SHIRE OF HARVEY

Ordinary Council Meeting

Addendum to Item: 12.1.3 – Assessment of Temporary Council Meeting Venues in Australind

Harvey Council Chamber
Tuesday, 24 November 2026
4PM

Item No.:	**12.1.3.**
Subject:	**Assessment of Temporary Council Meeting Venues in Australind**
Proponent:	**Shire of Harvey**
Location:	**Shire of Harvey**
Reporting Officer:	**Manager Governance and Strategy**
Authorising Officer:	**Chief Executive Officer**
File No.:	**F/08/00025**
Attachments:	**Nil**

The following additional information is provided in regard to Item 12.1.3

Concerns about the overall establishment cost and potential disruption to the School Holiday Program prompted further consideration of whether a more economical and practical arrangement was available. The Chief Executive Officer and Executive Team therefore inspected the Leschenault Recreation Park Pavilion (The Pavilion) on 23 November 2026.

The inspection identified a meeting room that can be separated from the main area to accommodate confidential proceedings when Council resolves to close a meeting. Existing desks, chairs, a projector and screen were considered suitable for conducting meetings, reducing the need for additional furniture and fit-out.

These findings address the earlier concerns about confidential proceedings and the provision of suitable furniture and presentation facilities. Remaining matters identified in the original assessment, including accessibility, acoustics, connectivity, storage, venue charges and setup and staffing requirements, will be confirmed in the December report.

The Chief Executive Officer also discussed availability with the President of the Leschenault Sporting Association (LSA). The LSA President expressed willingness to work with Council and accommodate the required meeting dates and times. Formal booking terms and operational arrangements remain to be confirmed.

Using the Pavilion would support a local community organisation and strengthen its relationship with the Shire. Holding Council meetings at the facility may also attract additional visitors and increase community awareness of the Pavilion and its activities.

The additional equipment required for livestreaming, recording and other meeting functions is preliminarily estimated at less than $50,000. The original equipment proposal included purchasing equipment intended for subsequent use in the new Australind Council Chamber. The revised approach focuses on the immediate requirements of a temporary venue and uses existing facilities wherever practicable.

The proposed solution will provide audiovisual livestreaming and recording of open proceedings, together with confidential audio recording of closed proceedings. Final specifications and testing will confirm compliance with the Local Government Act 1995, the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 and Council's recording policy.

The equipment estimate is not a confirmed total project cost. Final equipment and installation costs, venue charges, staffing requirements and ongoing operating costs will be presented to Council in December 2026, together with proposed funding. The previous recommendation of the establishment of the Rutherford Room in the LLC is no longer recommended.

Further information has also clarified the implications of relocating the School Holiday Program. The Program operates as a regulated education and care service. Its approved premises include the Rutherford and Sawyer Rooms, together with the separate entrance, toilets and storage areas.

The program is heavily utilised during school holidays and supports working parents and carers. Officers advise that relocation would require regulatory assessment and approval, together with any necessary

modifications to alternative premises. Using the Pavilion would allow this important service to continue within its existing approved premises, avoiding the potential costs and disruption of relocation.
The Chief Executive Officer discussed possible exemptions with the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety. These conversations were held with the view of reducing any unnecessary costs while still providing a venue in Australind. Having considered that discussion, the Department's guidelines and the Shire's governance advice, officers consider that an exemption application would be unlikely to satisfy the relevant criteria.

The inspection and revised equipment estimate have identified a more economical way to meet the applicable livestreaming and recording requirements through a basic, compliant system. A Ministerial exemption is therefore no longer proposed.

Revised officer recommendation

That Council:

1. Receives the report and additional information in relation to the investigation of alternate meeting venues and endorses the Leschenault Recreation Park Pavilion as the preferred temporary Council meeting venue, subject to confirmation of costs, funding and operational arrangements.

2. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to work with the Leschenault Sporting Association to finalise venue booking arrangements to ensure livestreaming and recording requirements are met.

3. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report to the December 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting outlining confirmed costs, implementation arrangements, any necessary policy or previous resolution changes, and a revised 2027 meeting schedule.