EIANZ – WA DIVISION

AGM Information Package

26 August 2026

Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand Inc.

Presidents Report
WA Division AGM

26 August 2026

Welcome to the 2026 Annual General Meeting.

The WA Division of EIANZ would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land we meet and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, and present.

The WA Division's focus in 2025/26 has been to progress discussion on Biodiversity Offset in WA and champion professional development for environmental practitioners across Western Australia while actively engaging with our profession to promote high standards of regulatory reforms. We have worked diligently to enhance brand recognition of both EIANZ and the WA Division within industry and government circles, establishing our organisation as a trusted voice in the environmental sector.

The priorities of the year were:

- Provide members with opportunities to maintain and grow professional knowledge and expand their network;
- Engage and collaborate with government, industry and key stakeholders through workshops and symposiums that highlight critical issues and solutions relevant to WA environmental practitioners;
- Provide a voice to influence environmental practice and policy within WA;
- Participate in governmental and non-governmental reference groups to contribute our member expertise to decision-making processes;
- Build partnerships with universities and student organisations to promote the Institute and enhance student readiness for the workforce.

In support of these priorities, the division delivered 17 events throughout the year, comprising a strategic mix of professional development sessions, workshops, and networking opportunities. Attendance figures demonstrated outstanding member engagement, ranging from 15 to 266 participants across our events.

The Division successfully delivered the WA Biodiversity Offsets Forum in November 2025, held in conjunction with the WA Department of Water and Environmental Regulation. The forum attracted 97 attendees to critically examine WA's current biodiversity offsetting framework and co-design practical reforms. The Division has continued to build on this momentum, engaging with government, industry and community groups to advance best-practice offsets policy and governance, and to drive the strategic changes needed to translate policy into genuine, on-ground biodiversity outcomes.

Webinars proved particularly popular this year, with the Division designing a number of sessions to support government consultations in WA. These information sessions enabled members to ask questions directly about proposed changes, while helping government departments canvass the views of practitioners. We also launched the WA Environment Professionals 101 webinar series, targeting early career professionals and those new to WA on key environmental disciplines relevant to their work and practice. Topics to date have included an introduction to the Environmental Protection Act, essential communication tools, and conducting baseline biological surveys.

We have continued to run our popular QGIS mapping and spatial analysis training course throughout the year, delivered in collaboration with the University of Western Australia. Sessions remain limited

to 15 attendees to ensure personalised instruction and an intimate learning experience. Given the strong ongoing demand, we are planning to run the course every few months, with further refinements along the way to continue meeting learner needs.

Four social and networking events were held throughout the year, providing opportunities for members and the broader industry to connect and expand their professional networks. This year, we also began partnering with likeminded organisations to bring our membership together and encourage greater cross-pollination of networks and ideas, including with the WA branches of the National Environmental Law Association (NELA), the Australasian Land and Groundwater Association (ALGA), and the Australian Contaminated Land Consultants Association (ACLCA).

Our mentoring program celebrated its eighth successful year, establishing 18 mentoring pairs in the 2026 program. New initiatives this year, including regular newsletters and individual catch-ups, will hopefully keep participants engaged, improve their ability to provide effective mentorship, and to get the most out of the program.

We maintained active participation in government stakeholder reference groups and continued our productive dialogue with key regulatory bodies throughout the year, including our participation in DBCA's Swan Coastal Plain Vegetation Mapping Expert Reference Group, providing three representative for the EPA Review of the WA Flora and Vegetation Technical Guideline review and participating in the EPA Stakeholder Reference Group.

WA members rose by 14% in the past 12 months, from 278 in 2024/25 to 318 in 2025/26. The WA Division is comprised of 226 full members, 50 associate members, 32 student members, 8 fellows and 2 honorary fellows. Our social media followers are also on the rise, with a 6% increase in Facebook followers (297 followers) and a 20% increase on LinkedIn (254 followers) compared to the previous year.

I must thank the committee and sub-committee members for their efforts over the last year. Without their commitment and dedication, the Division would not have produced the WA Division Newsletter, run events, made significant contributions to environmental policy and practice through government submissions, or been able to promote the benefits of EIANZ in WA.

Copies of all the committee meeting minutes are available should any member wish to obtain further information on the WA Division activities during 2025/2026.

Regards,



Belinda Bastow
Division President

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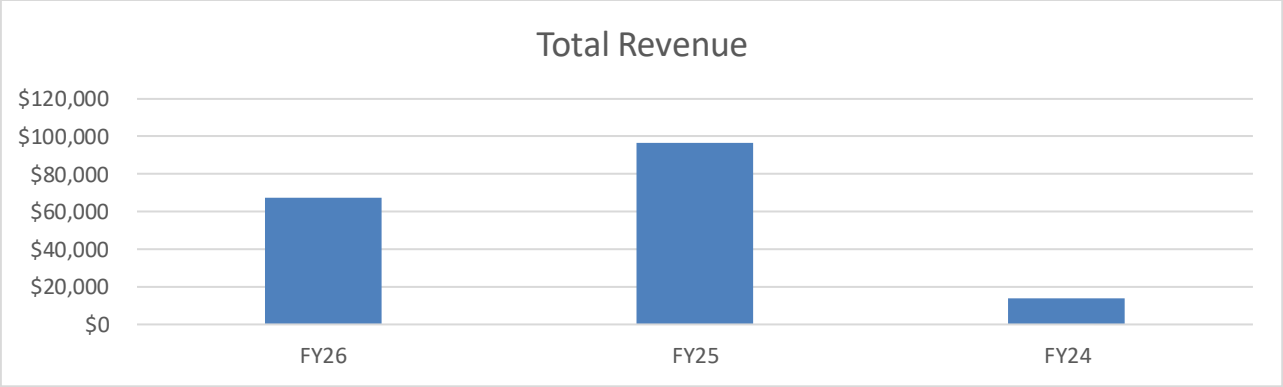
REVENUE AND EXPENSES

FY26 represented another positive financial year for the WA Division, with total revenue of approximately $67,254 and operating expenses of $58,488, resulting in a net surplus of $8,766. While revenue was lower than the exceptional FY25 result of $96,593, it remained substantially above FY24 levels and reflects another active year of events, training and member engagement.

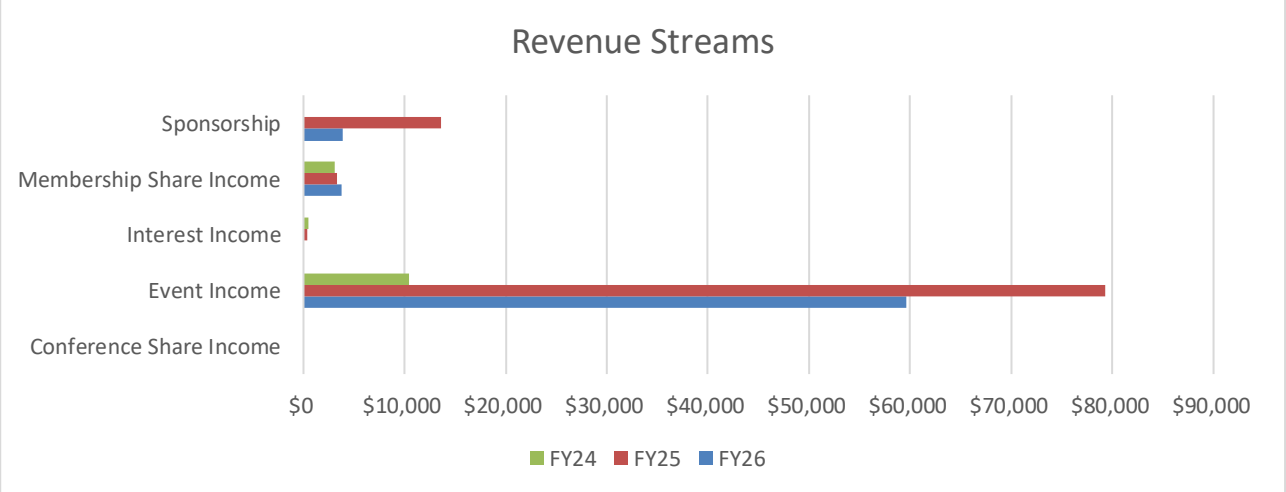
Event income remained the Division's primary source of revenue, generating $59,661 during FY26, supported by membership share income and sponsorship. Event income decreased from $79,248 in FY25, while sponsorship income also reduced from $13,636 to $3,833. Despite this reduction in revenue, operating expenses were slightly lower than FY25, enabling the Division to maintain a positive financial result.

The Division closed FY26 with total equity of approximately $90,639, providing a strong financial foundation to continue investing in professional development, events, member engagement and initiatives that support WA's environmental profession. FY26 figures remain subject to finalisation and may change following the audit scheduled for October 2026.

1. Revenue



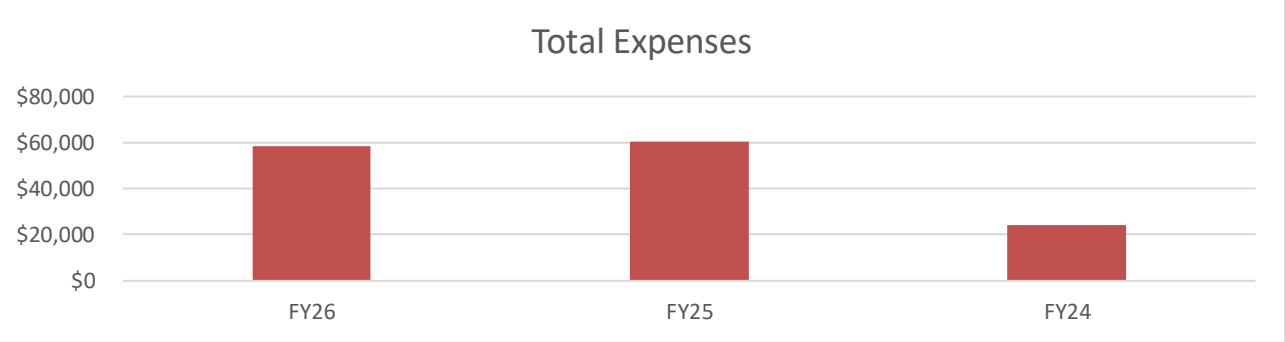
2. Revenue Streams



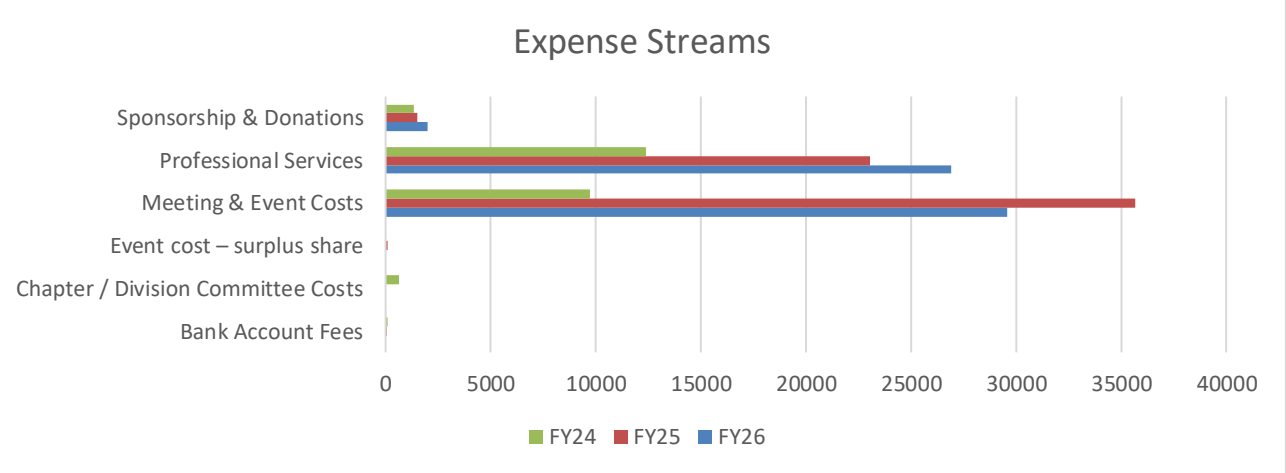
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3. Change in Expenses



4. Expense Streams



5. Income and Expenses Statement

Account	FY26	FY25	FY24
Trading Income			
Conference Share Income	0.00	0.00	0.00
Event Income	59,661.00	79,248.40	10,431.82
Interest Income	0.00	394.73	465.19
Membership Share Income	3,760.00	3,313.00	3,137.00
Sponsorship	3,833.00	13,636.37	0.00
Total Trading Income	**67,254.00**	**96,592.50**	**14,034.01**
Gross Profit	**67,254.00**	**96,592.50**	**14,034.01**
Operating Expenses			
Bank Account Fees	0.00	15.00	78.98
Chapter / Division Committee Costs	0.00	0.00	663.63
Event cost - surplus share	0.00	86.37	0.00
Marketing & Promotion	0.00	155.92	0.00
Meeting & Event Costs	29,561.00	36,999.03	9,711.02
Professional Services	26,927.00	23,046.65	12,416.20
Sponsorship & Donations	2,000.00	1,500.00	0.00
Support services - public	0.00	0.00	1,350.00
Total Operating Expenses	**58,488.00**	**61,802.97**	**24,219.83**
Net Profit	**8,766.00**	**34,789.53**	**(10,185.82)**

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6. Balance sheet

		30 June 2026	30 June 2025	30 June 2024
Equity				
	Current Year Earnings	8,766.00	34,789.53	(10,185.82)
	Retained Earnings	81,873.00	56,826.62	67,012.44
Total Equity		**90,639.00**	**91,616.15**	**56,826.62**

Note: FY26 numbers are not final, and may change when the accounts are audited in October 2026.

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Communications/Social Media – Tahlia Walsh

It has been an exciting year of connection, growth and engagement for the EIANZ WA Division. Social media continues to be one of our most valuable ways of staying connected with our growing membership, promoting events and sharing opportunities and insights across Western Australia's environmental sector.

WA membership continued its strong upward trajectory in 2025/26, increasing by approximately 14% from 278 to 318 members. This represents the Division's highest membership level in the five-year period shown and an increase of approximately 84% since June 2023.

- June 2022 – 209
- June 2023 – 173
- June 2024 – 227
- June 2025 – 278
- June 2026 – 318

Our online community has also continued to grow strongly. As of 14 July 2026:

- Facebook reached 297 followers, representing a 6.5% increase since July 2025.
- LinkedIn reached 254 followers, representing a 20.4% increase since July 2025.

LinkedIn has been a standout channel this year, with follower numbers increasing by 20.4%, reinforcing its value as a platform for professional engagement, event promotion and connection across WA's environmental sector.

These results reflect the continued energy and interest within the WA environmental community. Through regular event promotion, the quarterly WA Division newsletter, LinkedIn and Facebook updates, and a flexible mix of face-to-face and online events, we have continued to make it easier for members to participate, stay informed and connect with each other. The strong growth across both membership and digital channels provides a positive foundation for the year ahead as we continue to build an active, inclusive and well-connected WA Division.

Building on this momentum, the Committee will place a greater focus on using data and analytics to better understand our members and broader audience. These insights will help shape our communications, strengthen engagement, evaluate the impact of our activities and ensure we continue to deliver initiatives that meet the evolving needs of the Western Australian environmental profession.

Member Benefits – Sonia Finucane

The 2025-26 period saw the EIANZ WA Division successfully complete the 2025 early-careers mentoring program and commence the 2026 program. This program has now been running for eight years and pairs experienced professionals with emerging practitioners, creating partnerships that promote confidence, inspire passion and accelerate growth.

There is often a high level of interest in the EIANZ WA Division's mentoring program from both mentees and mentors, but this year we had considerably more applications from potential mentees than from potential mentors which unfortunately limited the number of mentoring pairs that could be established this year. Despite this constraint, 18 mentoring pairs were successfully established,

representing a 64% increase from the 11 pairs established in 2025.

This year's mentees and mentors met for the first time at the formal program launch on 30 March 2026. Each mentoring pair then worked together to develop their mentoring goals and sort out the other details that formed the basis of a Mentoring Agreement including the type and frequency of contact.

This year, the mentoring journey is being supported through the provision of newsletters and a mid-program check-in was also offered. A common theme from these check-ins was the importance of reviewing the mentoring goals from time-to-time not only to document achievements to date, but also to identify if any goals needed to be refreshed or refined. Not every mentoring pair took up this offer, but a consistently strong commitment to ensuring successful and effective mentoring relationships has been evident in each of the conversations held to date. An end-of-year review will also be offered to assist in closing out this year's program.

Looking ahead to next year, we are keen to provide mentors to as many mentees as possible and would encourage our experienced professionals to consider being a mentor in 2027 to support our early-careers practitioners. We will open registrations for next year's program in January, but would be pleased to receive expressions of interest from potential mentors prior to this time.

Policy/Advocacy Sub-Committee – Josh Matthews

This year, WA Division lodged two detailed formal submissions and participated in a range of consultation sessions, notwithstanding reduced consultation activity from state government agencies.

Our two submissions addressed significant water and coastal management issues in WA. The submission on the Fitzroy-Derby Water Resources Management Plan supported the proposed management plan for the regionally important north-west Fitzroy River, seeking clarification on issues including initial extraction maximums for development applications, the use of peer review for sensitive proposals outside management zones, the ongoing robustness of groundwater and surface water gauging stations, and the continual updating of risk variables with more extensive regional data.

The WA Division's submission on the State Environmental Policy (SEP) for Cockburn Sound responded to the Environmental Protection Authorities (EPA) review of the SEP and the future role of the Cockburn Sound Management Council. The submission recommended strengthened implementation and referral powers, a more risk-based approach to pollutant monitoring, ongoing peer review of supporting technical documents, reassessment of existing protection area classifications in light of major developments such as the Outer Harbour and AUKUS Garden Island projects, inclusion of Owen Anchorage within the management boundary, and consistent, adequate funding for the CSMC.

To keep members informed and engaged with policy developments, we made use of several communication channels throughout the year, including our quarterly newsletter, the Division's social media platforms and targeted direct emails. We also hosted a member consultation webinar on the WA EPA's new Environmental Impact Assessment Practice Guide to help collate member comments and input. Additional consultation webinars and briefing sessions, presented by relevant government departments, covered topics including cumulative impact assessment, mining development and closure approvals processes, and adaptation planning for WA's natural environment sector. These sessions provided government departments with valuable input from experienced environmental professionals, whose intimate understanding of these subject areas helped identify practical opportunities for improvement.

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We continued to attend the Environmental Protection Authority – Stakeholder Reference Group meetings and CRC TiME meetings throughout the year. Additionally, EIANZ was represented on the Stakeholder Reference Group for the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions' (DBCA) project to develop 1:50,000 pre-colonisation Swan Coastal Plain vegetation mapping, supporting bushfire planning and environmental approvals.

The input from members during this period has been invaluable in maintaining our collective voice on environmental matters, and we continue to encourage active member participation in policy engagement, both through collaborative Division initiatives and individual contributions to the policy landscape.

Copies of past and future submissions are located on the EIANZ Website at Policy submissions.

Event Sub-Committee – WA Division Committee

There were 17 events held during FY2025-26. They included:

- WA EPA Environmental Impact Assessment Practice Guide Consultation Session (65 participants)
- EoFY Enviro Drinks (71 participants)
- WA Division 2025 AGM – Aug (24 participants)
- Natural Sciences Industry Panel (approx. 50 participants)
- Essential Communications Tools for Environmental Practitioners Webinar (162 participants)
- Mastering AI training (28 participants)
- Draft Guideline for Cumulative Impact Assessment Webinar (60 participants)
- WA Biodiversity Offsets Forum (97 participants)
- Mining Development and Closure Proposal and Approvals Statement framework implementation briefing session (266 participants)
- WA Division Christmas Party 2025 (57 participants)
- QGIS Short Course (14 participants)
- Welcome to 2026 Drinks (43 participants)
- Introduction to the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (113 participants)
- Mentoring Program Launch and Goal Setting (32 participants)
- DBCA Consultation - Developing WA's Natural Environment Sector Adaptation Plan Webinar (58 participants)
- Perth Social Event (53 participants)
- Scoping Baseline Biological Surveys Webinar (148 participants)

The increase from 11 events in FY2024/25 to 17 events in FY2025/26 reflects the continued expansion of the Division's professional development and engagement program, with strong attendance across regulatory, technical and professional development topics.

Student and Early Careers Committee – Rebecca Cotton and Sarah Beukes

During FY2025-26 the SECC committee undertook the following:

- Continuation of the webinar series aimed at students and early careers, with two webinars held:
  - Introduction to WA's Environmental Protection Act 1986
  - Scoping Baseline Biological Surveys
- The webinars introduce topics of interest and relevance to early career practitioners, as well as those new to WA, to provide opportunities for learning about key topics in the

environmental profession. These online webinars have been very popular and have had engaging Q&A sessions.

- Further development of EIANZ's relationship with UWA Students of Natural and Agricultural Sciences (SNAGS) student organisation and support through Platinum Sponsorship for 2026.
- EIANZ representation and networking engagement at the UWA SNAGS 'Student Meets Industry' event in August 2025 and April 2026, with over 150 students at each event.
- Preparations made for environmental practitioner panellists to speak at the UWA SNAGS 'Natural Sciences Career Panel' event in August 2026.
- Initiating engagement with Murdoch University - School of Environment and Conservation Sciences, to collaborate on student engagement with EIANZ.

WA Membership Data

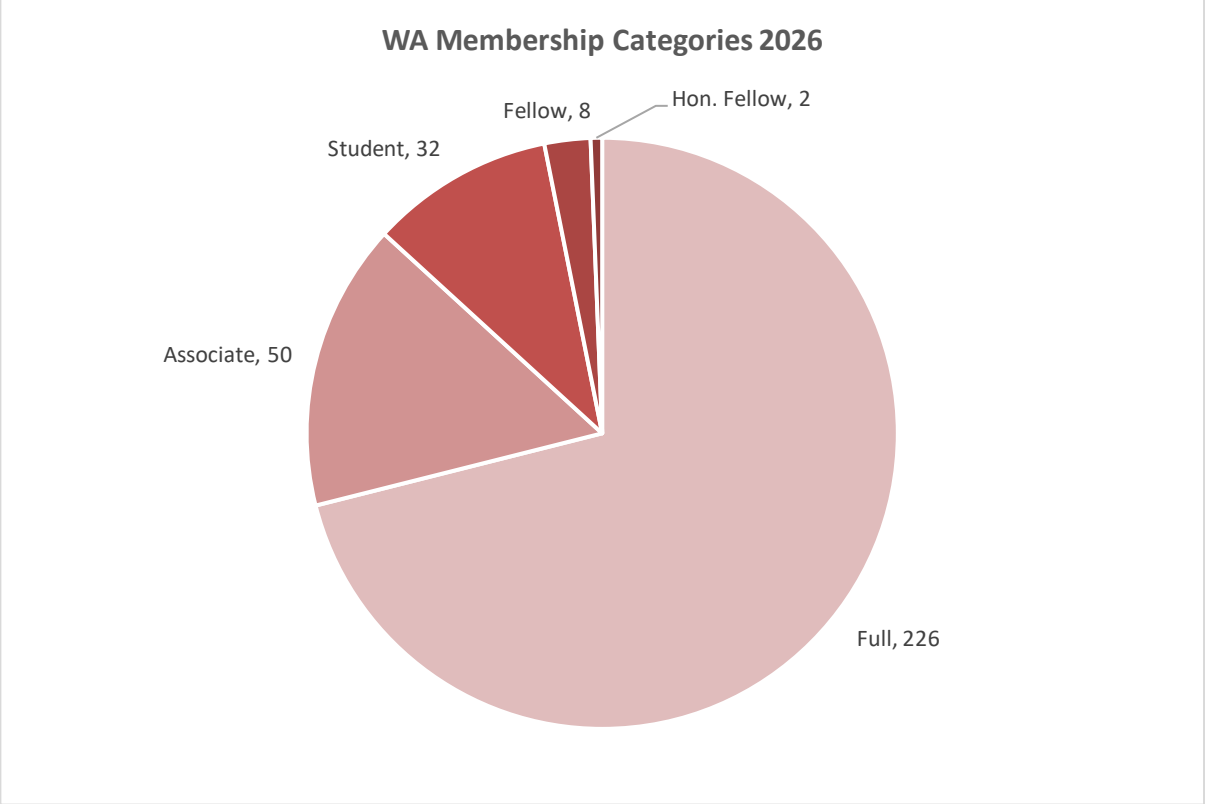
Growth occurred across the major membership categories, including Full, Associate and Student memberships, with Student membership increasing particularly strongly from 21 to 32 members. WA now accounts for approximately 12% of EIANZ membership across Australia and New Zealand, reflecting the continued strength and growth of the WA Division.



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