

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK REPORT

McLaren Flat Recreation Ground Inc Long Term Lease

1 April to 26 April 2026

Introduction

McLaren Flat Recreation Ground Inc have requested a long-term lease for the continued use of the McLaren Flat Recreation Ground. At its February 2025 meeting, Council approved entering into long-term lease agreements for our multi-use sporting facilities, subject to the required Public Consultation process under Section 202 of the Local Government Act 1999. We are seeking to enter into a long-term lease agreement, structured as three (3) consecutive five (5) year terms.

The granting of long-term lease will support the continued use of the land in line with Council's Community Land Management Plan for Sportsgrounds, District and General Community Areas, Service and Social Facilities.

At this stage, the lease agreement is yet to be finalised. Subject to the outcomes of public consultation, a long-term occupancy agreement will be executed under delegated authority. Objections received during the consultation period (if any), will be summarised and presented to Council for a final decision.

Community engagement purpose

The purpose of the engagement was to gauge the level of community support of providing a long-term lease to the McLaren Flat Recreation Ground Inc for the continued use of the McLaren Flat Recreation Ground.

Engagement techniques

The below table outlines the techniques used to promote awareness and encourage participation:

Technique	Reach
Elected member email	Mayor and all elected members
Emails to stakeholders/groups	1
Resident letter drop	417
Email to Your Say members with an interest in Blewitt Springs, Kangarilla, McLaren Flat, McLaren Vale, The Range, Community and sporting facilities, and Council land.	2,494 Your Say members with an open rate of 3.45 per cent
Public notice in The Advertiser	General public
Roadside banner	Local Community
Your Say page with feedback tool	General public (168 visitors)

Engagement highlights

Community engagement was open for a period of 26 days, from 1 April 2026 to 26 April 2026.

During the engagement period, the Your Say page received 200 visits, resulting in 16 contributions via the online survey (Verbatim results - Refer to Appendix A).

Three emails were received (Verbatim results - Refer to Appendix B).

Two paper-based feedback were provided to the front counter at Noarlunga council (Verbatim results - Refer to Appendix B).

Summary of community engagement outcomes

Overall, there was very strong support for the proposal.

Your Say feedback

Online respondents were provided a survey to share their feedback with structured questions to gauge the level of support and opportunity to provide comment.

Survey

62.5 per cent of the online respondents to the online survey were from McLaren Flat.

A breakdown of respondents by suburb can be viewed in Appendix E.

Through the online survey, respondents were asked whether they supported the proposal.

All online respondents (16) were in support of the proposal for a long term lease of McLaren Flat Recreation Ground.

Online respondents also had the option to provide a comment via an open text box. Through this text box, we received 8 comments. It highlights the vital role McLaren Flat Recreation Ground Incorporated has within the community and local sporting clubs.

Verbatim comments can be found in Appendix A.

Email feedback

Three emails were received during the community engagement. No clear objections were received.

Two emails requested further information about the proposal. Responses were provided via email.

One email expressed their full support for the lease.

The email allowed them to note their views and provide additional comments.

Verbatim emails can be found in Appendix B.

Paper-based feedback

Two paper-based feedback were received during the community engagement. No clear objections were received.

One letter stated they want the community centre to remain and the second expressed their support for the lease.

The paper-based feedback allowed them to note their views and provide additional comments. Verbatim paper-base feedback can be found in Appendix B.

Evaluation

The engagement met its objectives and purpose in:

- Providing clear, easy to read information on the proposals to stakeholders, residents, and the community, to ensure they have a good understanding on what they can influence.
- Informing the community and invite feedback for council's consideration.
- Complying with legislative requirements.

Reach and awareness

- A total of 2,494 **emails** were distributed to Your Say members.
- 417 **letters** were sent to properties located near McLaren Flat Recreation Ground to notify residents of the opportunity to participate.
- On-site signage was used to inform site users.

Participation

- During the engagement period, the **Your Say Onkaparinga project page received 200 visits from 168 visitors**, resulting in 16 contributions.
- This represents a **participation rate of approximately 6 per cent**, based on the proportion of page visits that resulted in a contribution.
- 8 Your Say survey respondents chose to leave feedback about the engagement process resulting in the following:



55.6% (5 out of 9) said it was
easy to provide feedback



66.7% (6 out of 9) said
information was clear and easy to
understand



77.8% (7 out of 9) said it was
easy find what they were looking for



66.7% (6 out of 9) said
there was enough time to provide feedback

APPENDICIES

- Appendix A – Online survey comments
- Appendix B – Email Feedback
- Appendix C – Onsite Signage
- Appendix D – Public Notice
- Appendix E – Letter to Residents
- Appendix F – Respondents by suburb

Sign-off

All feedback reports are to be reviewed by the Engagement Unit
(engagement@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au)

Officer who prepared the document

Name: Kelly Cooper
Position title: Property Officer – Leasing and Transactions

Reviewed by

Name: Lisa Kemp
Position title: Community Engagement Advisor
Date: 28/05/2026 and 03/06/2026

Reviewed by

Name: Fiona Dallimore
Position title: Team Leader Property Transactions
Date: 23/07/2026

Approved by

Name: Ian Hawkins
Position title: Manager Community Safety and Property
Date: 27/07/2026

Appendix A: Verbatim Your Say Survey Comments

SUPPORT

Yes, I support this proposal (received via Your Say survey)

The tenant leasing the property should be responsible for managing the land (mowing, waste removal, general upkeep, line marking, and minor updates) themselves. This shouldn't be the responsibility of the council. If they require that service, they should be responsible for paying the council the appropriate rates to provide it. This is just like a residential retail tenancy agreement. Any major building maintenance should be the council's responsibility.

I support any proposal that helps sporting clubs future proof.

I know this is not the right forum to share these thoughts, but I'm not sure where is. I feel the bowling green area needs to be developed. It is unused and a waste of a space that could add to the local area. There is very little to engage kids in the area and although the playgrounds are nice, there needs to be more. The bowling green is unused and it would be amazing to see it developed into a skate park. The park in Willunga gets used well but it would be great for local kids to have somewhere they can get to without a parent. I'm sure people would agree they would like to see something worthwhile for our community done with the ridiculously expensive council rates we pay.

Funding for upgraded facilities are needed.

Will this be of a financial benefit to the Rec Ground teams?
It is a highly valuable resource for our small community and offers lots for all age groups.
The need to maintain these areas to a top condition is vital.

The recreational ground is well used by both community, sporting and general residents for walking etc so I believe you should leave as is and extend the lease.
The only issue I have is that the road circulating the oval and servicing the school traffic could do with resurfacing.

What are the advantages or disadvantages of this proposal.
You have not outlined anything in your Community consultation as to what this means for the Community Clubs future.
More information would be appreciated, for people to make an informed opinion

Given this was originally community owned I would think it would be appropriate to be a peppercorn lease

Appendix B: Email Feedback & Paper based feedback

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thu, 2 Apr 2026 12:40:54 +1030
To: "Mail" <Mail@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au>
Subject: McLaren Flat Recreation Ground long-term lease proposal

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Caution: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender's full email address and know the content is safe.

Attention Kelly Hooper

Hi Kelly

As a former member of the McLaren Flat Community Centre Committee I would like you to affirm the existing Committee asked for this lease arrangement.

Please explain the benefits for such an arrangement?

One of the existing needs on the complex grounds is for a dog park. I believe this could be easily constructed on the northern end of the Pony Club grounds.

Thank you
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sun, 5 Apr 2026 09:21:57 +0930
To: "Mail" <Mail@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Attention -Kelly Cooper. Re : Mc Laren Flat Recreation Ground.

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender's full email address and know the content is safe.

Morning Kelly ,

Not sure what capacity ownership of the grounds is with or who lease is between .

I see this land as being vital for the community now and in the future . It allows access to many parts of the overall grounds as a whole . Is the school going to stay ? Could you improve the oval by slightly repositioning ? Could you accommodated some aged care facility on the western side . These pieces of land are vital in future development of community needs don't allow it to be sold , try and buy the property [set up a fund] for the future community needs and overall enhance the area over the decades ahead .

Yes, keep the lease going if that's the only alternative . What's the holding costs on the balance sheet ?

Hope these comments help, I am no town planner ,not sure what your 30 - 50-year business plan is for future growth in the Mc Laren Flat area.

Kindest Regards,

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wed, 8 Apr 2026 10:08:36 +0930
To: "Mail" <Mail@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au>
Subject: Lease - McLaren Flat Community Club

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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To Whom it May Concern

As a sub lessee of the McLaren Flat Community Club the McLaren Districts Lions Club has been in receipt of your request for feedback relative to the proposal to grant a 15 year lease for the ongoing occupation of the McLaren Flat Recreation ground and club rooms.

For many years the McLaren Districts Lions Club has enjoyed a very stable, enthusiastic and effective relationship with the management committee of the Recreation Ground. Indeed many members of the two organisations have held senior roles in both organisations and quite often at the same time.

Members of the Lions Club unequivocally are in support of the proposed lease renewal and we look forward to a continued successful working relationship with the Recreation Ground Management team.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this feedback.

1 April 2026
Our ref: 8376164

WISH TO SEE THE COMMUNITY ^{CARE} REMAIN:

McLAREN FLAT 5171



TO THE OCCUPANT

Have your say

Long-term lease proposal – McLaren Flat Recreation Ground

We invite you to have your say on the proposal to grant a long-term lease for the ongoing occupation of the McLaren Flat Recreation.

The granting of a long-term lease over this facility supports the continued use of the land and related community activities, in line with Council's Community Land Management Plans for Sportsgrounds, District.

The long-term lease is proposed for a term of up to 15 years which will be structured as three consecutive 5-year optional terms.

For further information and to have your say, please visit www.onkaparingacity.com/yoursay.

Don't forget to click the +Follow button on the Your Say page so we can keep you informed and updated during the engagement process.

Alternatively, you are welcome to provide feedback using one of the below methods:

Email: mail@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au

Post: City of Onkaparinga, PO Box 1, Noarlunga Centre SA 5168

Personal Delivery: Customer Service Centres

Written feedback must contain a name (first and surname) and a valid physical address (PO Boxes are not accepted).

Please address all written feedback for the attention of Property Officer, Leasing and Transactions.

All feedback received will be summarised and any objections will be provided to Council for consideration and determination.

Consultation is open until 26 April 2026.

If you have any queries, please contact me on 8384 0666.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'K. Cooper'.

Kelly Cooper
Property Officer - Leasing and Transactions

Enclosed: Aerial of leased site

[REDACTED]
Mcharan Flat

SA 5171

20/4/26

Property Officer
Leasing and Transactions
City of Onkaparinga
PO Box 1
Norlunga Centre
SA 5168

I believe that the Mcharan Flat Recreation
Ground should be given a long term lease.

I believe the Committee looking after the grounds
do a good job with the help of the Council

Yours faithfully
[REDACTED]

Appendix C: Onsite Signage

Location of signs

41-47 Main Road, McLaren Flat SA 5171

Banners – Marked in **red** in aerial and street view

Cor flutes – Marked in **green** in aerial and street view



Banner signs



Core flute signs



Appendix D: Public Notice

Published in The Advertiser 1 April 2026



Have Your Say **Proposed Long-term Lease -** **McLaren Flat Recreation Ground**

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 202 of the Local Government Act 1999 (SA) that Council proposes to grant a long-term lease of up to 15-years (5 + 5 + 5 years) over the following parcel of community land for the purpose of recreation activities consistent with Councils' Community Land Management Plan for Sportsgrounds.

McLaren Flat Recreation Ground

Portion of land comprised in Certificate of Title Volume 5853 Folio 24 (excludes the McLaren Flat Soldiers Hall).

We invite your feedback at
www.onkaparingacity.com/yoursay

You can also post a written submission to:

Long Term Lease Proposal - McLaren Flat Recreation
Ground
City of Onkaparinga
PO Box 1
Noarlunga Centre SA 5168

Engagement is open until 26 April 2026.

S Mason
Chief Executive Officer

Appendix E: Letter to Residents

1 April 2026
Our ref: 8376164



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Kind regards

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Kelly Cooper
Property Officer – Leasing and Transactions

Enclosed: Aerial of leased site



Indicative only, not to scale

Appendix F: Respondents by suburb

