

# **Ordinary Council Meeting**

# **Agenda**

8 December 2022

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 that an Ordinary Meeting of Warrumbungle Shire Council will be held in the Council Chambers, John Street, Coonabarabran on Thursday, 8 December 2022 commencing at 5:00 pm.

Mayor: Cr Ambrose Doolan

Councillors: Kodi Brady

Dale Hogden Zoe Holcombe

Aniello Iannuzzi (Deputy Mayor)

Carlton Kopke Jason Newton Kathryn Rindfleish

Denis Todd

#### Please note:

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### **Council's Vision**

#### Excellence in Local Government

#### **Mission Statement**

#### We will provide:

- Quality, cost effective services that will enhance our community's lifestyle, environment, opportunity and prosperity.
- Infrastructure and services which meet the social and economic needs and aspirations of the community now and in the future.
- Effective leadership and good governance, by encouraging teamwork, through a dedicated responsible well trained workforce.

#### **Values**

### √ Honesty

Frank and open discussion, taking responsibility for our actions

### ✓ Integrity

Behaving in accordance with our values

#### ✓ Fairness

Consideration of the facts and a commitment to two way communication

#### ✓ Compassion

Working for the benefit and care of our community and the natural environment

#### ✓ Respect

To ourselves, colleagues, the organisation and the community, listening actively and responding truthfully

#### ✓ Transparency

Open and honest interactions with each other and our community

#### ✓ Passion

Achievement of activities with energy, enthusiasm and pride

#### ✓ Trust

Striving to be dependable, reliable and delivering outcomes in a spirit of goodwill

### ✓ Opportunity

To be an enviable workplace creating pathways for staff development

# Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022

# **AGENDA**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY** – Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Land at which the meeting is held and pays its respects to Elders both past and present and extends that respect to other Aboriginal people who are present.

Turn Off Mobile Phones

Audio Recording of Council Meetings

**Apologies/Leave of Absence** 

**Confirmation of Minutes** 

16 November 2022

**Disclosure of Interest** 

Pecuniary Interest Non Pecuniary Conflict of Interest

**Mayoral Minute/s** 

**Delegate Report/s** 

**Reports of Committees** 

**Reports to Council** 

Conclusion

**Notices of Motion/Questions with Notice/Rescission Motions** 

Reports to be considered in Closed Council

ROGER BAILEY
GENERAL MANAGER

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# **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

Item 1 Mayoral Minute – Mayors Log of Activity, Kilometres Travelled and Expenses from 9 November 2022 to 28 November 2022

### **MAYORAL MINUTE – MAYORS ACTIVITY**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Type</u>	In/Out	<u>Activity</u>
15-Nov	Emails	In	Warwick Giblin - Birrawa Solar Farm
	Emails	In	GM - Dunedoo TRRRC
	Emails	In	Ratepayer - Leadville roads
	Emails	In	Kempsey Council - roads emergency declaration
	Emails	In	Warwick Giblin - large scale solar guidelines
	Emails	In	GM - Lawson Park Road
	Emails	In	GM - Digilah Street
	Emails	Out	Brett Vincent - Dunedoo TRRRC
	Emails	Out	GM - Leadville roads
16-Nov	Emails	In	DTS - response re road concern
	Emails	In	Brett Vincent - Dunedoo TRRRC
	Emails	In	Armidale Mayor - CoREM meeting
17-Nov	Emails	In	Landcom - Reservoir Street
	Emails	In	Brett Vincent - Dunedoo TRRRC
	Emails	In	GM - concept paper CoREM
	Emails	In	Director Corp Services - Connect Five Services
	Emails	Out	Landcom - Reservoir Street
	Emails	Out	Cr Brady - Little Timor Street
	Emails	Out	Director Corp Services - Connect Five Services
18-Nov	Emails	In	Cr Rindfleish - Energy Co meeting
	Emails	In	Ratepayer - Bolton Creek Road
	Emails	In	DTS - Burra Bee Dee
	Emails	Out	Ratepayer - Bolton Creek Road
	Emails	Out	DTS - Bolton Creek Road
	Emails	Out	DTS - Burra Bee Dee
	Emails	Out	Cr Rindfleish - Coolah Men's Shed
19-Nov	Emails	Out	Warwick Giblin - land tax review
21-Nov	Emails	Out	Ratepayer - Narrawa Road
	Emails	In	GM - naming proposal Warkton Bridge
	Emails	In	GM - pool incident Coonabarabran
	Emails	In	GM - Dunedoo Infrastructure Renewal
	Emails	In	Warwick Giblin - Tallawang Solar Farm
	Emails	In	Ratepayer - Narrawa Road
	Emails	In	Audit Office - Management Letter
22-Nov	Emails	In	Sam Farraway - visit
	Emails	In	Ratepayer - Borambitty Road repairs
23-Nov	Emails	Out	Sam Faraway - roads
	Emails	In	GM - Resources for Regions
	Emails	In	GM - Birrawa Solar Farm
	Emails	In	DTS - Little Timor Street
	Emails	In	GM - Dunedoo Medical Clinic building

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25-Nov	Emails	Out	DTS - Little Timor Street
	Emails	In	Warwick Giblin - Tallawang Solar Farm
	Emails	In	Mayor Narromine - Biodiversity offsets
27-Nov	Emails	In	Brett Vincent - Dunedoo TRRRC
	Emails	In	DTS - Little Timor Street
	Emails	In	GM - Fixing Local Rods
	Emails	In	GM - Performance Agreement

Date of Journey		Durnosa of lourney	Odometer		KM
Start Date	End Date	Purpose of Journey		Finish	Travelled
9-Nov	9-Nov	Warrumbungle Community Care Expo	20348	20394	46
15-Nov	15-Nov	Baradine Community Consultation Meeting	20394	20441	47
16-Nov	16-Nov	Meeting - GM and Deputy Mayor	20441	20473	32
16-Nov	16-Nov	Council Meeting	20473	20505	32
17-Nov	18-Nov	Dubbo - Country Mayors 20505 2		20817	312
19-Nov	19-Nov	Mendooran 170 Years Celebration 20817		20959	142
22-Nov	22-Nov	Sam Farraway visit - Shire drive 20959 21326		367	
28-Nov	28-Nov	Council Chambers	21326	21358	32
Tatal (884) and 1845 and 1840 No. and a 2022 20 No. and a 2022					

Total KM travelled for period 9 November 2022 - 28 November 2022

1,010

### MAYORAL MINUTE - EXPENSES 8 November 2022 to 23 November 2022

<u>Date</u>	Transaction Details	<u>Comments</u>	
8-Nov	13Cabs	Travel - ALGA Local Roads Congress	\$52.33
8-Nov	TRC Airport Parking	Travel - ALGA Local Roads Congress	\$40.00
18-Nov	Transport NSW Opal	Travel - Country Mayors	\$20.60
21-Nov	Transport NSW Opal	Travel - Country Mayors	\$20.60
21-Nov	Mercure	Accommodation - Country Mayors	\$399.00
21-Nov	Due Mondi @ Society	Food - Country Mayors	\$30.50
23-Nov	Shell Dunedoo	Fuel	\$52.76
Total expenditure for period 08/11/2022 - 23/11/2022			\$615.79

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

- 1. Notes the report on the Mayor's Activity and Log of Kilometres Travelled for the period 9 November 2022 to 28 November 2022.
- 2. Notes the report on the Mayor's credit card expenses between 9 November 2022 and 23 November 2022 and approves the payment of expenses totalling \$615.79.

## **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

#### Item 2 Mayoral Minute - Little Timor Street Plaza

**Division:** Technical Services

Management Area: Projects

Author: Cr Ambrose Doolan

**CSP Key Focus Area:** Supporting Community Life

**Priority:** SC4 The long-term wellbeing of our community is

supported by ongoing provision of high quality services, health and aged care, education, policing and public safety, child, youth and family support, environmental protection and land

management.

#### **Reason for Report**

The purpose of this report is to provide some clarity on the accepted usage of the community space known as the Little Timor Street Plaza.

#### **Background**

Council considered a report on this subject at the 16 November 2022 Council meeting. A member of the public, Mrs Judy Clancy spoke passionately about the Committee that had assisted Council staff in preparing the successful funding application and the motivation behind the application.

An enormous amount of work was completed by passionate volunteer members of the Coonabarabran Town Beautification Advisory Committee in the preparation of the 2020 Streets as Shared Spaces grant application. This dedication to the Plaza has not gone unnoticed with Committee members tending to the plants and planter boxes, removing rubbish from the site and sometimes cleaning the area. There is currently no dedicated budget allocation for Council maintenance of the Plaza.

I think we can all agree that we have ended up with a wonderful community space that we should all be proud of.

I was pleased to learn that the project won bronze in the recent 2022 NSW/ACT Landscape Excellence Awards. All credit to the Committee, staff and contractor for this achievement.

Mrs Clancy expressed concern about the suggested "passive" use of the space and gave examples of the intended use being such things as listening to the Men's Choir or brass band.

Current practice in many Local Government authorities defines Public Open Space (POS) in hierarchical terms, with criteria most often relating to size. When purpose or function is considered, "active" is used to describe areas designed and maintained for structured, organised sport, with "passive" used to describe areas designed and managed for recreation and more <u>informal</u> activity such as children's play,

## Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

socialising, exercise, relaxation, dancing, meditation, playing chess, card games, reading, listening to music, studying, chatting, personal reflection and playing a musical instrument.

Mrs Clancy also suggested that the Plaza not be used for the supply of food, that there be a capacity rating for the number of people who can use the Plaza, that Council is notified of gatherings and events and give verbal approval, and time of use is restricted given the accommodation nearby.

#### **Issues**

In my view, the issues are clarity around what uses are acceptable and practical given the space constraints and proximity to the state highway.

There are some important considerations to bear in mind.

The section of Little Timor Street upon which the Plaza has been constructed was temporarily closed in August 2021 and any approvals for use must consider the *Roads Act 1993*.

The Streets as Shared Spaces Program under which this project was funded was to be a "medium term pilot project". If Council was of a mind to make the Plaza permanent, then there is a process that we would need to follow which would involve closing the road, classifying the land as community land, nominating the land to be a park and developing a plan of management.

This is a complex, time consuming process which should perhaps be considered at some stage, however given our other priorities such as restoring our road network, I am not sure that we should be diverting staff resources at this time.

We could consider this process as part of our deliberations on the 2023/24 Operational Plan.

So, what can be done in the interim?

If we were to anticipate the end result of the process which is likely to be an urban park or parklet, how can we accommodate that now given the constraints of the State Legislation under which we operate?

Unfortunately, there has been some misinformation out there in the community about the use of the Plaza that needs to be clarified. We should be clear that there are a number of uses of a Plaza that do not require approval or cost.

People can and have been enjoying their lunches, reading books, playing with their children, or just soaking up the sunshine. These are all free activities that do not require approval from Council. Impromptu musical and artistical performances are also welcome and free activities.

When we consider an organised community event, there may be approvals that are required and there is a range of information on Council's website including checklists, insurance details, event management tools and templates.

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If someone wanted to hold an organised event that was open to the general public whether ticketed (free or not) an approval would be required.

This approach is consistent with the hiring of halls, meeting rooms, sporting ovals and swimming pools.

A suggested approach would be to follow the Council's Venue, Oval and Parks Booking terms and conditions of use and adapt it for the use of the Plaza. This would require the hirer to:

- Complete and lodge a Booking Form at least three working days prior to an event. While three days' notice would be the minimum, it would be highly advised to provide as much notice as possible to avoid disappointment.
- Pay all associated fees and charges associated with the booking or lodge an application to waive the fees and charges
- Provide proof of their own public liability insurance, to the value of \$20 million
- Nominate a site controller
- Maintain a clear path of travel for pedestrians through the Plaza at all times during the hire
- Not let the capacity exceed 120 spectators
- Make their own arrangements for access to water and electricity
- Note that the nearest public toilets are only open from dawn until dusk
- Note that Little Timor Street is an Alcohol-Free Zone

As stated previously, because Little Timor Street is still considered to be a road, approval under the *Roads Act 1993* is required if someone wanted to hold an organised event. This is a State Government requirement not a Council requirement. To streamline the approval process, and save each and every application being considered by the Traffic Advisory Committee, a report could be put to the Committee seeking approval for Council Officers to assess and approve noncomplex applications for organised events in the Plaza.

Council sets fees and charges annually and currently there is <u>no current fee</u> for approvals under the *Roads Act 1993*.

Should a fee be set in the future, charitable and non-for-profit organisations can apply to the General Manager to have their fees waived. Applications must be made in writing with evidence of not-for-profit status and clearly state why any fees should be waived or discounted.

It should be noted that in the 2022/23 financial year to date no fees have been charged or waived.

#### **Financial Considerations**

There is currently no dedicated budget allocation for the maintenance of the Plaza. This should be considered as a budget submission for the 2023/24 Operational Plan.

Should Council proceed with the administration of the Local Approval Applications for organised events, the cost will need to be absorbed into operational budgets. Staff advise there is not a large volume of applications expected to be lodged.

# **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

### **Community Engagement**

It is pleasing to see some members of the community taking an active interest in this matter.

#### **Attachments**

Nil

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

- 1. Thanks the members of the Coonabarabran Town Beautification Advisory Committee for their contribution towards the preparation of the Streets as Shared Spaces funding application and the ongoing beautification of the Little Timor Street Plaza.
- 2. Notes the Guidelines for use of Little Timor Street Plaza for organised events.
- 3. Notes that fees have not been charged for the use of the Little Timor Street Plaza.

COUNCILLOR AMBROSE DOOLAN MAYOR

## **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

### **Item 3 Councillors' Monthly Travel Claims**

**Division:** Executive Services

Management Area: Governance

**Author:** Executive Assistant to the General Manager –

Erin Player

CSP Key Focus Area: Civic Leadership

**Priority:** CL2.1 Provide Council's leadership with a strong

governance and management framework that promotes transparent and informed decision-

making.

### Reason for Report

To provide Council with details of monthly travel claims of councillors.

### **Background**

At the Ordinary Council meeting in July 2017 it was resolved that, "all Councillors make public their monthly travel claims effective immediately." (Resolution No 10/1718)

### **Councillor Monthly Travel Claims**

Councillor	Kilometres	\$ per KM	Total Amount (\$)
Cr Brady		0.78	-
Cr Doolan	-	0.78	-
Cr Hogden	400	0.78	\$312
Cr Holcombe	-	0.68	-
Cr lannuzzi	-	0.78	-
Cr Kopke	548	0.78	\$427.44
Cr Newton	-	0.78	-
Cr Rindfleish	704	0.78	\$549.12
Cr Todd	575	0.78	\$448.50
		Total:	\$1,737.06

#### **Issues**

Nil.

### **Options**

Nil.

#### **Financial Considerations**

Outlined above.

### **Community Engagement**

To inform the community.

# **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

#### **Attachments**

1. Councillors Monthly Travel Claims

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Councillors' monthly travel claims report in the amount of \$1,737.06 is noted.

## Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

#### Item 4 Minutes of Country Mayors Meetings 18 November 2022

**Division:** Executive Services

Management Area: Executive Services

Author: Mayor – Ambrose Doolan

**CSP Key Focus Area:** Local Government and Finance

**Priority:** GF7 Council provides strong civic and regional

leadership, and undertakes its governance and

service delivery tasks with integrity

#### **Reason for Report**

To report to Council on the Country Mayors Association meetings held in Sydney on Friday 18 November 2022.

#### Background

The General Manager and I attended the Country Mayors Association General Meeting and the Country Mayors Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Friday 18 November 2022.

During the AGM, Chairman Cr Ken Keith outlined the years highlights and thanked everybody for their support during his terms.

The following positions were elected:

- Cr Jamie Chaffey, Gunnedah Shire Council, elected Chairman for 2022/23 2023/24 period.
- Cr Rick Firman, Mayor, Temora Shire Council elected as Vice Chairperson for 2022/23 – 2023/24 period.
- Mr Eric Growth General Manager Gunnedah Shire Council, be appointed Secretary/Public Officer.
- Allan Burgess trading as Alkanat Consulting be appointed the Secretariat.
- The Executive Committee for the 2022/23 and 2023/24 period:
  - o Clr Russell Webb Tamworth Regional Council
  - o Clr Sam Coupland Armidale Regional Council
  - o Clr Craig Davies Narromine Shire Council
  - o Clr Russell Fitzpatrick Bega Valley Shire Council
  - Cr Kylie Thomas Kyogle Council
  - CIr Sue Moore Singleton Council
  - o Clr John Medcalf Lachlan Shire Council
  - o Clr Phyllis Miller Forbes Shire Council

The Annual Fees for the 2022/23 year will remain at \$750 for Councils with a population of 10,000 and over and for Councils with a population of less than 10,000 will pay 75% being \$562.50.

Meeting dates for 2023 were declared to be 10 March, 26 May, 4 August and 3 November.

## **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

During the General Meeting, there were a number of presentations, which included:

- Mr Craig Carmody, CEO, Port of Newcastle, thanked councils for their support in seeking the removal of the financial penalty to build the container terminal and discussed the benefits of the container terminal for the port with Inland Rail.
- Cr Linda Scott, President, ALGA provided an update on ALGA, which
  included the replacement of the building Better Regions Fund with Growing
  Regions Program and the Precincts Partnership Program, the Independent
  Inquiry into Australia's Response to COVID 19, and new Childcare
  Legislation.
- Cr Darriea Turley AM, President LGNSW, provided a provided a report on the work of LGNSW since the last meeting including the Annual Conference 2022, and Severe Flooding in NSW and gave an advocacy update on Statewide Roads Emergency.
- The Hon Wendy Tuckerman MP, Minister for Local Government, advised major efforts were going into advocacy for the rural roads emergency but current funding is not touching the surface and how there has been a focus on sustainability and input into the IPART rate increase.
- Ms Carmel Donnelly PSM, Chair, Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) NSW discussed what IPART has been asked to investigate and make recommendation on and what their key issues are so far.

The following resolutions were made:

- The financial reports for the last quarter were tabled and accepted.
- Byron Shire Council and Lismore City Council were admitted as members of the Association.
- Country Mayors adopted the CMA State Election Priority discussion paper in principle and asked members for feedback to the Secretariat by the 2 December 2022.
- A media release to be prepared in relation to RFS assets.
- Country Mayors adopted the Scholarships Sub Committee Report on providing a scholarship to an existing CMA member staff.
- Members of the Country Mayors Association call on the Federal Government to establish a supplementary round of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Fund. This supplementary funding will assist Local Councils to fund the renewal and replacement of roads and community infrastructure damaged by weather events over the past two years.

#### **Issues**

Nil

#### **Options**

Nil

# **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

### **Financial Considerations**

Ni

#### **Community Engagement**

To inform the community by placing the information on Council's website through the Business Paper.

#### **Attachments**

- 1. Minutes, Country Mayors Association Annual General Meeting 18 November 2022
- 2. Minutes, Country Mayors Association General Meeting 18 November 2022
- 3. Country Mayors Media Release 22 November 2022

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council note the Delegate's Report in relation to Country Mayors Association meetings held in Sydney on Friday 18 November 2022.

## Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

Item 5 Delegate's Report – Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Meeting – 7 November 2022

**Division:** Executive Services

Management Area: Governance

Author: Councillor Zoe Holcombe

**CSP Key Focus Area:** Local Government and Finance

**Priority:** GF4 Council governance and organisation

structure, reflects the vision, directions and

priorities outlined in the Community Strategic Plan

#### **Reason for Report**

To report to Council on the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Meeting held via Teams on Monday 7 November 2022.

#### **Background**

On Monday 7 November 2022, Cr Todd and I attended the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Meeting via Teams. The meeting was changed to Teams due to Flooding.

The meeting was meant to be held in late October but due to the Minister being available to go to Lightening Ridge to and then cancelling due to flooding, the meeting was changed to Teams.

In the meeting there were discussions on a policy in regards to prosecutions against non-complaint land holders being considered. The Hudson Pear Taskforce meeting will be held 13 December in Lightning Ridge.

Constant rain has made conditions intolerable for releasing the Bio Control agent for African Box Thorn. Once conditions are more favourable, and control agent released, the Senior Biosecurity officer will give a comprehensive report. A report on this will be given at the December meeting.

The final meeting for 2022 will be held in Coonamble on the 19 December and it is hoped that the Meeting in Coonabarabran will go ahead in early 2023.

#### **Issues**

Nil

### **Options**

Nil

#### **Financial Considerations**

Nil

# **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

### **Community Engagement**

To inform the community by placing the information on Council's website through the Business Paper.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council notes the Delegate's Report on the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Meeting held Monday 7 November 2022.

## Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

#### **Item 6 Community Consultation Meetings**

**Division:** Corporate and Community Services

Management Area: Children's and Community Services

**Author:** Executive Assistant to General Manager – Erin

Player

CSP Key Focus Area: Civic Leadership

**Priority:** CL4 To have a well-informed community

that has confidence in Council's decision-

making processes.

#### **Reason for Report**

To present draft Minutes from the Community Consultation Meetings held in October/ November 2022 to Council.

### **Background**

In October and November 2022, Council conducted a series of Community Consultation Meetings across the Shire. Meetings were held at the following venues:

- Mendooran Memorial Club 31 October 2022
- Binnaway Bowling Club 1 November 2022
- Coolah Council Chambers 7 November 2022
- Coonabarabran Council Chambers 8 November 2022
- Dunedoo Jubilee Hall 14 November 2022
- Baradine Bowling Club 15 November 2022

#### Issues

As per the Terms of Reference for Community Consultation Meetings, as endorsed by Council at the September 2021 Council Meeting, Minutes of Community Consultation Meetings will be recorded and submitted to the Council Meeting for endorsement before being circulated.

Once Meeting Minutes have been endorsed by Council they will be circulated to meeting attendees no more than one (1) week following the Council Meeting. Minutes will also be uploaded to the Warrumbungle Shire Council website, and will therefore be available to all members of local communities.

Minutes endorsed and circulated will be draft Minutes only. Minutes will not be confirmed until the next round of Community Consultation Meetings which are expected to be held in March / April 2023.

The next round of dates for the Community Consultation Meeting R2 2022/23 – are as follows:

Mullaley Monday, 20 March 2023

## Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

Coonabarabran Tuesday, 21 March 2023 Coolah Monday, 27 March 2023 Tuesday, 28 March 2023 Baradine Dunedoo Monday, 3 April 2023 Tuesday, 4 April 2023 Binnaway Wednesday 12 April 2022 Mendooran

#### **Community Engagement**

The level of engagement for this report is Inform.

#### **Attachments**

- 1. Mendooran Community Consultation Minutes 31 October 2022
- 2. Binnaway Community Consultation Minutes 1 November 2022
- 3. Coolah Community Consultation Minutes 7 November 2022
- 4. Coonabarabran Community Consultation Minutes 8 November 2022
- 5. Dunedoo Community Consultation Minutes 14 November 2022
- 6. Baradine Community Consultation Minutes 15 November 2022

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Notes the draft Minutes from the six Community Consultation Meetings held in October and November 2022 for Round 1 2022/2023.
- 2. Notes that Minutes from the Community Consultation Meetings held in October and November 2022 for Round 1 2022/2023 will now be released to meeting attendees and placed on Council's website.
- 3. Endorse the meeting dates for Round 2 2022/2023 as:

•	Mullaley	Monday, 20 March 2023
•	Coonabarabran	Tuesday, 21 March 2023
•	Coolah	Monday, 27 March 2023
•	Baradine	Tuesday, 28 March 2023
•	Dunedoo	Monday, 3 April 2023
•	Binnaway	Tuesday, 4 April 2023
•	Mendooran	Wednesday, 12 April 2022

## Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

Item 7 Minutes of Coonabarabran Sporting Complex Advisory Committee Meeting – 9 November 2022

**Division:** Technical Services

Management Area: Urban Services & Facilities

Author: Manager Urban Services & Facilities – Nicole

Benson

**CSP Key Focus Area:** SC3 A healthy and active community is supported

by sporting and recreational infrastructure.

**Priority:** SC3.4 Identify opportunities for innovative

adaptation and/or sharing of open space and infrastructure for recreational purposes as well as

regular maintenance and upkeep of parks, reserves, swimming pools and other recreational assets to ensure availability of such assets to

residents of the shire.

#### **Reason for Report**

The purpose of this report is to present minutes from the meeting of the Coonabarabran Sporting Complex Advisory Committee held at Coonabarabran on 9 November 2022.

#### **Background**

The purpose of the Committee is to assess the condition and usefulness of the existing amenities buildings and sporting facilities at Coonabarabran Sporting Complex and develop a strategy for these facilities based on existing and future sport and recreation demands.

Core responsibilities and duties of the Committee are to:

- Determine current and potential sport and recreation users of the complex facilities including volume and frequency of use;
- Develop a long-term strategy for the Sporting Complex in the form of a Master Plan including cost estimates and priorities of improvements;
- Investigate and obtain external sources of funding; and
- Make recommendations to Council on any matter related to improvements of the Sporting Complex.

#### Issues

The Committee discussed the process to be followed for the construction of the new amenities at No 3 Oval. All users of the facility and the broader community will be engaged on the concept plans and the Committee is hopeful the Resources for Regions application is successful.

It was noted that progress had been made on the greyhound track with both the local Greyhound Association and Greyhound Racing NSW being contacted. Next steps in the process are to formally terminate the agreement as agreed to with the local

## **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

Greyhound Association and for Greyhound Racing NSW to visit the site and remove and repurpose their equipment.

#### **Options**

Council may wish to note the action items and adopt the recommendations from the Committee meeting.

#### **Community Engagement**

The level of engagement for this report is to inform.

#### **Financial Considerations**

There are no financial implications to Council arising from this report.

#### **Attachment**

 Minutes of Coonabarabran Sporting Complex Advisory Committee Meeting – 9 November 2022

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council notes the minutes of the Coonabarabran Sporting Complex Advisory Committee meeting held at Coonabarabran on 9 November 2022.

## Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

Item 8 Minutes of Coonabarabran Town Beautification Advisory Committee Meeting – 10 November 2022

**Division:** Technical Services

Management Area: Urban Services & Facilities

Author: Manager Urban Services & Facilities

**CSP Key Focus Area:** SC6 Our towns and villages are characterised by

their attractiveness, appearance, safety and

amenity.

**Priority:** SC6.3 Work with local communities to develop

and implement improvement plans for our streetscapes, main streets and town entrances.

#### **Reason for Report**

The purpose of this report is to present minutes from the meeting of the Coonabarabran Town Beautification Advisory Committee held at Coonabarabran on 10 November 2022.

#### **Background**

The purpose of the Committee is to make recommendations on specific projects and or development of strategies for the beautification of Coonabarabran.

Core responsibilities and duties of the Committee are to:

- Input into the development of a beautification Master Plan with a strategic focus on improving the appearance of street landscapes.
- Assistance with determining current issues with town landscapes, including identification of issues that need to be rectified.
- Investigation into, and assistance in obtaining, external sources of funding.
- Making of recommendations to Council on matters relating to specific town beautification projects or strategies.

#### Issues

Several matters were discussed including volunteering and the support Council would provide to members to enable them to safely complete minor maintenance to areas in the Little Timor Street Plaza.

Another Masterplan workshop will be held in the future with the view to progress the work that had been completed over the years. Councillor Brady agreed to investigate costs expected to finalise the Masterplan for the purpose of seeking Council to consider a budgetary allocation in the 2023/2024 Operational Plan.

The Committee accepted the resignation of Ms Emma McDonald from the Committee and will seek Council's determination on filling the position in accordance with the Terms of Reference. Positive feedback was provided on the Castlereagh River Project near Neilson Park. It was noted that the Little Timor Street Plaza had been

## Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022

nominated for an award with the IPWEA and the judges were impressed with the project.

#### **Options**

In relation to the vacant position on the Coonabarabran Town Beautification Advisory Committee the Terms of Reference state the following:

#### 5. Membership

Committee representation will be comprised of the following:

- Two councillors, one of whom will be the Chairperson, as elected by Council;
- Six community representatives, or as determined by Council;

#### 17. Vacancies

Vacancies may arise during the term of the committee. If a vacancy does occur, the Council will seek expressions of interest to fill the vacancy.

Council at its meeting of 17 March 2022 (Res 232/2122) resolved to accept all 11 community nominations. As this is a large number for an Advisory Committee, Council may consider not filling the vacant position.

Council may also wish to adopt the recommendations from the Committee meeting.

#### **Financial Considerations**

There are no financial implications arising from the minutes.

#### **Community Engagement**

The level of engagement for this report is to inform.

#### **Attachment**

- 1. Minutes of Coonabarabran Town Beautification Advisory Committee Meeting 10 November 2022.
- 2. Terms of Reference for Coonabarabran Town Beautification Advisory Committee

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

- 1. Notes the minutes of the Coonabarabran Town Beautification Advisory Committee meeting held at Coonabarabran on 10 November 2022.
- 2. Consider a budgetary allocation in the 2023/2024 Operational Plan for the purpose of finalising the Coonabarabran Town Beautification Masterplan.
- 3. Notes the resignation of Ms Emma McDonald from the Coonabarabran Town Beautification Advisory Committee and in accordance with the Terms of Reference Council not fill the position.

## Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

#### Item 9 Minutes of Economic Development and Tourism Meeting

**Division:** Environment and Development Services

Management Area: Economic Development and Tourism

Author: Manager Economic Development and Tourism

Jo Houghton

**CSP Key Focus Area:** Strengthening the Local Economy

**Priority:** LE 2 Identify, develop and coordinate tourism and

economic development opportunities

#### **Reason for Report**

The purpose of this report is to present minutes from the meeting of the Economic Development and Tourism Advisory Committee held at Coonabarabran Wednesday 23 November, 2022.

#### **Background**

The purpose of the Committee is to provide advice and guidance to Council on planning and priorities for tourism and economic development for Warrumbungle Shire.

Core responsibilities and duties of the Committee are to:

- Provide a forum for discussion and act in an advisory role and not commit Council resources outside the allocated budget for Tourism and Economic Development Promotions.
- Work within the framework of the Community Strategic Plan and Warrumbungle Shire Economic Development Strategy and not deal with day to day operational matters.

#### Issues

The following matters were considered by the Committee:

- Town entry sign project visual proofs of preferred concept designs to be generated, EDT Committee members to consult with community and provide preferred locations.
- Tourism Report
- Economic Development Report REDS submission to be generated for submission on 7 December 2022.
- Visitor Information Centre Report request for famil tours to be organised for all towns with WSC in next FY, will need to be included in 23/25 FY budget.
- A request from member of public for rest area and signage on corner of Castlereagh Highway and Barney's Reef Road; to be forwarded to Council's Traffic Committee.
- A Rail Trail survey has been generated to gauge community interest about a potential Rail Trail network in WSC, EDT Committee members to consult with communities.

# **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

### **Options**

Council may wish to adopt the recommendations from the Committee meeting.

#### **Financial Considerations**

Nil

### **Community Engagement**

The level of engagement for this report is to Inform.

#### **Attachments**

1. Minutes of the Economic Development and Tourism Committee meeting held 23 November, 2022.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council notes the minutes of the Economic Development and Tourism Committee meeting held on 23 November 2022.

## Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

Item 10 Minutes of Coonabarabran Swimming Pool Advisory Committee Meeting – 23 November 2022

**Division:** Technical Services

Management Area: Urban Services & Facilities

Author: Manager Urban Services & Facilities – Mrs Nicole

Benson

**CSP Key Focus Area:** SC3 A healthy and active community is supported

by sport and recreational infrastructure

**Priority:** SC3.1 Identify and deliver sport and recreation

facilities to service the community into the future.

#### **Reason for Report**

The purpose of this report is to present the minutes from the Coonabarabran Swimming Pool Advisory Committee meeting held at Coonabarabran on 23 November 2022.

#### **Background**

The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to assess the condition and usefulness of the existing amenities, buildings, and facilities at the Coonabarabran Swimming Pool Complex and develop a long-term strategy for upgrade and improvement to these facilities, based on existing and future sport and recreation demands of the Shire.

#### Issues

The delayed opening to the pool season was discussed in detail. Continual rain and overland flooding had significantly impacted the entire facility. Staff shortages had obstructed members of the community wanting to activate memberships as resources had been diverted to pools with bookings requiring pool attendants. It was noted that people who had purchased season tickets and had not used them could request a refund.

Timing of the Resources for Regions and Stronger Country Communities funding announcements was discussed and the Committee is hopeful for a positive announcement in the near future.

#### **Options**

Council may wish to note the minutes and adopt the recommendations from the Committee meeting.

#### **Financial Considerations**

There are no financial implications arising from the minutes.

#### **Community Engagement**

The level of engagement for this report is to inform.

# **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

#### **Attachments**

1. Minutes of Coonabarabran Swimming Pool Advisory Committee Meeting – 23 November 2022.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council notes the minutes of the Coonabarabran Swimming Pool Advisory Committee meeting held at Coonabarabran on 23 November 2022.

## Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

#### Item 11 Minutes of Health Advisory Committee Meeting – 23 November 2022

**Division:** Executive Services

Management Area: Executive Services

**Author:** General Manager – Roger Bailey

**CSP Key Focus Area:** Supporting Community Life

**Priority:** SC4 The long-term wellbeing of our community is

supported by ongoing provision of high quality services, health and aged care, education, policing and public safety, child, youth and family support, environmental protection and land

management

#### **Reason for Report**

The reason for this report is to present minutes from the meeting of the Health Advisory Committee held via Zoom on Wednesday 23 November 2022.

#### **Background**

The Health Advisory Committee was established at the Extra-Ordinary Council Meeting held 6 January 2022. The purpose of the Committee is to identify and discuss current deficits in our health services, propose improvement to our health services (all within Warrumbungle Shire Council) and liaise with NSW Health to achieve our goals.

The committee is comprised of the Mayor, as Chairperson, four councillors and any resident medical officer or pharmacist within the Warrumbungle Shire. The Executive Officer is the General Manager (non voting).

#### Issues

At the meeting held 23 November 2022, the committee discussed:

- Inwards and outwards correspondence relating to Doctor Distribution Priority Areas
- Outwards correspondence relating to Significant Development Projects
- Outwards correspondence relating to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Health Outcomes & Access to Health & Hospital Services in Rural, Regional & Remote NSW
- LGNSW 2022 Conference Motions
- Baradine MPS Section 19(2) Exemption
- Dunedoo Medical Centre

#### **Options**

Council may wish to adopt the recommendations from the Committee meeting.

### **Financial Considerations**

There are no financial implications arising from the minutes.

# **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

### **Community Engagement**

The level of engagement for this report is to inform.

#### **Attachment**

1. Minutes of Health Advisory Committee Meeting – 23 November 2022.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council notes the minutes of the Health Advisory Committee meeting held via Zoom on 23 November 2022.

## **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

### Item 12 Minutes of Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting – 24 November 2022

**Division:** Technical Services

Management Area: Projects

**Author:** Director Technical Services – Gary Murphy

**CSP Key Focus Area:** Supporting Community Life

**Priority:** SC4 The long-term wellbeing of our community is

supported by ongoing provision of high quality services, health and aged care, education, policing and public safety, child, youth and family support, environmental protection and land

management

#### **Reason for Report**

The purpose of this report is to present minutes from the meeting of the Traffic Advisory Committee held at Coonabarabran on the 24 November 2022.

#### **Background**

Authority has been delegated to Council from Transport for NSW (TfNSW) in relation to prescribed traffic control devices and traffic control facilities. Council may only exercise its delegated function in accordance with the Delegation. The Delegation requires Council to seek the advice of the NSW Police and TfNSW and this is usually done via the Local Traffic Advisory Committee. The Local Traffic Advisory Committee has no decision-making powers and is primarily a technical review committee. The Committee has four (4) formal members; NSW Police, TfNSW, Council Representative and the Local State Member of Parliament or their nominee.

#### Issues

The following matters were considered by the Committee:

- Coonabarabran Chamber of Commerce Closure of John Street,
   Coonabarabran for Easter Bunny Bazaar 8 April 2023
- Road Closures for 2023 ANZAC Day Events in Each Town of the Shire 25 April 2023
- Coonabarabran RSL Closure of John Street, Coonabarabran for ANZAC Dawn Service – 25 April 2023
- Coonabarabran LALC Closure of John Street, Coonabarabran for Annual Sorry Day March – 26 May 2023
- Coonabarabran RSL Closure of John Street, Coonabarabran for Remembrance Day Service – 11 November 2023
- Removal of 'No Through' Sign on Bandulla Street, Mendooran
- Baradine Hotel Installation of Bollards in Wellington Street, Baradine
- Bungle Rumble Event at Coonabarabran Showground 26 November 2022

In General Business, the following items were raised:

## Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

- Non-Compliance with 50kph Speed Limit in Eden Street, Coonabarabran
- Demonstrators at the Intersection of John Street and Cassilis Street, Coonabarabran

### **Options**

The following Traffic Advisory Committee recommendations will be dealt with under Delegation:

- Removal of 'No Through' Sign on Bandulla Street, Mendooran
- Baradine Hotel Installation of Bollards in Wellington Street, Baradine
- Bungle Rumble Event at Coonabarabran Showground 26 November 2022

Council may wish to consider the determination from the Committee that Council write to the local NSW Police requesting that they address the traffic and pedestrian hazards that breach legislation including sections within the NSW Summary Offences Act 1988 being Section 6 'Obstructing Traffic' and Section 23 'Authorised Public Assemblies' as well as Australian Performing Rights Association (APRA) permit for music.

#### **Financial Considerations**

The majority of the recommendations from the meeting on the 24 November 2022 can be accommodated within existing budget allocations.

### **Community Engagement**

The level of engagement for this report is to inform.

#### **Attachments**

1. Minutes of the Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting – 24 November 2022

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That:

- 1. The minutes of the Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting held on the 24 November 2022 are noted for information.
- 2. Approval be granted to the Coonabarabran Chamber of Commerce for part closure of John Street and Dalgarno Street, Coonabarabran on Saturday, 8 April 2023 between 7.30am and 2.00pm to conduct the Annual Easter Bunny Bazaar event subject to compliance with and receipt of:
  - Risk Assessment
  - Traffic Management Plan
  - Traffic Guidance Scheme
  - Council's Road Closure Guidelines
  - TfNSW Road Occupancy Licence
  - TfNSW Special Events Guide
  - Current Public Liability Insurance.
- 3. Approval be granted to close the following roads on Tuesday, 25 April 2023 for the purpose of conducting an ANZAC Day March and Ceremony, subject

## Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

to compliance with TfNSW Special Events Guide, Council's Road Closure Guidelines, TfNSW Road Occupancy Licence for State Roads that are closed, TfNSW Western Region concurrence for Regional Roads that are closed and receipt of current Public Liability Insurance.

- Coolah RSL Sub Branch Binnia Street between Booyamurra Street and Campbell Street from 10.00am to 12.30pm.
- Coonabarabran RSL Sub Branch John Street between Edwards Street and Essex Street from 10.00am to 1.00pm.
- Dunedoo Leadville RSL Sub Branch Bolaro Street between Wargundy Street and Merrygoen Street from 10.00am to 12.00pm.
- Mendooran RSL Sub Branch Bandulla Street between Pampoo Street and Napier Street from 9.00am to 12.00pm.
- Binnaway RSL Sub Branch Renshaw Street between Bullinda Street and Yarran Street from 9.30am to 12.00pm.
- Baradine RSL Sub Branch Wellington Street and Narran Street from 10.00am to 12.30pm.
- 4. Approval be granted to Coonabarabran RSL Sub Branch for part closure of John Street, Coonabarabran between 5.57am and 6.15am on Tuesday, 25 April 2023 to conduct the Annual ANZAC Dawn Service subject to compliance with:
  - Traffic Management Plan
  - Traffic Guidance Scheme
  - Council's Road Closure Guidelines
  - TfNSW Road Occupancy Licence
  - TfNSW Special Events Guide
  - Receipt of current Public Liability Insurance.
- 5. Consent be granted to Coonabarabran Local Aboriginal Land Council for the Annual Sorry Day March for part closure of John Street, Coonabarabran from the Tennis Club to the Town Hall on Friday, 26 May 2022 between 10.30am and 10.45am, subject to NSW Police implementing a 'rolling road opening' on the southbound lane between the Mary Jane Cain Bridge and the Town Hall, and compliance with:
  - Traffic Management Plan
  - Traffic Guidance Scheme
  - Council's Road Closure Guidelines
  - TfNSW Road Occupancy Licence
  - TfNSW Special Events Guide
  - Receipt of current Public Liability Insurance.
- 6. Approval be granted to the Coonabarabran RSL Sub Branch for part closure of John Street and Dalgarno Street, Coonabarabran on Saturday, 11 November 2023 between 11.00am and 11.10am to conduct the Annual Remembrance Day Service subject to compliance with:
  - Traffic Management Plan

# **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

- Traffic Guidance Scheme
- Council's Road Closure Guidelines
- TfNSW Road Occupancy Licence
- TfNSW Special Events Guide
- Receipt of current Public Liability Insurance.
- 7. Council write to the local NSW Police requesting that they address the traffic and pedestrian hazards arising from the presence of protesters at the intersection of Johns Street and Cassilis Street, Coonabarabran that breach legislation including sections within the NSW Summary Offences Act 1988 being Section 6 'Obstructing Traffic' and Section 23 'Authorised Public Assemblies' as well as Australian Performing Rights Association (APRA) permit for music.

## Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

#### Item 13 Delegations of Authority to the General Manager

**Division:** Executive Services

Management Area: Executive Services

**Author:** Executive Services Administration Officer

Joanne Hadfield

CSP Key Focus Area: Civic Leadership

**Priority:** CL2 Council meets its legislative and compliance

requirements and implement opportunities for

organisational improvement.

### **Reason for Report**

To update the General Manager's delegations with changes in legislation

#### Background

At the August 2022 Council meeting Council resolved to:

# Item 13 Delegations of Authority to the General Manager 41/2223 RESOLVED that

- Council delegate to the functions of the General Manager the Acts and Regulations as prescribed in the Delegation to the General Manager dated 18 August 2022 (Attachment 1) as listed to Mr Roger William Bailey from 18 August 2022, and
- 2. Any amendments to Acts and Legislation is automatically bestowed to the General Manager however, any new Legislation is to be endorsed by Council.
- 3. Council notes that this action will satisfy the requirement of Section 380 of the NSW Local Government Act 1993.

#### Issues

Council maintains a subscription to the Delegations Database with Local Government Legal that advises Council of changes to Acts and Regulations to ensure compliance and staff delegations.

Local Government Legal has advised the following changes to that delegable functions under the following Acts and Regulations since the 18 August 2022. The following Acts and Regulations have been added to the Delegations Database on the 1 November 2022:

- Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021
- Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Regulation 2022

The following Acts and Regulations have been removed from the data base, some have been replaced by the Acts and Regulations listed above.

### **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

Impounding Act 1993

### **Options**

Council may choose to review and amend any or part of the Delegations within the provisions of the Act and Regulations and Policy Authorities. No other changes have been made to the delegation document

#### **Financial Considerations**

High exposure to liability and doubtful success in court proceedings.

#### **Attachment**

1. Instrument of Delegation to the General Manager.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That:

- Council delegates to the General Manager the functions of the Acts and Regulations as prescribed in the Delegation to the General Manager dated 8 December 2022 (Attachment 1) as listed to Mr Roger William Bailey from 8 December 2022, which includes the new legislation, Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021 and Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Regulation 2022.
- 2. Any amendments to Acts and Legislation is automatically bestowed to the General Manager however, any new Legislation is to be endorsed by Council.
- 3. Council notes that this action will satisfy the requirement of Section 380 of the NSW Local Government Act 1993.

### Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

### **Item 14 Council Meeting Schedule**

**Division:** Executive Services

Management Area: Governance

**Author:** Executive Assistant to General Manager – Erin

Player

CSP Key Focus Area: Civil Leadership

**Priority:** CL2.1 Provide Council's leadership with a strong

governance and management framework that promotes transparent and informed decision-

making

### Reason for Report

To schedule Council's meetings from February 2023 to December 2023.

### Background

On 16 June 2022 Council dealt with the Council meeting schedule.

### **Item 4 Meeting Schedule**

The Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) s 365 stipulates that Council is required to meet at least ten (10) times each year, each time in a different month.

Traditionally, Council has agreed on a 12 month program of proposed meeting dates and venues for Ordinary Council meetings. In Council's Code of Meeting Practice, section 3.1 it states:

Ordinary meetings of the Council will be held on the third Thursday of each month, commencing at 5.00pm and shall be alternated between:

- Council Chambers Binnia Street Coolah; and
- Council Chambers John Street Coonabarabran

Council may change the time and/or date of any particular meeting by resolution.

It had also been determined that the Ordinary Council meeting would, during the COVID-19 crisis, be chaired from the Coonabarabran Council Chambers.

#### Issues

The schedule does not include Community Consultation meetings, typically held in November and March each year, nor the various committee meetings, extra ordinary Council meetings, training, civic functions and other commitments of councillors.

### **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

During the covid pandemic Council meetings were closed to the public to physically attend but Council's were required to webcast meetings.

Council meetings continue to be webcast live to the community. Preparations are currently underway for improved network linkages at the Coolah administration building. These improvements are expected to be completed by December 2022. Once completed advice can be provided on costs to upgrade the Coolah Chambers to webcast meetings from that location.

### **Options**

The following timetable is proposed with meetings commencing at 5.00pm. Council may, by resolution, amend the date and time of its Ordinary meetings.

### 2023 Meetings

February 2023	Thursday 16
March 2023	Thursday 16
April 2023	Thursday 20
May 2023	Thursday 18
June 2023	Thursday 15
July 2023	Thursday 20
August 2023	Thursday 17
September 2023	Thursday 21
October 2023	Thursday 19
November 2023	Thursday 16
December 2023	Thursday 14#

#Meeting held on the second Thursday in December

#### **Financial Considerations**

Council meetings are a normal part of the operation of the organisation, and budgeted for in the 2022/23 – 2023/2024 Operational Plans. This includes travel reimbursement costs of councillors and catering for meals.

### **Community Engagement**

To inform the community by advertising the Council meeting schedule via Council's community eNewsletter, council's website, social and digital media and media releases.

### **Attachments**

Nil

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the following Meeting Schedule for 2023:

February 2023	Thursday 16	Coonabarabran
March 2023	Thursday 16	Coolah
April 2023	Thursday 20	Coonabarabran
May 2023	Thursday 18	Coolah
June 2023	Thursday 15	Coonabarabran
July 2023	Thursday 20	Coolah
August 2023	Thursday 17	Coonabarabran

# Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022

September 2023	Thursday 21	Coolah
October 2023	Thursday 19	Coonabarabran
November 2023	Thursday 16	Coolah
December 2023	Thursday 14#	Coonabarabran

### Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

#### Item 15 2024 Local Government Elections

**Division:** Executive Services

Management Area: Governance

**Author:** Executive Assistant to General Manager – Erin Player

CSP Key Focus Area: Civic Leadership

**Priority:** CL2.1 Provide Council's leadership with a strong

governance and management framework that promotes transparent and informed decision

making

### Reason for Report

The next Local Government Elections will be held in September 2024. Council is required to enter into an arrangement with either the NSW Electoral Commission (NSWEC) to facilitate the elections or engage an electoral services provider to administer the 2024 elections for Warrumbungle Shire Council.

### **Background**

In accordance with Section 296AA of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*, councils are required to make a decision on how their ordinary elections in September 2024 are to be administered by 13 March 2023

Each Council must resolve either:

- to enter into an election arrangement with the NSW Electoral Commissioner (NSWEC) to administer all the council's elections, polls and constitutional referenda or
- that the council's elections are to be administered by another electoral services provider engaged by the council

#### Issues

If council does not resolve to engage the NSWEC to administer its elections by 13 March 2023, it must engage another electoral services provider to do so. Council's are no longer able to manage their own election.

To give NSWEC certainty, councils must provide a definite commitment by this date. This means that councils need to make an unconditional resolution and cannot place caveats such as 'subject to cost' on their resolution.

A Council that fails to make a decision on the administration of its elections by 13 March 2023 will also be required to publish a notice of that failure on the council's website.

### **Options**

The NSWEC has historically conducted the Local Government elections for Warrumbungle Shire Council. Council may either decide to use the NSW Electoral Commission or another provider.

### Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

#### **Financial Considerations**

The cost to Council for the 2021 Local Government elections, conducted by NSWEC, was \$111,745.49 (GST inc). The NSWEC is yet to provide a preliminary estimate for the 2024 Local Government Elections

### **Community Engagement**

Level of Engagement – Inform.

#### **Attachments**

- 1. OLG Circular 22.35 Councils' decisions on the administration of their September 2024 ordinary elections
- 2. 22.35 Attachment Frequently asked questions (FACS sheet)

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

- 1. Pursuant to s.296(2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) ("the Act") that an election arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all elections of the Council.
- 2. Pursuant to s.296(2) and (3) of the Act, as applied and modified by s.18, that a council poll arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all council polls of the Council.
- 3. Pursuant to s.296(2) and (3) of the Act, as applied and modified by s.18, that a constitutional referendum arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all constitutional referenda of the Council.

### Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022

### **Item 16 Council Resolutions Report**

**Division:** Executive Services

Management Area: Governance

Author: Executive Services Administration Officer –

Joanne Hadfield

CSP Key Focus Area: Civic Leadership

**Priority:** CL2.1 Provide Council's leadership with a strong

governance and management framework that promotes transparent and informed decision

making

### **Reason for Report**

To provide Council with updated information on the progress of Council resolutions.

### **Background**

The General Manager is responsible for overseeing the progression of information from relevant staff to Council via the Business Paper and monthly Council meetings.

Furthermore, the General Manager is responsible for ensuring appropriate information regarding Council resolutions and deliberations are provided to Directors and relevant staff. Each Council resolution is allocated to a directorate for action. Directors and Managers provide feedback to the General Manager on the progress of resolutions each month by way of the attached Council Resolution Report. Once an item is noted by Council as being complete it is removed from the Report.

Resolutions that remain 'In Progress' for a 12 month period will be reported to Council as a separate agenda item with a new Recommendation. This will provide Council staff the opportunity to detail the history and issues of outstanding items before Council reconsiders the matter.

### **Issues**

This feedback is provided to Council for information purposes.

#### **Options**

Nil

### **Financial Consideration**

Nil

### **Community Engagement**

Level of Engagement - Inform

### **Attachments**

1. Council Resolution Report

## **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

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That the Council Resolution Report be noted for information.

### Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

### Item 17 Revotes and High Value Projects Report

**Division:** Executive Services

Management Area: Governance

**Author:** Executive Assistant to the General Manager –

Erin Player

CSP Key Focus Area: Civic Leadership

**Priority:** CL1 That Council is financially sustainable over

the long term

### **Reason for Report**

To provide Council with updated information on the progress of projects that Council has funded by revote and projects that are considered to be high value and potentially high risk.

### **Background**

From time to time, Council endorses changes to its adopted annual budget by way of a revote. A report on those projects that have been subject to a revote is compiled, with updates provided on progress.

The General Manager is responsible for overseeing the progression of information from relevant staff to Council via the Business Paper and monthly Council meetings.

Council is provided with information on revote items and their progress in the attached report.

#### Issues

Nil

#### **Options**

Nil

#### **Financial Considerations**

As set out in the report.

#### **Community Engagement**

To inform the community by placing the information on Council's website through the Business Paper.

#### **Attachments**

- 1. Revote Report
- 2. High Value High Risk Revotes

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Revote and High Value Projects Report be noted for information.

### Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

### **Item 18 Reviewed Policies**

**Division:** Corporate and Community Services

Management Area: Governance

Author: Manager Corporate Services – Jenni Maundrell

**CSP Key Focus Area:** Local Government and Finance

**Priority:** CL2.1 Provide Council's leadership with a strong

governance and management framework that promotes transparent and informed decision-

making

### **Reason for Report**

The reason for this report is to seek Council endorsement of five reviewed policies:

- Asset Management
- Capital Funds Allocation
- Debt Recovery and Financial Hardship
- Excessive Water Usage Reduction for Breakages
- Investment

### **Background**

These five policies are existing strategic policies of Council. Each have been reviewed and no material changes are proposed.

### **Issues**

The attached policies have been reviewed and no material changes have been proposed. Therefore, they are being presented in a bundle.

The policies have each been formatted in line with the current Style Guide for Council policies, and updated as necessary such as dates on legislation or the name of government departments (eg, DLG to OLG) that have changed. However, the policy statements and operations remain materially unchanged.

While it does not significantly change the policy, it is noted that the Asset Management Policy proposes to remove reference to library books and street trees as Council assets, shown in tracked changes in the attached draft.

### **Options**

Council may endorse each of the policies as presented, or with amendments.

### **Financial Considerations**

Nil

### **Community Engagement**

The level of community engagement for this item is Inform.

## **Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022**

Information is provided by way of the business paper report, which is published on the Council website.

#### **Attachments**

- 1. Reviewed Asset Management Policy
- 2. Reviewed Capital Funds Allocation Policy
- 3. Reviewed Debt Recovery and Financial Hardship Policy
- 4. Reviewed Excessive Water Usage Reduction for Breakages Policy
- 5. Reviewed Investment Policy

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council adopts the reviewed policies for:

- 1. Asset Management.
- 2. Capital Funds Allocation.
- 3. Debt Recovery and Financial Hardship.
- 4. Excessive Water Usage Reduction for Breakages.
- 5. Investment.

### **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

### **Item 19 Disposal of Council Assets Policy**

**Division:** Corporate and Community Services

Management Area: Governance

Author: Manager Corporate Services – Jenni Maundrell

**CSP Key Focus Area:** Local Government and Finance

**Priority:** CL2.1 Provide Council's leadership with a strong

governance and management framework that promotes transparent and informed decision-

making

### **Reason for Report**

The reason for this report is to seek Council endorsement of the reviewed Disposal of Council Assets Policy.

### **Background**

The Disposal of Council Assets Policy is a strategic policy of Council, last reviewed in September 2017 (Resolution 109/1718).

#### Issues

The Disposal of Council Assets Policy aims to:

- Set out the principles, framework, responsibilities and processes for Council
  officers to account for and manage the disposal of Council assets;
- Identify, manage and mitigate the risks associated with the disposal of land and other assets;
- Ensure impartiality, transparency, accountability and the delivery of best value in the disposal of land and the other Council assets; and
- Provide appropriate levels of discretion and flexibility in achieving desired outcomes recognising the highly complex nature of the land transactions, the wide variety of circumstances and methods of sale available.

The policy currently requires two formal valuations when the value of land/property disposal is likely to exceed \$50,000 and the process of disposal is not competitive (ie, the method of disposal is not by either expression of interest, tender, or auction). There is a clause further to this allowing for a variation to the requirement for valuation/s where, in the informed opinion of the General Manager such action is impractical. The reviewed policy proposes to replace the requirement for two formal valuations with an option for one formal valuation or two market appraisals. The proposal is shown as a tracked change in the attached draft policy.

#### **Options**

Council may endorse the policies as presented, or with amendments.

### **Financial Considerations**

Nil

## **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

### **Community Engagement**

The level of community engagement for this item is Inform.

Information is provided by way of the business paper report, which is published on the Council website.

#### **Attachments**

1. Reviewed Disposal of Council Assets Policy

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That: Council adopts the reviewed Disposal of Council Assets Policy.

### Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

Item 20 Delivery Program Progress Report 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Ending 30 September 2022

**Division:** Corporate and Community Services

Management Area: Governance

Author: Manager Corporate Services – Jenni Maundrell

CSP Key Focus Area: Civic Leadership

**Priority:** CL2 Council meets its legislative and compliance

requirements and implements opportunities for

organisational improvement.

### **Reason for Report**

To present the quarterly Delivery Program Progress Report for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 September 2022 to Council for their information and endorsement.

### **Background**

It is a requirement of section 404(5) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) and the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework that regular progress reports are provided to Council with respect to the principal activities detailed in its Delivery Program. Progress reports must be provided at least every six months.

#### Issues

The attached report details Council's progress for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 September 2022 in carrying out and/or completing activities identified in the Delivery Program 2022/23 to 2025/26 adopted by Council at its Ordinary meeting of 19 May 2022 (Resolution 295/2122). The report highlights areas where progress is behind schedule and/or more action is required.

#### **Options**

Nil

### **Financial Considerations**

Nil

#### **Attachments**

1. Delivery Program Progress Report – 30 September 2022

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council endorses the Delivery Program Progress Report for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 September 2022.

### Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

Item 21 Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the 1st Quarter Ending 30 September 2022

**Division:** Corporate and Community Services

Management Area: Financial Services

Author: Director Corporate & Community Services

**CSP Key Focus Area:** Local Governance and Finance

Priority: GF4 Council governance and organisational

structure reflects the vision, directions and priorities

outlined in the Community Strategic Plan

### **Reason for Report**

To present a summary of Council's financial position as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 including information regarding the supplementary vote requests.

### **Summary**

The 1st Quarter Budget Review Statement report (refer attachments) is to inform Council on major variations and recommend changes to the budget. Explanations for major variations are reported within the attached 1st Quarterly Budget Review Statement. Also included is a list of supplementary votes for approval.

#### **Background**

Section 203 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* regarding budget review statements and revision of estimates states that:

- (1) Not later than 2 months after the end of each quarter (except the June quarter), the responsible accounting officer of a council must prepare and submit to the council a budget review statement that shows, by reference to the estimate of income and expenditure set out in the statement of the council's revenue policy included in the operational plan for the relevant year, a revised estimate of the income and expenditure for that year.
- (2) A budget review statement must include or be accompanied by:
  - (a) a report as to whether or not the responsible accounting officer believes that the statement indicates that the financial position of the council is satisfactory, having regard to the original estimate of income and expenditure, and
  - (b) if that position is unsatisfactory, recommendations for remedial action.
- (3) A budget review statement must also include any information required by the Code to be included in such a statement.

### Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022

The minimum requirements for the Quarterly Budget Review Statement are included in the Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

The QBRS is composed of, but not limited to, the following budget review (BR) components:

- A statement by the responsible accounting officer on council's financial position at the end of the year based on the information in the Quarterly Business Review Statement (Part 2)
- Budget Review Income and Expenses Statement in one of the following formats (Parts 3, 5 & 6):
  - consolidated;
  - by fund (e.g. General Fund; Water Fund; Sewer Fund); or
  - by function, activity, program etc. to align with the management plan / operational plan.
- Budget Review Capital Budget (Parts 7 and 8)
- Budget Review Cash and Investments Position (Part 10)
- Budget Review Key Performance Indicators (Part 12)
- Budget Review Contracts and Other Expenses (Part 13)

The following important financial information has also been provided in addition to the information required as part of the Quarterly Budget Review Statement reporting framework:

- Balance Sheet as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 (Part 9)
- A Loan Movement Schedule (Part 11)

#### Report

The 1st Quarterly Budget Review Statement shows that Council's <u>consolidated</u> revised income budget for the 2022/23 financial year is \$54,470,850. Expenses from continuing operations are projected to be \$42,949,580. This results in a projected consolidated operating result from continuing operations of \$11,521,270 surplus as compared to original \$10,758,000, consolidated budget. The revised before Capital Grants & Contributions deficit is \$2,985,130 as compared to \$3,209,000 estimated at the original budget.

The corresponding General Fund 1st Quarterly Budget Review Statement figures are a revised income budget for the 2022/23 financial year of \$42,565,000. Expenses from continuing operations are projected to be \$36,297,000. This results in a projected operating surplus from continuing operations of \$6,268,000. The revised before Capital Grants & Contributions deficit is \$3,628,000 as compared to \$3,851,000 estimated at the original budget.

Significant actual items to note from the QBRS include:

#### Revenue

- · Rates and Annual Charges are 97% of the budget forecast
  - This is mainly because the billing is done in advance for the financial year for rates and annual charges.
- User charges and fees are 5% per budget. The major areas are:

### Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022

- Transport NSW not fully invoiced in guarter 1 (claims have since been
- No Water Supply Services User Charges to date Billing occurs in Dec quarter
- Interest and investment revenue is under budget, mainly due to reversal of last year accrual and most investments maturing in latter quarters.
- Other Revenues are at 25% in line with expectations
- Operational Grants and Contributions are under budget at 17% of revised budget. Increase in original budget due to carryovers. Milestone claims have been made in October for outstanding funds
- Capital grants income is under budget at 9% of revised budget. Increase in original budget due to Carryovers. Milestone claims have been made in October for outstanding funds

### **Expenditure**

- Employee related expenditure is roughly as per pro rata budget at 26%
- Borrowing costs is 34% of the budget which is roughly as per pro rata budget
- Materials & Contracts is roughly over budget at 43% due to a higher number of projects that council is currently working on, including State funded RMCC ordered works, and an increase in cost of materials.
- Depreciation expenses are roughly as per pro rata budget of 25%
- Other expenses are slightly under budget at 14%.

Further information is provided in the 1st Quarterly Budget Review Statement (Attachment 1).

<u>Supplementary Vote Requests</u> Supplementary Vote requests have been received for the items outlined in Table 1a.

**Table 1a: Supplementary Vote Request Variations** 

Table Ta. Dapplementary	TOTO ITO	acor ramanon			
Description  General Fund	Revenue	Operational Expenditure	Capital Expenditure	Net Impact on Budget	Comments
General Revenue					
General Revenue					
Total General Revenue	-	-	-	-	
Expenditure					
Executive Services					
Learning & Development					
Tech Services Training		(10,000)		(10,000)	Not in Original Budget
Total Executive Services		(10,000)		(10,000)	
Corporate & Community Services					
Aged Care Brokerage fees	2,497	(9,930)		(7,433)	Not in Original Budget
Community Connections  – School Holiday grant	7,068	(7068)		0	

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		Operational	Capital	Net Impact	
Description	Revenue	Expenditure	Expenditure	on Budget	Comments
					Not in Original
Homecare Packages		(127,578)		(127,578)	Budget
Support Packages		62,845		62,845	
Finance sundry income	5,294			5,294	
Total Corporate & Community Services	14,859	(81,731)		(66,872)	
Technical Services	14,000	(01,701)		(00,012)	
Roads					
RMCC Maintenance Work	675,377	(649,671)		25,706	Increase in Ordered works
Total Roads	675,377	(649,671)		25,706	
Urban Services		, ,		,	
Murray Darling Grant	539,400		(539,400)		Successful Grant
Sale of land	4,500			4,500	
Management		968		968	
Swimming Pools (taken from Capital works)		(93,000)	93,000	0	Capital expense to fund maintenance.
Depots		(8,189)		(8,189)	
Total Urban Services	543,900	(100,221)	(446,400)	(2,721)	
Total Technical Services	1,219,277	(749,892)	(446,400)	(22,985)	
<b>Development Services</b>					
Private works income	8,451	(8,451)		0	
Town Planning	80,000	(80,000)		0	Portal Integration
Total Development		/aa .=			
Services	88,541	(88,451)	0	0	
Warrumbungle Waste					
Annual Charges	43,263			43,263	Incorrect % Original Budget
Materials Handling Facility		(30,000)		(30,000)	
Total Warrumbungle Waste	43,263	(30,000)		13,263	
Total General Fund	1,365,850	(960,074)	(446,400)	(40,624)	
			680,000	680,000	Projects deferred
Water Fund					
Total Water Fund		-	680,000	680,000	
			55,000	55,000	Projects deferred
Sewer Fund					
Total Sewer Fund		-	55,000	55,000	

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Description	Revenue	Operational Expenditure	Capital Expenditure	Net Impact on Budget	Comments
Total Warrumbungle Shire Council	1,365,850	(960,074)	286,600	694,376	

Below is a reconciliation of the OPERATING RESULT (Table 1b) from continuing operations (including capital grants) for QBRS1 to the Revised Budget 2022/23 (refer Revised Budget Column of Part 3 Income Statement of QBRS1 attachment to this report):

Table 1b - Reconciliation of the Operating Result - Consolidate

Description – Operating Changes	\$'000	\$'000
Brought Forward Operating Result from Continuing Operations - Original Budget 2022/23		11,521
Revotes operational expenditure adjustment		
Revenue Budget – Supplementary vote QBRS1 increase in income		see (a) in above table 1a
Operational Expenditure Budget – Supplementary vote QBRS1 increase in expenditure	-	see (b) in above table 1a
QBRS1 Improvement to Income Statement	Subtotal	
Less: Capital Grants & Contributions		(14,506)
Net Consolidated Operating Result Deficit before Capital Grant & Contributions		(2,985) Deficit

Table 1c - Reconciliation of the Operating Result - General

Description – Operating Changes	\$'000	\$'000
Brought Forward Operating Result from Continuing Operations - Original Budget 2022/23		6,283
Revotes operational expenditure adjustment		
Revenue Budget – Supplementary vote QBRS1 increase in income	-	see (a) in above table 1a
Operational Expenditure Budget – Supplementary vote QBRS1 increase in expenditure	-	see (b) in above table 1a
QBRS1 Improvement to Income Statement	Subtotal	
Less: Capital Grants & Contributions		(9,920)
Net Operating Result Deficit before Capital Grant & Contributions		(3,628) Deficit

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Table 1d – Reconciliation of the Operating Result - Water

Description – Operating Changes	\$'000	\$'000
Brought Forward Operating Result from Continuing Operations - Original Budget 2022/23		2,727
Revenue Budget – Supplementary vote QBRS1 increase in income.		see (a) in above table 1a
Operational Expenditure Budget – Supplementary vote QBRS1 crease in expenditure.		see (b) in above table 1a
QBRS1 Improvement to Income Statement	Subtotal	-
Less: Capital Grants & Contributions		(2,188)
Net Operating Result Surplus before Capital Grant & Contributions		539 Surplus

### Table 1e – Reconciliation of the Operating Result - Sewer

Description – Operating Changes	\$'000	\$'000
Brought Forward Operating Result from Continuing Operations - Original Budget 2022/23		2,502
Revenue Budget – Supplementary vote QBRS1 increase in income	-	see (a) in above table 1a
Operational Expenditure Budget – Supplementary vote QBRS1 increase in expenditure	-	see (b) in above table 1a
QBRS1 Improvement to Income Statement	Subtotal	
Less: Capital Grants & Contributions		(2398)
Net Operating Result Deficit before Capital Grant & Contributions		104 Surplus

#### **Financial Considerations**

- The total amount of consolidated operating expenditure supplementary vote requests from Table 1a is an increase of \$960,074; and
- The total amount of consolidated capital expenditure supplementary vote requests from Table 1a is a decrease of \$286,600 and
- The total amount of consolidated revenue is an increase of 1,365,850.

This means a net consolidated impact on the 2022/23 budget being an increase or positive impact of \$694,376.

### **Rates and Annual Charges**

Council levies rates and annual charges on an annual basis commencing in the month of July. Council monitors the repayment of these rates and annual charges and measures its debt recovery performance for rates and annual charges through the use of the Rates and Annual Charges Outstanding Ratio.

The Office of Local Government (OLG) recommends, via their accepted benchmark, a ratio of less than 5% for Urban and Coastal Councils and less than 10% for Rural Councils.

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Council's outstanding ratio as at 30th June 2022 was 9.99% which is below the OLG recommended benchmark.

The outstanding rates and annual charges ratio as at 30 September 2022 is 14.04%, which is more than the 10% bench mark proposed by the OLG.

A high arrears balance affects Council's cash flow, and represents monies outstanding that Council could be gaining a return on if invested in a term deposit.

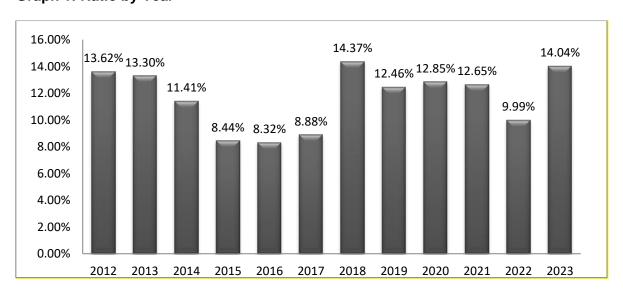
See graph to the right, and table of outstanding balances by rate group and rate/charge type below for further details.

	Rates levy						Water levy			
Rates Type	General	Domestic Waste	Water Access	Trade Waste	Storm Water	Sewer Access	Water Usage	Sewer Usage	Trade Waste	Grand Total
Business	141,783	80,864	67,188	907	9,052	68,650	102,922	14,380	10,992	496,738
Residential	487,114	375,914	440,575	0	15,211	240,209	366,464	0	0	1,925,487
Farmland	441,104	6,855	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	447,959
Total	1,070,001	463,633	507,763	907	24,263	308,859	469,386	14,380	10,992	2,870,184

Collection of outstanding rates commences with an overdue letter which is received from Council. Providing 14 days to pay or contact Council requesting an arrangement. If no payment or contact is made, a letter of demand is sent out by Council's Debt Recovery Agency giving 7 days to make a payment or contact Council requesting an arrangement.

Council's historical debt recovery performance as measured by the rates and charges outstanding ratio is detailed in the graph below.

Graph 1: Ratio by Year



## **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

Table 2a: Council's outstanding rates and annual charges ratios for the last six years.

Year	Rates and Annual Charges Outstanding Ratio as at 30th Sept	Rates and Annual Charges Outstanding Ratio as at 30 <sup>th</sup> June.
2023	14.04%	N/A
2022	12.28%	9.99%
2021	15.00%	12.65%
2020	14.08%	12.85%
2019	12.63%	12.46%
2018	10.20%	14.37%
2017	10.32%	10.08%
2016	11.07%	8.32%

### Table 2a: Rates and Annual Charges Outstanding Ratio

The proportion of rates and annual charges outstanding related to residential properties is 67%. 17% of outstanding rates and annual charges relates to farmland and 16% to business.

## **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

Table 2b: Outstanding Rates and Annual Charges – By Rate and Charge Type

RATE/ CHARGE TYPE	RATE ARREARS 2021/22	2022/23 LEVY	Pensioner Write off	Abandone d	Interest	Legal Fees	RATE ARREARS AND NET LEVY	TOTAL PAYMENTS TO DATE	TOTAL OUTSTANDI NG 2021/22	COLLECT ION % 2021/22	Total Arrears as at EOM	Outstandin g Rates and Annual Charges %
General	601,280	8,739,387	(151,136)	(7,468)	8,494	38,362	9,228,918	(2,738,563)	6,490,355	29.67%	1,070,000	11.59%
Water	470,568	2,366,281	(68,950)	(1,275)	3,476	•	2,770,101	(844,941)	1,925,160	30.50%	507,763	18.33%
Sewerage	225,804	1,587,754	(49,547)	(497)	1,729	ı	1,765,244	(544,580)	1,220,664	30.85%	242,162	13.72%
Trade Waste	474	9,450	-	(0)	4	ı	9,927	(4,014)	5,914	40.43%	907	9.13%
Storm Water	22,658	103,838	-	(1)	180	-	126,675	(39,299)	87,375	31.02%	24,262	19.15%
Garbage	426,100	2,223,332	(106,858)	(283)	3,103	-	2,545,394	(802,751)	1,742,642	31.54%	463,633	18.21%
TOTAL RATES AND ANNUAL CHARGES	1,746,884	15,030,041	(376,491)	(9,523)	16,985	38,362	16,446,259	(4,974,149)	11,472,110	30.24%	2,308,727	14.04%
Sewerage Access (Water Billing)	103,507	-	-	-	497		104,004	(37,307)	66,696	35.87%	66,696	64.13%
Water Consumption	637,819	107	-	2,093	4,065	1,314	645,398	(176,013)	469,386	27.27%	469,386	72.73%
Sewer Consumption	22,090	-	-	649	106	-	22,844	(8,464)	14,380	37.05%	14,380	62.95%
Trade Waste Usage	17,712	-	-	-	94	-	17,806	(6,815)	10,992	38.27%	10,992	61.73%
TOTAL WATER SUPPLY SERVICES	781,128	107	-	2,742	4,761	1,314	790,052	(228,598)	561,454	28.93%	561,454	71.07%
GRAND TOTAL	2,528,013	15,030,149	(376,491)	(6,781)	21,746	39,676	17,236,311	(5,202,747)	12,033,56	30.18%	2,870,182	16.65%

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### **Options**

Council can choose to:

- 1. Accept the Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBRS) and:
  - (a) approve all supplementary votes requested; or
  - (b) select projects from the supplementary votes and approve a lower amount: or
  - (c) approve the supplementary votes requested and postpone selected current year projects to reduce the capital works program for 2022/23;
- 2. Accept the Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBRS) subject to changes and:
  - (a) approve all supplementary votes requested; or
  - (b) select projects from the supplementary votes and approve a lower amount; or
  - (c) approve the supplementary votes requested and postpone selected current year projects to reduce the capital works program for 2022/23;
- 3. Not accept the Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBRS) and:
  - (a) reject the whole amount requested; or
  - (b) select projects from the requested supplementary votes and approve a lower supplementary vote amount; or
  - (c) approve the supplementary votes requested and postpone selected current year projects to reduce the capital works program for 2022/23.

### **Statement by Responsible Accounting Officer**

The following statement is made in accordance with clause 203(2) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

It is my opinion that the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for Warrumbungle Shire Council for the quarter indicates that Council's financial position as at 30 September 2022 is satisfactory having regard to the projected estimates of income and expenditure and the original budgeted income and expenditure.

**Responsible Accounting Officer** 

#### **Attachments**

1. 1st Quarter Budget Review Statement

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Accept the 1st quarter Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the 2022/23 financial year, as presented;

## **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

- 2. Approve the variations as described in Table 1a; and
- 3. Note and accept the information provided on the status of the rates and annual charges for the period ending 30 September 2022.

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Item 22 Presentation of 2021/22 External Audited Annual Financial Statements as at 30 June 2022

**Division:** Corporate and Community Services

Management Area: Financial Services

Author: Director Corporate and Community Services –

Lindsay Mason

**CSP Key Focus Area:** Local Government and Finance

**Priority:** CL2 Council meets its legislative and compliance

requirements and implements opportunities for

organisational improvement

### **Reason for Report**

The reason for this report is to table reports on the audit of Council's Audited Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2022. The Annual Financial Statements were completed and lodged to the Office of Local Government (OLG).

### **Background**

Each year the financial results of Council are audited by an independent auditor. The financial statements are prepared to comply with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW), the Australian Accounting Standards, and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

#### Issues

Copies of the audited 2021/22 Financial Statements have been placed on Council's website and are available at Council's offices in Coolah and Coonabarabran. Additionally, Council libraries provide access for the public to Council's website.

A representative of the Audit Office of NSW or from the contracted External Auditor (Prosperity Advisors Group) is expected to attend the Council Meeting to present the Audited Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2022.

A summary of the Consolidated 2021/22 Audited Annual Financial Statements is provided below:

	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000	2020 \$ '000
INCOME STATEMENT			
Total income from continuing operations	52,331	48,494	43,046
Total expenses from continuing operations	39,787	38,255	40,786
Net operating result for the year	12,544	10,239	2,260
Net operating result before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes (deficit)	3,045	1,982	(1,515)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION			

### **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

Total current assets	36,552	29,679	24,690
Total current liabilities	(10,324)	(10,164)	(8,948)
Total non-current assets	599,880	552,388	551,335
Total non-current liabilities	(6,191)	(4,776)	(6,256)
TOTAL EQUITY	619,917	567,127	560,821
Other financial information			
Unrestricted current ratio (times)	5.95	4.88	2.95
Operating performance ratio (%)	6.11%	3.03%	(5.59)%
Debt service cover ratio (times)	11.59	10.76	10.47
Rates and annual charges outstanding ratio (%)	9.99%	12.33%	10.93%
Infrastructure renewals ratio (%)	89.00%	160.14%	48.80%
Own source operating revenue ratio (%)	46.83%	44.46%	53.08%
Cash expense cover ratio (months)	10.61	9.71	7.74

Pursuant to section 420 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW), any person may make a submission in writing to Council with respect to the Council's Audited Financial Statements or the Auditor Reports.

Submissions on the 2021/22 Audited Annual Financial Statements close 4:30 pm Friday 16 December 2022, being one week after the meeting which the presentation of 2021/22 Audited Annual Financial Statements occurs.

### **Community Engagement**

The level of engagement for this report is Inform.

### **Attachments:**

 Copies of the Consolidated General Purpose, Special Purpose Annual Financial Statements and Special Schedule on Permissible Income for General Rates for the year ended 30 June 2022 inclusive of the Audit Certificates, including; Copy of the unaudited Special Schedule, Report on Infrastructure Assets as at 30 June 2022.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

- 1. Note the report on completion and presentation of the 2021/22 Audited Annual Financial Statements for the Warrumbungle Shire Council as at 30 June 2022.
- 2. Suspend standing orders to allow for a presentation by the Auditor.

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### Item 23 Investments and Term Deposits – month ending 25 November 2022

**Division:** Corporate and Community Services

Management Area: Financial Services

**Author:** Acting Accountant – Lisa Grammer

CSP Key Focus Area: Civic Leadership

**Priority:** CL1 That Council is financially sustainable over the

long term

### **Reason for Report**

As required by clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, the details of all monies invested by Council under section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993* must be reported to Council at each Ordinary Meeting.

### **Background**

Council is authorised by s625 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) to invest its surplus funds in the forms of investment notified in an Order of the Minister dated 12 January 2011.

Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* (the Regulation) requires a Council to provide a written report to the Ordinary Meeting of Council giving details of all monies invested and a certificate as to whether or not the investments have been made in accordance with the Act, Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

#### Issues

#### **Comments on Performance**

#### Marketable Securities, Term Deposits and At Call Investment Accounts

In accordance with regulatory requirements and Council's Investment Policy, the majority of Council's current investment portfolio continues to be invested in term deposits and at call accounts.

### Marketable Securities

Council currently holds no Marketable Securities.

#### **Term Deposits**

During the month, \$3,000,000.00 worth of term deposits matured, earning Council a total of \$23,360.28 in Interest.

In November, the following placements were made into term deposits:

- \$1,000,000 with WBC at a rate of 2.56%
- \$1,000,000 with AMP at a rate of 4.60%

The balance of the term deposits at the end of the month was \$23,000,000.00.

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### At Call

At call accounts are used to hold funds for shorter periods and generally are adjusted on a weekly basis to meet cash flow requirements. During the month, approximately \$825 interest was earned on the balances in the accounts and net transfers of \$1,200,000 were made from these accounts resulting in a month end balance of \$1,711,294.42.

### Cash at bank balance

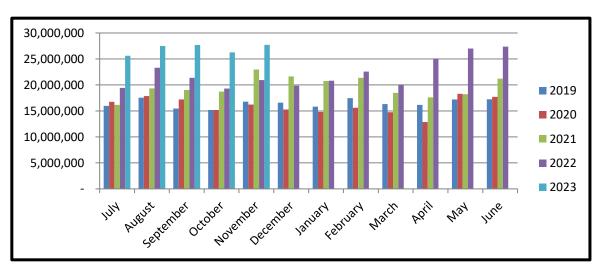
In addition to the at call accounts and term deposits, as at 25 November 2022, Council had a cash at bank balance of \$2,985,093.52.

### Income Return

The average yield on Investments council held for November 2022, of 2.2244%. Council uses the Bank Bill Swap Rate (BBSW) supplied by the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) which was 3.0963 % for the month of November. The performance of investments for November, based on the comparison, was the portfolio underperformed by 0.8719%. This is due to some of the investments being placed in a low interest setting in 2021. Yields are expected to improve in the future, with the impact of higher interest rates. Council will see an example of this above with the new investment placed at a rate of 4.60%

Council's budget for year 2022/23 for interest on investments is \$90,000.00.

### **Graph by Month Investments**



## **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

Table 1: Investment Balances - 25 November 2022

Financial Institution	Lodgement Date	Maturity Date	Total Days	Original Rating	Current Rating	Yield (%)	Investment Amount (Redemption Value)
At Call Accounts							
NAB	1-Nov-18	At Call	at call	ADI	ADI	0.05%	504,390.01
ANZ	2-Nov-18	At Call	at call	ADI	ADI	0.01%	6,664.41
CBA At Call	4-Nov-18	At Call	at call	ADI	ADI	0.02%	1,200,240.00
							1,711,294.42
Term Deposits							
WBC	01-Nov-22	01-Dec-22	30	ADI	ADI	2.56%	1,000,000.00
NAB	30-May-22	05-Dec-22	189	ADI	ADI	2.13%	1,000,000.00
NAB	28-Jan-22	14-Dec-22	320	ADI	ADI	0.67%	1,000,000.00
CBA	06-Dec-21	15-Dec-22	374	ADI	ADI	0.55%	1,500,000.00
CBA - Sewer Fund	29-Apr-22	20-Dec-22	235	ADI	ADI	2.00%	2,000,000.00
WBC - Water Fund	31-May-22	03-Jan-23	217	ADI	ADI	1.92%	1,500,000.00
AMP	04-Oct-22	03-Jan-23	91	LMG	LMG	3.60%	500,000.00
NAB	17-Aug-22	10-Jan-23	146	ADI	ADI	3.20%	1,000,000.00
NAB	19-Jan-22	19-Jan-23	365	ADI	ADI	0.68%	1,000,000.00
CBA	07-Sep-22	01-Feb-23	147	ADI	ADI	3.40%	1,500,000.00
MAQ	07-Feb-22	07-Feb-23	365	UMG	UMG	0.75%	500,000.00
MAQ	28-Sep-22	21-Feb-23	146	UMG	UMG	3.83%	1,000,000.00
CBA	30-Sep-22	08-Mar-23	159	ADI	ADI	3.93%	1,000,000.00
NAB	28-Feb-22	23-Mar-23	388	ADI	ADI	0.83%	1,000,000.00
NAB	30-Sep-22	03-Apr-23	185	ADI	ADI	4.00%	2,000,000.00
MAQ - Sewer Fund	03-Mar-22	20-Apr-23	413	UMG	UMG	0.95%	500,000.00
WBC	29-Apr-22	10-May-23	376	ADI	ADI	2.50%	1,000,000.00
WBC	29-Apr-22	31-May-23	397	ADI	ADI	2.50%	1,000,000.00
MAQ	29-Apr-22	21-Jun-23	418	UMG	UMG	2.05%	1,000,000.00

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WBC	29-Apr-22	12-Jul-23	439	ADI	ADI	2.55%	1,000,000.00
AMP	24-Nov-22	24-Nov-23	365	LMG	LMG	4.60%	1,000,000.00
						Sub-Total	23,000,000.00
Total							24,711,294.42

## **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

**Credit Rating Legend** 

Р	Prime
ADI	Big Four – ANZ, CBA, NAB, WBC
HG	High Grade
UMG	Upper Medium Grade
LMG	Below Upper medium grade

Table 2: At Call and Term Deposits – Monthly Movements

Bank	Opening Balance	Interest Added to Investment or Redeemed	Net Placements/ Withdrawals	Closing Balance
NAB	503,804.21	585.80		504,390.01
ANZ	6,664.35	0.06		6,664.41
CBA At Call	-	240.00	1,200,000.00	1,200,240.00
Total at call	510,468.56	825.86	1,200,000.00	1,711,294.42
WBC	1,000,000.00	8,634.25	(1,008,634.25)	-
WBC	1,000,000.00	4,726.03	(1,004,726.03)	-
AMP	1,000,000.00	10,000.00	(1,010,000.00)	-
WBC	-		1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
NAB	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
NAB	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
CBA	1,500,000.00			1,500,000.00
CBA - Sewer Fund	2,000,000.00			2,000,000.00
WBC - Water Fund	1,500,000.00			1,500,000.00
AMP	500,000.00			500,000.00
NAB	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
NAB	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
CBA	1,500,000.00			1,500,000.00
MAQ	500,000.00			500,000.00
MAQ	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
CBA	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
NAB	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
NAB	2,000,000.00			2,000,000.00
MAQ - Sewer Fund	500,000.00			500,000.00
WBC	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
WBC	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
MAQ	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
WBC	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
AMP	-		1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
Total Term deposits	24,000,000.00	23,360.28	(1,023,360.28)	23,000,000.00
Total	24,510,468.56	24,186.14	176,639.72	24,711,294.42

## **Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2022**

### **Compliance with Council's Investment Policy**

Council's Investment portfolio is 100% compliant.

The table below provides compliance status against the Investment Policy:

Institution	Credit Rating	Investment \$	Actual Exposure	Max. Limit per Policy	Compliance status
Tcorp	Prime	·	0.00%	33.30%	Compliant
	Total Prime	1	0.00%	100.00%	Compliant
ANZ	ADI	6,664.41	0.03%	33.30%	Compliant
CBA	ADI	7,200,240.00	29.14%	33.30%	Compliant
WBC	ADI	5,500,000.00	22.26%	33.30%	Compliant
NAB	ADI	7,504,390.01	30.37%	33.30%	Compliant
	Total ADI	20,211,294.42	81.79%	100.00%	Compliant
MAQ	UMG	3,000,000.00	12.14%	20.00%	Compliant
	Total UMG	3,000,000.00	12.14%	60.00%	Compliant
ME	LMG	-	0.00%	10.00%	Compliant
AMP	LMG	1,500,000.00	6.07%	10.00%	Compliant
	Total LMG	1,500,000.00	6.07%	10.00%	Compliant
	Grand Total	24,711,294.42	100.00%		

### **Certification of Responsible Accounting Officer**

I hereby certify that the investments listed in the report above have been made in accordance with section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* and Council's Investments Policy.



**Responsible Accounting Officer – Lisa Grammer** 

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council accept the Investments Report for the month ending 25 November 2022 including a total balance of \$27,696,387.94 being:

- \$1,711,294.42 in at call accounts.
- \$23,000,000.00 in term deposits.
- \$2,985,093.52 cash at bank.

### **Ordinary Meeting – 8 December 2022**

### Item 24 Update Report on Coonabarabran Mungindi Road Upgrade Project

**Division:** Technical Services

Management Area: Road Operations

**Author:** Director Technical Services – Gary Murphy

**CSP Key Focus Area:** Supporting Community Life

**Priority:** SC4 The long-term wellbeing of our community is

supported by ongoing provision of high quality services, health and aged care, education, policing and public safety, child, youth and family support, environmental protection and land

management.

### **Reason for Report**

The reason for this report is to review the current status of the Coonabarabran Mungindi Road Upgrade Project for Council Resolution 144/2122 of 18 November 2021 and determine if further action should be taken.

### **Background**

A report on the Coonabarabran Mungindi Road project was considered by Council on the 15 November 2018 and the following Resolution was made:

#### '198/1819 RESOLVED that:

- 1. Funding submissions are prepared for the Coonabarabran Mungindi Road Upgrade Project subject to a partnering agreement with both Walgett Shire Council and Narrabri Shire Council.
  - 2. The objective for Warrumbungle Shire Council in any funding submission made for the Coonabarabran Mungindi Road Upgrade Project is to upgrade the road between Coonabarabran and Baradine to road train access standard.
  - 3. A budget allocation of \$15,000, funded from the Regional Roads Block Grant, is made for the cost of preparing funding submissions for the Coonabarabran Mungindi Road Upgrade Project.'

A further report was considered by Council on 21 May 2020 where Council resolved:

#### '411/1920 RESOLVED that:

 Council Resolution No 198/1819 of 15 November 2018 seeking funding for the Coonabarabran to Mungindi Road be abandoned by Council.

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2. A report be prepared on the cost of preparing concept designs for a project to upgrade the road between Coonabarabran and Baradine to road train access standard.'

A further update report was considered on 18 November 2021 and Council resolved as follows:

#### **'144/2122 RESOLVED** that:

- 1. Council note the update report on Coonabarabran Mungindi Road Upgrade Project.
- 2. A report be prepared on the cost of preparing concept designs for a project to upgrade the road between Coonabarabran and Baradine to road train access standard.
- 3. Council include the development of Gardiner Street / Saleyard Road as the heavy vehicle route from Baradine Road to the Newell Highway.'

#### Issues

A report has been prepared on the concept designs for a project to upgrade the road between Coonabarabran and Baradine to road train access standard. The estimate is approximately \$520,000.

The estimated cost for the project is in the order of \$141 million.

The development of the Inland Rail project may have an impact on the Business Case for the project and this may need to be reviewed.

#### **Options**

It is considered prudent to progress the Baradine Road Upgrade Project in a two-step process by refining the scope of works and then developing design plans to concept stage. The assistance of a consultant will be required to develop the project to design stage particularly for the task of developing a scope of works.

#### **Financial Considerations**

The purpose of the resolution is to determine the likely costs of developing concept plans for this project. It will be a significant project if progressed and understanding up front the likely costs and benefits is important from a funding perspective.

### **Engagement**

If the project is to proceed, it will be of considerable interest to not just the communities of Coonabarabran and Baradine but the freight industry as well. The level of engagement is inform and consult.

### **Attachments**

Nil.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the Update Report on the Coonabarabran Mungindi Road Upgrade Project.

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### Item 25 Naming Proposal for the New Warkton Road Bridge

**Division:** Technical Services

Management Area: Manager Projects

**Author:** Manager Projects – Rejoice De Vera

**CSP Key Focus Area:** Supporting Community Life

**Priority:** SC4 The long-term wellbeing of our community is

supported by ongoing provision of high quality services, health and aged care, education, policing and public safety, child, youth and family support, environmental protection and land

management.

### **Reason for Report**

The reason for this report is for Council to consider a proposal to name the new bridge on Warkton Road, Coonabarabran.

### **Background**

A proposal has been received from a member of the community to name the bridge on Warkton Road, Coonabarabran after the late Mr John Robert Knight who lived all his life in Warkton Valley and may have had a hand in building the original timber bridge.

The Transport for NSW (TfNSW) Fixing Country Bridges Program has provided funding to replace the old timber bridge with a modern concrete bridge. Under this program Council has the opportunity of eliminating high maintenance timber bridges for the much lower maintenance concrete structures.

The project is currently in progress and to be completed in April 2023.

### **Issues**

Council does not have a policy for naming bridges, however in researching other Council policies, there are some common guidelines and good practices that Council should follow such as:

- 1. The submitted names/s cannot relate to living persons or a commercial interest and duplication of names should be avoided. However, proposals containing more than one name may be accepted.
- 2. If a decision is made to name the bridge, letters should be forwarded to neighbours seeking their submissions for a new name(s); and concurrently advertise in the local newspaper and on Council's website for naming submissions from members of the public. Submissions must be received by Council within 21 days of the date of the letter and advertisement.
- 3. No consultation is required with the Geographical Names Board.

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4. At the end of the advertising period a report is to be presented to Council setting out the basis of the request, the name or names proposed, details of the justification including historical or local significance of the name or names proposed. A brief overview of the process involved in naming the bridge should also be included.

### **Options**

Council has discretion in this matter. There is no requirement to name the new bridge. Council could simply adopt the name Warkton Bridge for the new bridge.

#### **Financial Considerations**

There is no specific budget allocated for bridge naming however any costs associated with renaming may be accommodated within existing budgets.

#### **Community Engagement**

The level of engagement associated with this report and recommendation is to inform and consult.

#### **Attachments**

1. Request to Name Warkton Bridge the John Knight Bridge.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council supports the proposal to name the new bridge on Warkton Road, Coonabarabran located 2.5km from the Newell Highway and seeks community feedback on the proposal through the following mechanisms:

- i. Write to the property owners on Warkton Road, Coonabarabran.
- ii. Advertise in the local newspaper and on Council's website seeking naming submissions from members of the public.
- iii. Write to the Coonabarabran Historical Society.

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### **Item 26 Project Management Strategic Policy**

**Division:** Technical Services

Management Area: Executive

Author: Director Technical Services – Gary Murphy

CSP Key Focus Area: Civic Leadership

**Priority:** CL2 Council meets its legislative and compliance

requirements and implements opportunities for

organisational improvement

#### **Reason for Report**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the adoption of a Project Management Strategic Policy.

### **Background**

The Audit Risk and Improvement Committee identified the need for Council to develop a Project Management Policy.

A draft Project Management Policy was submitted to the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee meeting on 15 November 2022.

The Committee noted the information contained in the Draft Project Management Policy report and requested that Council continue to develop a project management framework and report to the Committee what elements are included in the framework and how they are progressing.

#### Issues

Council currently does not have a Project Management Policy or framework.

The attached policy has been developed from a literature review of other public sector organisations and adapted to suit what are perceived to be Council's purposes.

The Institute of Public Works Engineers Australia (IPWEA) has a comprehensive framework and available resources that are considered suitable for Council's purposes.

Council staff will be adapting the framework for Council's purposes over the course of the next 12 months.

#### **Options**

There is no requirement for Council to have a Project Management Policy, however it is considered good practice to do so.

#### **Financial Considerations**

There are no direct cost implications in adopting the Project Management Policy.

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## **Community Engagement Considerations**

The level of community engagement is to inform.

### **Attachments**

1. Project Management Policy

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council adopt the Project Management Strategic Policy.

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# Item 27 Natural Disaster Response and Recovery Monthly Report for December 2022

**Division:** Technical Services

Management Area: Road Operations

**Author:** Manager Road Operations – Kylie Kerr

**CSP Key Focus Area:** Supporting Community Life

**Priority:** SC4 The long-term wellbeing of our community is

supported by ongoing provision of high quality services, health and aged care, education, policing and public safety, child, youth and family

support, environmental protection and land

management.

### **Reason for Report**

The reason for this report is to provide a monthly update on the natural disaster response and recovery.

#### **Background**

Council at its meeting on 16 November 2022 resolved the following:

### **'150/2223 RESOLVED** that:

- 1. Due to the impact of multiple 'Declared Natural Disasters', Council recognises the ongoing urgent need to repair and make safe road networks across the Shire;
- 2. Council notes the applications for joint State and Federal DRFA funding for works arising due to the impact of Declared Natural Disaster Events have been made;
- 3. Works associated with AGRN987 (November 2021), AGRN1030 (August 2022) and AGRN1034 (September 2022 onwards) are for the purpose of response to, or recovery from, 'Declared Natural Disasters';
- 4. Council notes the Office of Local Government Circular No 22-17 dated 10 June 2022 provides that the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 has been amended to prescribe a tendering threshold of \$500,000 for contracts entered into by councils for the purpose of responding to, or recovering from, a Declared Natural Disaster within 12 months of the declaration of the natural disaster;
- 5. To assist in the recovery process Council endorses the engagement of contractors for the restoration of public assets;

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- 6. Council determines that due to the unprecedented demand for the services of relevant consultants and contractors following recent rain and flood events throughout the State is an extenuating circumstance under s55(3)(i) of the LGA;
- 7. Council delegates authority to the General Manager (or his delegate) to execute the contracts that exceed \$250,000 referred items 4, 5 and 6 above, in consultation with the Mayor. Such works are to be carried out within the approved and funded Declared Natural Disasters AGRN987, AGRN1030 and AGRN1034.
- 8. Council receive monthly progress reports on the Disaster Recovery process.'

As previously reported to Council, as at 21 November 2022, in addition to the emergency works claim nine (9) works packages to the value of \$12,767,871.13 have been submitted for restoration works.

Only three (3) packages in the amount of \$1,322,510 have been approved and works have commenced.

Package	Estimated Cost	
1	\$445,938.31	Upper Limit Approved by TfNSW. Approved 06/07/2022
2	\$368,852.30	Upper Limit Approved by TfNSW. Approved 13/10/2022
3	\$507,720.66	Upper Limit Approved by TfNSW. Approved 13/10/2022
4	\$1,546,213.35	Submitted to TfNSW
5	\$3,009,336.73	Submitted to TfNSW
6	\$2,306,932.70	Submitted to TfNSW
7	\$1,647,684.02	Submitted to TfNSW
8	\$1,321,763.21	Submitted to TfNSW
9	\$1,613,429.85	Submitted to TfNSW
Emergency Works	\$900,000.00	Submission currently being prepared
Totals	\$13,667,871.13	

#### Note.

The estimated cost may change as Transport for NSW assesses each defect in the submitted packages and sets upper limit for the restoration works.

Works that have been carried out in the month of November on State Roads include:

	Flood Damag	e Repair Work	on State Road	ds* 2022/2023	
Month	Heavy Patching (M²)	Pothole Repairs (Each)	Safety Inspections (Km)	Rain Event Inspections (Each)	Roadside Slashing (M²)
Nov	2,100	1,210	310	7	112,880
Dec*	2,000	1,000	300	6	80,000
Jan*	2,000	1,000	300	6	80,000
Total	6,100	3,210	910	19	272,880

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#### Notes:

\* Castlereagh Highway, Golden Highway, Newell Highway, Coonabarabran Road.

AGRN1034 Natural Disaster Emergent Works carried out in November on the following roads (in order of expenditure):

- Warrumbungles Way (MR396)
- Piambra Road
- Butheroo Bridge Piambra Road abutment repair
- Kerrawah Road
- Dandry Road
- Coolah Town Streets
- Mt Hope Road
- Flags Rockedgiel Road
- Cassilis Road (MR618)
- Quirindi Quambone Road (MR129)
- Box Ridge Road
- Premer Estate Road
- Old Common Road
- Charles Street, Coolah flood damage
- Borambitty Road
- Mt Bangalore Road
- A'Becketts Road
- Sleightholmes Road
- Leaders Road
- Brooks Road
- Cumbil Road
- Goorianawa Road
- Digilah Road
- River Road
- Caledonia Road
- Beni Crossing Road
- Wingabutta Road
- Bourke and Halls Road
- Munns Road
- Coybil Road
- Gamble Creek Road
- Baradine Goorianawa Road
- Narrawa South Road
- Moorefield Road East
- Bounty Creek Road
- Three Hills Road
- Observatory Road
- Baradine Town Streets
- Dows Lane
- Gum Nut Road
- Merryula Road
- Werribee Road

<sup>\*\*</sup> Estimated future repairs.

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- Finlays Road was Daysdale
- Boltons Creek Road
- Tooraweenah Road
- Galashiels Road
- Indian Lane

Emergency works include urgent repairs to make the roads safe and accessible, installing and removing road closure signs, removal of debris on bridges and causeways and immediate restoration works to return the asset to pre-disaster condition.

AGRN987 Natural Disaster Restoration Works associated completed between September and November.

Restoration Work Number	Completion Date	Location	Restoration Work Details
RW00015	31/10/2022	A'Becketts Road	Remove excess sand and grade road to correct profile. Drains cleaned and opened up.
RW00013	31/10/2022	A'Becketts Road	Reshaped road.
RW00012	31/10/2022	A'Becketts Road	Reshape road and removed silt from drains
RW00017	31/10/2022	A'Becketts Road	Repair road to original condition and cleaned mitre drains.
RW00014	31/10/2022	A'Becketts Road	Reformed and graded road and drains.
RW00018	31/10/2022	A'Becketts Road	Repair road and washed out sections.
RW00016	31/10/2022	A'Becketts Road	Reshaped road and drains.
RW00010	19/09/2022	Saltwater Road	Added rock and removed sand.
RW00009	19/09/2022	Saltwater Road	Reshaped drains. Graded and compacted the road including adding road base where washed away.
RW00008	19/09/2022	Saltwater Road	Open drains and removed silt with excavator, graded and add road base where required.
RW00011	19/09/2022	Saltwater Road	Rip corrugation and graded, grade scouring across road, remove sand from road and drains, open drains.
RW00003	19/09/2022	Werribee Road	Removed sand from drains and reshaped. Rip and reshape road.

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Restoration Work Number	Completion Date	Location	Restoration Work Details
RW00007	19/09/2022	Werribee Road	Removed sand and reshaped drains and road.
RW00006	19/09/2022	Werribee Road	Removed sand and silt, opened all drains, added road base to concrete edge drops and compacted.
RW00002	19/09/2022	Werribee Road	Removed silt and sand, cleared drains and floodway and added roadbase spread and compact.
RW00001	19/09/2022	Werribee Road	Removed silt from road and drains. Reshaped drains and open mitre drains to allow water to run away freely. Reshaped road profile.
RW00004	19/09/2022	Werribee Road	Removed sand and silt. Open drains and cleaned causeway. Add road base at concrete edges and compacted.
RW00005	19/09/2022	Werribee Road	Reshaped drains and mitre drains. Graded and compacted road and added some road base to section that was washed away.

During December 2022 and January 2023, we will be doing as much work as we can however we will be balancing that demand with the need for our crews to have an opportunity to rest and manage their fatigue.

Several crews have been working six (6) days a week for some time now and we are starting to see an increase in manual handling incidents which needs to be carefully managed.

We are also mindful that TfNSW limits the amount of planned maintenance works in order to minimise disruption to the travelling public especially over the festive season and school holidays when holiday traffic peaks.

Once the packages have been approved, our strategy will be to carry out the approved works in accordance with the prioritisation process approved by Council.

We will be using Council work crews as much as we can supplemented with contractors when available.

#### **Issues**

While we wait for our applications to be approved, Council can only carry out emergency works.

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It is also important to note that the restoration works are to restore the damaged roads and road related infrastructure to pre-disaster conditions, there is no allowance for any improvements to the road network.

A further rain event occurred on 5 November 2022 which caused more damage to the road network in particular in the Baradine area where the Milchomi Creek causeway was extensively damaged.

At the time of writing this report 24 roads remain closed.

According to the latest long-range weather forecasts, the wet weather is projected to continue well into summer which will both limit our ability to do restoration works if approved and also potentially result in further damage to our network.

#### **Options**

There are options available to Council to deliver the Natural Disaster works once funding approval has been granted.

Given the quantum of work and the timeframe required in which to complete the works, procurement of contractors will be required to supplement Council staff.

As resolved by Council, contractors will be engaged for various packages of work bundled by location.

#### **Financial Considerations**

Council's costs are recoverable for services that directly relate to the restoration of essential public assets in accordance with the NSW Natural Disaster Essential Public Asset Restoration Guidelines.

The recoverable costs will be claimed from TfNSW via their normal invoicing process which includes submitting actual expenditure monthly.

Claimed to date plus anticipated for the November 2021 Disaster Declaration is \$13,667,871, restoration to date has seen \$339,856 spent.

### **Community Engagement Considerations**

The level of community engagement is to inform.

#### **Attachments**

1. November 2021 Natural Disaster – Estimated Restoration Cost.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the Natural Disaster Response and Recovery Monthly Report for December 2022.

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Item 28 Drinking Water Management System Improvement Plan Implementation – November 2022 Update Report

**Division:** Environment and Development Services

Management Area: Warrumbungle Water

**Author:** Project Engineer – Thomas Cleary

**CSP Key Focus Area:** Supporting Community Life

**Priority:** SC4.4 The future requirements for water and power

are identified and adequately planned for by service

providers

### Reason for report

To re-inform Council of the status regarding the implementation of action items on Council's Drinking Water Management System (DWMS) Improvement Plan.

### **Background**

Under the NSW Public Health Act 2010 Council is required to maintain a Drinking Water Management System consistent with the Framework for Management of Drinking Water Quality as documented in the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG).

Council developed its DWMS in late 2014; part of this DWMS forms a risk based – and therefore priority based – Improvement Plan containing action items. Both documents, the DMWS and the Improvement Plan, were presented to Council in Item 11 of the December 2019 Business Paper report.

Resolution 228/1920 item 3 requires the preparation of regular reports – at four monthly intervals – on the progress of implementing the Improvement Plan action items. The following update reports were presented to Council:

- Item 11 of the April 2020 Business Paper
- Item 21 of the August 2020 Business Paper
- Item 18 of the December 2020 Business Paper
- Item 17 of the April 2021 Business Paper
- Item 14 of the August 2021 Business Paper
- Item 18 of the March 2022 Business Paper
- Item 14 of the July 2022 Business Paper

#### Issues

In December 2019, 160 of the then 340 DWMS Improvement Plan action items were completed, closed or implemented with 180 items outstanding.

At the time of the July 2022 update report, 317 items have been closed, completed or implemented. Since then, there has been a minor review of the DWMS Improvement Plan on 29 of July 2022, with a implementation plan to close, complete or implement a number of items.

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Meanwhile, 321 items have been closed or completed with 39 outstanding/in progress and 2 not started as yet, out of the new total of 358 items; a summary table is presented below. The current Improvement Plan is included as Attachment 1.

	Status						To do per priority
			Imple- mented	In	Not		In percent out of
Priority	Closed*	Complete	**	progress	started	Total	total
Very							
High	12	22	1	2		37	10.34%
High	58	67	20	15		160	44.69%
Medium	65	34	23	15		137	38.27%
Low	12	5	2	3	2	24	6.70%
Sum	147	128	46	35	2	358	100%

There are currently 35 outstanding 'In-Progress' items and 2 'not started' items out of the total of 358 items which are being addressed as resources allow.

\*Closed items were closed as they were covered by a new action or another action item or items; all action items including closed and new items remain within the overall DWMS Improvement Plan, hence the number of items consistently rises.

\*\* Completed versus implemented items: 'completed' marks the finalisation of a certain milestone, for example the development of a Drinking Water Quality Policy; 'implemented' marks the successful realisation of a certain process, for example the ongoing entering of operational data into electronic spreadsheets.

#### **Options**

This report is presented for Council's information only.

#### **Financial Considerations**

The review conducted in March 2022 completed the engagement with the contractor.

The remaining 37 items requiring to be closed will be completed by staff in-house. At this stage, further assistance from a consultant is likely not to be required.

Operational and capital expenditure in relation to many DWMS Improvement Plan action items is distributed across a number of areas and normally not tracked against the DWMS; these include for example water treatment plant improvements and upgrades, operator training and water quality testing.

#### **Community Engagement**

The level of engagement is to 'Inform'.

#### **Attachments**

1. DWMS Improvement Plan July 2022

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council notes the Drinking Water Management System Improvement Plan Implementation – November 2022 Update Report.

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Item 29 Mendooran Water Quality Incident Review Report Implementation – November 2022 Progress Update

**Division:** Environment and Development Services

Management Area: Warrumbungle Water

**Author:** Project Engineer – Thomas Cleary

**CSP Key Focus Area:** Supporting Community Life

**Priority:** SC4.4 The future requirements for water and power

are identified and adequately planned for by service

providers

### Reason for report

To inform Council of the ongoing progress in implementing recommendations from the 2017 Water Quality Incident Review Report on the Mendooran boil water alert, as per Council Resolutions 196/1718 and 227/1920.

#### **Background**

Following the Mendooran boil water alert in June 2017, a Water Quality Incident Review Report was prepared, which was presented to Council November 2017 (Item 25). The final report contained 31 recommendations.

Previous reports on the implementation progress were given to Council in February 2018 (Item 39), as well as in May 2018 (Item 20), in August 2018 (Item 21), in December 2018 (Item 15), in March 2019 (Item 13), in June 2019 (Item 9), in September 2019 (Item 15), in December 2019 (Item 10), in April 2020 (Item 12), in August 2020 (Item 22), February 2021 (Item 21), August 2021 (Item 16), March 2022 (Item 19) and July 2022 (Item 15).

Out of the 31 recommendations, 12 remain to be implemented.

#### **Issues**

Outstanding recommendations from the Mendooran Incident Review Report are listed below.

#### **Outstanding Recommendations**

Mendooran Incident Debrief Recommendations, Implementation Status and Comments

**Recommendation 1:** That online turbidity and chlorine residual monitoring is installed at Mendooran WTP.

**Status:** Implementation

Safe and Secure Water Program (SSWP) funding was granted for a 'Mendooran Water Supply Modification Upgrade Concept Design'. The proposed upgrade includes the installation of further online instrumentation with appropriate feedback control to the

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# Mendooran Incident Debrief Recommendations, Implementation Status and Comments

Programmable Logical Controller (PLC) /Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA).

#### **Progress since last report:**

- > SCADA upgrade has been commissioned with practical completion finalised, training of staff remains outstanding.
- Council staff have been working towards finalisation of the Mendooran Water Supply Scheme Business Case.

A draft Business Case has been completed for the Mendooran Water Supply Scheme Upgrade, based on previous reports including Concept Design Cost Estimates. Council have met with DPE to discuss technical matters and endorse a project scope. DPE has committed to funding the reduction of the high-water quality Risk at Mendooran. The next steps will include submission of the Final Business Case with DPE with the aim of drafting a funding deed for the Design and Construction of the required updates.

The Automation and Process Instrumentation Audit report has been finalised (findings were included in the Mendooran WTP Concept Design).

Recommendation 4: That WSC investigates the installation of an inline booster pumping station on the outlet of the Standpipe reservoir to provide sufficient water pressure for a regular water main flushing program to be implemented, to improve the water supply system's firefighting capacity and reduce overall water age by only storing water volumes sufficient to meet peak day demands.

Status: Implementation.

The proposed upgrade referred to an inline booster pump downstream of the standpipe reservoir, this will be contained as part of the next steps in design.

### Change/progress since last report:

Council staff have met with and requested a proposal from a specialist consultant to provide options to address the water pressure issues. The inline pump booster pumping system will form part of the WTP upgrade scope.

As per Recommendation 1, the final business case will see the inclusion of this inline booster work during design and construction.

Recommendation 5: That WSC investigates options to reduce water age in the Coolabah rural residential estate water supply zone. This could include isolation of individual reservoirs i.e. Reservoirs No. 1, No. 2 and/or No. 3, on a seasonal basis to only store water volumes sufficient to meet peak day demands.

Status: Implementation.

Change/progress since last report:

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# Mendooran Incident Debrief Recommendations, Implementation Status and Comments

Council staff have met with and requested a proposal from a specialist consultant to provide options to address the water pressure issues. The inline pump booster pumping system will form part of the WTP upgrade scope.

As per the business case, once DPE has committed to funding the reduction of the highwater quality risk at Mendooran, these issues will be resolved during construction.

Recommendation 6: That WSC review and regularly revise these water supply reticulation plans (Figures 4 & 5) as required to maintain up to date records.

Status: Implementation

In collaboration with Council's GIS Officer.

Council has not had a dedicated GIS Officer for an extended amount of time.

### Change/progress since last report:

Council has formed a Strategic Asset Management Steering Group and will budgeting for the completion and implementation of asset management systems.

Issues exist with current GIS information being inaccurate and incomplete. To address this issue, the subject of Asset Management would need to be addressed.

Recommendation 16: That WSC review the LMWUA Water Treatment Plant Audit Report for the Mendooran WTP (September 2014), develop an Action Plan and urgently implement any outstanding recommendations. This Action Plan information should also be regularly reported back to DPE-Water.

Status: Implementation

#### **Change/progress since last report:**

No additional progress has been completed since the last report.

SOP's will be reviewed in-house for their relevance and appropriateness to each task to close out this item.

Recommendation 17: That WSC review all reservoir inspection reports (2014 and 2017) to develop an Action Plan and urgently implement any outstanding recommendations. This Action Plan information should also be regularly reported back to DPE-Water.

Status: Implementation.

Integrity issues of 12 reservoirs shire-wide, were rectified in May 2019.

Integrity issues of further 5 reservoirs shire-wide, were rectified in June 2020 after delays due to COVID travel restrictions with the contractor being located in QLD.

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An action plan has been created with allocated priorities.

A contractor has been engaged to the value of \$110,000 to rectify some of the outstanding issues across Council's reservoirs. A further budget allocation of \$60,000 to replace internal corroded structures is contained within the FY21/22 budget.

### Change/progress since last report:

- This work has been undertaken and completed.
- All remaining outstanding items within the Action Plan will be included in the Mendooran Water Supply Scheme Business Case and will be implemented during construction of the proposed upgrades funded by DPE.

Recommendation 18: That WSC review and update the DWMS and the "DWMS Improvement Plan" is then kept up-to-date, recommended improvements are implemented in the order of identified urgency and progress of the "DWMS Improvement Plan" is reported regularly to the Senior Executive Team and Council.

This information will also be passed onto NSW Health and DPE-Water for advice, review and comment.

Status: Implementation.

#### **Change/progress since last report:**

No additional progress has been completed since the last report.

Recommendation 19: That WSC review and finalise the DWMS Implementation Report (2016), so that the recommended "Emergency Response Plan" (ERP) can be utilised for any future incidents and emergencies.

Status: Implementation.

### **Change/progress since last report:**

This issue is still outstanding. This recommendation is planned to be rescheduled in the coming months.

Recommendation 20: That WSC develop and implement a "Drinking Water Quality (DWQ) Monitoring Plan" which formalise staff/role responsibilities, authorities reporting and communication protocols and review existing procedures for sampling and testing. The monitoring plan should be built based on the NSW Health Drinking Monitoring Plan (available on the NSW Health website).

Status: Implementation.

### Change/progress since last report:

- This recommendation has been completed with the submission of the updated DWMS (Drinking Water Management Strategy) and CCP (Critical Control Point) Reference Guides and Summaries by an external consultant.
- > The DWMS and CCP reports are evolving working documents which will continue to be updated inline with current standards and technology.

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# Mendooran Incident Debrief Recommendations, Implementation Status and Comments

Recommendation 29: That the Human Resources records for relevant staff are reviewed, and that training is undertaken for all water supply operational staff, WTP operators and relief staff to upskill and to be appropriately trained in WTP processes (i.e. DPE-Water Part 1 and 2 as a minimum). It is also recommended that all staff involved with water quality sampling, testing and monitoring, undergo training and are involved in developing procedures for their work tasks.

Status: Implementation

- A Training Warrumbungle Water Program has been developed and completed.
- Council continues to provide training to water supply operational staff.
- > Fluoride training for staff is being organised through an external trainer.

Recommendation 30: That WSC investigate and implements a process of its WTP operators to be certified under the National Certification Framework (NCF).

Status: Development

Council's HR Division has been seeking information to quantify what training is required to meet the certification requirements; this will enable a training organisation to be engaged that can deliver the training. No delivery timeframe is available at this stage.

#### Change since last report:

Orana Water Utilities Alliance (OWUA) have liaised with Council to understand the training required to be completed. Once training requirements have been quantified Council will organise with OWUA to conduct the required training.

<u>Recommendation 31:</u> That WSC investigate and implement a formalised preventative maintenance program for all the WTP, reticulation and reservoir assets.

Status: Implementation.

#### Change/progress since last report:

- SCADA will allow for development of preventative measures due to the closer monitoring that will be obtained and data therefrom. SCADA has been installed shire-wide.
- Council has formed a Strategic Asset Management Steering Group and will budgeting for the completion and implementation of asset management systems including a formalised preventative maintenance programme.

An informal preventive maintenance program currently exists for the WTP, reticulation and reservoir assets. The formalisation of this program for council water infrastructure assets is scheduled to be completed in-house in the near future.

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### **Options**

This report is presented for Council's information.

#### **Financial Considerations**

In relation to the DWMS implementation, NSW Health continues to provide financial support to help Council meet drinking water quality expectations and standards.

DWMS related expenditure and budget items – relating to Recommendations – include:

#### In FY22/23:

- 4 yearly reservoir inspections and cleans \$45k
- SCADA/Telemetry Project completion of an \$1M project. Funding has been sourced through an INSW funding deed valued at \$750k and council co-contribution of \$250k.

#### In FY23/24:

 Mendooran WTP upgrade expected to commence following the endorsement of the proposed business case with DPE – Water. There is a budgeted figure of \$2M to complete the upgrade works. Funding from DPE will be 75%, with Council required to meet the remaining 25%.

Further committed and expected expenditures relating to Recommendations R18 and R20 include:

 Develop an Operational and Verification DWQ Monitoring Plan updated proposal \$14k.

#### **Community Engagement**

The level of community engagement is 'Inform' as per Council's *Community Engagement Strategy* 2020-2024.

<u>Information</u> to the community would be available by way of the Community e-Newsletter; social, digital, and print media (incorporating the Council website, and business paper).

#### **Attachments**

Nil

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council notes the implementation progress of the recommendations within the Mendooran Water Quality Incident Review Report.

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Item 30 Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone Report – December 2022

**Division:** Environment and Development Services

Management Area: Planning and Regulation

**Author:** Director Development Services – Leeanne Ryan

**CSP Key Focus Area:** Strengthening the Local Economy

**Priority:** LE3 – The community benefits from the economic

returns of local renewable energy production, and

mining and extractive industries

#### **Reason for Report**

To provide Council with regular updates on Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone matters that relate to Council.

### **Background**

Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) is a renewable energy zone being set up by State Government.

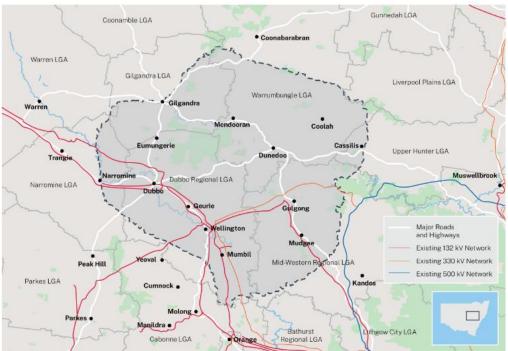
The following broad points relate to the REZ project:

- It is the State's first renewable energy zone, and covers approximately 20,000 square kilometres.
- Incorporates parts of three LGA's being Warrumbungle, Dubbo and Mid-Western
- The REZ is proposed to unlock 3 gigawatts of new network capacity by mid 2020's (through solar and wind farms)
- Expected to bring up to \$5 billion in private investment to the Central-West Orana region by 2030.
- At its peak, the REZ is expected to support around 3,900 construction jobs in the region.
- Was selected by State Government following a detailed geospatial mapping exercise undertaken by NSW Government in 2018
- Formally declared by the Minister for Energy and Environment under section 19(1) of the *Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act 2020* and published in the NSW Gazette on 5 November 2021.
- EnergyCo is the Infrastructure Planner responsible for coordinating and leading the development of the REZ.
- In the future, the Minister may amend the declaration to expand the specified geographical area of the REZ, increase the intended network capacity, specify additional generation, storage and network infrastructure, provide further details and specifications or correct a minor error.
- There are 4 other REZ's proposed for NSW being located in New England, South-West, Hunter Central and Illawarra.
- The REZ will be supported by a large transmission line yet to be approved or constructed; EnergyCo have carriage of delivering the this infratsurcture.

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- The REZ will host eleven (11) preferred projects in Stage 1 (pending approval from DPE). These include a mix of both wind farms and solar farms of varying sizes. Many of these are partially or totally located in Warrumbungle LGA.
- More information on the REZ can be found on the Central-West Orana REZ website.

The below map shows the location of the REZ.



Within Warrumbungle Shire Council, the REZ will impact our LGA, but particularly the localities of Coolah, Leadville, Dunedoo, Birriwa, Cobbora and surrounds.

An interactive map to demonstrate the location of the various wind and solar farms within the REZ can be found on EnergyCo's website.

Many of the proposed projects are located across LGA boundaries, with delivery of projects potentially clashing and generating cumulative impacts. Some areas that maybe impacted include housing and accommodation, labour and workforce, road and traffic, waste, water, sewerage, telecommunications and social.

It is important to note that the REZ transmission line and associated wind farms, solar farms and battery energy storage systems are State Significant Development requiring approval from the State Government, not Council.

#### Issues

Over the past months, Council has been involved in a number of matters pertaining to the REZ as follows:

 Lodged written comments on the draft SEARS for the proposed Spicers Creek Wind Farm – submitted 13 May 2022.

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- Lodged written comments on the draft SEARS for the proposed Sandy Creek Solar Farm – submitted 13 May 2022.
- Lodged submission in response to the EIS on the proposed Valley of the Winds Wind Farm – submitted 19 June 2022.
- Lodged written comments on the draft SEARS for proposed Central-West Orana REZ Transmission – submitted 23 September 2022.
- Lodged submission in response to the Modification Application for Liverpool Range Wind Farm – submitted 10 October 2022.
- Lodged submission in response to EIS on the proposed Birriwa Solar
   Farm submitted 8 November 2022.
- Lodged submission in response to the EIS on the proposed **Tallawang Solar Farm** submitted 23 November 2022.
- Attend meetings both online and in-person with potential REZ project developers regarding matters of concern to our LGA and the impacts on our communities.
- Discuss potential REZ projects and associated impacts with our neighbouring Councils being Mid-Western Regional and Dubbo Regional.
- Participate in the Coalition of Regional Energy Mayors (CoREM) along with the following LGA's: Mid-Western, Uralla, Glen Innes, Walcha, Armidale, Dubbo, Tamworth, Inverell, with other LGA's potentially becoming involved.
- Met with EnergyCo to discuss our issues with cumulative impacts generated by the REZ.

#### **Options**

The REZ and associated projects will continue to show their presence within Warrumbungle Shire. It is necessary for Council to remain engaged as information comes to light.

### **Financial Considerations**

Staff time to attend meetings and prepare written submissions is required to be factored in. At the time of writing report Council has expended approximately \$61,000 on matters relating to the REZ.

### **Community Engagement**

The level of community engagement is 'Inform' as per Council's *Community Engagement Strategy 2020-2024*.

#### **Attachments**

- 1. Submission on draft SEARS Spicers Creek Wind Farm 13 May 2022
- 2. Submission on draft SEARS Sandy Creek Solar Farm 13 May 2022
- 3. Submission on EIS Valley of the Winds Wind Farm 19 June 2022
- Submission on draft SEARS Central-West Orana REZ Transmission 23 September 2022
- Submission on Modification Application Liverpool Range Wind Farm 10 October 2022
- 6. Submission on EIS Birriwa Solar Farm 9 November 2022
- 7. Submission on EIS Tallawang Solar Farm 23 November 2022

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

- 1. Notes the information in the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone Report December 2022.
- 2. Endorses the actions taken in relation to the submissions on Spicers Creek Wind Farm, Sandy Creek Solar Farm, Valley of the Winds Wind Farm, Central-West Orana REZ Transmission Line, Liverpool Range Wind Farm, Birriwa Solar Farm, and Tallawang Solar Farm.

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#### Item 31 Inland Rail Update Report - December 2022

**Division:** Environment and Development Services

Management Area: Economic Development and Tourism

**Author:** Manager Economic Development and Tourism –

Jo Houghton

CSP Key Focus Area: Local Economy

**Priority:** LE2.2 – Work with local business and industry to

foster local economic development, innovation

and expansion

### **Reason for Report**

To provide Council with regular updates on Inland Rail discussions and matters that relate to Council.

### **Background**

Inland Rail is a freight rail line that will connect Melbourne to Brisbane through regional Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. With freight volumes set to almost double in the next 20 years, the Australian Government is building the rail line to address freight needs.

The following broad points relate to the Inland Rail project:

- Inland Rail 1,700km long, from Melbourne to Brisbane in less than 24 hours.
- Trains travelling on the Inland Rail track will be able to travel at speeds of up to 115km/h.
- The track will enable the use of double-stacked (containers), 1,800m long trains with a 21 tonne axle load. Each train could carry the equivalent freight volume as 110 B-double trucks.

Within Warrumbungle Shire Council, the Inland Rail will traverse part of our Shire to the north-west of Baradine. This section of the line sits in the Narromine to Narrabri section of the project, known as N2N. Approximately 42 kms of rail line relating to Inland Rail will be located within our local government area.

In November 2017, the Australian Government confirmed the preferred study area for the N2N section of Inland Rail.

### **Update on N2N Section of the Project**

The N2N section of the line is approximately 306kms in length, and is Inland Rail's longest section of new track. The study area has now been refined and it is expected the final width of the rail corridor will be 40-60m wide. A detailed map of the alignment through Warrumbungle Shire can be found at: inlandrail.artc.com.au/where-we-go/#narromine-to-narrabri

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#### Issues

Over the past month, Council has been involved in a number of matters pertaining to the Inland Rail Project as follows:

- ARTC's amended report for Preferred Infrastructure was on public exhibition and concluded September 2022. Council lodged a submission to this report. A further report has been released by ARTC for comments, being the N2N Preferred Infrastructure/Amendment Report – Response to Submissions, and comments on this report close 5 December 2022. Council will be reviewing to determine if a further submission is required.
- DPE will assess the project and provide a recommendation to NSW Minister for Planning regarding a determination for the project.
- Australian Government announced an independent review of Inland Rail on 7
   October 2022, more information on the review can be found here
   <u>www.inlandrail.gov.au/understanding-inland-rail/independent-review</u>. The
   review focusses on planning, governance and delivery of Inland Rail. The
   independent review is expected to be completed by early 2023, with the
   findings provided to the Australian Government for consideration.
- Council and ARTC met Thursday 17 November for N2N Project update. The agenda included an update on temporary workers accommodation, the potential for project office in Baradine, and discussion around Baradine's aerodrome.
- Inland Rail Survey anonymous feedback survey commenced to better understand communities and improve information available and channels to disseminate information. The survey closes 14 December 2022 and can accessed here: Start survey.
- Council applied for Building Better Regions Funding (BBRF) Round 6, to upgrade and connect Baradine Showground to town sewer. With the change in Government, the Australian Government has decided not to proceed with the BBRF program, including Round 6 applications. BBRF Round 6 applicants will be able to apply for the new Growing Regions Program next year. Information on program guidelines, eligibility criteria and the application process will be provided in due course.
- A reminder that Inland Rail Community Sponsorships and Donations Program
  that supports community groups organising events and activities to contribute
  to local and regional wellbeing. Grants are up to \$4,000 and can apply here:
  Sponsorships and donations Inland Rail (artc.com.au).

### **Options**

The Inland Rail project will continue to show its presence within Warrumbungle Shire, and is nearing the determination stage for the approval.

#### **Financial Considerations**

Nil

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## **Community Engagement**

The level of community engagement is 'Inform' as per Council's *Community Engagement Strategy 2020-2024*.

### **Attachments**

Nil

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council notes the information in the Inland Rail Update Report – December 2022.

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#### Item 32 Reports to be Considered in Closed Council

**Item 32.1 Human Resources Monthly Report** 

**Division: Executive Services** 

Author: Manager Human Resources - Chris Kennedy

#### **Summary**

The purpose of this report is to update Council in relation to activities undertaken by Human Resources including Staffing and Recruitment, Training and Workplace Health and Safety (WHS).

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) ('the Act') and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* (NSW), in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

The item relates to personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors) and is classified **CONFIDENTIAL** under section 10A(2)(a) of the Act, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

(a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors)

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Human Resources Monthly Report be referred to Closed Council pursuant to section 10A(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) on the grounds that the matter deals with personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

# Item 32.2 Three Rivers Regional Retirement Community Information Report Division: Environment and Development Services

**Author: Director Environment and Development Services – Leeanne Ryan** 

### Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the Three Rivers Regional Retirement Community (TRRRC) project.

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) ('the Act') and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* (NSW), in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

The item relates to advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege and is classified **CONFIDENTIAL** under section 10A(2)(g) of the Act, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

(g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege

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#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Three Rivers Regional Retirement Community Information Report be referred to Closed Council pursuant to section 10A(2)(g) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) on the grounds that the matter deals with advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege.

Item 32.3 2-4 Digilah Street, Dunedoo

**Division: Executive Services** 

**Author: General Manager – Roger Bailey** 

### Summary

The purpose of this report is to report to Council on the possible sale of the property 2-4 Digilah Street, Dunedoo.

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) ('the Act') and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* (NSW), in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

The item relates to advice concerning commercial information and is classified **CONFIDENTIAL** under section 10A(2)(c) of the Act, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

 (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct)

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the 2-4 Digilah Street Report be referred to Closed Council pursuant to section 10A(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) on the grounds that the matter deals with information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct).

Item 32.4 Coolah Sewerage Treatment Plant Replacement - Project Update

**Division: Warrumbungle Water** 

Author: Project Engineer - Tom Cleary

### **Summary**

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the replacement of the Coolah Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP).

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) ('the Act') and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* (NSW), in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

The item relates to advice concerning commercial information and is classified **CONFIDENTIAL** under section 10A(2)(c) of the Act, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

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 (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct)

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Coolah Sewerage Treatment Plant Replacement – Project Update Report be referred to Closed Council pursuant to section 10A(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) on the grounds that the matter deals with information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct).

Item 32.5 Netwaste Tender for Processing Garden Organics, Wood and Timber Division: Warrumbungle Waste

Author: Director Environment and Development Services - Leeanne Ryan

#### **Summary**

The purpose of this report is to seek resolution for engagement of contractor and participation in the Regional Netwaste Tender to process garden organics, wood and timber at Council's waste facilities.

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) ('the Act') and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* (NSW), in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

The item relates to advice concerning commercial information and is classified **CONFIDENTIAL** under section 10A(2)(c) of the Act, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

(c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct)

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Netwaste Tender for Processing Garden Organics, Wood and Timber Report be referred to Closed Council pursuant to section 10A(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) on the grounds that the matter deals with information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct).

#### **FURTHER that Council resolve that:**

- 1. Council go into Closed Council to consider business relating to confidential information.
- 2. Pursuant to section 10A(1)-(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW), the media and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that the business to be considered is classified confidential under the provisions of Section 10A(2) as outlined above.

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3.	The correspondence and reports relevant to the subject business be withheld
	from access to the media and public as required by section 11(2) of the Local
	Government Act 1993 (NSW).