2026 (Appendix A)
- c) endorse the Sunshine Coast Dark Sky Reserve Application (Appendix B) for submission to DarkSky International
- d) delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to make minor changes to the Sunshine Coast Dark Sky Reserve Application to address any feedback received during the DarkSky International assessment process.

Thanks for your time



[sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au](http://sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au)

# 2025-26 BUDGET

February  
Financial Performance Report

Ordinary Meeting  
March 2026



# February 2026 Operating Result

- Council's operating result at the end of February 2026 is an operating surplus of \$168.3 million, which is \$5.2 million (3.2%) above year-to-date budget.
- The variance consists of:
  - Total Operating Revenue higher than budget ▲\$1.1 million (0.2%)
  - Total Operating Expenses lower than budget ▼\$4.1 million (0.9%)

# February 2026 Operating Result

## Major Revenue Variances

- Fees and Charges above year to date budget ▲ \$1.1 million
  - Holiday Parks \$544,000
  - Sports Venues \$249,000
  - Venue 114 \$265,000

# February 2026 Operating Result

## Major Expenditure Variances

- Employee costs below year to date budget ▼ \$768,000
- Core material and services below year to date budget ▼ \$3.2 million
  - Transport Assets & Operations Maintenance \$664,000
  - Digital & Information Services \$591,000
  - Electricity \$280,000
  - Balance \$1.7 million minor underspends across multiple business areas
- Levy Programs below budget ▼ \$1.3 million
  - Transport Levy \$619,000
  - Environment Levy \$423,000
- Loss on Disposal ▲ \$7.2 million variance relates to additional land parcels reclassified as road reserve and written off as assets.

# February 2026 Capital Program Result

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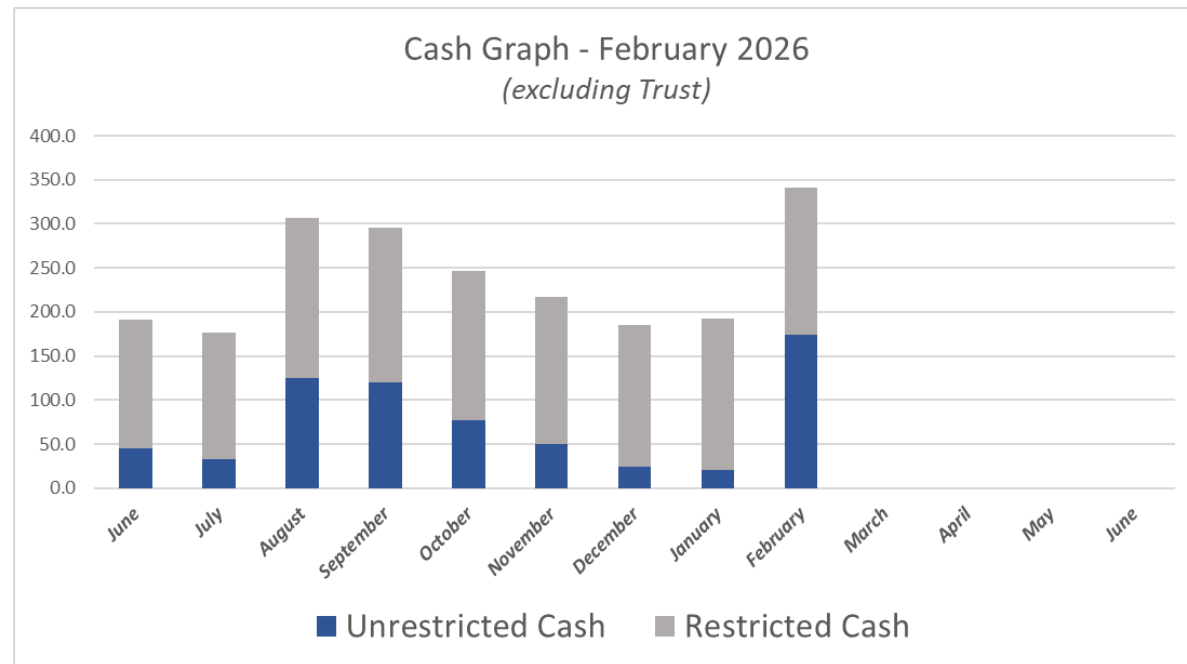
Capital Works Program has progressed 47.9%

- \$128.0 million of Council's total Capital Works Program has been financially expended which is \$4.9 million (3.7%) ▼ below year to date budget
- \$88.4 million of the Core Capital Works Program has been spent which is \$345,000 (0.4%) ▲ above year to date budget

# Cash Flows

## Council Cash

- Council's cash at 28 February  
\$341.1 million (*excluding Trust*)
- *Unrestricted cash \$173.9 million*
- *Restricted cash \$167.2 million*



# Debt

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## Council Debt

- Council's current debt at 28 February is \$413 million
  - Principal Repayment made February 2026 \$14.1 million
  - Planned New borrowings for 2025-26 are \$66.8 million

*Council's borrowing application has been submitted.*

# Investment Performance

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## Investments

- Council currently has 7 investments totalling \$80 million
- Term deposits mature between 90 and 364 days
- Weighted average interest rate return is 4.38%

# Financial Performance Report

## Savings Initiatives

The 2025-26 Savings Initiatives have been achieved, with the Executive continuing to identify further savings opportunities.

The targeted vacancy rate remains on track to be achieved by 30 June 2026

	Full Year Budget \$'000	YTD Budget \$'000	Achieved YTD \$'000	On Target
Vacancy Rate	7,536	4,729	4,729	✓
Employee Costs Savings Initiative	1,100	1,100	1,636	✓
Materials and Services Savings Initiative	4,400	4,194	4,194	✓
<i>TOTAL Savings Initiative</i>	<i>13,036</i>	<i>10,023</i>	<i>10,559</i>	

# Financial Performance Report

## Risk

The following key elements of the 2025-26 budget are based on management estimates and assumptions:

- Rates and charges revenue includes population and property growth forecasts
- Interest revenue and Finance costs includes interest rate forecasts
- Depreciation includes asset valuation, useful life and asset condition estimates and,
- Recurrent capital expenditure includes capitalisation estimates.

# Financial Performance Report

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## Officer Recommendation

That Council receive and note the report titled “February 2026 Financial Performance Report”

Thanks for your time



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