

FinPro Member Update – Edition 5, 2026

President's Message

Hi everyone,

One of the things that continues to stand out for me, being a part of FinPro, is the willingness of members to share practical experience and support one another through the challenges councils face. That spirit was clearly on display in our recent webinar on Accounting for Natural Disasters – Lessons Learned, which attracted almost 200 registrations and sparked a valuable discussion across the sector. It was a reminder that the finance profession plays a critical role in helping councils respond to unexpected events while maintaining strong financial stewardship.

Looking ahead, we have several opportunities for members to continue building their knowledge and professional networks. Registrations are now open for our upcoming Superannuation Update webinar, which will cover recent legislative developments and what they mean for councils.

Applications are also open for the 2026 FinPro Financial Management and Leadership Development Program. This program continues to be one of FinPro's flagship initiatives, helping finance professionals build the leadership capability required in modern local government. As part of this, we are again seeking mentors from across the sector to support participants through the FinPro Mentoring Program. If you have been considering giving back to the profession, I strongly encourage you to put your hand up. From a personal experience, I undertook this program over 10 years ago, as a Coordinator Revenue and Debt Collection. It was such a valuable and path setting experience for me and I would encourage you to nominate or to nominate those in your team you think will thrive from such an opportunity.

This edition also includes information on an upcoming webinar from the Centre for Rural Local Government, current job opportunities across councils, and the latest TCV loan and investment rates to assist with financial planning. And don't forget to save the date for the FinPro Conference 2026 – we look forward to sharing more details soon!

Thank you to all members who continue to contribute to FinPro, whether through attending events, presenting, mentoring or sharing ideas with colleagues across the sector. The strength of our organisation comes from that collective willingness to collaborate and support one another.

Warm regards,

Tony Rocca
President, FinPro
Director Corporate, Maroondah City Council



In this issue:

President's Message

FinPro Professional Development Day – February 2026

Webinar: Accounting for Natural Disasters – Lessons learned

Save the date: Webinar – Superannuation Update

FinPro Leadership Program 2026

FinPro Mentoring Program

Centre for Rural Local Government - Upcoming Webinar

Save the date: FinPro Conference 2026

Job Opportunities

Membership Announcements

VAGO Status Report – March 2026

TCV Loan Rates as at 12 March 2026

FinPro Executive Team 2026

FinPro Contact Details

FinPro Professional Development Day – February 2026

Thank you to over 350 members that attended our first in-person event for 2026.





Presentations are now available at the links below:

- | |
|---|
| • Budgeting reimaged for Modern councils, giving organisations confidence in the decisions they make - Michelle Wise, Product Success Director, TechnologyOne |
| • Feedback Fitness: Don't take this personally, BUT... Sue Anderson |
| • VAGO Update : Travis Derricott, Sector Director, VAGO |
| • Launch Model Budget and Model Financial Statements : LGV |
| • Summary on rates and charges : Daniel Chafer, President, RMA |
| • The Path to Protopia : Tracey Spicer AM, journalist, author and broadcaster |

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



Webinar: Accounting for Natural Disasters – Lessons learned

We were thrilled to have almost 200 registrations for the latest FinPro webinar on Accounting for Natural Disasters. A recording is now available:

<https://youtu.be/H0Kgo4DdyhY?si=R6oGGzJY8YDnw6Po>

Panellists included:

- Lori Lee, Asset Accountant, Surf Coast Shire Council
- Kristy Aberline, Executive Officer Management Accounting, Yarra Ranges Council
- Casey Southurst, Coordinator Emergency Management, Mitchell Shire Council

Facilitated by Liam Routledge, General Manager Corporate Performance, Central Goldfields Shire Council.

Save the date: Webinar – Superannuation Update

Date: Thursday, 23 April 2026

Time: 12.30pm - 1.30pm

Lead by Lindy Richardson, Partner, and Meredith Kennedy, Special Counsel at Maddocks. This webinar will provide general updates on legal requirements on superannuation and the implications of recent changes.

Registration is available now: <https://my.finpro.org.au/event-6613172>

FinPro Leadership Program 2026



Applications are now open for the 2026 FinPro Financial Management and Leadership Development Program provides a unique opportunity to develop the extra skills needed to move from being an accountant to being a leader in Local Government.

This program has been developed to cover the specialist skills and knowledge councils require of finance managers in today's world. It will be delivered by people who work within the sector and who have a broad range of skills, knowledge, and experience. Participants will work with industry leaders to gain knowledge as well as practical experience.

[Click here](#) to find out more about the program and to view the application form.

Applications are open now and close at 5:00pm on Friday, 27 March 2026

“The FinPro Leadership Program was an invaluable opportunity to strengthen my leadership capability while connecting with finance professionals from councils across Victoria. It provided a supportive space to share ideas and learn from peers facing similar challenges across local government. I also really appreciated the thoughtful guidance from my mentor, which supported my development throughout the program.”

Ishan Weeratunga, Finance Business Partner, City of Monash

[Click here](#) to view a flyer on the program.

FinPro Mentoring Program

Following the Leadership Program, participants will embark on a 12-month mentoring program where they are guided by leaders in the sector. To enable this, we are calling for members to volunteer to be mentors.

This program will start in May at the 2026 Leadership Program, with the first session being held in person during the FinPro Leadership Program on Tuesday, 12 May at Maroondah City Council.

Eight more mentors are still needed!

To submit an expression of interest to be a mentor, please [click here](#).

Centre for Rural Local Government - Upcoming Webinar

Topic: The Year-on-Year Changes to Expenditure – Revenue and Expenditure Pre and Post Covid.

Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2025

Time: 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM AEDT (Australian Eastern Daylight Time)

Financial sustainability is mostly about trends. Yet many local governments aren't aware of how rural council revenue and expenditure have been tracking over time. In this presentation we provide simple graphs of 16 years of data with commentary by Professor Drew and also David Webb (a General Manager on the ground) about what these trends means for you. Given that financial sustainability is THE hot topic in local government across the nation this is a webinar that General Managers, Mayors and Councillors simply cannot afford to miss.

Interested participants can register for the one-hour webinar online:

<https://events.humanitix.com/year-on-year-changes-to-expenditure-revenue-and-expenditure-pre-and-post-covid>

Save the date: FinPro Conference 2026



Job Opportunities

- [Financial Accountant](#), City of Wodonga Sunday - Applications close on Sunday, 15 March 2026
 - [Finance Coordinator](#), Loddon Shire Council - Applications close on Monday, 16 March 2026
 - [Manager Finance](#), Golden Plains Shire Council - Applications close on Sunday, 22 March 2026
 - [Head of Financial Accounting and Services](#), City of Port Phillip - Applications close on Sunday, 29 March 2026
 - [Coordinator Financial Accounting and Recovery](#), City of Whittlesea - Applications close Tuesday, 31 March 2026
-

Membership Announcements

We are so pleased to welcome our new members since the last issue of the newsletter.

- Raghav Thapar, Manager Infrastructure Projects, East Gippsland Shire Council
- Glenn Hoen, Finance and Rates Manager, Greater Shepparton City Council
- Suzanna Kotsiski, CFO, Queen Victoria Market
- Paulina Panas, Financial Controller, Queen Victoria Market
- Paul Donaldson, Financial Accountant, Queen Victoria Market
- Sarah Lu, Financial Accounting Coordinator, Stonnington City Council
- Deiter McNaughton, Finance Business Partner, Rural City of Wangaratta
- Darlene Unban, Financial Accountant, Rural City of Wangaratta
- Tendai Bare, Senior Audit Manager, Parliamentary Reports & Services, VAGO

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

VAGO Status Report – March 2026

The Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) provided a March 2026 update outlining current audit priorities and sector developments affecting local government. Recent natural disasters impacting 18 councils are expected to influence 2025-26 financial reporting and audit approaches, with asset valuations, financial assistance grants, and internal controls remaining key focus areas.

VAGO also advised that the ****Results of the 2024-25 Audits: Local Government**** report will be tabled in March 2026, continuing its review of financial outcomes and reporting quality across the 79 councils. Upcoming performance audits include reviews of major programs, infrastructure planning, and agencies' responses to audit recommendations, while recent integrity-related work across IBAC, the Ombudsman and the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee highlights ongoing attention on governance, fraud control and accountability across the sector.

[Click here](#) to view the report for March.

TCV Loan Rates as at 12 March 2026

Maturity	Fixed Rate (Interest Only)		Fixed Rate (Principal and Interest) *		Floating Rate (margin to BBSW)	
	Quarterly	Semi	Quarterly	Maturity	Quarterly	Semi
1 year	4.6598	4.6855	4.6400	4.7300	0.2106	-0.0493
3 year	5.0796	5.1088	4.9450	4.9900	0.5413	0.3064
5 year	5.2897	5.3212	5.1150	5.1550	0.6870	0.4705
7 year	5.5506	5.5854	5.2800	5.3250	0.8516	0.6523
10 year	5.8965	5.9359	5.5400	5.5850	1.0649	0.8901
12 year	6.0797	6.1217	5.6900	5.7350	1.1817	1.0189
15 year	6.2721	6.3167	5.8950	5.9450	1.3071	1.1549
11am (at Call)	4.1650				BBSW	
30 day	4.1450				1 Month	3.9500
60 day	4.2450				3 Month	4.1799
90 day	4.3750				6 Month	4.6024
180 day	4.7950					

TCV Investment rates

TCV note the current TCV 11am/At Call deposit rate is 3.80%. 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	3.8000		4 Month	4.3133
1 Month	3.9400		5 Month	4.4358
2 Month	4.0437		6 Month	4.5924
3 Month	4.1699		1 Year	4.3605

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.

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.

TCV accepts no responsibility or liability for any direct or indirect loss, damage, cost or expense whatsoever incurred by the Client or any other person because of any error, omission or misrepresentation (whether arising from negligence or otherwise) in the rates information or in connection with or relating in any way whatsoever to the rates information.

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 2026

President

- Tony Rocca, Director Corporate, 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

FinPro Contact Details

Lucy Scorer, Executive Officer

Email: executiveofficer@finpro.org.au

Phone: 03 9631 2727

Web: www.finpro.org.au

Address: Suite 102, 585 Little Collins Street, Melbourne Vic 3000

Thank you to all our wonderful sponsors at the 2025 Conference for their support.

Platinum Sponsor



Gold Sponsor



Gold Sponsor



Keynote Sponsor



Keynote Sponsor



Dinner Sponsor



Coffee Cart Sponsor



Dinner Sponsor



Headshot Sponsor



Exhibitors

