



GEELONG  
REGIONAL  
LIBRARIES



**BUDGET 2025-2026**  
**STRATEGIC RESOURCE PLAN 2025-2029**  
**DRAFT MAY 2025**



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# 1 INTRODUCTION

Geelong Regional Library Corporation (GRLC) was created in March 1997 in accordance with sections 196 and 197 of the *Local Government Act 1989*. The Corporation provides library services to all residents of the Borough of Queenscliffe, City of Greater Geelong, Colac Otway Shire, Golden Plains Shire and Surf Coast Shire. The network covers an area of almost 9,000 square kilometres, with 20 libraries located at Apollo Bay, Armstrong Creek, Bannockburn, Barwon Heads, Belmont, Chilwell, Colac, Corio, Boronggook Drysdale, Geelong, Geelong West, Highton, Lara, Leopold, Newcomb, Ocean Grove, Queenscliff, Torquay, Waurn Ponds and Western Heights College. There are three mobile libraries, a Home Library Service and an inter library loans service.

GRLC's annual recurrent income is comprised as follows:

	ACTUAL 2023-24 \$	BUDGET 2024-25 \$	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	Change \$ Increase/ (Decrease)	Change % Increase/ - Decrease	% of 2025-26 Income	Comments
Member Council contributions	14,883,092	16,724,019	17,153,961	429,942	2.6%	84.7%	Based on a 3% increase across Member Councils, excluding City of Greater Geelong with a 2.5% increase.
State Government Grant - Public Libraries Funding Program	2,374,220	2,374,220	2,374,220	-	0.0%	11.7%	No increase in PLFP funding is anticipated for 2025-2026.
User fees	346,972	323,276	375,615	52,339	16.2%	1.9%	Comprises 50% venue hire income and 50% library income.
Interest and other income	514,690	243,800	350,732	106,932	43.9%	1.7%	Includes \$258.0k interest income on cash and term deposits.
<b>Total recurrent income</b>	<b>18,118,975</b>	<b>19,665,315</b>	<b>20,254,528</b>	<b>589,213</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	



The Library Service is funded by Member Councils, the State Government and its own operations:

- Member Council contributions: 84.7% (2024-25: 85.0%)
- State Government Grant – Public Libraries Funding Program: 11.7% (2024-25: 12.1%)
- Fees & Charges: 2.3% (2024-25: 1.6%)
- Interest & Sundry Income: 1.3% (2024-25: 1.3%)

The Library Service is mindful of the cost pressures on Member Councils, with a rate cap this coming financial year of 3%. We are continually reassessing processes to ensure that value is being achieved.

Visitation to our libraries and access to our collections, programs and services continues to grow across the region as we work with our member Councils and partners to deliver community benefit.

- 32% or 120,111 people are library members from a total population of 381,432 across the five Member Councils at 31 March 2025;
- Over the last 12 months (to 31 March 2025) there has been:
  - 1.44 million visits to 20 libraries and 3 mobile libraries
  - over 1.4 million website and catalogue visits;
  - 2.4 million loans of collection items
  - 528,847 loans of e-Collection items
  - 9,219 programs and events, attracting over 155,000 participants

**120K**  
library members

**1.4M+**  
visits to libraries

**155K**  
events & programs  
attendees



## 2 LINK TO THE LIBRARY PLAN

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### 2.1 Library Plan

GRLC is currently developing a new Library Plan, to commence in the 2025-26 financial year. This Budget has been developed with this in mind and no revisions are expected. GRLC will continue to revise the four-year strategic resource plan with each annual budget.

Until the next Library Plan is adopted, The Library Plan 2021-25 *Connecting and Thriving* will continue to be the primary strategic document of GRLC. This Plan contains 61 actions. As at 30 June 2024, 84% of the actions were completed, with a further 10% partially completed and the remaining 6% on track for completion.

#### SUMMARY OF THE LIBRARY PLAN 2021-2025:

##### PURPOSE

A thriving public library service that boosts our communities' health, prosperity, connectedness and belonging. The Plan is built around four interconnected pillars: Community, Places and Spaces, Our People and Regional Leadership. These pillars aim to strengthen and expand what we already do so well as a leading public library service – providing spaces, tools and know-how to help our communities to connect and thrive.

##### FOUR PILLARS

#### 1. Community

Geelong Regional Libraries is an innovative partner. We are addressing local needs with local solutions. You see us out and about in the region, focusing on vulnerable and hard to reach communities.

#### 2. Places and Spaces

Our spaces are adaptable and democratic; uplifting and sustainable.

#### 3. Our People

Our team is curious, caring and skilled. We exhibit a spirit of experimentation that matches transformative times.

#### 4. Regional Leadership

Geelong Regional Libraries is known for leading regional recovery. We use our core strength for community good.

## 2.2 Planning and Accountability Framework

### BUDGET PROCESSES

The preparation of the Budget begins with library officers preparing the Annual Budget in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* and submitting the Draft Budget to the Board for approval in principle.

GRLC is then required to give public notice that it intends to adopt the Budget. It must give at least 28 days' notice of its intention to adopt the proposed Budget and make the Budget available for inspection at its Offices. A person has a right to make a submission on any proposal contained in the Budget and any submission must be considered before adoption of the Budget by the Board.

The Budget is required to be adopted by the Board by 30 June and a copy submitted to the Minister for Local Government within 28 days of adoption each year. The key dates for the budget process are summarised below:

Action	Description	Date
1	Preliminary Budget presentation at Board Meeting	27 February 2025
2	Proposed Budget submitted to the Board for approval	1 May 2025
4	Public notice advising intention to adopt Budget	2 May 2025
5	Budget available for public inspection and comment for at least 28 days	2 May to 30 May 2025
6	Meeting to consider public submissions (if required)	12 June 2025
7	Budget and submissions presented to the Board for adoption (subject to final adopted Budgets of Member Councils)	26 June 2025
8	Copy of Adopted Budget submitted to the Minister for Local Government within 28 days of adoption	By 24 July 2025

## LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Under the *Local Government Act 1989*, GRLC is required to prepare and adopt an Annual Budget for each financial year. The Budget is required to disclose the fees and charges that GRLC intends to levy as well as a range of other information required by the *Local Government (Finance and Reporting) Regulations 2014* which support the Act. The 2025-26 Budget, which is included in this report, is for the year 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 and is prepared in accordance with the Act and Regulations.

This Budget document incorporates the Strategic Resource Plan (SRP) for the 3 years to 2028-29. In preparing the SRP, the GRLC has complied with the following principles of sound financial management as contained in the Act:

- Prudently manage financial risks relating to debt, assets and liabilities;
- Consider the financial effects of the library service's decisions on future generations; and,
- Provide full, accurate and timely disclosure of financial information.

## 2.3 Budget Influences

In preparing the Budget a number of overarching budget principles are followed and budget assumptions are made about the internal and external environment within which the library service operates. Known factors and influences which are likely to impact significantly on the services delivered in the budget period are also taken into consideration. These include:

- The Victorian State Government rate cap is 3% for the 2025-26 financial year (2024-25: 2.75%)
- Funding from the State Government public library recurrent grant has remained unchanged since July 2019. This funding has not kept pace with GRLC's expanding network and the increase in employee costs over that time.

## 2.4 Budget Principles

The following principles have been incorporated in the 2025-26 Budget:

### SERVICE LEVELS

- Library services are not significantly changed for the member councils providing a 3% increase to member contribution (except City of Greater Geelong).
- The City of Greater Geelong (CoGG) draft budget provides for a 2.5% or \$358K increase to their member contribution.

## BUDGET PARAMETERS

- Achieving a recurrent surplus (prior to depreciation) that is sufficient to maintain a financially sustainable capital expenditure program.
- Maintaining an acceptable level of cash reserves at the end of each year to cover anticipated employee leave commitments and asset renewal.
- Expenditure Budget has been thoroughly reviewed and is considered realistic and achievable.
- Set income budgets that are realistic and continue the achievement of the Library Plan.
- Costs are distributed to Member Councils in accordance with the Library Agreement between the five Member Councils.

## 2.5 Budget and Strategic Resource Plan Assumptions

### INCOME

- Member Council contributions for 2025-26 reflect an overall increase of 3%, which is equal to the rate cap for the year. The exception to this is the contribution from the City of Greater Geelong which has been budgeted at 2.5%. The SRP assumes member contribution increases in future years of 3%.
- State Government Grants - Public Libraries Funding Program grants to Member Councils are estimated to be the same as 2024-25. The Department of Government Services will confirm these grants in mid-late 2025. The SRP assumes State Government Grants increases in future years by 3% (commencing 2026-27).
- Interest income for 2025-26 is estimated at \$257,982, lower in future years as term deposit rates may decrease.
- User Fees & Charges – increase from the prior year Budget is primarily driven by increased volume (printing, bookings)
- Sundry Income – some grants are expected to continue in 2025-26.
- The 2024-25 confirmed level of capital grants for collections of \$66,417 is assumed to continue in each year of this SRP. If these grants do not continue, the capital expenditure on collections will be adjusted accordingly.

### SALARIES

The current Enterprise Agreement Number 9 2024 (EA) commenced on 4 March 2025.

The legislated rate of superannuation will increase from 11.5% to 12.0% from 1 July 2025. This increased the budgeted expense by \$64.6k.

The Workcover insurance premium rose by 58% in 2023-24 and a further 15% in 2024-25. The 2025-26 Draft Budget assumes a further increase of 14%.

Also included in salaries are banding increment increases for eligible employees and Fringe Benefits Tax. There will be expense reductions due to flexible work arrangements and the end of some fixed term contracts.

The overall result is an increase in salary costs of 2.1% for 2025-26 when compared to the 2024-25 Adopted Budget.

The SRP assumes an increase in salary cost of 2.5% for each year from 2026-27 onwards. This assumes that Geelong Regional Libraries achieves efficiency of 0.5% per year (to achieve an overall 2.5% cost increase despite 3% enterprise agreement rate increases).

### OTHER EXPENDITURE

- Specific expenditure line items relating to existing contracts such as courier services and digital communications agreements are based on known costs.
- Depreciation costs are estimated to be 2.2% lower than the 2023-24 actual result, as discussed in sections 4.1.7 'Depreciation' and 4.5 'Financial Resources'.



## BALANCE SHEET

The 2025-26 budgeted balance sheet is based on the most recently completed financial year (2023-24), and the current projection of the 2024-25 balance sheet. This will enable the budgeted balance sheet to more closely reflect the expected actual balance sheet at 30 June 2026. The calculation is as follows:

### **Actual 2023-24 Balance Sheet**

- + Projected 2024-25 Income Statement & Capital Expenditure**
- + Budgeted 2025-26 Income Statement & Capital Expenditure**
- = Budgeted 2025-26 Balance Sheet**

The result is a gradually decreasing net asset value over the four years of the SRP, which is mainly due to a continuing (although improving each year to a surplus in the final year) net deficit after depreciation.

## CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

- Capital expenditure allows for an annual increase of 3% in Collections spending across the four years of the SRP;
- Computer and Communications investment is \$250,000 per year. Geelong Regional Libraries provide over 500 PC/laptop devices (for employee and public use) along with various other IT assets (such as printers, laser cutter, 3D printer).

Fixtures, furniture and fittings annual expenditure of \$175,000; this is for the ongoing renewal and replacement of the assets across the 20 libraries and 3 mobile libraries.



## 3 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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This section presents information in regards to the Financial Statements and Statement of Human Resources. The Budget information for the year 2024-25 incorporates the Strategic Resource Plan for the three years ending 30 June 2028.

This section includes the following financial statements prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* and the Local Government Model Financial Report:

- Comprehensive Income Statement
- Balance Sheet
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Statement of Capital Works
- Statement of Human Resources

### 3.1 COMPREHENSIVE INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE FOUR YEARS ENDING 30 JUNE 2029

	NOTES	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	PLAN 2026-27 \$	PLAN 2027-28 \$	PLAN 2028-29 \$
<b>Income</b>					
Member Council contributions	4.1.1	17,163,961	17,678,580	18,208,637	18,754,596
Grants - State Government	4.1.2	2,430,637	2,503,556	2,578,663	2,656,023
User fees	4.1.3	375,615	386,884	398,490	410,445
Other income	4.1.4	350,732	321,826	298,918	278,302
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>4.1.1</b>	<b>20,320,945</b>	<b>20,890,846</b>	<b>21,484,708</b>	<b>22,099,365</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Employee costs	4.1.5	15,559,336	15,948,319	16,347,027	16,755,703
Materials & services	4.1.6	2,871,283	2,943,065	3,016,642	3,092,058
Depreciation	4.1.7	1,821,377	1,821,377	1,821,377	1,821,377
Book value of items written off	4.1.7	242,193	242,193	242,193	242,193
Amortisation - intangible assets	4.1.8	18,081	43,081	43,081	43,081
Depreciation - right of use assets	4.1.9	84,853	84,853	84,853	84,853
Finance costs - leases		1,345	1,345	1,345	1,345
Other expenses	4.1.10	31,000	33,000	35,000	37,000
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>20,629,468</b>	<b>21,117,233</b>	<b>21,591,518</b>	<b>22,077,610</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>					
		<b>(308,522)</b>	<b>(226,388)</b>	<b>(106,810)</b>	<b>21,755</b>

## 3.2 BALANCE SHEET FOR THE FOUR YEARS ENDING 30 JUNE 2029

	NOTES	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	PLAN 2026-27 \$	PLAN 2027-28 \$	PLAN 2028-29 \$
<b>Current assets</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	4.3	1,970,806	1,811,124	1,723,048	1,714,122
Trade and other receivables		2,873	2,873	2,873	2,873
Other financial assets		2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Inventory		28,563	28,563	28,563	28,563
Prepayments		192,709	192,709	192,709	192,709
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>4,194,951</b>	<b>4,035,269</b>	<b>3,947,193</b>	<b>3,938,267</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>					
Property, plant & equipment		10,402,730	10,369,302	10,383,848	10,447,809
Right-of-use assets - Property		465,827	379,628	293,430	207,232
Intangible assets		378,495	335,414	292,333	249,252
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>11,247,051</b>	<b>11,084,344</b>	<b>10,969,611</b>	<b>10,904,292</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	4.2.1	<b>15,442,002</b>	<b>15,119,614</b>	<b>14,916,805</b>	<b>14,842,559</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>					
Trade and other payables		111,173	111,173	111,173	111,173
Provisions		2,163,254	2,163,254	2,163,254	2,163,254
Lease liabilities - Property		88,571	88,571	88,571	88,571
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>2,362,998</b>	<b>2,362,998</b>	<b>2,362,998</b>	<b>2,362,998</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>					
Provisions		151,341	151,341	151,341	151,341
Lease liabilities - Property		377,255	281,255	185,255	89,255
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>528,596</b>	<b>432,596</b>	<b>336,596</b>	<b>240,596</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	4.2.2	<b>2,891,594</b>	<b>2,795,594</b>	<b>2,699,594</b>	<b>2,603,594</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>12,550,408</b>	<b>12,324,019</b>	<b>12,217,210</b>	<b>12,238,965</b>
<b>Equity</b>					
Members contribution		3,886,011	3,886,011	3,886,011	3,886,011
Accumulated surplus		8,664,398	8,438,010	8,331,200	8,352,955
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>12,550,409</b>	<b>12,324,021</b>	<b>12,217,211</b>	<b>12,238,966</b>

### 3.3 STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE FOUR YEARS ENDING 30 JUNE 2029

	NOTES	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	PLAN 2026-27 \$	PLAN 2027-28 \$	PLAN 2028-29 \$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Member Council contributions		17,407,900	17,929,837	18,467,432	19,021,155
User fees		413,177	425,572	438,339	451,489
Grants - operating		2,430,637	2,503,556	2,578,663	2,656,023
Interest received		257,982	229,076	206,168	185,552
Other income		102,025	102,025	102,025	102,025
Employee costs		(15,559,336)	(15,948,319)	(16,347,027)	(16,755,703)
Materials & services		(3,158,412)	(3,237,372)	(3,318,306)	(3,401,264)
Other payments		(34,100)	(36,300)	(38,500)	(40,700)
Net gst refund / (payment)		197,809	201,400	205,057	208,780
<b>Net cash flows provided by/used in operating activities</b>	4.3.1	<b>2,057,682</b>	<b>2,169,475</b>	<b>2,293,852</b>	<b>2,427,357</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>					
Payments for/proceeds from investments		-	-	-	-
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(2,181,922)	(2,233,157)	(2,285,928)	(2,340,283)
Payments for intangible assets		(250,000)	-	-	-
<b>Net cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities</b>	4.3.2	<b>(2,431,922)</b>	<b>(2,233,157)</b>	<b>(2,285,928)</b>	<b>(2,340,283)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>					
Interest paid - lease liability		(1,345)	(1,345)	(1,345)	(1,345)
Repayment of lease liability		(94,655)	(94,655)	(94,655)	(94,655)
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities</b>	4.3.3	<b>(96,000)</b>	<b>(96,000)</b>	<b>(96,000)</b>	<b>(96,000)</b>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash &amp; cash equivalents</b>		<b>(470,240)</b>	<b>(159,682)</b>	<b>(88,076)</b>	<b>(8,926)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		2,441,046	1,970,806	1,811,124	1,723,048
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>		<b>1,970,806</b>	<b>1,811,124</b>	<b>1,723,048</b>	<b>1,714,122</b>
Other financial assets		2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
<b>TOTAL CASH AND TERM DEPOSITS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>		<b>3,970,806</b>	<b>3,811,124</b>	<b>3,723,048</b>	<b>3,714,122</b>



### 3.4 STATEMENT OF CAPITAL WORKS FOR THE FOUR YEARS ENDING 30 JUNE 2029

	NOTES	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	PLAN 2026-27 \$	PLAN 2027-28 \$	PLAN 2028-29 \$
Lending collection		1,552,565	1,599,142	1,647,117	1,696,530
Computers and telecommunications		250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Fixtures, fittings and furniture		175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000
Plant, machinery and equipment		6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</b>	4.4	<b>1,983,565</b>	<b>2,030,142</b>	<b>2,078,117</b>	<b>2,127,530</b>
<b>Represented By:</b>					
New asset expenditure		-	-	-	-
Asset renewal expenditure		1,983,565	2,030,142	2,078,117	2,127,530
Asset upgrade expenditure		-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</b>	4.4	<b>1,983,565</b>	<b>2,030,142</b>	<b>2,078,117</b>	<b>2,127,530</b>
<b>Funding Sources:</b>					
Grants		56,417	56,417	56,417	56,417
GRLC cash		1,927,148	1,973,725	2,021,700	2,071,113
<b>TOTAL FUNDING SOURCES</b>	4.4	<b>1,983,565</b>	<b>2,030,142</b>	<b>2,078,117</b>	<b>2,127,530</b>

### 3.5 STATEMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES FOR THE FOUR YEARS ENDING 30 JUNE 2029

	NOTES	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	PLAN 2026-27 \$	PLAN 2027-28 \$	PLAN 2028-29 \$
<b>Staff expenditure</b>					
Employee costs - operating		15,559,336	15,948,319	16,347,027	16,755,703
Employee costs - capital		43,923	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL STAFF EXPENDITURE</b>	4.1.5	<b>15,603,258</b>	<b>15,948,319</b>	<b>16,347,027</b>	<b>16,755,703</b>
<b>Staff numbers</b>		<b>FTE</b>	<b>FTE</b>	<b>FTE</b>	<b>FTE</b>
Library & Heritage Services		145.7	145.0	144.3	143.6
<b>TOTAL FTE AT 30 JUNE</b>	4.1.5	<b>145.7</b>	<b>145.0</b>	<b>144.3</b>	<b>143.6</b>

## 4 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This section presents detailed information on material components of the financial statements.

### 4.1 Comprehensive Income Statement

#### 4.1.1 MEMBER COUNCIL CONTRIBUTIONS

According to the Library Agreement between the five Member Councils, the direct costs of each service point and mobile service are borne by the Member Councils in whose municipal district the service is delivered. Indirect costs – i.e. regional costs – are apportioned across the councils.

MEMBER COUNCIL CONTRIBUTION	ACTUAL 2023-24 \$	BUDGET 2024-25 \$	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	2024-25 to 2025-26 \$ Increase/ (Decrease)	2024-25 to 2025-26 % Increase/ -Decrease
Golden Plains Shire	434,899	446,859	460,265	13,406	3.00%
City of Greater Geelong	12,600,000	14,338,025	14,696,875	358,850	2.50%
City of Greater Geelong – Western Heights Library recurrent	17,180	17,653	17,695	42	0.24%
Borough of Queenscliffe	230,361	236,696	243,797	7,101	3.00%
Surf Coast Shire	764,557	825,698	850,469	24,771	3.00%
Colac Otway Shire	836,095	859,088	884,861	25,773	3.00%
<b>Member Council Contributions - Annual Operating Allocations</b>	<b>14,883,092</b>	<b>16,724,019</b>	<b>17,153,961</b>	<b>429,942</b>	<b>2.57%</b>
City of Greater Geelong – Western Heights Library capital	10,000	10,000	10,000	-	0.00%
City of Greater Geelong – Armstrong Creek Collection	-	120,000	-	(120,000)	-100.00%
Golden Plains Shire - new Mobile Library vehicle expenses	4,602	-	-	-	0.00%
<b>TOTAL MEMBER COUNCIL CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>14,897,695</b>	<b>16,854,019</b>	<b>17,163,961</b>	<b>309,942</b>	<b>1.84%</b>

MEMBER COUNCIL CONTRIBUTION	RECURRENT	CAPITAL	TOTAL
Golden Plains Shire	460,265	-	460,265
City of Greater Geelong	14,714,570	10,000	14,724,570
Borough of Queenscliffe	243,797	-	243,797
Surf Coast Shire	850,469	-	850,469
Colac Otway Shire	884,861	-	884,861
<b>TOTAL MEMBER COUNCIL CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>17,153,961</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>17,163,961</b>

The increase in Member Council contributions has been set in line with the 3% rate cap for 2025-26. While this increase is less than the rate of increase of many of GRLC's expenses (such as wage rate increase of 3.5% when allowing for the 0.5% Superannuation Guarantee increase), GRLC is committed to finding efficiencies to continue to deliver services and programs.

The exception to the 3% uplift is the City of Greater Geelong contribution that is a 2.5% increase in line with their rate increase. In 2025/26, GRLC is planning to deliver over 5,000 programs across the City of Greater Geelong in our libraries and through outreach. While the 0.5% difference in contribution growth will result in around four less programs per week, we anticipate continued growth in attendance across our programs in the City of Greater Geelong.

#### 4.1.2 GRANTS – STATE GOVERNMENT

STATE GOVERNMENT GRANT PER MEMBER COUNCIL	ACTUAL 2023-24 \$	BUDGET 2024-25 \$	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	2024-25 to 2025-26 \$ Increase/ (Decrease)	2024-25 to 2025-26 % Increase/ -Decrease
Golden Plains Shire	210,060	210,060	210,060	-	0.0%
City of Greater Geelong	1,613,050	1,613,050	1,613,050	-	0.0%
Borough of Queenscliffe	80,579	80,580	80,580	-	0.0%
Surf Coast Shire	261,327	261,327	261,327	-	0.0%
Colac Otway Shire	209,203	209,203	209,203	-	0.0%
<b>Total - Public Libraries Funding Program</b>	<b>2,374,220</b>	<b>2,374,220</b>	<b>2,374,220</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>STATE GOVERNMENT GRANTS RECURRENT</b>	<b>2,374,220</b>	<b>2,374,220</b>	<b>2,374,220</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Capital Grant - Premiers Reading Challenge Book Fund	56,417	56,417	56,417	-	0.0%
Other Grants	122,399	-	-	-	0.0%
<b>TOTAL STATE GOVERNMENT GRANTS</b>	<b>2,553,036</b>	<b>2,430,637</b>	<b>2,430,637</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.0%</b>

State Government grants are received from two funding programs:

- Public Libraries Funding Program – Grants to Member Councils are budgeted to not increase for 2025-26 then increase 3% per year over the remaining years of the SRP. The Department of Government Services will confirm the grants for the following year in mid-late 2025; and,
- Premier's Reading Challenge Book Fund –The funding per municipality is expected to remain unchanged throughout the SRP.

## DISTRIBUTION OF PLFP FUNDING

The allocation of funding is based on a two-component formula:

- 87.5% is based on the size of the municipal population
- 12.5% is based on five Council factors:
  - Percentage of population with low English proficiency
  - Rate of population dispersion
  - Level of remoteness from metropolitan or regional centres
  - Level of socio-economic disadvantage
  - Percentage of population over 60 years of age.

### 4.1.3 USER FEES

USER FEES	ACTUAL 2023-24 \$	BUDGET 2024-25 \$	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	Change \$ Increase/ (Decrease)	Change % Increase/ -Decrease
Venue hire	196,710	155,827	200,440	44,613	28.6%
Business service fees	150,262	167,449	175,175	7,726	4.6%
<b>TOTAL USER FEES</b>	<b>346,972</b>	<b>323,276</b>	<b>375,615</b>	<b>52,339</b>	<b>16.2%</b>

#### Venue hire

Venue hire income is earned from the use of meeting rooms and other spaces by external businesses, community groups and members of the public. These facilities are available at Geelong, Armstrong Creek, Bannockburn, Belmont, Colac, Corio, Drysdale, Newcomb, Waurin Ponds and the addition of Chilwell during 2026.

#### Business service fees

This category includes photocopying revenue, book club kits, professional research by Heritage Centre staff, interlibrary loans, earphones and USB sticks. Photocopying services are easier to access with a more efficient payment system resulting in increased utilisation.



#### 4.1.4 OTHER INCOME

OTHER INCOME	ACTUAL 2023-24 \$	BUDGET 2024-25 \$	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	Change \$ Increase/ (Decrease)	Change % Increase/ -Decrease
Reimbursements and recoveries	51,554	-	10,000	10,000	100.0%
Literary & other event income	18,452	-	18,000	18,000	100.0%
Interest on investments	304,334	145,250	257,982	112,732	77.6%
Contributions - non-monetary	22,590	-	-	-	0.0%
Other Income	45,336	98,550	64,750	(33,800)	-34.3%
<b>TOTAL OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>442,267</b>	<b>243,800</b>	<b>350,732</b>	<b>106,932</b>	<b>43.9%</b>

##### Reimbursements and recoveries

GRLC ceased charging fines for overdue items in 2021-22. Income has been received to replace lost or damaged items. In 2024, GRLC also received reimbursements from insurance claims.

##### Interest on investments

Interest rates are gradually reducing. Investments are currently earning 4.0% - 4.5%.

##### Literary & other event income

Income from the major events program.

##### Other income

This category includes a number of sundry items including grants from non-government entities.

#### 4.1.5 EMPLOYEE COSTS

Employee costs comprise 76.1% of total cash expenditure for 2025-26. This is similar to the 75.9% in the prior year Budget.

Employee costs include all labour related expenditure such as salary and wages, and on-costs such as allowances, leave entitlements, employer superannuation, WorkCover insurance and Fringe Benefits Tax. Long service and annual leave are statutory requirements and provisions for the payments of these items are included in the Budget. Salaries and wages are reflective of salary banding increments. Employer superannuation includes the increase in the statutory Superannuation Guarantee Charge from 11.5% to 12.0% from 1 July 2025.

Employee expenses are expected to increase by 2.1% in 2025-26. Refer to 'Salaries' in Section 2.5 'Budget and Strategic Resource Plan Assumptions' for further discussion.

A summary of employee expenditure and the number of full time equivalent (FTE) staff relating to the provision of library services is included below:

EMPLOYEE COSTS	ACTUAL 2023-24 \$	BUDGET 2024-25 \$	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	Change \$ Increase/ (Decrease)	Change % Increase/ -Decrease
Wages and salaries	11,290,262	13,654,757	13,891,928	237,171	1.7%
WorkCover	81,916	120,903	108,052	(12,851)	-10.6%
Superannuation	1,206,534	1,460,943	1,549,368	88,425	6.1%
Fringe benefits tax	18,586	1,000	9,988	8,988	898.8%
<b>TOTAL EMPLOYEE COSTS</b>	<b>12,597,298</b>	<b>15,237,603</b>	<b>15,559,336</b>	<b>321,733</b>	<b>2.1%</b>

	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	COMPRISES:		BUDGET 2025-26 FTE	COMPRISES:	
		FULL TIME \$	PART TIME \$		FULL TIME FTE	PART TIME FTE
Permanent Staff	14,131,505	8,926,793	5,204,713	131.9	76.2	55.7
Casual and Other Staff	1,427,830			13.7		
<b>TOTAL <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>15,559,335</b>			<b>145.7</b>		

<sup>1</sup> Includes Superannuation, WorkCover Insurance and Fringe Benefits Tax

#### 4.1.6 MATERIALS AND SERVICES

MATERIALS AND SERVICES	ACTUAL 2023-24 \$	BUDGET 2024-25 \$	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	Change \$ Increase/ (Decrease)	Change % Increase/ -Decrease
Contract payments	404,352	532,383	518,272	(14,111)	-2.7%
Building maintenance	34,908	35,142	29,260	(5,882)	-16.7%
General maintenance	69,113	57,930	87,692	29,762	51.4%
Utilities	173,326	224,551	215,351	(9,200)	-4.1%
Office administration	833,463	883,964	1,001,861	117,897	13.3%
Information technology	637,950	846,370	806,950	(39,420)	-4.7%
Insurance	42,160	47,887	55,577	7,690	16.1%
Consultants	117,499	112,000	156,320	44,320	39.6%
<b>TOTAL MATERIALS AND SERVICES</b>	<b>2,312,772</b>	<b>2,740,227</b>	<b>2,871,283</b>	<b>131,056</b>	<b>4.8%</b>

##### Contract payments

This expenditure category relates to external businesses and contractors engaged for a range of services including shelf-ready processing of collection items, couriers, and security services. Increases only where required.

## Building maintenance and General maintenance

These expenditures include minor plant, furniture and equipment, and the running costs of GRLC vehicles and mobile libraries.

## Utilities

Utilities largely reflect library communications costs, with the budget reflecting phone provider and internet service provider contracts.

## Office administration

This category of expenditure includes eCollection subscriptions, health and safety items, printing, office stationery, photocopier/printer costs, minor IT upgrades, staff training and development, bank fees, corporate advertising and marketing, recruitment advertising, events and programming costs.

The budget increase is primarily explained by an increase in eCollection subscriptions – responding to ongoing increases in demand from library members for digital collection items.

## Information technology

IT comprises computer support, and minor hardware and software. Budget reflects a reduction in cost of some contracted services.

## Insurance

GRLC incurs a direct expense for some insurance policies. Other insurances are included in policies held and paid by City of Greater Geelong.

## Consultants

This category also includes legal expenses.

### 4.1.7 DEPRECIATION

DEPRECIATION	ACTUAL 2023-24 \$	BUDGET 2024-25 \$	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	Change \$ Increase/ (Decrease)	Change % Increase/ -Decrease
Lending collection	1,209,808	1,150,637	1,173,293	22,656	2.0%
Computers and telecommunications	505,585	398,868	400,579	1,711	0.4%
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	172,990	294,054	212,343	(81,711)	-27.8%
Plant, machinery and equipment	36,474	43,019	35,162	(7,857)	-18.3%
<b>TOTAL DEPRECIATION</b>	<b>1,924,857</b>	<b>1,886,578</b>	<b>1,821,377</b>	<b>(65,201)</b>	<b>-3.5%</b>

  

<b>Book value of items written off</b>	<b>186,199</b>	<b>242,193</b>	<b>242,193</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
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Depreciation is the decrease in value of the current library collection and other assets over time for accounting purposes. GRLC's capital expenditure seeks to replenish the collection as obsolete items are withdrawn, in order to maintain a high-quality collection which meets the needs of the communities we serve.

For 2025-26, the depreciation expense is budgeted to be lower than the expense incurred in the 2023-24 financial year. This is due to some assets being fully depreciated, such as the Geelong Library and

Heritage Centre where most furniture and fittings will complete their depreciation upon the 10 year anniversary in November 2025.

#### 4.1.8 AMORTISATION – INTANGIBLE ASSETS

AMORTISATION - INTANGIBLE ASSETS	ACTUAL 2023-24 \$	BUDGET 2024-25 \$	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	Change \$ Increase/ (Decrease)	Change % Increase/ -Decrease
Library management system	16,154	-	18,081	18,081	100.0%
<b>TOTAL AMORTISATION - INTANGIBLE ASSETS</b>	<b>16,154</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,081</b>	<b>18,081</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

#### 4.1.9 DEPRECIATION – RIGHT OF USE ASSETS

DEPRECIATION - RIGHT OF USE ASSETS	ACTUAL 2023-24 \$	BUDGET 2024-25 \$	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	Change \$ Increase/ (Decrease)	Change % Increase/ -Decrease
Property lease	87,323	78,912	84,853	5,941	7.5%
<b>TOTAL DEPRECIATION - RIGHT OF USE ASSETS</b>	<b>87,323</b>	<b>78,912</b>	<b>84,853</b>	<b>5,941</b>	<b>7.5%</b>

GRLC leases office space on Level 4 of GLHC for the Regional Library Support Centre. This is a 'right of use' asset that is amortised over the life of the lease.

#### 4.1.10 OTHER EXPENSES

OTHER EXPENSES	ACTUAL 2023-24 \$	BUDGET 2024-25 \$	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	Change \$ Increase/ (Decrease)	Change % Increase/ -Decrease
Audit services	28,000	30,000	31,000	1,000	3.3%
<b>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES</b>	<b>28,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>31,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>3.3%</b>

Audit services are provided by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office or their representative.

## 4.2 Balance Sheet

BALANCE SHEET	ACTUAL 2023-24 \$	BUDGET 2024-25 \$	BUDGET 2025-26 \$
<b>Assets and Liabilities</b>			
Total Assets	14,602,505	13,525,758	15,442,002
Total Liabilities	2,601,476	2,766,445	2,891,594
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>12,001,037</b>	<b>10,759,314</b>	<b>12,550,408</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>	<b>12,001,037</b>	<b>10,759,314</b>	<b>12,550,409</b>

### 4.2.1 ASSETS

The Corporation's major assets comprise its bank balance, the lending collection, vehicles, furniture and office equipment. GRLC does not own any land or buildings.

The value of GRLC assets is expected to slowly decline as the rate of depreciation (\$2.1m - \$2.2m per year) continues to exceed capital expenditure (\$2.0m - \$2.1m).

The investment gap ratios in section 5 'Financial Indicators' provide further detail.

### 4.2.2 LIABILITIES

The major liability is employee provisions.

### 4.2.3 BORROWINGS

GRLC had no borrowings during the financial year 2024-25 and will not be taking out any borrowings for the 2025-26 financial year.



## 4.3 Cash

Overall, total cash and term deposits are forecast to be \$4.0m as at 30 June 2026.

This exceeds the employee leave provisions (\$2.3m) and is equivalent to almost 3 months cover of operating expenditure.

Please refer to the Statement of Cash Flows in section 3.

### 4.3.1 NET CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY/USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES

The surplus of net cash from day to day operations is used for capital expenditure.

### 4.3.2 NET CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY/USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES

In addition to the 2025-26 Capital budget, we also expect to spend the majority of the \$250,000 previously approved by the GRLC Board at the February 2024 meeting from Reserves. This will primarily be spent on new Finance and Human Capital Management systems, an intangible capital asset.

### 4.3.3 NET CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY/USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES

GRLC does not have any borrowings. The financing activity relates to the lease of office space.

## CASH AT END OF THE YEAR

CASH FLOWS	ACTUAL 2023-24 \$	BUDGET 2024-25 \$	PROJECTED 2024-25 \$	BUDGET 2025-26 \$
Operating activities	1,212,617	2,049,137	3,095,574	2,057,682
Investing activities	(1,391,791)	(2,257,580)	(4,052,345)	(2,431,922)
Financing activities	(89,973)	(84,880)	(93,302)	(96,000)
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash held</b>	<b>(269,147)</b>	<b>(293,323)</b>	<b>(1,050,073)</b>	<b>(470,240)</b>
Cash at beginning of financial year	1,257,423	1,841,117	3,491,119	2,441,046
Term deposits end of year	2,502,843	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
<b>Total cash and term deposits at the end of the financial year</b>	<b>3,491,119</b>	<b>3,547,794</b>	<b>4,441,046</b>	<b>3,970,806</b>

## 4.4 Capital Expenditure

Capital expenditure over the 4 year period (2025-26 to 2028-29) is forecast to total \$8.2m as outlined on 3.4 (Statement of Capital Works).

The following table outlines the capital expenditure budget for 2025-26 and associated sources of funding.

See Section 2.5 for further commentary.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	ACTUAL 2023-24 \$	BUDGET 2024-25 \$	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	Change \$ Increase/ (Decrease)	Change % Increase/ -Decrease
Lending collection	2,233,328	1,627,345	1,552,565	(74,780)	-4.6%
Computers and telecommunications	637,079	300,000	250,000	(50,000)	-16.7%
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	97,127	125,000	175,000	50,000	40.0%
Plant, machinery and equipment	11,104	-	6,000	6,000	100.0%
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2,978,637</b>	<b>2,052,345</b>	<b>1,983,565</b>	<b>(68,780)</b>	<b>-3.4%</b>

## 4.5 Financial Resources

The following table summarises the key financial results for the Budget years 2024-25 and proposed 2025-26, plus the next 3 years as set out in the Strategic Resource Plan for 2026-27 to 2028-29.

KEY FINANCIAL RESULTS	BUDGET 2024-25 \$	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	PLAN 2026-27 \$	PLAN 2027-28 \$	PLAN 2028-29 \$
Operating Result - Surplus / (Deficit)	(366,815)	(308,522)	(226,388)	(106,810)	21,755
Cash & Investments	1,547,794	3,970,806	3,811,124	3,723,048	3,714,122
Net Increase / (Decrease) in Cash	(293,323)	(470,240)	(159,682)	(88,076)	(8,926)
Capital Expenditure	2,052,345	1,983,565	2,030,142	2,078,117	2,127,530

The key outcomes of the Strategic Resource Plan are as follows:

- Financial sustainability

While the operating result is a deficit from 2024-25 onwards (returning to a surplus in 2028-29), it is noted that this includes the non-cash expense of depreciation. Given the current rate capping environment, Member Council contributions are not sufficient to cover the depreciation expense and achieve a net surplus/deficit of zero. The popularity of our collection of over 400,000 items requires ongoing capital expenditure to maintain the collection. The budget will be closely monitored in future years in order to ensure that cash reserves remain at an acceptable level;

- Cash and investments

The cash balance is expected to decline across the SRP (though the rate of decrease is slowing each year). The closing cash position on the SRP is close to 3 months cover of operating expenditure and exceeds GRLC's employee leave liability.

## 5 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The following table is a summary of budgeted financial ratios for the years 2025-26 to 2028-29. These ratios are used as a guide to assess trends in GRLC's financial health. They show that the Corporation must carefully manage its resources with particular emphasis on cash flow and relies heavily on the continued support of Member Councils to meet the commitments reflected in the Strategic Resource Plan.

FINANCIAL RATIOS	BUDGET 2025-26 \$	PLAN 2026-27 \$	PLAN 2027-28 \$	PLAN 2028-29 \$
<b>UNDERLYING RESULT %</b>  Recurrent surplus-deficit / Total recurrent income  Measures surplus/-deficit as a % of revenue.	-2%	-1%	0%	0%
<b>WORKING CAPITAL</b>  Current assets / Current liabilities  Assesses GRLC's ability to meet current commitments.	1.78	1.71	1.67	1.67
<b>INVESTMENT GAP RATIOS</b>				
<b>TOTAL</b> - Capital expenditure / Depreciation  Capital expenditure / Depreciation	0.96	0.98	1.01	1.03
<b>COLLECTIONS</b> - Collection expenditure / Collection depreciation  Collection expenditure / Collection depreciation	1.10	1.12	1.14	1.16

At 30 June 2026, GRLC will have \$1.78 cents of current assets for every \$1.00 of current liabilities. This will reduce to \$1.67 by the end of the SRP, suggesting GRLC will continue to be well placed to meet its obligations.

The investment gap ratio highlights that GRLC is investing \$0.96 on capital assets to replace every \$1.00 depreciated, written down or withdrawn. At an asset class level, the ratio exceeds 1 for collection items (the largest asset type) and is less than 1 for other asset types (furniture and IT assets).

## 6 SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES

User fees and charges are comprehensively reviewed and benchmarked with public libraries and other local businesses offering similar services.

Overdue fees were removed during the 2021-22 financial year.

GRLC is proposing the introduction of consumable costs for public use of maker space equipment (laser cutters/3D printing etc). The fees and charges are proposed to offset the costs of the materials/consumables used in these activities and encourage a more sustainable approach to the use of consumables. Consumables will continue to be supplied as part of organised programs and activities.

Fees for Earphones have been increased to cover the cost of purchase.

No changes are proposed for photocopying, printing and all other library services not mentioned above in 2025-26.

PROPOSED 2025-26	
<b>INTER LIBRARY LOANS (ILL)</b>	
From non-GRLC public libraries	\$3.00
Where an ILL cost is charged by a non-GRLC lending library - will be charged to the library member plus postage	\$35.50 plus postage
Loans from interstate libraries	\$3.00 plus postage
Book Club Kit Loans	\$10.00 per kit
<b>CHARGES FOR DAMAGED MATERIALS*</b>	
Rejacketing	\$8.50
CD & DVD case or slick replacement	\$8.50
RFID tags and barcode replacement	\$8.50
<b>CHARGES FOR LOST/TOTALLY DAMAGED ITEMS*</b>	Item cost plus \$8.50 admin fee
<b>REPLACEMENT MEMBERSHIP CARDS</b>	No fee
<b>PHOTOCOPYING &amp; PC PRINTING</b>	
A4 page (B&W)	\$0.30
A3 page (B&W)	\$0.60
A4 page (Colour)	\$1.00
A3 page (Colour)	\$2.00
<b>EARPHONES</b>	\$1.10
<b>USB STICK</b>	\$10.00
<b>WITHDRAWN COLLECTION ITEMS FOR SALE</b>	
Adult fiction and non-fiction	\$2.00
Children's materials and magazines	\$1.00
<b>PROFESSIONAL HERITAGE RESEARCH</b>	
Professional Research by Heritage Centre staff	\$50.00 per hour
High resolution digital or hard copy prints images from heritage collection	\$20 per image
<b>3D PRINTING</b>	
Filament	\$1.00 up to 10g
	\$2.00 up to 20g
	\$4.00 up to 40g
	\$6.00 up to 60g



<b>CRICUT</b>		
Vinyl		\$3.00 per sheet
Cardstock		\$0.30 per card
<b>CNC/LASER CUTTER</b>		
Balsa wood		\$6.00 per metre
<b>THERMOFORMER</b>		
Sheets		\$3.00 per sheet
<b>SEWING MACHINES</b>		
Material		\$8.00 per metre
Thread		\$5.00 per bobbins

## Community Libraries

The following schedule lists venue hire fees and charges for the Community Library hire spaces including standard and discounted hire rates.

### COMMUNITY LIBRARY SCHEDULE OF FEES 2025-26

VENUE	STANDARD HOURLY RATE MON-FRI	STANDARD HALF DAY RATE MON-FRI (4 TO 6 HRS)	STANDARD FULL DAY RATE MON-FRI (6 TO 9 HRS)
<b><u>Small Room</u></b>			
Corio Discussion Room	\$25.00	\$100.00	\$150.00
Waurin Ponds Discussion Room			
<b><u>Medium Room</u></b>			
Bannockburn Meeting Room			
Biyal-a Taark Meeting Room 1			
Biyal-a Taark Meeting Room 2			
Biyal-a Media Room	\$35.00	\$140.00	\$210.00
Boronggook Discussion Room 1			
Boronggook Discussion Room 2			
Leopold Discussion Room			
<b><u>Large Room</u></b>			
Biyal-a Taark Rooms 1 & 2 (combined)			
Biyal-a Kitjarra Boardroom			
Colac Meeting Room 1*			
Colac Meeting Room 2*			
Colac Meeting Room 3*	\$45.00	\$180.00	\$270.00
Colac Meeting Room 4*			
Colac Meeting Room 5*			
Newcomb Multipurpose Room (North)			
Newcomb Multipurpose Room (South)			
<b><u>Extra Large Room</u></b>			
Belmont Meeting Room			
Biyal-a Getjawil Multipurpose Room			
Biyal-a Wanga Creative Studio			
Boronggook Multipurpose Room			
Colac Meeting Rooms 1-5* (combined)	\$65.00	\$260.00	\$390.00
Colac Activities Room 1*			
Colac Activities Room 2*			
Corio Meeting Room			
Leopold Multipurpose Room			
Newcomb Multipurpose Room			
Waurin Ponds Multipurpose Room			
<b><u>Kitchen</u></b>			
Biyal-a Kitchen	\$10.00	\$40.00	\$60.00

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**DISCOUNTS**

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Standard (Individuals, Businesses, Government Organisations)	0%
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Not for Profit (NFPs, Charities, GRLC Members)	25%
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Concession (Concessions, Seniors, Students, Interest Groups)	70%
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**BONDS (IF APPLICABLE)**

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Bond - Key/Swiper	\$50.00
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\*Colac meeting room charges are subject to planned consultation with joint use committee

Other fees may be charged at an hourly rate for cleaning, set up, technical support and security on a cost recovery basis.

Cancellation fees will be applied where appropriate.

Usage agreements outside these fees may be made with member councils and select partners.

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## Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

The following schedule lists venue hire fees and charges for the Geelong Library and Heritage Centre spaces including standard and discounted hire rates.

### GEELONG LIBRARY & HERITAGE CENTRE SCHEDULE OF FEES 2025-26

VENUE	STANDARD HOURLY RATE MON-FRI	STANDARD HALF DAY RATE MON-FRI (UP TO 5 HRS)	STANDARD FULL DAY RATE MON-FRI (UP TO 9 HRS)
Level 5 - Wurdi Youang (3 hrs+)	\$190.00	\$705.00	\$1,405.00
Level 5 - High Ground Wurdi Youang North (3 hrs+)	\$125.00	\$515.00	\$890.00
Level 5 - High Ground Wurdi Youang South (3 hrs+)	\$105.00	\$435.00	\$825.00
Level 4 - Board Room (by special request only)	\$75.00	\$290.00	\$425.00
Level 2 - Meeting Room	\$45.00	\$165.00	\$310.00
Level 2 - Discussion Rooms (1,2,3,4)	\$35.00	\$125.00	\$250.00
Level 1 - Activities Room (limited availability)	\$75.00	\$325.00	\$520.00
<b>DISCOUNTS</b>			
Standard (Individuals, Businesses, Government Organisations)	0%		
Not for Profit (NFPs, Charities, GRLC Members)	25%		
Concession (Concessions, Seniors, Students, Interest Groups)	50%		
Other fees may be charged at an hourly rate for cleaning, set up, technical support and security on a cost recovery basis.			
Cancellation fees will be applied where appropriate.			
Usage agreements outside these fees may be made with Member Councils, Cultural Precinct partners and others by agreement.			

## Major Events

The following schedule lists fees for paid events. Since the introduction of paid events in 2021, ticket prices have remained at their introductory price of \$20 or \$10 for GRLC Members (membership is free and available via a link immediately online) for panel discussions and author talks, or \$30 / \$20 for GRLC Members / \$10 for Concession holders for workshops.

In 2025 we are increasing pricing to \$20 for GRLC Members (with the requirement that everyone attending paid events be members), and \$10 for Concession holders for panel discussions and author talks. Workshops will increase to \$40 for GRLC Members and \$20 for Concession holders. This will help to build membership and diversify our audience for future growth, and also positively impacts our event attrition (ie. 'no-show') rate which is currently tracking at 6%, compared to averaging around 27% prior to the introduction of paid events.

### PAID EVENT SCHEDULE OF FEES 2025-26

EVENT	GENERAL (GRLC MEMBERS)	CONCESSION
<b><u>Major author events</u></b>	\$20.00	\$10.00
<b><u>Workshops</u></b>	\$40.00	\$20.00

Most of our programs remain free, and all major author events are recorded and available to watch later for free on YouTube.

From time to time we may run special events and workshops with different ticket prices, dependent on associated costs



**Geelong Library  
& Heritage Centre**  
51 Little Malop Street  
T 4201 0600

**Apollo Bay**  
6 Pengilley Avenue  
T 5237 1013x

**Biyal-a Armstrong Creek**  
20 Main Street  
T 4201 0672

**Bannockburn**  
25-27 High Street  
T 5281 2367

**Barwon Heads**  
Barwon Heads Primary School,  
Golf Links Road  
T 5254 2143

**Belmont**  
163 High Street  
T 5243 2655

**Chilwell**  
51 Russell Street, Newtown  
T 5221 5129

**Colac**  
173 Queen Street, Colac  
T 5231 4613

**Corio**  
Cox Road (cnr Moa Street) Norlane  
T 5275 2388

**Borongook Drysdale**  
2-8 Wyndham Street  
T 5251 3855

**Geelong West**  
153A Pakington Street  
T 5229 1939

**Highton**  
Roslyn Road (cnr Belle Vue Avenue)  
T 5243 4864

**Lara**  
5 Walkers Road  
T 5282 4182

**Leopold**  
Leopold Community Hub  
31-39 Kensington Road  
T 4201 0675

**Newcomb**  
cnr Bellarine Highway & Wilsons Road  
T 5248 1802

**Ocean Grove**  
Presidents Avenue (cnr The Avenue)  
T 5255 4218

**Queenscliff**  
55 Hesse Street  
T 5258 2017

**Torquay**  
Surf City Plaza, Beach Road  
T 5261 3049

**Wairn Ponds**  
140 Pioneer Road  
T 5244 0048

**Western Heights**  
Western Heights College,  
Vines Road, Hamlyn Heights  
T 5277 1177

#### Mobile Library Stops

Aireys Inlet	Gellibrand
Anakie	Grenville
Anglesea	Haddon
Beeac	Lavers Hill
Beech Forest	Linton
Birregurra	Lorne
Cape Clear	Meredith
Coragulac	Portarlington
Cressy	Rokewood
Deans Marsh	Smythesdale
Dereel	St Leonards
Enfield	Winchelsea
Forrest	

**GEELONG  
REGIONAL  
LIBRARIES**



**Geelong Library &  
Heritage Centre**  
51 Little Malop Street  
Geelong Victoria 3220  
T 4201 0600

[www.grlc.vic.gov.au](http://www.grlc.vic.gov.au)



Colac Otway  
SHIRE