

NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

ORANA JOINT ORGANISATION

It is advised that an
Extra Ordinary Meeting of the Board of
the Orana Joint Organisation
to be held at **2.30 pm Tuesday 7 April 2020**
Via Teleconference
Please dial into: **1800 812 901**
Reservation/ Pin is: **21630121 followed by #**



ORANA JO BOARD MEMBERS

Clr Craig Davies (Chair)	Narromine Shire Council
Clr Doug Batten	Gilgandra Shire Council
Clr Denis Todd	Warrumbungle Shire Council
Clr Des Kennedy	Mid-Western Regional Council
Clr Milton Quigley	Warren Shire Council
Clr Ray Donald OAM	Bogan Shire Council
David Neeves	General Manager, Gilgandra Shire Council
Roger Bailey	General Manager, Warrumbungle Shire Council
Jane Redden	General Manager, Narromine Shire Council
Brad Cam	General Manager, Mid-Western Regional Council
Glenn Wilcox	General Manager, Warren Shire Council
Derek Francis	General Manager, Bogan Shire Council
Ashley Albury	Director Regions Western NSW (DPIE)
Belinda Barlow	Executive Officer, Orana Joint Organisation

ORDINARY BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Meeting Date:

Tuesday 7 April 2020

at 2.30 pm

Via Teleconference

Please dial into: **1800 812 901**

Reservation/ Pin is: **21630121 followed by #**

NOTICE OF BUSINESS AGENDA commencing at MIDDAY

1	2.30 pm	Opening of meeting
2	2.35 pm	Apologies and applications for a leave of absence by voting representatives
3	2.40 pm	Declaration of Interests At this juncture, Orana JO Board Members should indicate any items in which they have an interest and therefore will not be participating in discussion or voting.
4	2.45 pm	4.1 Rescission motion – JO Funding 4.2 Report provided by Executive Officer – JO Funding
5	3.00 pm	Next meeting – 24 April 2020
6	3.05 pm	Closure of meeting



Orana
JOINT ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS

**ORANA JOINT ORGANISATION
2020 Meeting Dates**

Orana JO Board	Friday 24 April 2020	TELECONFERENCE
Orana JO Board	13 May 2020	TELECONFERENCE
Orana JO Board	6 July 2020	TBC
Orana JO Board	12 October 2020	TBC
Orana JO Board	7 December 2020	TBC



4.1 RECISSION MOTION - ORANA JOINT ORGANISATION FUNDING

The Executive Officer
Orana Joint Organisation
PO Box 115
NARROMINE NSW 2821

RECISSION MOTION – ORANA JOINT ORGANISATION FUNDING

We the undersigned, move to rescind parts 2 and 3 of the Motion 2020/004 being:-

2. That subject to any further commitment by the State Government towards recurrent funding of the day to day operations of the Orana JO, the Board wind down functions effective 30 June 2020 noting:
 - (i) That Orana JO writes to the NSW Minister for Local Government specifying the name of each member council to be removed from the Orana JO boundary (LG Act 400ZC amendment and dissolution of Joint Organisations), in addition highlighting the Orana JO Board's concern of operating in deficit past June 2020:
 - (ii) The uncertainty of the financial and resource impost of increased governance activities including Risk Management and Internal Audit and Integrated Planning and Reporting; and
 - (iii) The 2020 NSW Audit Office's Engagement Plan highlights a key issue that may impact this year's audit – Going concern risk, uncertainty may exist over the sustainability and/or going concern principle of the Joint Organisation.

3. That next JO Board meeting be held on 24 April 2020 at which the Executive Officer and Office of Local Government will report on any outstanding governance items with the view to finalising the Orana JO's commitments by 30 June 2020.

And

Motion 2020/007 being:-

1. That the Orana JO Board direct the Executive Officer to enter into the Funding Agreement; and
2. The Orana JO Board seek a variation to the Capacity Building funding agreement after June 2020, and give approval for a member Council to accept the funding in the case of the Orana JO winding down its functions effective 30 June 2020.

On the basis that the following advice has been provided to the Orana JO Chair Councillor Craig Davies:-

- i) The Office of Local Government will alter the \$150,000 funding agreement dedicated to the Orana JO Capacity Building Fund (Orana JO skills analysis project) and re-direct it towards 'sustainability funding' for the purpose of recurrent funding of the day to day operations of the Orana Joint Organisation.

- ii) Director Regions Western NSW will secure an alternate source funding to be committed directly to the Orana JO Skills Analysis Project in order for the project to be fulfilled.
- iii) NSW Local Government Minister's Office will pursue the following projects that State Government and Orana JO have engaged collaboratively over the past 12 months to ensure the Orana JO has an ongoing commitment of joint ownership and partnership for the delivery of the following projects.
 - Gig State Project (Snowy Hydro Funding \$100 m) – improvement of digital connectivity with new network infrastructure to boost the internet capacity for communities and business (from Dubbo to Cobar);
 - Narromine to Nyngan pipeline as identified in the Macquarie Castlereagh Regional Water Strategy (\$20m committed by NSW Government to planning).

This will offer the much needed direction for the way JOs were intended to transform the way the NSW Government and Local Government collaborate, plan, set priorities and deliver important projects on a regional scale.

Signed



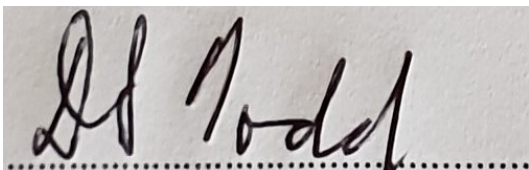
Cr(signature)

PRINT NAME:.....Ray Donald OAM.....



Cr.....(signature)

PRINT NAME: Clr Craig Davies



Cr(signature)

PRINT NAME: Clr Denis Todd

Date: 3RD APRIL 2020

**ORANA JOINT ORGANISATION
EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING BUSINESS PAPER – 7 APRIL 2020
REPORTS TO JO – EXECUTIVE OFFICER – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

4.2 ORANA JOINT ORGANISATION FUNDING

AUTHOR Executive Officer
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER Executive officer

Executive Summary

This report provides Orana JO Board with information on the most recent progress of a further commitment from the State Government towards the ongoing funding of the day to day operations of the Orana JO and commitment towards the regional scale projects that are under development between the State and the Orana JO.

Report

Joint Organisations were established to transform the way the NSW Government and Local Government *collaborate, plan, set priorities and deliver* important projects on a *regional scale*.

However over time the following has complicated the performance of Joint Organisations:

- There has been a reluctance in some agencies to collaborate and recognise the delivery of regional and economic development projects with Joint Organisations.
- Joint Organisations were **not** established to replace Local Government functions and **not** to function as a fourth tier of Government.
- The introduction of the same compliance requirements for a Joint Organisation that exists for a Council - is fundamentally described as 'duplication'.
- The proposed and additional governance requirements such as; Annual reporting, Financial audit, Internal Audit and Risk Management and Integrated Planning and Reporting, if introduced will erode the resources and the capacity of a Joint Organisation to plan, set priorities and deliver regional scale projects.

The progress of the State Government to recognise the value and significance of the Orana JO Region and its Member Councils over the past week has been overwhelming.

This has been shown with a dramatic change of willingness of the State Government to collaborate and identify the efforts of the Orana JO. The funding agreement for *Capacity Building Funding* will be renegotiated in a new agreement with the Office of Local Government as *Sustainability Funding*.

The initial project dedicated to the Capacity Building funding is now to be supported

financially from an alternate State Government source (Dept of Regional NSW) and is expected to attract additional funding of more than \$150,000 to fulfil the project 'Orana JO Skills Analysis for vulnerable communities'.

The Orana JO has a positive outlook for ongoing sustainability and recognition as a **significant partner** with the State Government for regional scale projects that the Orana JO has been working towards over the past 6 – 12 months. (listed below)

REGIONAL SCALE PROJECTS

The Orana JO has worked collaboratively on large scale projects with the State Government, most recently these include:

GIG STATE PROJECT - SNOWY HYDRO FUNDING \$400 M

This project is to construct a fibre cable network from Dubbo to Cobar with the ultimate goal to deliver metropolitan level digital connectivity to the Orana and Far West regions that has competitive pricing, quality of service and choice for regional businesses and communities – Dubbo, Narromine, Tomingley, Trangie, Warren, Nevertire, Nyngan and Cobar.

This will also offer a solution for eliminating the mobile blackspots in this region and investigate the new and emerging technologies for mobile coverage in this part of the region.

NSW Government's Regional Digital Connectivity Program Team were actively engaged with Orana JO Members during 2019 whereby member councils provided input for the initial planning stages of the project – local engagement input and activity was supplied to the Regional Connectivity Team to justify its business case to the State Government.

Member Councils' capital works programs, asset registers (pit and ducts infrastructure, building lead in, poles, vacant land and identifying existing rooftops to enable network rollout); strategic plans; land use plans, flood zone information; identification of the demands for connectivity; local workforce capability; those council projects and opportunities to co-develop in minimising impact on community and business during construction.

The project is to construct a fibre cable network from Dubbo to Cobar with the ultimate goal to deliver metropolitan level digital connectivity to the Orana and Far West regions that has competitive pricing, quality of service and choice for regional businesses and communities – Dubbo, Narromine, Tomingley, Trangie, Warren, Nevertire, Nyngan and Cobar.

This large scale project will also offer a solution for eliminating the mobile blackspots in this region and investigate the new and emerging technologies for mobile coverage in this part of the region.

Orana JO would like to maintain the collaborative work already undertaken with this project and pursue the local and regional engagement opportunities that will arise during the remainder of the planning, construction and finalisation of the project.

MACQUARIE CASTLEREAGH REGIONAL WATER STRATEGY

Proposed water infrastructure project – including the \$20 million dedicated to planning the Narromine to Nyngan water pipeline to secure the critical water needs of towns and communities that are affected by drought this includes Nyngan and Cobar.

Orana JO would like to maintain the consultation activity that has taken place and further pursue local and regional engagement opportunities that will arise during the remainder of the \$20 million dedicated to the planning of the large scale infrastructure project.

ORANA JO CURRENT POSITION as at APRIL 2020

2020/21 Member Contributions in July (\$83,290) and with Dubbo Regional Council member contribution (\$69,407) and 'sustainability funding' \$150,000 secures day to day operational funding for 20/21 and the project funds/commitments for the:

- i) Orana JO Skills Analysis*
- ii) Gig State Data Project*
- iii) Castlereagh Macquarie Regional Water Strategy Infrastructure Projects (Narromine to Nyngan pipeline).*

NSW Minister for Local Government's office has advised that a review will be undertaken in the second half of this year. This will provide an opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of Joint Organisations, as well as the legislation and regulation that currently presents onerous and unnecessary governance and reporting of Joint Organisations, combined with a re-evaluation of Risk Management and Internal Audit and Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework functions that may fall on to Joint Organisations.

If this framework is lessened or removed, this will have the ability to minimise the financial, governance and administrative resources of the JO.

The Orana Joint Organisation has the following funding applications pending:

i) Regional University Centre Program Funding (Commonwealth) – CSU Dubbo and Orana JO.

Funding and partners

CSU Dubbo has identified Orana Joint Organisation as the preferred partner to lead and apply to the Federal Government's funding program Regional University Centres for \$2 million over a four year period.

The Orana JO will hold all funds and oversee the overall budget, agree on operating budgets, support the governance and audit requirements.

The Exchange (as an in-kind partner) will provide a delivery model to rural centres throughout the region, which will offer supported learning to all students studying within any University.

CSU Dubbo will offer physical space and access to its Dubbo campus to students that need to travel to Dubbo to fulfil their study needs.

Additional funding for the support of student services will be sought via corporate scholarships.

The Regional University Centre function will include:

- Physical Space (CSU Dubbo campus)*
- First point of contact (The Exchange)*
- Centre Manger (CSU Dubbo campus)*
- Outreach (CSU Dubbo campus and The Exchange)*
- Pastoral Care (CSU Dubbo campus)*
- Academic support (CSU and home University)*

ii) NSW Environmental Trust Restoration and Rehabilitation Funding

Funding and partners

(Central West Councils Environment and Waterways Alliance Creating Homes for Threatened Species) a contribution of \$100,000 from the NSW Environmental Trust, with partner contributions equating to \$72,200 (in-kind) and \$157,685 (cash) from 18 Member Council Alliance.

iii) NSW Planning and Environment

Funding and partners

It has been advised by Director Regions NSW Planning and Environment that a project plan is under development to seek funding from State Government source that will enable the engagement of a Planning Project Officer, with the key role to assist the JO region with health precinct planning in the Orana JO's Member Council communities during 2020.

2020/2021 MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS

Each member council is to contribute a monetary payment or equivalent contribution based on the following methodology (Orana JO Charter):

The annual financial contribution required to be made by each Member Council is to consist of:

- a base fee of the same amount for each Member Council; and
- a capitation fee (based on the most recent population data issued by Australian Bureau of Statistics Census/Estimated Residential Population data.
- The annual financial contribution required to be made by each Associate Member is to be based on a methodology adopted by the Board.
- The amount of the base fee, capitation fee and financial contribution by Associate Members for a financial year is to be determined prior to the start of that year by Resolution of the Board.
- That new member's financial contributions will be determined by the Board of the existing Orana Joint Organisation.

LGA	2016 Census	ERP 2017	FLAT FEE	pop mvt	ERP 2018	FLAT FEE	pop mvt
Bogan Shire Council	2,692.00	2,664	8,972.00	-1.0%	2,621	8,972.00	-1.6%
Gilgandra Shire Council	4,236.00	4,247	8,972.00	0.3%	4,226	8,972.00	-0.5%
Mid-Western Regional Council	24,076.00	24,815	8,972.00	3.1%	25,086	8,972.00	1.1%
Narromine Shire Council	6,444.00	6,578	8,972.00	2.1%	6,567	8,972.00	-0.2%
Warren Shire Council	2,732.00	2,763	8,972.00	1.1%	2,745	8,972.00	-0.7%
Warrumbungle Shire Council	9,384.00	9,451	8,972.00	0.7%	9,399	8,972.00	-0.6%
	49,564.00	50,518		1.9%	50,644		0.2%