

FinPro Member Update – Edition 1, 2026

President's Message

Hi everyone,

Welcome to the first FinPro Member Update for 2026.

The year has certainly started at pace. With fires impacting 18 LGAs and flash flooding in Lorne just yesterday, many of you are already balancing significant pressures at work and at home. Our thoughts are with all members and communities affected. Local government sits at the heart of disaster response, and finance professionals play a critical and often unseen role in enabling this work. I want to acknowledge the resilience, professionalism and care you bring during these challenging times.

This update includes a focus on the Victorian Government's announcement of nearly \$100 million in additional recovery funding for fire-affected communities. The package includes support for restoring community assets, expanded recovery hubs, financial counselling, and assistance for households and primary producers.

Looking ahead, 2026 will be another busy year for FinPro, with Professional Development Days in February and June, and our annual Conference scheduled for October. These events remain central to strengthening capability, sharing practical insights, and maintaining the strong connections across our sector.

You'll also find updates on current FinPro submissions, the latest VAGO Status Report, and a practical case study from Bayside City Council on improving efficiency and control through virtual corporate cards. Alongside job opportunities, membership updates, and the latest TCV loan and investment rates.

I'd also like to acknowledge the ongoing advocacy work of our partners, particularly the Municipal Association of Victoria. Strong collaboration across the sector is more important than ever as councils navigate increasingly complex financial and operational environments.

Thank you for your continued engagement with FinPro and for the vital work you do in supporting your communities. I look forward to connecting with many of you throughout the year.

Warm regards,

Tony Rocca

President, FinPro and Director/CFO, Maroondah CC



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New Recovery Measures for Fire Affected Communities

Victorian Government announcement – January 2026

On Wednesday, 14 January, the Victorian and Australian Governments announced nearly \$100 million in additional recovery support for communities impacted by the January 2026 bushfires. The package expands immediate relief, strengthens locally led recovery, and provides targeted assistance to councils, households and primary producers.

Council Support Fund (~\$12m)

- Funding to help fire-affected councils restore community assets.
- Supports parks, playgrounds, sporting facilities and community spaces.
- Councils may receive up to \$750,000, based on impact.

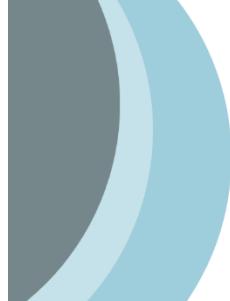
The Fund will be active for two years, giving councils the time they need for clean-up and reconstruction. Councils will receive up to \$750,000 depending on the scale of impacts, providing tailored support for rebuilding communities.

Key measures also include: Community Recovery & Local Delivery (~\$15m); Prolonged Power Outage Payments (~\$16m); Primary Producer Recovery Grants (~\$40m); Concessional Recovery Loans (~\$10m); and Financial Counselling (~\$4m).

Click here for more information: <https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/new-recovery-measures-fire-affected-communities>

For more information on claims, visit: <https://www.vic.gov.au/january-2026-victorian-bushfires-agrn-1242-drfa-information>

FinPro PD Day, 27 February 2026



FinPro Professional Development Day

Friday, 27 February 2026

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

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Local Government Finance Professionals



Our first Professional Development Day will be held on Friday, 27 February 2026 at the Melbourne Convention Centre.

The full program will be announced soon; however, the preliminary program will include a VAGO Update, the launch of the Model Budget and Model Financial Statements and presentations on Leadership and AI.

Following the presentations, a networking hour will be held at the venue.

We would like to thank [TechnologyOne](#) for sponsoring this event.

[Register now](#)

Future 2026 FinPro Events

- Friday, 13 June 2026: Professional Development Day – venue TBC
- Wednesday, 28 – Friday, 30 October 2026: FinPro Conference 2026 - Geelong

Case study: Corporate cards go virtually seamless for Bayside City Council

By her own admission, community services provider Alison Clarke doesn't "lean into finance", but she knows the processes for approving and reconciling business expense payments can be time-consuming for all involved.

So, when the opportunity came to secure "early bird" rates for an aged care conference she was attending, the Bayside City Council officer did not expect to make the tight deadline for the payment easily.

"We wanted the early bird special because it was considerably cheaper and it was closing the next day," Clarke says. "I thought I was going to have to pay for it myself and then get reimbursed weeks later."

This time, instead of making a payments application on the intranet and then tracking down one of the council's corporate cardholders, she was able to use **NAB's Virtual Card** digital innovation to make the payment almost instantly while maintaining all the risk controls needed to run council business safely.

“It was great to be able to use the card straight away like that,” Clarke says. “The process was essentially instant, and I was able to attach the invoice myself. It was much easier and saved so much time.”

With NAB’s Virtual Pay platform, users can lodge a request for a “**virtual card**”, which allows for payments online and over the phone. The approval process becomes quick and easy and includes the ability to pay ad hoc suppliers, with the information stored and tracked digitally.

For the council’s financial accountant Cameron Ross, using the Virtual Cards have made the experience more streamlined and flexible for users while solving the multiple issues that come with daily demands and limits on a fixed number of physical cards.

[Click here](#) to read the full case study.



Job Opportunities

- [Financial Accounting Coordinator](#), City of Stonnington – Applications close on Friday, 23 January 2026
- [Financial Accountant](#), Baw Baw Shire Council - Applications close on Sunday, 25 January 2026
- [Accountant](#), Corangamite Shire Council - Applications close on Wednesday, 28 January 2026
- [Financial Services Coordinator](#), Corangamite Shire Council - Applications close on Wednesday, 28 January 2026
- [Finance Committee expressions of interest](#), Borough of Queenscliffe – Applications close on Friday, 30 January 2026

Membership Announcements

We are so pleased to welcome our new members:

- Chris Perera, Developer Contributions Advisor, Baw Baw Shire Council
- Kathy Fulton, Director, KAF Financial & Management Consultancy
- Penny James, Greater Shepparton City Council
- Xavier Flanagan, Director of Corporate and Community Services, Corangamite Shire Council

Have you had changes in your team? Reach out to [Lucy Scorer](#) to update your members.

TCV Loan Rates as at 14 January 2026

Maturity	Fixed Rate (Interest Only)		Fixed Rate (Principal and Interest) *		Floating Rate (margin to BBSW)	
	Quarterly	Semi	Quarterly	Semi	Quarterly	Semi
1 year	4.2482	4.2684	4.1900	4.2550	0.3610	0.1242
3 year	4.6045	4.6280	4.4500	4.4900	0.5325	0.3086
5 year	4.8754	4.9019	4.6500	4.6900	0.6644	0.4536
7 year	5.1748	5.2048	4.8550	4.8950	0.8081	0.6155
10 year	5.5824	5.6175	5.1600	5.2000	1.0247	0.8540
12 year	5.7811	5.8188	5.3350	5.3800	1.1264	0.9685
15 year	6.0571	6.0986	5.5750	5.6200	1.3020	1.1569
11am (at Call)	3.9150				BBSW	
30 day	3.7750				1 Month	3.5650
60 day	3.8550				3 Month	3.7358
90 day	3.9450				6 Month	4.0470
180 day	4.2550					

TCV Investment rates

TCV note the current TCV 11am/At Call deposit rate is 3.55%. The 11am deposit can be easily utilised for council's daily working capital requirements. Instructions to invest/withdraw funds are requested prior to 3pm for transactions to be processed on the same day. We encourage councils to review the rates currently paid on their at-call accounts with their transactional bank and consider this facility to maximise returns on any surplus cash balances.

Cash	3.5500		4 Month	3.8275
1 Month	3.5550		5 Month	3.9555
2 Month	3.6385		6 Month	4.0370
3 Month	3.7258		1 Year	3.9434

These loan interest rates and margins are indicative only and current as at the time of calculation. The rates and margins indicated include the TCV administration fee of 0.115%, the DTF Guarantee Fee of 0.15% and Execution of 0.05%

*Fixed rate (Principal and Interest) assumes principal balance is reduced to zero over equal instalments until maturity.

Geopolitical risks have dominated 2026, but the impact on markets has been limited – at least so far. US Treasury yields have been flat this year, while local yields have fallen, noting a steep run up late last year. Markets are expecting rate rises from the RBA, but this will be contingent on the trajectory of CPI data.

Disclaimer

Treasury Corporation of Victoria (TCV) provides indicative borrowing rates information to its clients for general information purposes only, based on facts and data available to TCV at the time of preparation. Rates, market values, yields and outcomes will be subject to variations due to fluctuations and changed market conditions. TCV therefore does not warrant or represent that these rates will be complete, accurate or suitable for use for any Client purposes. The information provided is not to be taken as indicative of the actual trading price at which TCV, or a third party, is or would be prepared to execute a new transaction or to liquidate or unwind and existing transactions.

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The indicative rates information provided by TCV is not, without TCV's prior written consent, to be disclosed to any other person.

FinPro Executive Team 2025/26

President

- Tony Rocca, Director / CFO, Maroondah CC

Vice Presidents

- Alan Wilson, Financial Controller, Melbourne CC – Professional Development Stream
- Navec Lorkin, CFO, Knox CC – Technical Stream

Treasurer

- Fiona Rae, Manager Finance, Golden Plains SC

Committee Members:

- Allison Southwell, CFO, Cardinia SC
- Belinda Johnson, CFO, Horsham RCC
- Binda Gokhale, Consultant
- Gabby Spiller, Manager Finance, Surf Coast SC
- John Brockway, CFO, City of Yarra
- John Vastianos, CFO, Glen Eira CC
- Liam Routledge, General Manager-Corporate Services, Goldfields SC
- Melissa Baker, CFO, Casey CC
- Nicole Maxwell, Manager Finance, Mitchell SC,
- Rahul Shah, Unit Manager Financial Strategy, Whittlesea CC
- Deep Sethi, CFO, Monash CC
- Caroline Reidy, CFO, Frankston CC

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<https://lgsolutions.com.au>



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