



**National Leadership Team
Meeting Minutes**

and

**Information from
National Leadership Team**

June 2026

VIEW CLUBS OF AUSTRALIA

National Leadership Team Meeting

17 June 2026

Location:

Wednesday 17 June; Microsoft Teams

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Lorraine Thomson	Co-Chair, National President
Angela Carroll	National Vice-President
Dianne Fiddes	National Vice-President
Lorraine Batrouney	VC National Councillor, North and West Metro Melbourne and North & West Country
Kris Behets	WA, Perth and Surrounding Areas
Robin Bosch	NA National Councillor, Hunter/Central Coast Region
Angela Carroll	National Vice-President
Dianne Fiddes	National Vice-President
Sandra Fong	NC National Councillor, Greater Sydney
Christine Foster	QB National Councillor, Sunshine & Fraser Coasts & Central QLD
Annette Harriott	VA National Councillor, Central and East Metro Melbourne
Mary Hollingworth	NI National Councillor, New England and North Central NSW
Irene Kinder	QA National Councillor, Brisbane and surrounds
Bernie McSwain	SA National Councillor, Metro Adelaide & surrounds including Sunraysia

ATTENDEES PRESENT

The Smith Family

Maryanne Maher	Co-Chair, VIEW National Manager, The Smith Family (TSF)
Becca Crofts	Operations Coordinator
Jessie Petagna	Marketing Coordinator Fundraising & Communications
Shalani Dennis	Senior Manager, Direct Marketing
Luisa Bustos	Social Media Consultant
Marine Jamet	Social Media Campaign Strategist
Sue Ann Muller	Content Strategist
Hayley Braban	HR Consultant

APOLOGIES RECEIVED

Jorge Musa	Secretariat
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Wednesday, 17 June 2026

Item	Agenda item
1	<p>Opening</p> <p>VIEW National President, Lorraine Thomson, opened the online meeting stating that she was speaking from the Gold Coast QLD and acknowledging the Yugambah people as the traditional owners, and all of the traditional owners on the lands on which everyone was gathered.</p> <p>Lorraine and Vice Presidents Dianne Fiddes and Angie Carroll, welcomed the National Leadership Team (NLT) 2026-27 to their second meeting and thanked the VIEW National Office team for organising the meeting.</p> <p>The National President noted the recent passing of Past National Councillor Pauline Glover from South Australia. Pauline was an active, passionate and extremely committed member of VIEW, and a significant contributor to the Resolutions Sub-committee.</p> <p>It was noted that papers were distributed to the NLT and read prior to the meeting.</p> <p>A brief outline of the day's agenda was provided, with the following items highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With over 260 VIEW Clubs, nationally 1,860+ students are proudly sponsored on The Smith Family's <i>Learning for Life</i> program • Social media engagement continues to build connections in communities including the recent Facebook Campaign. • Clubs who are hosting Galas and Zone Conferences are encouraged to hold these events in 2026 to minimise any impact on the VIEW National Convention 2027 in Geelong. • The NLT will continue to look to the future with succession planning and development and encourage members to step up to leadership roles.
	<p>Minutes of previous meeting (25/26 Feb 2026) for confirmation.</p> <p>The National Leadership Team resolved to confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 25-26 February 2026 as an accurate record.</p> <p>The National Council ratified the minutes of the February 2026 meeting. Moved Lorraine Thomson Seconded Angie Carroll Accepted Unanimously</p>
3	<p>VIEW and The Smith Family Saver Plus promotion to VIEW Clubs</p> <p>National Manager Maryanne Maher referred to the Saver Plus program which equips people on lower incomes with the tools they need to gain financial control and helps families to better manage their money and develop long-term savings habits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This nationwide, online program is run by organisations and individuals who are caring and compassionate. They empower people to strengthen their financial skills with practical, realistic knowledge and information. • Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and is delivered in partnership with not-for-profit organisations The Smith Family, Brotherhood of St Laurence, Berry Street and BSL. ANZ and the Department of Social Services fund it. • Saver Plus is a 10-month financial literacy and matched savings program, run in conjunction with ANZ, helping families to better manage their money and develop long-term savings habits <p>It was noted that VIEW Clubs are often looking for interesting guest speakers. Information and contact details of Saver Plus Coordinators will be shared with National and Zone Councillors</p>

Item	Agenda item
	<p>and clubs, providing the opportunity for VIEW members to potentially engage a local Saver Plus Coordinator as a guest speaker, learn about this program and the ways they could assist by promoting it to others in their community. This is another way for VIEW clubs to make connections while making a difference.</p> <p>National/Zone Councillors will inform clubs when they receive contact details of Saver Plus facilitators.</p>
4	<p>National Council <i>Learning for Life</i> Student</p> <p>National Councillor, Christine Foster provided a brief update on the <i>Learning for Life</i> student supported by NLT.</p>
5	<p>Return and Earn update (NSW only) – Container deposit scheme – May-Oct 2026</p> <p>Jessie Petagna, Marketing Coordinator Fundraising & Communications joined the meeting to talk about the Return and Earn fundraising initiative launched in NSW turning containers into books!</p> <p>This six-month appeal (May- October) invites communities across NSW to turn bottles into books, with every 30 eligible containers funding one book for a child living with disadvantage. Together, our goal is to help 60,000 children through the power of education.</p> <p>All VIEW Club members are encouraged to help raise awareness and get your local communities involved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosting a bottle and can collection day in your community • Running a collection drive at club meetings, community centres, schools, or local events • Inviting friends, family, neighbours, and local businesses to donate their containers • Encouraging regular recyclers to donate a portion of their Return and Earn refund to The Smith Family — even just for one chosen week • Sharing the campaign on local noticeboards, newsletters, and social media <p>Every container donated contributes 10 cents towards our \$200,000 fundraising goal, helping children access books, learning support, and brighter futures.</p> <p>There are over 664 return points in NSW. You can find your closest Return and Earn machine or return point here: 📍 www.returnandearn.org.au</p> <p>VIEW members were encouraged to take a selfie at the Return and Earn machine when returning containers and send it through to view@thesmithfamily.com.au so we can promote your efforts and build momentum by sharing your story.</p> <p>It was noted that all VIEW Clubs received information about the Return and Earn campaign in the May E mailout. NSW Clubs have also been sent campaign posters to promote to others locally to help to spread the word and amplify the impact of this exciting partnership between The Smith Family and Return and Earn, helping Australian children living with disadvantage access the books and learning resources they need.</p> <p>Jessie thanked all VIEW Club members already donating through Return and Earn for their generosity and support.</p> <p>We also encourage VIEW Clubs in other States (with different recycling operators) to press “donate” and then select “The Smith Family option” (from the list of charities) when returning their bottles and cans at kiosks.</p>

Item	Agenda item
6	<p>Club Health Survey update</p> <p>Becca Crofts spoke to a paper - National and Zone Councillors will be conducting the VIEW Club Health Survey over the coming months, with results to be presented in the October National Leadership Team Meeting.</p> <p>The VIEW Club Health Survey is conducted every second year, in the first year of a Councillor's term. It is designed to support meaningful conversations between Councillors and the VIEW Clubs that they support and represent.</p> <p>The information recorded in this survey helps VIEW and National Office:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • better understand how clubs are travelling • identify common challenges and emerging risks and • improve training, resources and support offered to Clubs
7	<p>TSF Update on Gift Policy for Sponsored Students on <i>Learning for Life</i> program</p> <p>National Manager Maryanne Maher spoke to a paper - Due to logistical challenges, the diverse needs of families, and The Smith Family's updated screening process in line with its child protection policy and guidelines, The Smith Family is moving away from forwarding physical gifts to students and families, particularly items that cannot be adequately screened without risking damage.</p> <p>As communicated last year, (6.3 Update for VIEW Clubs regarding gifts for Sponsored Students September 2025 National Leadership Meeting Minutes) this change is part of The Smith Family's ongoing commitment to child safety, privacy, consistency, and ensuring an appropriate supporter experience for <i>Learning for Life</i> families.</p> <p>All sponsors including VIEW Clubs are advised that any gift received after 31 May 2026 that has not been purchased through The Smith Family will be returned to the sponsor and the interim escalation and assessment process that has been in place during the transition period will cease from this date.</p> <p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • physical gifts (eg knitted blankets, hats, scarves, gel pens, puzzles, chocolates, etc.); • gift vouchers purchased from any other sources (eg Coles, Myer, BigW, Visa, Bunnings etc); <i>Please note: Gift vouchers are included because many show the location they were purchased from when checking the card balance online, which may result in a breach of privacy.</i> • other items intended to be passed on to students or families (eg stickers, books, bookmarks, etc.) <p>We know some VIEW Clubs have been generously sending gifts for many years and enjoy being able to connect with their students and send them something special for their birthday or Christmas.</p> <p>Cards/messages/letters are not part of this process and will continue to be forwarded on to students and families.</p> <p>VIEW Clubs will still be able to send Prezzy eGift Vouchers to their students through The Smith Family for special occasions, birthdays and Christmas and to send correspondence through The Smith Family with no changes. The Prezzy eGift Vouchers can also be sent with a personalised message for your student.</p> <p>To find out more about how to order Prezzy eGift vouchers from The Smith Family please refer to Student Gift Card Process (https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/-/media/files/view-</p>

Item	Agenda item
	<p>clubs/resources/organisational-information/financial-information/gift-card-process-final.pdf) and to download the VIEW Student Gift Card Form please go to the VIEW Website Resources Page</p> <p>As a reminder:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sending gifts to students is optional and never expected. • If a VIEW Club generously chooses to send a gift, The Smith Family will be offering Prezzy eGift Vouchers to pass onto the student on the sponsor's behalf. They can do this by sending through a completed Gift Card form to the VIEW National Office. • If a VIEW Club does decide to send a Prezzy eGift Voucher, we recommend a gift voucher of \$25 or \$50 a maximum of twice a year (Birthday and Christmas). <p>VIEW Clubs can also contact The Smith Family Customer Support Team on 1800 633 622 if they require assistance</p> <p>Thank you for your continued support and helping The Smith Family team manage sponsor expectations throughout the transition period.</p>
8	<p>Update on The Smith Family Winter Appeal May-June 2026</p> <p>Shalani Dennis, Senior Manager, Direct Marketing, provided the NLT with an update on The Smith Family's Winter Appeal. Commencing on 1 May until 30 June the Winter Appeal raises funds for The Smith Family's evidence-based, learning support programs which provide additional out-of-school help. This year's theme is around <i>Poverty hiding in plain sight</i>. The fact is, poverty isn't always visible, yet it can be right there in front of you. Its impact on education is unfair, and can be relentless and devastating.</p> <p>TSF Winter Appeal results Winter Appeal Results as at 12th June, income from Individuals was \$2,976,021 which is 4.6% behind daily target and 36.2% of TSF total budget of \$8.2m. TSF have received 8,461 donations from 7,531 donors and have acquired 1.102 new donors.</p> <p>Winter Appeal VIEW Club information We are encouraging all VIEW Clubs to support The Smith Family's Winter Appeal by donating any excess funds held by the club at this time of the year.)</p> <p>Your VIEW Club's support can make a life-changing difference this school year;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After-school learning support- Learning Clubs • Personalised reading support- student2student <p>Shalani thanked the NLT for the opportunity to present to them and thanked all VIEW Clubs for their ongoing support with the Winter Appeal</p>
9	<p>National Office Update</p> <p>VIEW Matters Magazine – April Edition 2026</p> <p>In March, to celebrate International Women's Day 2026, the Governor-General, Her Excellency the Honourable Ms Sam Mostyn AC, invited VIEW Clubs to join representatives from 30 patron organisations for an afternoon tea at Admiralty House in Sydney. Her Excellency agreed to the lovely photograph with VIEW National Executive - Lorraine Thomson and Angela Carroll which became the front cover of the magazine.</p> <p>November Edition We will begin working on the November edition VIEW Matters Magazine soon and accepting submissions from Clubs from August. Please send all VIEW event reports and articles with a couple of high-resolution photos for consideration to view@thesmithfamily.com.au</p>

Item	Agenda item
	<p>VIEW Learning and Development Month - April 2026 VIEW Learning and Development month took place during April 2026. Over 200 VIEW members signed up to attend a combined 330 sessions, attendees were asked to complete a survey about the training and what future opportunities would be most helpful to clubs. Sessions were rated 4.8/5 on average with many attendees specifically commenting on the opportunity for questions, supporting resources and how the information was presented.</p> <p>Editable Templates for Club Promotional Materials During the “Social Media and Promotion” training sessions, many members expressed that they wanted to be able to use the VIEW and The Smith Family logo on materials that had their club name, meeting details or a QR code to their club web page.</p> <p>VIEW National Office has developed editable templates for a “Join VIEW” flyer that individual clubs can update with their club details before printing. We have included both a full colour flyer and a low colour version. Templates can be downloaded from the VIEW Website Resources Page. https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/resources/organisational-information.</p> <p>Future of VIEW meeting 6- 7 May 2026 Future of VIEW members met face to face for their annual meeting in National Office and reviewed 2025 area analysis. FovWG provided input in relation to the upcoming Club Health Survey, Communication to clubs and have agreed to review the current library of VIEW documents and guidelines and recommend consolidation.</p> <p>National Volunteer Week – 18-24 May 2026 National Volunteer Week (NVW) 2026, celebrated the theme "Your Year to Volunteer". NVW was a time to say thank you and recognise the people who give their time and care. We recognised that all VIEW members, from the National President, to local club committee members, to many individual members, volunteer their time to support the education of Australian children experiencing disadvantage.</p> <p>A number of clubs hosted a NVW event, or attended a local expo to promote volunteering in the community. Thank you to the clubs who sent through many informative articles from all over the country with a brief description of the events they attended. All Clubs also received a media release relating to National Volunteer Week during the month.</p> <p>VIEW Clubs June E mailout June E-mailout has been sent to clubs for distribution to members via email, Club newsletters or presented at Club meetings. The mailout, and all previous mailouts, is also available on the VIEW website https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/resources/publications</p> <p>Included in the mailout:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 June Bank Statement VIEW Clubs Audit (to be submitted by 3 July 2026) • The Voice of VIEW The Call Out • VIEW Invoices by Email <p>Club Development – Help us build new VIEW Clubs If you have friends in any of the areas below who may like to join or assist with the development of a VIEW Club, or alternatively, if any members know of an area that would benefit from a VIEW Club, please contact your local Development Team, National Councillor or Contact view@thesmithfamily.com.au</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Australia – Mandurah On 23 June VIEW will celebrate the opening of Mandurah VIEW Club with over 40 new members. Congratulations NC Kris Behets, PZC Mary Deakin, the WA Development team and Rockingham Sound Day VIEW Club members for their assistance with establishing WA’s ninth VIEW Club. For further information please email: mandurah.viewclub@gmail.com

- **Queensland – Townsville**

Far North Queensland (FNQ) VIEW Development team (Jan, Lesley, Toni-Lee and Coleen) continue to actively promote VIEW in Townsville. In April The Smith Family invited local member Lesley Boye to attend a community forum to give a presentation about VIEW. The Smith Family in Townsville has offered ongoing support for promotion through their networks.

The next planned interest meeting will be on Wednesday 5th August aligned with the Seniors Expo which they will be attending on 4th August. More details available closer to the event.

We encourage all Qld National and Zone Councillors to promote the proposed Townsville VIEW Club through their own clubs and networks and in their club's newsletters and for further information to contact Jan Roberts jeroberts@y7mail.com or phone 0438 405 986.

- **Victoria – Torquay**

Due to the uncertainty around being able to use a suitable venue, development has been slow to progress. However, the development team have recently received a firm commitment from Bowls Club for the next couple of months so will continue there until end of August.

If you would like to be involved in assisting to establish a new VIEW club in Torquay or know of friends who may be interested to join – please contact Janet Park 0459 509 529 or email: nationalcouncillorvc24@gmail.com

WA Silver Anniversary celebrations

This year, both VIEW Clubs and The Smith Family are celebrating 25 years of connecting and working in community in Western Australia.

WA VIEW Silver Anniversary Conference - 3 Sept 2026

WA VIEW National and Zone Councillors together with the WA Development team have planned an exciting silver anniversary one-day conference style event. Numbers are limited so to register your attendance please RSVP to zonec.wa@gmail.com and make payment before **31 July 2026**.

VIEW & TSF WA Silver Anniversary Black Pepper Scarf

In recognition of this special 25th Anniversary of VIEW and The Smith Family in WA – VIEW's Fashion partner Black Pepper has generously designed a beautiful scarf which will be launched in September and available in store and online during that month.

Making a Difference Awards 2026-27

VIEW Clubs keeps its culture strong by recognising the members who bring it to life. On a quarterly basis, members nominated by their clubs or by individual members, will receive a letter of acknowledgement from the VIEW Executive, be recognised on the VIEW website and be added to our honour roll at National Convention.

<https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/resources/awards>

Current Quarter is (April May June) Nominate a member today.

Free Financial Wellbeing Workshops - Update and Future workshops

ANZ and The Smith Family are teaming up to deliver free, one-hour Financial Wellbeing Workshops to communities across 10–15 electorates nationally.

These Free Financial Wellbeing Workshops are open to VIEW members and others in the community and are designed to be practical, inclusive and will cover these topics:

- Safe digital banking practices
- Scam protection and how to spot red flags
- Banking support available during times of financial stress

Most recent **Free Financial Wellbeing Workshop** was held in Southport - Tuesday 26th May 2026. Thank you to all VIEW members who attended and promoted this to others in your community.

Item	Agenda item
	<p>Future Workshops</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morphett Vale South Australia - Thursday 30 July 2026, 10:30am – 11:30am Woodcroft Morphett Vale Neighbourhood Centre • Kadina South Australia – Wednesday 29th July – 10:30am – 11:30 Copper Coast Sport & Leisure Centre, 1 Doswell Terrace Kadina SA 5554 • Wagga Wagga NSW -Tuesday 18th August 2026, 11:00am – 12:00pm Wagga RSL Club Corner of Kincaid and Dobbs Street Wagga Wagga – Back of Henry’s Bistro <p>Additional dates, times, and locations will be shared with VIEW Clubs via email once we are notified of the locations. Any questions please contact Lisa Gissing, The Smith Family’s National Financial Wellbeing Facilitator M: 0413 161 686 Lisa.Gissing@thesmithfamily.com.au</p> <p>VIEW National Convention – Geelong 3-5 September 2027 The VIEW National Convention in Geelong will be held at the Nyaal Banyul Geelong Convention and Event Centre from 3-5 September 2027. A convention Sub-committee will be formed shortly and the Registration pack will be developed and sent to Clubs.</p> <p>Community Open Day for Saturday 11 July Nyaal Banyul has announced their Community Open Day for Saturday 11 July from 10am – 4pm. There will be guided tours of the venue, live entertainment, face painting etc. There is more information on their website https://www.nyaalbanyul.com.au/whats-on/2026/07/community-open-day</p> <p>Any VIEW Club members in the area who might be interested in attending need to register online. It will be a great opportunity to check out the space in person. If any VIEW members attend we ask that you take lots of photos and send them through to view@thesmithfamily.com.au , so we can use them to promote convention.</p> <p>Tertiary Together Trial extension to 2027 After a successful try-test-learn pilot in 2025, The Smith Family are pleased to announce that the trial of Tertiary Together will continue into 2027. This will provide the opportunity to continue to test and explore how The Smith Family can best support LfL students as they enter their tertiary studies and navigate their pathways post school.</p> <p>In 2026, there are 453 (Cert IV and above) Tertiary Together students already receiving support and guidance from tertiary coordinators, including information and advice about scholarships and other financial supports along with help navigating university processes and study/life challenges.</p> <p>Blue Illusion National Shopping Day – Thursday 17 September 2026 Blue Illusion will be holding a National Shopping Day in support of The Smith Family on Thursday 17 September 2026 and donate 7% of sale proceeds of all products sold instore and online to The Smith Family.</p> <p>Similar to last year, Blue Illusion stores will host in-store styling events across all Blue Illusion boutiques. We ask all VIEW members to spread the word about these Styling Workshops and National Shopping day on Thursday 17 September 2026 and let all your friends, family, colleagues and neighbours know about this promotion is in support of children’s charity The Smith Family.</p> <p>Preserving Club History Councillors and Clubs are reminded that inaugural minutes from new clubs, along with the relevant History Reporting form, should be submitted to the History Working Group for</p>

Item	Agenda item
	<p>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.</p> <p>By keeping and sharing these records, clubs ensure that their history is preserved for milestone celebrations</p> <p>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.</p> <p>If you would like more information about this role or to join the History Working Group. Please contact view@thesmithfamily.com.au.</p> <p>External Relations</p> <p>VIEW Clubs of Australia is a member organisation of The Working with Women Alliance (WwWA) which represents two key portfolios: National Women's Safety (NWS) and National Women's Equality (NWE).</p> <p>On 13 May, VIEW received FEDERAL BUDGET: WwWA's May Newsletter from Dr Gemma Killen Executive Director WwWA <i>There were a few wins for women in Federal Budget 2026-27. (for more information see 3.2 External Relations paper attachment)</i></p> <p>Community Grant Funding</p> <p>In February 2026 VIEW Clubs were encouraged to submit an expression of interest to their Federal MP for a 2026-27 Volunteer Grant that would be offered in May 2026. Clubs were advised that the nomination by the MP would close on 17 April 2026 and therefore, early interest should be shown.</p> <p>There was a very good response with the Grants Committee receiving approximately 15 requests for assistance from VIEW clubs with their expressions of interest. Successful clubs will be contacted shortly. Clubs are reminded that, if successful, approval must be sought from VIEW National Office before the application is submitted. view@thesmithfamily.com.au</p> <p>The Grants Committee has also had requests for assistance with applications for grants from other organisations e.g. the Bendigo Bank and local sporting clubs. VIEW Clubs are also encouraged to continue applying for community grants with these organisations especially for smaller amounts.</p> <p>Grants may be sought to support a range of VIEW Club activities from promotional events encouraging local women to join VIEW through to the purchase of equipment for use at your Club e.g. microphones, laptop computers, banners, square readers etc.</p> <p>For more information Clubs are reminded to refer to Club Handbook 2026-27 Page 23. in particular with regard to seeking approval from National Office. Please allow at least 10 working days to review and approve.</p> <p>If assistance is required, the Grants Committee can be contacted by emailing – June Weise - june3@iinet.net.au or phoning 0412 617 085.</p>

Item	Agenda item
	<p>Speakers Bureau</p> <p>We are always looking for new opportunities to promote VIEW and our work with The Smith Family and already have some new speakers keen to join the group.</p> <p>A real bonus to VIEW is the opportunity for members to present to community events, schools or other organisations such as Lions, CWA, Rotary, Probus etc and inform them about who we are and what we do and encourage them to support The Smith Family or perhaps offer an alternative to join VIEW and become involved in our work.</p> <p>Please contact PNP Gwen Wilton (including your address) 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 Coordinator, gwenwilton@outlook.com. (0418 650 257 - 12 Antill Street Picton NSW 2571)</p>
10	<p>The Voice of VIEW - The Call Out</p> <p>Every two years VIEW members vote on one or more issues of national importance that will be the focus of advocacy and lobbying work for the coming years. These are the VIEW resolutions. The ultimate goal of VIEW resolutions is to raise issues of national importance that matter to women.</p> <p>From June to November 2026, VIEW Clubs have the opportunity to submit their resolutions for consideration. This year, we are proud to launch our new online form! Clubs can now easily submit their nominations online and receive a record of their submission: https://forms.gle/vpvi6tRHGYD6PaLAA</p> <p>If you are having trouble with the online form, please contact your Zone or National Councillor.</p>
11	<p>VIEW Advocacy - 2025 Resolutions – Ministerial responses to January 2026 Mailout</p> <p>National Vice President Angie Carroll gave a short presentation on the response to VIEW from Ministers Federal and State MPs and charitable organisations in relation to VIEW's current resolutions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mental Health Increased funding for mental health support in schools through dedicated, qualified professionals 2. Education Support for children falling below national literacy and numeracy benchmarks 3. Loneliness Creation of, and support for, programs that address loneliness and social isolation <p>Over 50 letters were sent and 6 online meetings attended. For more information see (4.0) MP mailout response June 2026</p> <p>National Councillors reported on the success of their mailouts to local, State and Federal MPs and the connections made.</p>
12	<p>VIEW Facebook Campaign</p> <p>At the end of May, VIEW launched a Facebook and Instagram advertising campaign with a series of four posts and videos of VIEW members encouraging women across the country to join VIEW. The aim of the campaign was to reach a new audience and attract new members.</p> <p>Footage of VIEW members was taken in Brisbane in September last year while attending VIEW National Convention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.youtube.com/shorts/rxxcpv9lAxc

Item	Agenda item
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.youtube.com/shorts/2zNdqVmSNrw • https://www.youtube.com/shorts/v4ssNmOfnpU • https://www.youtube.com/shorts/vTqx9rC3Hb8 <p>Measuring Success Over two weeks, the Facebook adverts were shown to over 380,000 people in the targeted areas, and over 12,000 of those people clicked through to the VIEW Club landing page on our website.</p> <p>We will continue to measure the success of our efforts. We hope that the campaign will result in new members joining VIEW, as well as spreading awareness of the organisation and the work we do.</p>
13	<p>Communications and VIEW</p> <p>Social media update: November 2025 - May 2026 The National VIEW Clubs Facebook page now has 3,260 followers (1 June 2026), up from 2,962 followers at the end of October 2025. VIEW Club’s Instagram account has 402 followers, and is growing slowly.</p> <p>Reminder: If you are on Facebook but you are not following the National Facebook Page, please do so. Also encourage the clubs you visit and their members to follow this page and like our posts.</p> <p>Meet a member series. We are always looking for women to profile, any VIEW members who have an interesting and inspiring VIEW story to share and for club content 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.</p> <p>Please send photos and reports to Luisa at luisa@manyanacreative.com or view@thesmithfamily.com.au.</p> <p>6.0 - Social media update</p> <p>VIEW in the Media Over the past six months, VIEW National Office has been monitoring media coverage and mentions of VIEW Clubs across a range of platforms. These mentions have appeared in print and online publications including; Club interviews and news pieces, community noticeboards, radio advertising and television spots, covering a range topics such as International Women’s Day, club events, and membership promotion, The Smith Family and <i>Learning for Life</i> programs.</p> <p>As of early June 2026, VIEW Clubs have achieved 288 total media mentions across Australia. Print media dominates coverage with 182 mentions, followed by Online with 124 mentions, Radio with 42, and TV with 2.</p> <p>Most clubs also use Community listings to get important and consistent information out to the public on meeting times and who to contact to join.</p> <p>Vicky Archer’s Bathurst radio interview is an excellent example of how to increase VIEW’s public profile in the community - bringing who we are and what we do to light and how to connect with VIEW locally.</p> <p>(See attached MP4 file)</p>

Item	Agenda item
	<p>Website Working Group</p> <p>Updates and Club Engagement More and more potential members are looking at VIEW Club webpages and Facebook before they come along to VIEW, so it is really important for clubs to keep them up to date with recent photos, of activities and events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>All Clubs are encouraged to send through photo/s (3 only) and recent information activities or events to the Website Working Group (WWG) who will place them on your VIEW Club page.</i> • <i>For all VIEW website updates email: viewwebsite@thesmithfamily.com.au please send</i> • Your Club's news items/activities soon after the event and • include the month and year for each news item (some clubs have sent in 6 months or more in one go which makes a lot of work and sometimes difficult to pair up the photos to the individual news items;) • One quality (high resolution) photo per news item no collages • Accompanying text. A short caption or brief context is ideal. <p>Support from clubs The Website Working Group would like to thank the considerate and supportive Clubs whose efforts help to save time by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only sending MAX 3 photos per news item/article • Grouping photos and providing separate text/messages for each group; • Providing a caption for each photo sent, and • Assisted by highlighting the changes to be made for easy comparison <p>Remember we limit the number of photos on the VIEW website. Clubs are encouraged to post photos on their Club Facebook page.</p> <p>Keeping VIEW Club web pages up to date An up to date Club webpage helps in the promotion of your Club to others.</p> <p>Attached are</p> <p>8.1 Guide to Club webpage updates</p> <p>8.2 Guide to Generic Club Email address</p> <p>In May, PNP Anne-Louise O'Connor conducted a VIEW Website audit similar to the one she conducted last year of all VIEW "find a club" webpages – this involved reviewing webpages to ensure club contact details were correct and content including photos were current. From this audit we are encouraging all VIEW clubs to have a VIEW Club email address eg (yourclubname)viewclub@gmail.com – which committee members have access to, saving the need to change the email address when committee members change and to consider having a Facebook link on their website.</p> <p>There has been a slight improvement, from 2025 to 2026. In 2025 there were 91 links from VIEW Club Webpages to VIEW Facebook pages and in 2026 there are 105. There has been a decrease in the number of VIEW Clubs that do not have a VIEW email address in 2025 there were 46 and in 2026 there were 40.</p> <p>Club Newsletters Online The Website Working Group can link your newsletters to Club webpages. Clubs are reminded to carefully consider the content of their newsletters to ensure member privacy is maintained.</p> <p><i>For all VIEW website updates email viewwebsite@thesmithfamily.com.au</i></p>

Item	Agenda item
	<p>VIEW in the Community – Events National Vice President Dianne Fiddes shared information about a range of events and activities from VIEW clubs across the country this year, sharing their fun, friendship and fundraising activities with each other and the general public.</p> <p>Lunches, afternoon and morning teas are well represented and are often combined with another activity such as a visit to a museum, art gallery, garden centre, and quilters exhibitions. High Teas are becoming very popular, and Hobart Club held a very grand High Tea fundraiser at the Royal Hobart Yacht Club with one hundred guests.</p> <p>There are so many more events being held such as book clubs, movie days, craft groups, paint and sip, health and wellbeing classes, bus trips, boat cruises and the list goes on.</p> <p>So we can share your events and give other clubs some ideas please send a brief report and a photo to view@thesmithfamily.com.au</p>
14	<p>VIEW Governance & Leadership</p>
	<p>Summary of Achievements to 2026 National Manager Maryanne Maher talked to a paper provided to the NLT about the Summary of Achievements Governance and Leadership project from 2020 – 2026</p> <p>Recapping on 2024–25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interim mid-term WA National Councillor appointment on NLT • VIEW’s 65th anniversary year; VIEW refreshed its VIEW Culture and Guiding Principles guide which included dispute resolution amendments. • Geographical Boundaries project completed with consolidation and expansion of some Areas. <p>All changes took effect from 2026</p> <p>2026 (ongoing) Governance/leadership model completion, expanded support and education, and continued culture work.</p> <p>VIEW Strategic Priorities - VIEW National Executive HR Consultant Hayley Braban reported on a facilitated session with the VIEW National Office Team, VIEW National Executive and Future of VIEW Working Group. Session participants identified three strategic priorities for consideration. While none of these are new and are already being progressed to varying degrees, they provide a framework to ensure our efforts are aligned to our goals and priorities.</p> <p>The three strategic priorities proposed were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Member recruitment 2. Member experience, and 3. Leadership Enablement <p>Member recruitment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Goal: Grow our membership base through targeted, effective recruitment specific to each club (considering size, location, demographic). 2. Insight: recruitment is universally a challenge and a focus, most effective through social purpose-led entry points; undertaken to various degrees of success across the clubs.

Item	Agenda item
	<p>Example: facilitate opportunities for shared learning. We already do this through Zone Conferences/workshops, Executive Mentorship, Learning and Development month, VIEW Matters.</p> <p>We could expand and improve by membership sub-committees, update resources and guides, share recruitment activities and tactics in a catalogue or newsletter.</p> <p>Member Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Goal: Be known as the “Welcoming, friendly social club...with purpose” • Insight: social connections are a valued part of the club culture; there is an opportunity to more intentionally extend that sense of connection to new members to ensure the club continues to deliver a welcoming and inclusive experience for all. <p>Example: engagement at all levels and collective responsibility to be the organisation that’s known as the “Welcoming, friendly, social club...with purpose”; We already do this through membership officers, hostesses, welcome events for new members, VIEW Culture and Guiding Principles, and Making a Difference Awards.</p> <p>We could expand and improve by providing insight through the eyes of a new member and the one who never returned; encourage accountability for all members not just leadership.</p> <p>Leadership Enablement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Goal: Secure tomorrow’s leaders today • Insight: Strong, proactive leadership and committees are essential to a healthy, sustainable VIEW Club. Roles are consistently hard to fill due to the aging demographic and tenure, fear of requirements such as the audit, fear of public speaking and fear of not being good enough to take over accomplished leaders. <p>Example: Demystify the roles and empower our members We already do this by encouraging succession planning, Club Handover Guide, flexible committee structure, 2–3 year role turnover expectations.</p> <p>We could expand and improve by better equipping Councillors to coach clubs to keep the pipeline moving; explicitly address anxiety about accountability/ability with clear processes, checklists, and mentoring</p> <p>The NLT generally discussed the three priorities proposed and unanimously agreed that this was a useful grouping of recurring themes that consistently come up and have been consistently raised for many years and to formally recognise these as dedicated priorities against which we align future initiatives.</p> <p>It was also noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no need to introduce new initiatives, but rather to ensure our efforts are consistently aligned with one of our agreed strategic priorities • There is no need to create new content – training, handbooks, guidelines all exist and directly address the issues raised, but there is an opportunity to increase visibility and ensure they are accessible and referenced as part of Business As Usual for everyone in the club depending upon needs.
	<p>General Business</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>Review of two proposals Trialled from 1 April 2025 – March 2026</p> <p>In February 2025 the National Leadership Team agreed to trial two proposals from April 2025-March 2026.</p>

Item	Agenda item
	<p>The first proposal: in response to a number of submissions requesting that members have the option to be a committee member in two clubs at the same time, and</p> <p>-To address the lack of club members taking on Committee positions it was proposed that Members are able to be a Club committee member in their home club as well as their second club (4.3a)</p> <p>1. Guidelines were drafted and included under the heading Holding Committee Positions in two VIEW Clubs on page 31 VIEW Club Handbook 2026-27. It was agreed that these guidelines be trialled effective 1 April 2025 and reviewed in March 2026.</p> <p>The Second proposal: in response to members not being able to take on Councillor positions while committee members of their club and</p> <p>To address the lack of Committee members taking on the Zone Councillor role it was proposed that members have the option to be a Club committee member and Zone Councillor at the same time (4.3b)</p> <p>Guidelines were drafted and included under the heading “Club Committee members holding a Zone Councillor Role” on page 6 VIEW Club Handbook 2026-27. It was agreed that these guidelines be trialled effective 1 April 2025 and reviewed in March 2026.</p> <p>The National President shared the success of the two proposals with one member taking on two committee positions and 6 members taking on Committee positions and the Zone Councillor role at the same time.</p> <p>Resulting from the success of these two policy trials, NLT unanimously agreed to adopt them both as policies: Members holding Committee positions in two VIEW Clubs and Members taking on a Zone Councillor role and be a club committee member, Moved Bernie McSwain Seconded Angie Carroll Carried Unanimously</p>
16	<p>Club Closures</p> <p>Epping Plenty Valley 19 February 2026 Ringwood 18 March 2026 Mollymook 13 April 2026</p>
17	<p>National Councillors comments</p> <p>National Councillors all shared some positive news or a great success story from their area over the last four months as well as future events to look forward to.</p>
18	<p>Conclusion – final words, questions, reflections</p> <p>Closing In closing the National President stated that she was looking forward to attending Mandurah VIEW Club’s inaugural meeting in WA and SA Gala in late June, early July, connecting with clubs and members.</p> <p>She thanked the National Leadership Team for their involvement and support and looked forward to a productive 5 months until the next NLT Wednesday 21 October 2026.</p>

Next Meeting: Date: Wednesday, 21 October 2026 at 10.00am
Location: Microsoft Teams

Attachments

1. Return and Earn (information and poster)
2. Update for VIEW Clubs regarding gifts for Sponsored Students Gift policy (paper)
3. Winter Appeal VIEW Club information (sent to clubs to remind to donate)
4. External Relations paper
5. MP mailout response June 2026
6. Social media update (Nov 2025- May 2026)
7. Guide to Club webpage updates
8. Guide to Generic Club Email address

Summary of Decisions at the VIEW National Leadership Team Meeting

June 2026

Agenda Reference	Area of Work	Decision, Policy and/or Procedure
1	Minutes of previous meeting (February 2026)	Adopted
7	TSF Update on Gift Policy for Sponsored Students on <i>Learning for Life</i> program	Noted for Communication to all clubs
9	National Office Update	A range of events and up-coming activities for all Clubs to be across including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 June Bank Statement VIEW Clubs Audit (to be submitted by 3 July 2026) • VIEW Club Development • WA VIEW & TSF 25th Anniversary Celebrations • Blue Illusion holding National Shopping Day for TSF – Thursday 17 September 2026
12 & 13	Facebook Campaign Communications and VIEW	Launch of Facebook Campaign Social media update: November 2025 - May 2026 VIEW in the Media Website Working Group - Updates and Club Engagement VIEW in the Community – Events
14	VIEW Governance & Leadership	Unanimous agreement to recognise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member recruitment • Member experience, and • Leadership Enablement as dedicated VIEW Strategic Priorities against which VIEW aligns future initiatives
15	General Business	Review of two trials from 1 April 2025 – March 2026. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Members holding Committee positions in two VIEW Clubs and 2. Members taking on a Zone Councillor role and be a club committee member Unanimously agreed - to continue as policies
16	Club Closures	Since February NLT meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Epping Plenty Valley 19 February 2026 • Ringwood 18 March 2026 • Mollymook 13 April 2026
	Next NLT meeting via Microsoft Teams	Wednesday, 21 October 2026 at 10.00am