

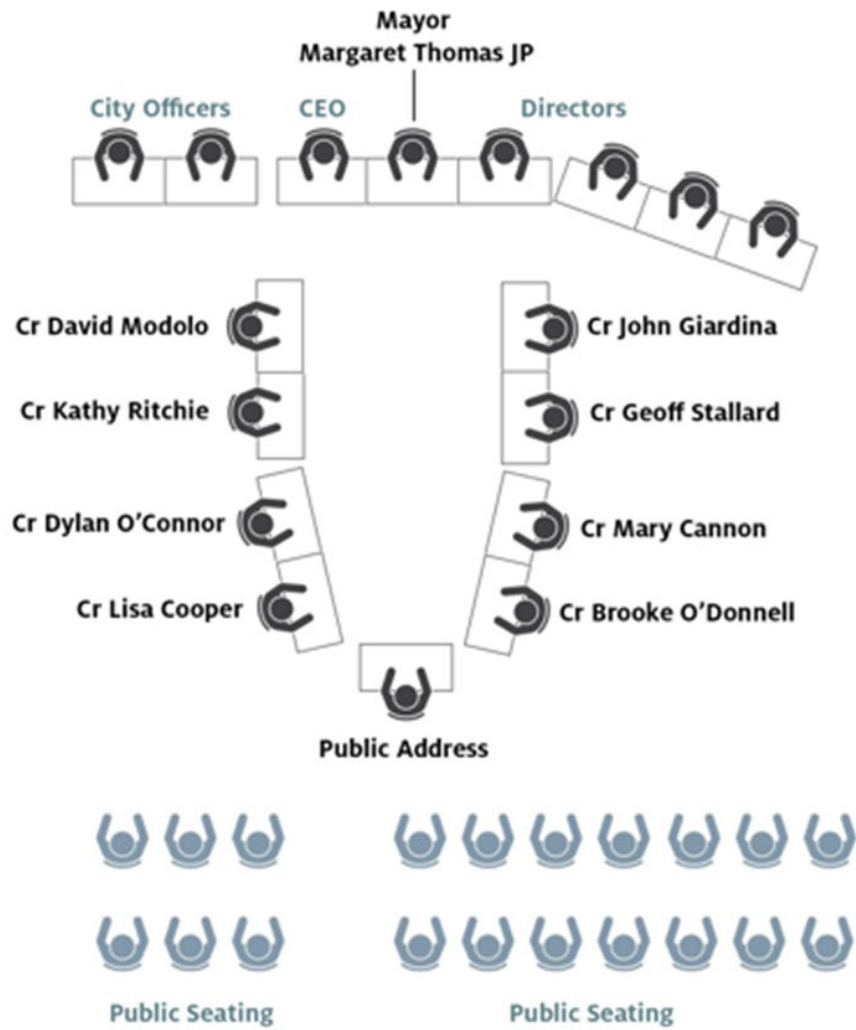


# Special Council Meeting

Minutes

Tuesday 12 August 2025

## Council Chambers Seating Plan



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**1. Official Opening**

The Presiding Member opened the meeting at 7:30pm and welcomed Councillors, Staff, Members of the Public Gallery and those watching via live stream. The Presiding Member also acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet the Whadjuk Noongar people.

**2. Attendance, Apologies and Leave of Absence Previously Approved**

**Mayor**

Margaret Thomas JP (Presiding Member)

**Councillors**

**South East Ward**

Geoff Stallard

**South West Ward**

Mary Cannon

Brooke O'Donnell

**North West Ward**

Lisa Cooper

Dylan O'Connor

**North Ward**

David Modolo

Kathy Ritchie

**Members of Staff**

**Chief Executive Officer**

Anthony Vuleta - Chief Executive Officer

**Executive Team**

Sinead McGuire - Director Asset Services

Gary Ticehurst - Director Corporate Services

Nathan Ritchie - Director Development Services

Luke Ellis – Director Community Services

**Administration Support**

Rhonda Bowman - Governance Manager

Molly Rogers-Thomson - Executive Assistant to the CEO

Emma Morgan – Executive Assistant to Director Community Services

Sarah De Jong – Executive Assistant to Director Development Services

**Members of the Public 47**

**Members of the Press Nil.**

**Apologies**

Cr John Giardina

**Leave of Absence Previously Approved Nil.**

**3. Public Question Time**

**3.1. Public Question Time**

Nil.

**4. Petitions/Deputations**

A deputation was received from Bev Dornan of Wattle Grove regarding 9.1 Alcoa Mining Activities on the Darling Range.

A deputation was received from Janelle Sewell of Bickley regarding 9.1 Alcoa Mining Activities on the Darling Range.

A deputation was received from Joshua Clark of Walliston regarding 9.1 Alcoa Mining Activities on the Darling Range.

A deputation was received from Francesca Flynn of Glen Forrest regarding 9.1 Alcoa Mining Activities on the Darling Range.

**5. Announcements by the Member Presiding Without Discussion**

Nil.

**6. Matters for Which the Meeting may be Closed**

Nil.

**7. Disclosure of Interest**

**7.1. Disclosure of Financial and Proximity Interests**

a. Members must disclose the nature of their interest in matter to be discussed at the meeting. (Section 5.56 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.)

b. Employees must disclose the nature of their interest in reports or advice when giving the report or advice to the meeting. (Section 5.70 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.)

**7.2. Disclosure of Interest Affecting Impartiality**

a. Members and staff must disclose their interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting in respect of which the member or employee had given or will give advice.

**8. Reports to Council**

No Reports presented.

**9. Motions of Which Previous Notice has been Given**

**MOTION**

<b>Voting Requirements: Simple Majority</b>
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**RESOLVED SCM 01/2025**

That Council:

1. OBJECTS to all Alcoa's bauxite mining activities, particularly exploratory drilling and all mining operations on the Darling Range, including in and the surrounds of the City of Kalamunda, on the grounds that such activity poses a significant negative impact and risk to the long-term character and amenity of the Perth Hills region.
2. REQUESTS the Chief Executive Officer prepare a submission on behalf of the City of Kalamunda to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) opposing the expansion, to be submitted prior to the deadline of 21 August 2025.
3. REQUESTS the Chief Executive Officer engage with neighbouring local governments — including the Shire of Mundaring, City of Gosnells, City of Armadale, and Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale - to explore opportunities for a coordinated advocacy response and joint representation to the EPA and relevant State Ministers.
4. REQUESTS the Chief Executive Officer prepare a letter to the Premier of Western Australia to outline the sentiments of Council's objection of Alcoa's Mining Activities in the Darling Range and that any future negotiations on renewal or modifications to any state agreements, or mining leases in a local area must include representation from local government as part of the process to ensure local matters are given appropriate consideration in the decision making process.

Moved: **Cr David Modolo**

Seconded: **Cr Kathy Ritchie**

Vote: For: **Mayor Margaret Thomas, Cr Brooke O'Donnell, Cr Geoff Stallard, Cr Mary Cannon, Cr Lisa Cooper, Cr Dylan O'Connor, Cr David Modolo, Cr Kathy Ritchie**

Against: **Nil**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (8/0)**

## Rationale

1. The City of Kalamunda includes large areas of the jarrah forest and is well known for its rural character, distinctive landscape, and strong sense of place.
2. Alcoa's proposed expansion into the Darling Range, including the City of Kalamunda, raises significant concerns about the long-term impacts on the identity and lifestyle of communities in the Perth Hills, and its vision for the future.
3. Large-scale industrial activity of the kind proposed is fundamentally at odds with the community's expectations and the established character of the area.
4. This matter affects multiple local government areas. A coordinated approach will allow the City of Kalamunda to stand alongside its neighbouring councils in ensuring that the voice of the Hills region is clearly heard in state-level decision-making.
5. The City has consistently recognised the importance of preserving the unique character of the Perth Hills, and it is appropriate that it take a clear position on a proposal that could alter that character irreversibly.

## Officer Comments

1. The City's Strategic Community Plan and associated strategic documents recognise the importance of protecting and enhancing natural bush areas and biodiversity. The City's significant Regional Reserves and State Forests are significant natural assets that contribute towards the City's unique character and identity and support a wide range of social and economic opportunities for the City and surrounding communities.
2. Alcoa operates under a Mineral Lease extending from Mundaring to Collie along the Darling Range. The Environmental Protection Authority is seeking public submissions regarding Alcoa's bauxite mining activities on the Darling Range in the southwest of Western Australia spanning the years 2023 to 2027. The period to make submissions concludes on 21 August 2025.
3. Alcoa's current plans for potential exploration include areas of state forest south-east of Pickering Brook (near the old Barton's Mill Prison site) within the City of Kalamunda.

4. The City understands these activities are exploration works only, which do not include any current plans to mine this area. Alcoa's current plans until 2027 include undertaking cultural and environmental surveys, and low impact drilling to assist in understanding the area's geology. The City is planning engagement with neighbouring local governments to support a coordinated understanding and response to this proposal.
5. The City will prepare a submission by 21 August 2025 including any relevant technical or operational considerations associated with this proposal and include any resolutions of Council as part of this process.
6. It is noted that decision making responsibility regarding exploration and mining activities, licenses and tenure is ultimately the responsibility of the State Government, and Minister of Mines and Petroleum under the *Mining Act 1978* and associated regulations.

**10. Closure**

There being no further business, the Presiding Member declared the Meeting closed at 8:12pm.

I confirm these Minutes to be a true and accurate record of the proceedings of this Council.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Member

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2025