

9.11 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE 2026 - LATE ITEM

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: Nil

Voting Requirements: Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. ADOPT the CRC Ordinary Council Meetings for 2026 as follows:

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| • 19 February 2026 | City of Stirling | 6pm start |
| • 16 April 2026 | City of Stirling | 6pm start |
| • 18 June 2026 | City of Stirling | 6pm start |
| • 20 August 2026 | City of Stirling | 6pm start |
| • 15 October 2026 | City of Stirling | 6pm start |
| • 10 December 2026 | City of Stirling | 6pm start |

2. HOST CRC Strategic Project Advisory Meetings at 5:00pm prior to Ordinary Council Meetings noting that:

- The Advisory Meetings are not formal meetings of the CRC under the provisions of S5.8 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.
 - The intent/purpose of the Advisory Meetings is to:
 - Receive updates on key project matters including the development of special sites, land access and approval matters, land, and housing market conditions and/or other matters of relevance to the strategic direction of the CRC.
 - Workshop strategies/options related to land release, staging and development of the CRC land estate.
 - Review opportunities for innovation and best practice in line with the CRC's Strategic Community Plan Objectives of Built Environment, Natural Environment, Social Development, Economic Development and Governance and Corporate Accountability.
 - All CRC Councillors are invited to attend Advisory Meetings.
 - The CRC Strategic Project Advisory meetings will have no Delegated Authority to make any decision/s on behalf of the CRC Council.
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PURPOSE

To establish the schedule of meetings for Catalina Regional Council (CRC) for 2026.

POLICY REFERENCE

N/A

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT/REGULATION

S5.3 and 5.4 of the Local Government Act 1995 details how Council meetings may be established and the minimum frequency of Council meetings.

S5.8 of Local Government Act 1995: A local government may establish committees of three or more persons to assist the Council and to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the local government that can be delegated to committees.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Council Meeting - 17 December 2024 (Item 9.8 – Council Meeting Schedule 2025)
- Council Meeting - 7 December 2023 (Item 8.7 – Council Meeting Schedule 2024)

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

RISK REF: 2	RISK RATING:
Strategic - Stable and effective governance environment	Moderate
ACTION:	
SPG and CRC Executive provides reports/information to Council meetings.	

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil

BACKGROUND

In 2026 the CRC is scheduled to hold six (6) ordinary Council Meetings and six (6) Strategic Project Advisory Meetings.

In previous years the TPRC/CRC held Council meetings every second month with Management Committee meetings held in the month where Council meetings were not held. As the Management Committee meetings exercised little delegated authority and few formal, delegated decisions were made at the Committee meetings, they were replaced with Strategic Project Advisory Meetings. The Advisory Meetings were initiated as a way of having more informal interaction between Councillors, CRC Staff and key external agencies on strategic matters that are impacting the strategic and operational direction of the organisation. They are not formally gazetted meetings under the LG Act and no decisions of Council can (or have) been made at these sessions. Since their inception the Strategic Project Advisory Meetings have operated for 60-75 minutes per meeting.

The introduction of Strategic Project Advisory Meetings has also led to shorter Ordinary Council Meetings. The average length of the last six (6) Council meetings (October 2024 - August 2025) has been 24 minutes. Prior to instituting Strategic Project Advisory Meetings, it was not uncommon for meetings to go for +60 minutes with some lasting over 90 minutes.

It is recommended that the current practice of holding Council meetings and Strategic Project Advisory Meetings on the same day be retained.

DETAILS / DISCUSSION

The *Local Government Act* requires all Local Governments to hold Ordinary Meetings of Council not more than three months apart (S5.3(2)). Prior to the onset of COVID 19 and the subsequent State of Emergency declaration, CRC meetings were held every two months with the location of the meetings rotating amongst member Councils. More recently all in-person CRC meetings have been held at the City of Stirling Council Offices. CRC staff are recommending that in-person meetings continue to be held at the City of Stirling in lieu of rotating amongst member Councils. This is recommended due to the relative centrality of the City of Stirling amongst the members, the proximity of City of Stirling to the CRC offices, the fact that CRC has contractual arrangements with City of Stirling for IT support (which is useful/required at Council meetings) along with the statutory requirement to live stream CRC meetings.

In relation to meeting frequency, given:

- (a) The short duration of Ordinary Council Meetings;
- (b) The administrative time/effort required to prepare for meetings;
- (c) Councillors travel time and other time commitments; and
- (d) The fact that the Project is in the 'winding down' phase and hence has fewer strategic and contentious issues;

it has been appropriate to host Ordinary Council Meetings and Strategic Project Advisory Meetings on the same date.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that the Council meeting schedule for 2026 be adopted and Council Meetings and Strategic Project Advisory Meetings continue to be held on the same day.