



National Minutes

And

**Information from
National Leadership Team**

November 2025

MINUTES AND INFORMATION FROM NATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING

Wednesday 12 November 2025

Attendees: **National Executive:** National President Elizabeth Birch,
National Vice President: Lorraine Thomson

National Councillors:

Lyall Aldridge Brisbane and Surrounds ; **Hazel Austin** Central & Eastern Metropolitan Melbourne; **Kris Behets** Perth and Surrounds; **Angela Carroll** Hunter/Central Coast Region; **Pam Evans** Sydney North Shore & Northern Beaches; **Dianne Fiddes** Lower Mid North Coast of NSW and Inland; **Jean Jennings** The Sunshine and Fraser Coast; **Pat McRae** NSW South Coast Berry to Eden; **Bernie McSwain** Metropolitan Adelaide and Surrounds including Sunraysia; **Jill Mason** NSW Northern Rivers; **Aletia Norman** New England and North Central NSW; **Janet Park** North and Western Metropolitan Melbourne & North and Western Country; **Christine Patmore** South Eastern Metropolitan Melbourne to the Mornington Peninsula & Gippsland; **Elizabeth Terry** Central and Southern Sydney

VIEW Office **National** National Manager **Maryanne Maher**; Office Coordinator **Linda Custer** (Minute Secretary); Operations Coordinator **Rebecca Crofts**

Apology:

The Smith Family: **Denise Clark** Saver Plus Coordinator, The Smith Family
Jo Booth Partnership Manager, The Smith Family

1	WELCOME National President Elizabeth Birch opened the online meeting by welcoming members of the National Leadership Team to the November meeting and the final for her 2024-25 term. As Elizabeth was speaking from Yamba NSW, she acknowledged the traditional owners, the Yaegl people and acknowledged the lands on which all Councillors were gathered across Australia. Elizabeth congratulated Lorraine Thomson, National President Elect 2026–27, and National Vice Presidents Elect Angie Carroll and Dianne Fiddes. Then gave a warm welcome to the National Leadership Team and VIEW National Office team. Elizabeth thanked the National Leadership Team for their dedication and commitment locally within their Areas, Zones and Clubs. As National Councillors, they had played an integral part in relaying information, engaging with many, providing guidance and inspiring others in their areas. Elizabeth also thanked the National Leadership Team for their camaraderie and collective decision making contributions, which had enhanced the growth and wellbeing of the organisation over the last two years. She then described some of the key achievements and Milestones during 2024-25 term: ○ Establishing six new VIEW Clubs over two years, with a strong pipeline for future growth. ○ Reaching 1,800, target <i>Learning for Life</i> students sponsored by VIEW Clubs which is now 1,835 ○ Advanced Governance and Leadership initiatives including: ▪ Completion of the Geographic Boundaries Project
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3.2 Resolutions	Office Coordinator VIEW Linda Custer spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting. Resolutions 2026-27 The results of the Resolutions debated in 2025 are as follows: <table><tr><td>Results</td><td>Yes</td><td>No</td></tr><tr><td>1. Mental Health Funding Programs for Children in Schools</td><td>5040</td><td>1158</td></tr><tr><td>2. National Education Standards</td><td>5036</td><td>1099</td></tr><tr><td>3. Addressing Loneliness & Social Isolation</td><td>4762</td><td>1622</td></tr></table> Thank you to all members who took the opportunity to vote at Club level or at Convention. Next Steps: As the recent resolutions debated at VIEW National Convention 2025 are for 2026-27. VIEW Resolutions Sub-committee early next year will send letters to NGO's and relevant Statutory Authorities informing them of VIEW's recent resolutions and calling for more action on these three issues to relevant Government Ministers, etc. All members are encouraged to actively participate by contacting their local MP's and community organisations in support of these resolutions. Template letters, information about the specific resolutions and guidelines on how to approach your local, State and Federal members, NGO's and other community leaders to inform them of the issues which are important to members of VIEW will be available on the website in 2026 for clubs and members to personalise. For consistency of messaging and correspondence, clubs/members are asked to use these template letters. Contact your Zone or National Councillor for more information. VIEW Resolutions webpage. view.org.au The Voice of VIEW Resolution cycle will begin again in 2026. All VIEW Clubs/members are encouraged to submit a motion/resolution next year on a relevant National issue. The final resolutions will be determined for Club debate/voting, and the final debate will take place at National Convention in September 2027. Thank you to NVP Lorraine Thomson, NC Angela Carroll, PNC Pauline Glover, Rena O'Sullivan Bayswater City VIEW Club and Robyn Killoran Aspley VIEW Club, for their dedication, diligence, encouragement, support and tireless efforts over their online meetings, also to PNVP Susan Groenhout for her ongoing support and advice during this time. Historical Reference A full list of resolutions debated at Convention since 1965 is available on the VIEW Resolutions webpage. http://view.org.au/who-we-are/resolutions/ National President Elizabeth Birch extends her sincere thanks to Past National Vice President Evelyn Berg for her ongoing support and valued contribution to VIEW's Resolutions Sub-Committee.	Results	Yes	No	1. Mental Health Funding Programs for Children in Schools	5040	1158	2. National Education Standards	5036	1099	3. Addressing Loneliness & Social Isolation	4762	1622
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3.3	National President Elizabeth Birch spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting.												

Community Grants	VIEW Clubs are encouraged to investigate and apply for community grants, particularly from banks and local councils, to support a wide range of Club activities. These funds can be used for: • Promotional events to attract new members • Equipment purchases such as: ◦ Microphones ◦ Laptop computers ◦ Banners ◦ Square Readers ◦ Other Club-use items Guidelines & Approval Process • Refer to VIEW Club Handbook 2024-25, Page 21 or in the soon to be released VIEW Club Handbook 2026-27, page 23 for detailed guidance on grant applications. • Approval from National Office is required before submitting any final application. • Allow at least 10 working days for review and approval. • Once approved, Clubs must: ◦ Share login details for online applications via email to allow for review of application ◦ Wait for final approval before submitting the application ◦ Submit a final draft of the application to VIEW National Office Using The Smith Family as Auspicing Organisation • Recommended minimum grant amount: \$1,000 • Suggested items to meet this threshold: ◦ Laptop ◦ Software eg Microsoft Office Subscription or purchase of Microsoft Word/Excel, etc ◦ Square Reader ◦ Mobile phone to operate the Reader • Smaller grants (under \$1,000) can be sought from other organisations (e.g. local Football Clubs) without auspicing Important Reminders • Grants must be used for VIEW Club needs, not for local students • Venue Hire qualifies as a grant: ◦ Clubs paying for meeting venues should consider requesting a Room Hire Waiver ◦ The Room Hire Waiver Request Form is available on the VIEW website: VIEW Club Forms & Resources For assistance, contact the Grants Committee: june3@iinet.net.au or phone 0412 617 085. National President Elizabeth Birch thanked Past National Councillor June Wiese for her ongoing assistance to all members seeking support with Grant funding applications.
3.4 History Working Group	Linda spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting. Preserving Club History Zone and National Councillors are reminded that inaugural minutes from new clubs, along with the relevant History Reporting form, should be submitted to the History Working Group for archiving. As clubs reach milestone events,

	requests for historical information increase; however, the Working Group can only provide records that have been formally submitted. Clubs are encouraged to retain key documents, such as inaugural minutes, and may forward copies to the Working Group for archiving. Names of inaugural office-bearers are recorded in the database, but accurate records depend on clubs submitting this information at the time of inauguration. By keeping and sharing these records, clubs ensure that their history is preserved for milestone celebrations VIEW's Living History: Share Your Story. If you have a story about your club or your time as a VIEW member, please contact the History Working Group. While archival records preserve VIEW's history, it is not just the written word that matters. Oral histories are equally valuable, capturing the voices and experiences of our members — the people who bring VIEW to life. These stories preserve the spirit, growth, and impact of our organisation, keeping our shared history alive for future generations. Calling interested archivists or historians. Scope: Compile VIEW archival information to provide an enduring record for future reference. Respond to search requests for information about members, past events, and milestones in the history of the organisation. Creating a digital archive. Join Our History Team. Councillors and members with a passion for preserving VIEW's history are invited to join our team. Members with experience in digital record keeping are especially welcome. If you would like more information about this role or to join the History Working Group. Please contact view@thesmithfamily.com.au. National President Elizabeth Birch thanked Past National Vice President Susan Groenhout for her ongoing assistance to VIEW as Chair of History Working Group
3.5 VIEW in the Community – Raising Awareness including promoting VIEW	National Vice President Lorraine Thomson spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting. She commented that 2025 has been a wonderful time to celebrate our milestone 65 years of VIEW and our many achievements within the community. VIEW Area Galas, Zone Conferences and Decade Birthday celebrations VIEW 65th Anniversary Galas and Zone Conferences have been enjoyed during 2025 with 'Shades of Blue' being the focus for sharing fun. The Executive attended Decade Birthday celebrations and enjoyed the 'Blue Sapphire' themed events, aligning with VIEW's Blue Sapphire 65th Anniversary year. She congratulated Pennant Hills and Parramatta VIEW Clubs on their recent milestone reaching 65 years and their combined celebratory event. Clubs promoting VIEW to their Communities Congratulations to many clubs with their innovative fundraising events –: sausage sizzles, fashion parades, make and bake stalls, 'Melbourne Cup' with 'Fashions on the Field' luncheons with members promoting friendship and fun with their VIEW support for Australian students experiencing disadvantage.

	Another great way of promoting VIEW and The Smith Family in your community, is by placing an article about one of your recent club events or an upcoming event in your local community papers, online media or connecting with your local community radio as well as posting your events on the VIEW website and club Facebook pages. Community Walk with VIEW With the launch of our very fashionable purple VIEW bucket hat at VIEW National Convention, on Sunday 7th September, hundreds of passionate VIEW members and friends walked from the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre taking a scenic route along the river, through the parklands to the Brisbane City Hall – painting the streets of Brisbane PURPLE, chatting and promoting our VIEW purpose to fellow Queenslanders in glorious sunshine. Lorraine encouraged Councillors and clubs to consider ‘Walk with VIEW’ events which could enhance individual club sponsorship - financial opportunities to support their <i>Learning for Life</i> sponsored students. Email photos and information to share on the VIEW website and/or Facebook pages. view@thesmithfamily.com.au. Start Planning International Women’s Day – 8th March 2026 Theme for 2026 ‘GIVE TO GAIN’ A Call to action for collective effort, encouraging people and organizations to invest in women’s advancement. Individual Clubs, Zones and Areas across Australia are encouraged to host celebratory International Women’s Day events for 8th March 2026. Invite local women’s groups to join, as well as local MPs and councillors – a great time to connect and share information. Please remember to share any information and photos for the VIEW website view@thesmithfamily.com.au and VIEW Facebook pages.
3.6 VIEW in the Community promoting VIEW and The Smith Family – Speaker’s Bureau	National President Elizabeth Birch spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting. Since National Convention, there have been a few opportunities to promote VIEW and our work with The Smith Family, with some future bookings ahead. Organisations such as Lions, CWA, Rotary, Probus etc offer great opportunities to spread the word and inform them about who we are and what we do and perhaps offer an alternative to their members who might want to become involved in our work. This has been evident in recent engagements and a real bonus to our organisation. Reports: Anne-Louise O’Connor, PNP Follow up from presentation to Paterson CWA in March, the organisation advised they had decided to sponsor a student directly through TSF as a result of the information they received at the presentation. Well done! Toni Thomas, PNVP, Springwood VIEW NSW on 15 October presented to Springwood Probus club, a mixed group of 75+ attendees about The Smith Family and VIEW, the Digital Divide and the programs available for <i>Learning for Life</i> students and the ongoing success of ‘Girls at the Centre’. Question time was busy and several women expressed interest in joining Springwood VIEW. Toni also met a couple who already sponsor students. Another attendee was a past member of Mosman VIEW, which has recently closed but following her move to the Mountains, will join Springwood VIEW to continue her membership with our organisation. Since her presentation, Toni has been asked to present to two other Probus groups in the Mountains. Thank you, Toni.

	Please contact PNP Gwen Wilton if there is an opportunity to promote VIEW and The Smith Family to an external audience or for advice on either a speaker in the area or an updated USB with current facts and figures so that audiences are fully engaged and informed. PNP Gwen Wilton, gwenwilton@outlook.com. (0418 650 257 - 12 Antill Street Picton NSW 2571) National President Elizabeth Birch thanked Past National President Gwen Wilton for her ongoing assistance to VIEW as Chair of VIEW Speakers Bureau
3.7 VIEW in Community – Promoting VIEW via Website and Social Media	Operations Coordinator Rebecca Crofts spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting. Website Updates and Club Engagement – Report from the Website Working Group (WWG) – Sonia Workman and Shu Zhang Increased Club Activity Following the recent call-out from National Office to National and Zone Councillors regarding website awareness, the WWG has observed a noticeable increase in Club updates — including contributions from previously unengaged Clubs. This reflects the strong efforts of National and Zone Councillors in promoting engagement and encouraging follow-up, which is both appreciated and encouraging. Club Newsletters Online The WWG has received several queries about linking newsletters to Club webpages. Many Clubs were unaware this was possible, and as a result, more are now sharing newsletters online — a welcome development. Clubs are reminded to carefully consider the content of their newsletters to ensure member privacy is maintained. Common Challenges and Considerations While the volume of update requests remains steady and manageable, several recurring issues have been noted: • Photo submissions: Clubs often send multiple photos per item, making selection difficult — especially when the WWG lacks context. The current form allows up to three photos, but we recommend limiting submissions to <u>one photo per item</u>. Please send separate photos, no collages. • Photo quality: Some images are submitted in low resolution or small file sizes, which limits usability. Higher-quality images are preferred. • Accompanying text: Occasionally, photos are submitted without any descriptive text, or with overly long narratives. <u>A short caption or brief context is ideal.</u> • Missing timelines: Photos are sometimes submitted without dates. Including the month or event date helps ensure accurate presentation. • Email communication: Clubs should use the designated email address — viewwebsite@thesmithfamily.com.au — for all VIEW website updates. Working together for the best results The WWG acknowledges the diverse skills and experience among members submitting updates. The team remains committed to interpreting submissions with care, collaborating respectfully, and producing updates that reflect each Club's intent. Flexibility is key, and the WWG is happy to accommodate changes when requested.

National President Elizabeth thanked WWG Sonia and Shu for their ongoing efforts and support of WWG.

Social media update: 1 September 2025 – 29 October 2025

The VIEW Clubs Facebook page now has 2,962 followers, up from 2,773 followers in September 2025. We are aiming to reach 3,000 followers by the end of 2025. If you are not following the National VIEW Facebook Page, please do so. Also encourage all Club members to follow this page.

Our page

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064765296835>

It looks like image below. To ensure you are following the correct page, please note the following:

- The cover image
- The number of followers – 2.9K followers (or more)
- The number following – around 142.
- Also check the address on the left. It should say 2 Market Street

Fake VIEW Clubs Facebook Pages - Please be aware of Fake profiles and pages pretending to be the legitimate VIEW Clubs National Office Facebook page. If something looks strange or you don't already follow VIEW Facebook page, let us know.

Note: We have reported these face pages to Facebook requesting that they be removed, and are currently investigating other avenues such as verification.



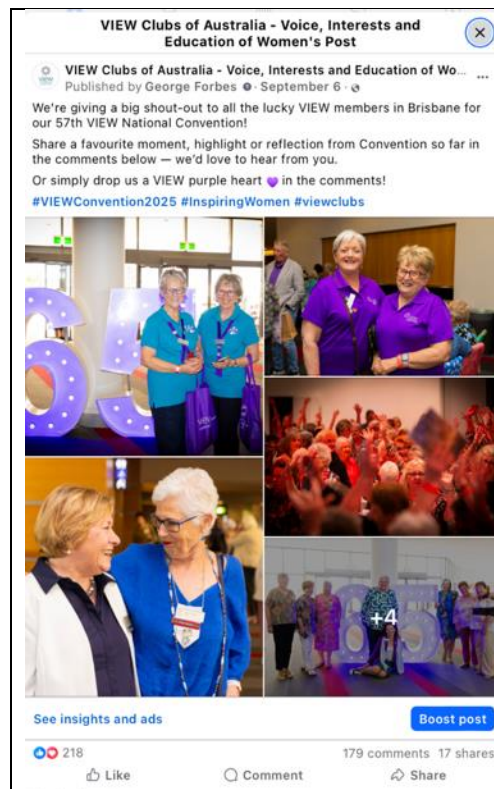
What we post on VIEW National Facebook page

VIEW aim to post 4-5 times a week, mostly in the morning. We also engage with the Facebook pages and profiles set up by individual VIEW Clubs, liking and commenting on their posts to grow their reach. We also aim to comment when a speaker, corporate partner, guest or prominent community person eg MP posts about attending a VIEW event. This is to reach new people and raise awareness about VIEW.

VIEW National Convention Brisbane 5-7 Sept 2025

This was a good time to post more regularly – as we had great photos and content to share. During the three days of Convention, we posted 21 times. This included sharing photos of the sessions, announcing Award winners, sharing videos played during Convention and reflecting on the sessions after the event.

Popular Facebook posts



Shout-out post to VIEW members at Convention, asking them to comment.

6 September 2025

219 likes and hearts

17 shares

179 comments!!

4,399 reach - accounts

11,248 views – time content was on screen

To encourage VIEW members at National Convention in Brisbane to follow us on Facebook, we published a post asking them to comment right then and there.

It received a great response!

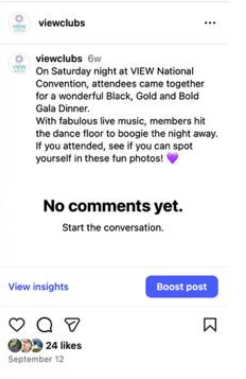
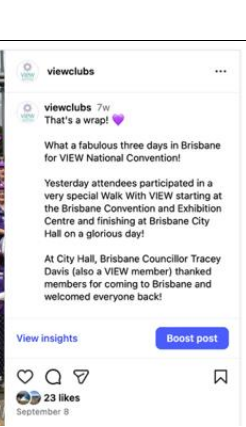
	VIEW Clubs of Australia - Voice, Interests and Education of ... Published by Luisa Bustos · September 5 · This morning as part of the opening session of VIEW's 57th National Convention, we were delighted to share this wonderful video message from the Governor General of Australia, Her Excellency Sam Mostyn AC, Patron of The Smith Family and VIEW Clubs. Thank you Governor-General of Australia for your thoughtful and inspiring message to our members!  See insights and ads Boost post 99 reactions 3 comments 54 shares Like Comment Share View more comments Christine Foster A remarkable lady, just like her predecessor Mrs Hurley. VIEW is most fortunate.	Patron (Governor-General of Australia) Video message for VIEW's National Convention 5 September 2025 99 reactions 3 comments 54 shares 2,231 reach – accounts 4,769 views <i>This post was shared widely – which was great to see.</i> <i>It was one of strongest performing posts in terms of engagement.</i> <i>Posts involving our Patron generally perform well.</i>
	VIEW Clubs of Australia - Voice, Interests and Education of ... Published by Luisa Bustos · September 23 · 	National Councillor videos <i>We started to post extremely short video grabs from National Councillors. They seek to quickly answer some common questions about VIEW, such as what happens in VIEW, why women join and what they love about VIEW. These have been quite popular, attracting reactions and comments.</i> <i>In terms of video content, they are some of the most engaging video posts we've made.</i> Kris Behets National Councilor WA - 23 September 2025 128 reactions 23 shares 1,366 reach - accounts 3,154 views – seen on screen

	VIEW Clubs of Australia - Voice, Interest... Published by Luisa Bustos · October 2 at 9:30 AM · are you curious about what happens at VIEW? 	Jill Mason National Councillor Norther Rivers NSW 2 October 2025 88 reactions 18 shares 2,085 reach – accounts 3,129 views – seen on screen
	VIEW Clubs of Australia - Voice, Interests and Education of Women's Post VIEW Clubs of Australia - Voice, Interests and Education of Wo... Published by Luisa Bustos · September 18 · Happy 30th to Caloundra VIEW Club (QLD)! 🎉 Last week VIEW members and guests gathered to celebrate Caloundra VIEW's 30th milestone birthday. Alan LeMay from The Smith Family and Maryanne Maher, VIEW National President attended to congratulate and thank members for their support o 13 Learning for Life students. At the birthday meeting, Caloundra VIEW confirmed they plan to sponsor an additional student - well done! Caloundra VIEW's fundraising activities are varied - they have fashion parades, Containers for Change, Bunnings BBQs, quarterly Make and Bake events, as well as Sew and Grow events. The club is also very social, with lots of active groups outside of the monthly meetings and activities. Members enjoy a monthly breakfast walking club, coffee and chat club and "After Dark" activities! At the celebration, there was karaoke and dancing as well as time to recognise winners of Making a Difference Awards, their Club president and Zone Councillor! Thank you Caloundra VIEW for being part of our organisation and supporting kids experience disadvantage to make the most of their education! 💜 	VIEW Club 30th birthday post – Caloundra VIEW Club 18 September 2025 159 interactions 23 comments – 5 shares 2,316 reach 3,905 views <i>VIEW Club birthday posts are popular – particularly when we have great photos to share featuring happy members.</i> <i>We suspect this post was popular because of the photos and because it followed our content about VIEW National Convention – where we received constant and consistent engagement (as a result of all the content we were sharing).</i>

What we post on VIEW National Instagram

On Instagram, we have 382 followers up from 370 in September. This platform is not as popular with VIEW Club members so we post about three posts a week and choose posts that strongly feature engaging photos of VIEW club members.

Popular Instagram posts

		Saturday night Gala Dinner for VIEW National Convention 24 likes 382 views 1 save 117 accounts reached <i>This post had great photos so followers strongly engaged with it.</i>
		VIEW National Convention Wrap post 23 likes 312 views 114 accounts reached <i>Great photos made this post successful for Instagram.</i>

How you can help

We are always looking for club content to share that has great quality photos of VIEW members having fun, socialising and fundraising for The Smith Family. We like photos that are in focus, bright (using natural light) and not too far away.

We also like to profile members in our *Meet a Member* series.

If you know a member with a lovely VIEW story, please send her details (email and phone) to Luisa or view@thesmithfamily.com.au. Luisa will contact the member and see if she is happy to participate. Luisa's email is luisa@manyanacreative.com

All content ideas can be sent to view@thesmithfamily.com.au.

4	PROJECTS AND REGULAR UPDATES
4.1 Learning for Life Student Update	National Councillor Dianne Fiddes - Lower Mid North Coast of NSW and Inland gave a brief update on the <i>Learning for Life</i> student sponsored by the National Leadership Team.
4.2	Maryanne spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting.

National Office Update	
Blue Illusion National Shopping Day in support of The Smith Family	Blue Illusion held a National Shopping Day in support of The Smith Family on Thursday 18 September 2025 and donated \$32,130.00 (7% of sale proceeds for all products sold instore and online on the campaign date). Thank you to all VIEW Club members who supported this event. Blue Illusion commented that it was an incredible effort and one of the highest they had seen.
Black Pepper – VIEW 65 th Anniversary Scarf	Black Pepper informed us that during the period between 5 Sept - 5 Oct they sold 430 VIEW 65th Anniversary scarves across their store network and online - with \$10 from the sale of each scarf donated to The Smith Family resulting in \$4,300 donation.
Anti-Poverty Week 12-18 October	VIEW Clubs supported Anti-Poverty Week once again this year by placing the Anti-Poverty Media Release in local media referencing VIEW Clubs and the support they give to The Smith Family in local communities. Thank you to all who participated.
The Smith Family Christmas Appeal	In October Clubs were sent a special flyer asking for their support for The Smith Family Christmas Appeal. Funds from this appeal go to: Out-of-school learning support – giving children vital out-of-school learning support in Terms 1 and 2 so they can catch up next school year and build the core skills and confidence needed to thrive Tailored Reading Support – help match a child with a <i>student2student</i> reading buddy to improve reading skills, confidence and literacy – the foundation of all learning. We are asking all VIEW Clubs to donate excess club funds at the end of this year to The Smith Family Christmas appeal. A Smith Family Christmas Appeal Media Release has been provided to VIEW Clubs in relation to The Smith Family Christmas Appeal. (https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/resources/media-releases). We have already seen some great local articles from VIEW Clubs. Club Publicity Officers are reminded to share this Media Release with their local media outlets (newspaper, community radio, etc).
Free Financial Wellbeing Workshops	Presented by ANZ in partnership with The Smith Family ANZ and The Smith Family are teaming up to deliver free, one-hour Financial Wellbeing Workshops to communities across 10–15 electorates nationally. These sessions aim to empower individuals with practical financial knowledge while strengthening connections between ANZ, The Smith Family, and key stakeholders, such as VIEW Clubs - including government representatives. These Financial Wellbeing Workshops are open to VIEW members and others in the community and are designed to be practical, inclusive and will cover topics: • Safe digital banking practices • Scam protection and how to spot red flags • Banking support available during times of financial stress Next Workshop Date: Friday 28 November in Werribee, Victoria

	Venue: Chirnside room, Quantin Binnah Community Centre 61 Thames Boulevard, Werribee Vic 3030 Time: 10.30am – 11.30am To register for this event, and to find out about upcoming workshops as they're announced, visit: https://events.thesmithfamily.com.au/event/fwbwerribee/ Future Workshops Additional dates, times, and locations will be shared with VIEW Clubs via email once we are notified of the locations.
Government House Open Day (GHOD)	As one of the Governor General's patronages, VIEW was invited on Saturday 1 November to participate in GHOD at Yarralumla, ACT to promote VIEW and The Smith Family. The Governor General, Her Excellency, The Honorable Sam Mostyn AC visited and chatted with all expo stall holders and took a selfie with the VIEW members at their stall. The weather was superb, VIEW were well positioned to hand out brochures and a raffle was held on the day. Thank you to PNCs June Weise and Marilynne Weston (Bob Weston) and all of their VIEW member helpers on the day. Please send your article/s with complimentary high-resolution photos to view@thesmithfamily.com.au.
VIEW Matters Magazine - November Edition	The November 2025 edition of the VIEW Matters magazine will be arriving at Clubs soon where you can pick up a copy. The e-book version is currently available on the VIEW Website. April 2026 edition VIEW Matters Magazine – will be open for submissions on 1 January 2026.
Ceasing Alternative Club Postal Address for VIEW Matters	To ensure timely and reliable delivery of <i>VIEW Matters</i>, <u>we will no longer be recording alternative postal addresses for magazine distribution</u>. A significant number of packages sent to these alternative addresses have been returned to National Office marked as incorrect address. This delays members receiving their magazines and incurs significant postage costs due to the need for redirection and re-mailing. Many members have also expressed confusion about the purpose of the alternative address field which is used by a small minority of clubs. To streamline the process and reduce errors, <u>from April 2026, all <i>VIEW Matters</i> magazines will now be sent to the club's primary postal address</u>. This will ensure consistent delivery, reduce unnecessary costs, and simplify record keeping for everyone. National Office will monitor the rate of return postage following the implementation of a single postal address. National Office expects this will reduce the instances of unnecessary return postage. If National Office continue to receive high volumes of returned parcels we may need to assess charging clubs for postage in these circumstances. Note: to all Clubs to check that the Club postal address for 2026 is correct.
Christmas Wrapping	Each year, VIEW members raise funds by participating in Christmas wrapping at local shopping centres. This is not only a good way to raise significant funds but also an opportunity for members to be seen in the community, raising the profile of VIEW and The Smith Family. We like to promote this fun activity, and ask clubs to post information on the VIEW.org.au website, post your event on your Club's Facebook page and most

	importantly send photos and an article about this activity to view@thesmithfamily.com.au .
Good Food and Wine Show Christmas Markets (Sydney and Melbourne)	VIEW and The Smith Family have been invited to join the festive fun at the Good Food and Wine Show (GFWS) Christmas Markets in Sydney (21-23 Nov) and in Melbourne (5-7 Dec) as a charity partner.  VIEW members will assist by wrapping gifts to raise funds for <i>Learning for Life</i> program as well as have an opportunity to showcase VIEW in the community. Over 12,000 people are expected to attend these markets during the 2.5 days. If you would like to volunteer at the wrapping station for a 3 hour shift, (table, chairs and all wrapping accoutrements provided, please contact National Office: view@thesmithfamily.com.au • Sydney (21-23 November) @ International Convention Centre (Darling Harbour) or • Melbourne (6-8 December) @ Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (Southbank) (Jeff's Shed) – Christine Patmore chrisp2248@gmail.com
Club Development – Help us build new VIEW Clubs	Queensland – Townsville Queensland Development Team - PNP Jan Roberts is working on opening a VIEW Club in Townsville. Contact: Jan Roberts 0438 405 986 / DevelopmentQLDVIEW@gmail.com Hervey Bay Hervey Bay Evening Club – NC Jean Jennings will be working on establishing an evening club in Hervey Bay. Contact Jean on 0425 253 064 / jeanjennings06@gmail.com Victoria - Torquay The Development Team are working on a series of interest meetings for a potential club in Torquay. Contact: Janet Park 0459 509 529 / janetpark034@gmail.com Western Australia Bunbury and Mandurah After several interest meetings in Bunbury, with limited local interest at this stage The WA Development team has decided to switch its focus to Mandurah Contact: Mary Deakin 0427 335 158 / zonec.wa@gmail.com If members have friends or relatives living in the above mentioned areas, please encourage them to consider joining VIEW. Alternatively, if any members know of an area that would benefit from a VIEW Club, please contact your local Development Team, National Councillor or National Office: view@thesmithfamily.com.au.

VIEW Learning and Development	VIEW Learning and Development month will be coming back in March 2026! There will be a number of online training sessions delivered by the VIEW National Office team online via Microsoft Teams covering a range of commonly requested topics. Sessions will be targeted towards Officeholders and Committee members, however all VIEW members interested in the training sessions are welcome and encouraged to attend. Details on the topics to be covered in sessions, dates and how to register will be coming out to all clubs in the new year.
VIEW Culture Refocus Rollout	As per item 4.3 in the May 2025 National Leadership Team Minutes, Zone and National Councillors have been rolling out and socialising the Culture Refocus documents to their local clubs. National Office will: • Re-launch the <i>Making a Difference</i> Awards with a new online application form and a new website page that reflect on our VIEW Guiding Principles in the November/December website updates • Include a session on Culture and Dispute Resolution in the November Work Study sessions and again in early 2026 as a refresher • The VIEW Culture and Guiding Principles document and the 7 Step Conflict/Dispute Resolution Guide will be made available on the VIEW Website Resources page in the November/December website updates. The 2026/27 National Leadership Team will be provided with physical and digital copies of the VIEW Culture and Guiding Principles document and the 7 Step Conflict/Dispute Resolution Guide as well as the VIEW Culture PowerPoint presentation to continue our focus on VIEW Culture into the future.
Square Reader Payment Card Industry (PCI) compliance	The Smith Family has recently undertaken an assessment of their PCI compliance. PCI DSS (Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard) is an information security standard that regulates how businesses that accept payments by card store and protect customers card details. VIEW Clubs, as a part of The Smith Family, is required to comply with PCI DSS standards. VIEW National Office has worked together with The Smith Family Risk & Compliance team to update the VIEW Club Square Reader guide. There are a few important changes to requirements for VIEW Clubs who chose to use a square reader: 1. The serial number, model number and person responsible must be provided to National Office on purchase of a square reader device and will be checked in the annual audit to ensure they remain current and correct. 2. Square readers should be visually inspected (by Club/Committee member responsible?) prior to use to ensure there is no damage or abnormalities before use. 3. Square readers should be stored securely, ideally in a locked petty cash tin. National Office will be organising an audit of all VIEW Club Square Reader devices and contacting all Club Treasurers. PNP Anne-Louise O'Connor has agreed to assist with this project prior to, and post December 2025. Note: The Square Reader Information Booklet has been updated 2025 and will be available on the VIEW Website Resources page in the November/December website updates and sent out to all clubs electronically as part of the January mail out.
VIEW 65th Anniversary	Don't forget to buy a 65th Anniversary online raffle ticket! Last chance to be involved in a 65th Anniversary event and you could be a winner!!

Blue Sapphire Online Raffle	Must do – before 3 December - All VIEW Club members are encouraged to purchase an online raffle ticket in VIEW's amazing 65th Anniversary Blue Sapphire Online Raffle. Tickets are \$5 each and include spectacular prizes such as: • Two (2) return economy tickets – Any Australian city served by Singapore Airlines to Copenhagen, Denmark (Singapore Airlines Terms and Conditions Apply) • Wendy Wu Travel Voucher and limited edition 65th birthday Georg Jensen Cuvee giftbox • Blue Sapphire jewellery (pendant, earrings and ring) as well as other 11 other fabulous prizes.... Ticket sales close on Wednesday 3 December – raffle is drawn on 4 December which means you could be the winner of a wonderful prize before Christmas. Buy your tickets today so you don't miss out - https://events.thesmithfamily.com.au/raffle/view-clubs-online-raffle-2025
TSF Annual Impact Report 2024-25	The Smith Family Impact Report will be available online for all members after The Smith Family AGM on 27 November 2025. Copies will be available online view.org.au and The Smith Family website. (https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/about-us/finances) Snapshot copies of The Smith Family impact report 2024-25 will also be available. New members will continue to receive a copy of the snapshot as they join VIEW. Any councillors or clubs requiring hard copies need to contact National Office (view@thesmithfamily.com.au) National Leadership Team will be able to pick up copies at the February National Leadership Team Meeting.
4.3 Governance and Leadership (Geographic Boundaries) project update – Addressing expansion of Zones - Qld, Vic and WA	At the May National Leadership Team (NLT) meeting, National Councillors were presented with a list of Zones and Areas requiring redistribution due to club closures. This paper outlines the recommendations from the geographical boundaries project teams for the expansion of Zones in Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia. This paper was initially presented at the September NLT meeting and due to time constraints, deferred until the November NLT meeting Victoria - North and Western Metropolitan Melbourne & North and Western Country (Area VC) The Geographic Boundaries team in Victoria identified that Area VC, encompassing North and Western Metropolitan Melbourne and Country regions is larger in comparison to the two other Areas in Victoria. Zone VC03 currently contains 11 VIEW Clubs (Geelong Day, Geelong Evening, Leopold, Drysdale, Point Lonsdale, Ocean Grove Day, Ocean Grove Evening, Colac, Ballarat, Warrnambool and Hamilton). Due to the considerable geographic distance – approximately 225km – between the Geelong and Bellarine Peninsula based clubs and those in Western Victoria (Colac, Ballarat, Warrnambool, Hamilton), the project team recommended dividing VC03 into two distinct zones. The proposed restructure, effective from 2026, includes: • Zone VC01/02 to become Zone VC01 (North West Metro and Country) and consist of 8 VIEW Clubs: Shepparton, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Kyneton, Sunbury -Macedon Ranges, Keilor, Altona and Point Cook.

- **VC02 (Western Victoria)** to consist of 4 VIEW Clubs: **Ballarat, Colac, Hamilton & Warrnambool in Western Victoria** (formerly part of VC03)
- **VC03 (Geelong and Bellarine Peninsula)** to consist of 7 VIEW Clubs in Geelong and the Bellarine - Geelong Day, Geelong Evening, Leopold, Drysdale, Point Lonsdale, Ocean Grove Day and Ocean Grove Evening.

The renaming of these Zones easily incorporates the new Zone (VC02) and reflects the geographic alignment and shared regional interests of clubs located in Victoria's western corridor, enabling more manageable travel and stronger local collaboration

The recommendation acknowledges the logistical challenges posed by travel within the new Zone VC02 and suggests strategies to support effective functioning, including coordinated scheduling, rotational hosting and hybrid engagement via email, Zoom/Microsoft Teams and phone.

Beyond geographic considerations, the restructure offers broader benefits:

- it reflects the distinct social, economic and cultural identity of rural/regional clubs.
- It fosters leadership development by creating more opportunities for members to take on Councillor roles.
- It enables targeted growth through the establishment of new clubs in regional areas.
- It supports accessibility and inclusion through flexible engagement models.
- It affirms VIEW's commitment to valuing and investing in rural and regional communities.

Queensland - The Sunshine Coast and Fraser Coast (Area QB)

The Area QB Geographic Boundaries team recommended the creation of a new Zone to accommodate the expansion of VIEW Clubs into Central and Northern Queensland. With clubs now established in Bundaberg, Mackay Capricornia (Rockhampton), and a prospective VIEW Club in development in Townsville, the existing QB02 Zone now spans over 700km, from Hervey Bay to Mackay making engagement and support increasingly challenging.

The proposal recommends trialling the new QB03 zone from 2026 comprising **Bundaberg, Mackay, and Capricornia** with a review to follow either upon the opening of the Townsville VIEW Club or at the end of the year.

Queensland – (Area QB) – the restructure will result in:

- QB01 consist of 7 clubs (Bribie Island, Buderim, Caloundra Evening, Kawana Waters, Maroochydore, Noosaville and Twin Waters)
- QB02 consist of 4 clubs (Fraser Coast, Gympie, Hervey Bay, and Maryborough)
- QB03 consist of 3 Clubs (Bundaberg, Mackay and Capricornia) (formerly part of QB02).

The new Zone QB03 will allow for more focused support and leadership development within the central/northern region, with the intention of appointing a Zone Councillor based locally. The new Zone may evolve into a separate area as additional clubs are established.

Given the significant distances between the clubs in QB03, the proposal includes strategies to manage collaboration effectively.

- Coordinated scheduling of joint events or meetings to minimize travel
- Rotational hosting to share the travel burden equitably

	• Use of Hybrid engagement models such as email, Microsoft team or Zoom meetings and telephone to maintain connection and support While geographic distance is a clear factor, the recommendation is also grounded in broader strategic and community benefits. These clubs operate in distinct social, and cultural environments. It also opens pathways for leadership and succession planning, strengthens regional development efforts and affirms VIEW's commitment to valuing and investing in regional communities. Zone Councillors 2026-27 In preparation for the 2026-27 term, Zone Councillor nominations are being sought for the newly proposed Zones in both Area VC and Area QB. At the time of writing: • Zone Councillor VC02- Western Victoria (vacant) • Note 1: Toni-Lee Munro (Mackay) and Rhonda Jones (Maryborough) were ratified as Zone Councillors (QB02). • Toni -Lee expressed interest in the QB03 Zone Councillor position. <i>Members interested in nominating for Zone Councillor roles are encouraged to complete and submit the official nomination form to National Office.</i> https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/-/media/files/view-clubs/resources/forms/2025/councillor/councillor-zone-councillor-nomination-form-2026-27.docx Western Australia – Perth and Surrounds (WA) The WA Geographic Boundaries Team has reviewed the current geographic spread of WA01, which includes eight VIEW Clubs, from Perth to Capes (Dunsborough). The recommendation was to create Zone WA02 in the South West Region. While there is interest in creating a second zone in the South West region the proposed zone currently includes two VIEW Clubs: Busselton and Capes. To maintain national consistency and alignment with zone expansion structures already adopted in Victoria and Queensland, a minimum of three (preferably four) clubs is recommended before establishing a new zone. It was noted that the WA Development Team is actively working on establishing additional club/s in the region, Bunbury, Mandurah and Albany once any of these new clubs are established, the creation of a second zone will be reconsidered. Proposal The broader proposal presented to the NLT includes ratifying the creation of two new Zones within the VIEW Club structure, effective from 2026: The National Leadership Team endorsed the proposal and agreed to the creation of VC02 Western Victoria and renaming of Zones in Victoria and QB03 Central and Northern Queensland, For consistent alignment with the national guidelines, the Western Australian proposal for an additional Zone in South West Region to be revisited once an additional club in the region has been established
5	GENERAL BUSINESS
5.1 Club Closures	It was noted that the following VIEW Club will be closing by end 2025: Point Cook (VC).
5.2	National Leadership Team unanimously ratified the appointment of National Councillors 2026–27 as follows:

2024-25 National and Zone Councillor Update	Area	Nominee	Nominee's Zone	Period of ZC Service
	NA	Robin Bosch	NA	Area NA 2012-2013 ZC NA01 2009-2010
	NC	Sandra Fong	NE01	2024-25
	NI	Mary Hollingworth	NI02	2024-25
	QA	Irene Kinder	QA02	2024-25
	QB	Christine Foster	QB02	2024-25
	SA	Bernie McSwain*	SA	Returning
	VA	Annette Harriott**	VA03	2025
	VB	Christine Patmore***	VB	Returning
	VC	Lorraine Batrouney	VC03	2024-25
	WA	Kris Behets*		Returning
The role of National Councillor is pivotal in maintaining strong leadership, continuity, and effective communication across VIEW Clubs and with VIEW National Office and The Smith Family. With five areas (AA, NB, NG, NK and NL) currently unrepresented, it is vital that all VIEW members work collaboratively to identify and encourage capable leaders to step forward. National Councillor representation in all Areas will strengthen our collective impact and uphold the integrity of VIEW's national structure.				
5.3 2026-27 Zone Councillor Nominations	National Leadership Team unanimously ratified the appointment of Zone Councillors 2026-27 as follows.			
	Zone	Nominee	Zone	Nominee
	AA01	Robynne Daniels	QB01	Diann Kennedy
	NA03	Dianne Whitten	QB02	Rhonda Jones (nee Tearle)**
	NB01	Catherine Gallagher	QB03***	Toni-Lee Munro
	NG01	Jennifer Cook-Dodds	QC01	Dianne Stamp
	NG02	Janelle Chapman	SA01	Michelle Modra
	NG03	Anne Pearson	SA02	Judith Myers
	NH01	Lorraine Faulkner-Smith	VA02	Anne Edwards
	NI01	Leeanne Stubbs	VA03	Saskia Van Deventer
	NJ01	Di Lutze	VB01	Dianne Latessa
	NK01	Cathie Grove	VB03	Heather Wright
	NK02	Evelyn Lockhart	VC01	Jenny Mousley Carmen Johnson
	NL01	Nita McIntyre	VC03	Meredith O'Neill
	QA01	Karen Curtis	WA01*	Michelle McGrath Rena O'Sullivan
	QA02	Clare Topp		
* These Zones will be jointly represented by two Councillors.				
** Note name change				
*** Updated per paper 4.3 noted above				

	It was noted that 12 Zones currently do not have a nominee. It is essential that VIEW members continue to prioritise filling these vacancies to ensure strong local leadership and effective communication across all VIEW Clubs. Zone Councillors similar to National Councillors play a vital role in supporting members and Clubs and connecting them with National Office and The Smith Family. These roles are both rewarding and impactful, and can be shared to encourage broader participation.
5.4 Tertiary Scholarships in the Future	Update on the future direction of The Smith Family’s <i>Learning for Life</i> program and support given to tertiary-level students. Background: The Smith Family, following a comprehensive review of their programs, has made the considered decision to refine certain areas of support, including their approach to tertiary-level students. From 2025, The Smith Family has decided to progressively cease offering Tertiary Scholarship support to <u>new</u> <i>Learning for Life</i> students. This change will not affect current recipients, who will continue to receive support through grandfathering arrangements until they complete their studies. The Smith Family understand the significance of this decision and want to assure sponsors (including VIEW Clubs) that the decision was not made lightly. All students who currently receive tertiary support will continue through their studies on scholarship. Why is this occurring? Over the past few years, The Smith Family has made meaningful investments aligned with its long-term strategy, to strengthen support for students and families. However, like many organisations across both corporate and not-for-profit sectors, The Smith Family is navigating rising costs and challenging economic conditions. The environment The Smith Family works within is constantly changing, and they must make strategic choices to ensure the best possible outcomes for the children and young people they support. The Smith Family has conducted an in-depth review of their Tertiary Scholarship support, which was done alongside broader evaluations of its programs. This work coincided with a major review of Higher Education support undertaken by the Commonwealth Government. During this period, we’ve been seeing government and tertiary institutions introducing increased support for students experiencing disadvantage – focused on enabling higher levels of equity for young people from low socioeconomic backgrounds. The Smith Family are responding by evolving its support. The Smith Family are looking specifically at strengthening its focus on students at the school level. Their goal here doesn’t change – it is about ensuring students have the resources they need through their primary and secondary years. The Smith Family will continue to ensure students develop foundational skills to succeed in their studies and to move into their chosen pathways after school. By focusing their support at the school level, they can make the most meaningful, long-term difference for children and young people experiencing disadvantage with the resources they have available. The Smith Family is also exploring how they may be able to support <i>Learning for Life</i> students undertaking tertiary studies in future. For example, by directing the <i>Learning</i>

	for <i>Life</i> students towards financial and other supports available directly through tertiary institutions. Tertiary Support Offer – trialing for students considering higher education Tertiary Together was launched in 2025, as a trial initiative of continuation of support for <i>Learning for Life</i> students who are studying a Cert IV or higher, post completion of Year 12. In 2025 students received support from their Tertiary Coordinator to develop capabilities in navigating the tertiary study journey and identify any opportunities for support through their institution. In 2026 the Tertiary Together initiative is being extended to continue to offer support to those already engaged, along with <i>LfL</i> students leaving yr 12 this year, to get in early to support their transition into tertiary over the coming few months. Students will receive access to a Tertiary Coordinator, advice on how to navigate entry pathways and enrolment processes, general information about what support is available at University or TAFE, specific information about financial and other forms of support & access to The Smith Family's programs and other relevant offers i.e. discounts on textbooks. Tertiary Together does not involve financial support, is currently being trialed and will be assessed in 2026. How does this impact VIEW's support? As at October 2025, approximately 30 <i>Learning for Life</i> tertiary students are currently sponsored by VIEW Clubs. Support for tertiary students already being sponsored with a Tertiary Scholarship will continue until the students finish the program. We expect that VIEW Clubs will continue supporting school-aged students. Changes to the <i>Learning for Life</i> program are carefully considered and are designed to support and improve The Smith Family's overall impact and in no way diminish The Smith Family's commitment to making a life-changing difference for Australian children. Summary • Tertiary Scholarships will no longer be offered to new <i>Learning for Life</i> students from 2025 • Current tertiary students will continue to be supported. • The Smith Family is shifting focus to school-level support for greater long-term impact • VIEW Clubs remain vital in supporting students through primary and secondary education. • <i>By focusing support at the school level, The Smith Family (including VIEW Clubs) can make the most meaningful, long-term difference for children and young people experiencing disadvantage with the resources they have available.</i>
5.5 Increase to Annual Membership	VIEW undertakes to regularly review the cost of membership to balance affordability for members with maintaining VIEWs ability to deliver services to its members to support the role of individual clubs in connecting and supporting women in community through the shared purpose of making a difference in the lives of Australian children experiencing poverty. The last increase in Annual Membership Subscription fee and Joining fee was in 2018.

Subscription & Joining Fee	For the last 7 years there have been no further fee increases, despite rising operational costs. This has been due to VIEW's focus on cost saving initiatives to actively reduce expenditure to keep fees low: • Travel: Councillors limit Club visits and use email, video calls (Zoom or Microsoft teams, etc) and phone to reduce travel costs • NLT Meetings: the majority of National Leadership Team (NLT) meetings are held via Microsoft Teams apart from one annual face to face meeting for training and collaboration • Postage: Clubs batch monthly orders/new members; most communications and mailouts are now digital • Printing: Minimised, documents printed only when necessary These measures have helped VIEW maintain fees lower than comparable organisations. The National Leadership Team was taken through a discussion paper which included comparable member-based organisations and the applicable fees and benefits offered by each organisation. VIEW remains one of the most affordable organisations for women in community to join. The annual subscriptions for VIEW are notably lower than comparable organisations, most of whom have also raised their fees since 2018. Outcome of 2025 Review To enable VIEW to continue to provide members with the same services and benefits, the National Leadership Team unanimously agreed: From 1 April 2026: To an increase in the Annual Membership Subscription from \$20.00 to \$30.00 and To an increase of the Joining Fee from \$20.00 to \$30.00 Both fees are being increased by \$10.00, to the same amount for ease of processing, avoiding confusion and to reflect that the costs associated with both fees have increased. Additionally, each club is currently required to pay a \$20 Annual Club Service Fee to National Office to contribute to administrative and running costs. National Leadership Team agreed to the removal of this fee to reduce the significant administrative and processing burden for a large number of small payments. This is currently an inefficient system that involves significant time and effort for The Smith Family, National Office and Clubs. In making their decision National Leadership Team noted that it is necessary to ensure: • VIEW's rising operational costs do not affect The Smith Family's core mission • Members continue to receive the same level of services and benefits and • Fees remain affordable and reflect the rising cost of living Effective Date of fee increases: 1 April 2026. As clubs may have already begun collecting the current \$20 fee from existing members, and to avoid confusion or complexity in record keeping, the proposed increase to the Annual Membership Subscription and the Joining Fee will come into effect from 1 April 2026 This means that:
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	Existing VIEW Club members who pay their Annual Membership Subscriptions: • prior to the due date of 31 March 2026 will pay the current fee of \$20. • after the 31 March 2026 deadline will pay the increased fee of \$30. New VIEW Club members who join: • prior to 31 March 2026 will pay the existing fee of \$20 Annual Membership Subscription and \$20 Joining fee • on or after 1 April 2026 will pay the increased fee of \$30 Annual Membership Subscription and \$30 Joining Fee. It was agreed that National Councillors be provided with briefing notes so they can ensure that Zone Councillors, Clubs and members are informed of these increases and the reasoning behind them.
5.6 Donations to Local Schools	All funds raised by VIEW Clubs are raised for and on behalf of The Smith Family to support the educational outcomes of Australian children experiencing disadvantage and are directed either to sponsor <i>Learning for Life</i> students or general donations to The Smith Family programs. VIEW Clubs have previously been encouraged to donate one book voucher up to a value of \$50 to one local school per year. The original intention of this policy (2013) was to give a club that did not have a local Smith Family presence an opportunity to engage with students by supporting a school in the local community. At the same time, it was an opportunity to promote VIEW in the local community. The Smith Family is committed to using funds wisely and effectively. It is imperative that VIEW Clubs also use our limited resources most efficiently to best carry out our Vision and Mission. The promotional benefit of book voucher donations has been far less than expected and the time and funds currently allocated to making donations to local schools could be better applied to sponsoring students or making general donations to The Smith Family so they can continue to support out of school learning programs and provide tailored reading support. Focus of support: Over the past 12 years since this policy was last assessed (2013), we have seen increased support services from State Government and other community charity groups providing support to schools and school students. The Smith Family strategically selects partner schools in communities that have been identified as having higher concentrations of families living in economic disadvantage. These schools are carefully selected to ensure that resources are applied where we can make the most meaningful, long-term difference for children and young people experiencing disadvantage with the resources they have available. VIEW Club funds are best directed through The Smith Family to these identified areas and students. VIEW and The Smith Family's focus (since 2023) has been on <i>Digital Learning Essentials</i> program providing <i>Learning for Life</i> students with ongoing support to address the gap caused by the digital divide. Every student needs access to digital tools and online learning to fully participate in their education and their life beyond school. This program reaches <i>Learning for Life</i> students throughout Australia not just in areas where The Smith Family communities are located. Confusion and Incorrect Usage: Audit results from the last few years indicates that the book voucher donation is used by only a few clubs and many of these clubs are confused about the correct implementation.

	We continue to see clubs that make donations of \$50 vouchers to multiple schools in their area and many of these clubs do not personally attend these schools to make these presentations and therefore are not effectively promoting VIEW Clubs through these donations. The National Leadership Team agreed to remove the recommendation for \$50 book voucher donations from future Councillor and Club handbooks to ensure VIEW Club funds are used more strategically and effectively through The Smith Family programs. Note: <i>Clubs who are currently involved in providing one school in their area with a book voucher per year and attend the school for presentation are allowed to continue.</i>	
5.7 National Schedule of Dates (Subject to change) Please ensure that you add these dates to your calendar for easy reference.	WHEN	WHAT
	January	
	Week beginning 13 January	Agenda items to Executive Mentor
	Thurs 23 January	January mailout to Clubs
	February	
	Wed 18 February	Agenda sent to National Councillors
	Tues 24 February	Executive Meeting (F2F)
	Wed/Thurs 25/26 February	National Leadership Meeting (F2F)
	Fri 27 February	National Minutes Distributed via email
	Sat 28 February	Club and Councillor Audit 2025 Due
	Sat 28 February	Committee List for 2026 Due
	March	
	Week beginning 2 March	Zone Councillor Meeting (F2F) w/- National Councillor
	Sun 8 March	International Women’s Day
	Week beginning 9 March	Delegates meeting (F2F) with Zone Councillor
	Tue 31 March	Membership List Due
	Tue 31 March	Annual Subscriptions Due
	April	
	Week beginning 27 April	Agenda items to Executive Mentor
	May	
	Week 18-24 May	National Volunteer Week
	Week 27 May - 3 June	National Reconciliation Week
	June	
	Wed 10 June	Agenda sent to National Councillors
	Tues 16 June	Executive Meeting (Teams)
	Wed 17 June	National Leadership Meeting (Teams)
	Fri 26 June	National Minutes Distributed via email
	Week beginning 29 June	Zone Councillor Meeting (Teams) w/- National Councillor
	July	
	Fri 3 July	Submit Club Bank Statement as at 30/6/2026
	Week beginning 6 July	Delegates meeting (Teams) w/- Zone Councillor
	August	
	Week beginning 31 August	Agenda Items to Executive Mentor
	September	
	October	
Week 12-18 October (TBC)	Anti-Poverty Week	
Wed 13 October	Agenda sent to National Councillors	
Tues 20 October	Executive Meeting (Teams)	

	Wed 21 October	National Leadership Meeting (Teams)
	Fri 30 October	National Minutes Distributed via email
	November	
	Week beginning 2 November	Zone Councillor Meeting (Teams) w/- National Councillor
	Week beginning 9 November	Delegates meeting (Teams) with Zone Councillor
	Week beginning 30 November	Agenda Items to Executive
	December	
	Fri 11 December	Last postal mailout from NO (if needed)
6.	LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT	
6.1 Officeworks Update	Jo Booth, Partnership Manager at The Smith Family, provided an update on the evolving relationship with Officeworks. She noted that recent organisational changes, including the appointment of a new Managing Director and a strategic shift towards increasing sales and in-store engagement, have led to the disbanding of the Community Team responsible for local community support initiatives. As a result, the collaborative process between VIEW Clubs, The Smith Family, and Officeworks to facilitate pro-bono printing and banner support will not proceed. Jo advised that Officeworks is reassessing its broader community engagement, including its support for The Smith Family, and efforts are being made to maintain their involvement in key initiatives such as the Back to School Appeal. Jo respectfully requested that VIEW Clubs refrain from approaching Officeworks stores for printing or product donations, as there is no longer budget allocated for these purposes and any such requests will be declined.	
6.2 Saver Plus	Denise Clark, Saver Plus Coordinator at The Smith Family, attended the NLT via teams to introduce the Saver Plus program. She outlined that The Smith Family is seeking VIEW's support in promoting the initiative to the broader community, particularly individuals and families from lower socio-economic backgrounds. Saver Plus is a financial education and matched savings program delivered in partnership with ANZ. Eligible participants include lower-income families with a child in school, or individuals who are studying (TAFE/University) and earning an income through casual/part-time work, pensions, or single-income households. Participants must hold an ANZ bank account. The program runs over 10 months, during which participants aim to save \$500 towards a specific goal (e.g., purchasing a laptop or funding a school excursion). Upon completion, ANZ matches the savings dollar-for-dollar. The program includes five online workshops covering topics such as budgeting, superannuation, and scam awareness. Denise provided an initial introduction, with further details and information about VIEW's involvement to be shared in the new year.	
7	OTHER BUSINESS	
Moving on from National Leadership Team	Maryanne Maher led a session for Outgoing Executive and National Councillors that allowed them to share their achievements during their term 2024-25. Maryanne also gave a Vote of Thanks on behalf of The Smith Family to the 2024-25 National Executive and National Councillors.	

Thank you to the NLT	On closing National President Elizabeth Birch again thanked the National Leadership Team for their support during their term. She also congratulated the incoming National Leadership, National and Zone Councillors 2026-27 for taking on these leadership roles and wished them well. Elizabeth ended by wishing everyone a happy festive season and a wonderful 2026.
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Summary of Decision at National Leadership Team Meeting
November 2025

Agenda Reference	Area of Work	Decision, Policy and/or Procedure
3.1	Sub-Committees and Working Groups - Reports	External Relations
3.2	Sub-Committees and Working Groups - Reports	Resolutions
3.3	Sub-Committees and Working Groups - Reports	Community Grants
3.4	Sub-Committees and Working Groups - Reports	History Working Group
3.5	Sub-Committees and Working Groups - Reports	VIEW in the Community – Raising Awareness including promoting VIEW
3.6	Sub-Committees and Working Groups - Reports	VIEW in the Community promoting VIEW and The Smith Family – Speaker's Bureau
3.7	Sub-Committees and Working Groups - Reports	VIEW in Community – Promoting VIEW via Website and Social Media
4.1	Projects and Regular Updates	<i>Learning for Life</i> Student Update
4.2	Projects and Regular Updates	National Office Update
4.3	Projects and Regular Updates	Governance Project: Geographic Boundaries
5.1	General Business	Club Closures
5.2	General Business	2026-27 National Councillor Updated ratification list
5.3	General Business	2026-27 Zone Councillor Updated ratification list
5.4	General Business	Tertiary Scholarships in the future
5.5	General Business	Increase to Annual Membership Subscription & Joining Fee
5.6	General Business	Donations to Local Schools
5.7	General Business	National Schedule of Dates
6.1	Learning and Development	Jo Booth Corporate Partnership Manager – VIEW's partnership with Officeworks.
6.2	Learning and Development	Denise Clark Saver Plus Coordinator - Saver Plus – building a relationship with VIEW