



Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda

20 July 2023

**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 Coolah Chambers, Binnia Street, Coolah
on Thursday, 20 July 2023 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

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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

15 June 2023

Disclosure of Interest

Pecuniary Interest

Non Pecuniary Conflict of Interest

Mayoral Minute/s

Delegate Report/s

Reports of Committees

Reports to Council

Notices of Motion/Questions with Notice/Rescission Motions

Reports to be considered in Closed Council

Conclusion

.....
ROGER BAILEY
GENERAL MANAGER

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Item 1 Mayoral Minute – Mayors Log of Activity, Kilometres Travelled and Expenses from 7 June 2023 to 8 July 2023

MAYORAL MINUTE – MAYORS ACTIVITY

<u>Date</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>In/Out</u>	<u>Activity</u>
7-Jun	Email	In	Warwick Giblin - Tilt Renewables
8-Jun	Email	In	Mary Doolan - NAIDOC invitation
9-Jun	Email	In	GM - Dunedoo Pre School
12-Jun	Email	Out	Deputy Mayor - June Council Meeting
13-Jun	Email	In	Minister Plibersek - Basin water plan
	Email	Out	EA to GM - Prefects Luncheon
14-Jun	Email	In	Warwick Giblin - Liverpool Range
	Email	Out	GM - Energy Co
	Email	Out	Warwick Giblin - Liverpool Range Wind Farm
15-Jun	Email	In	Deputy Mayor - signage Edwards Street
	Email	In	Warwick Giblin - Spicers Creek Wind Farm
16-Jun	Email	In	Warwick Giblin - Valley of the Winds Wind Farm
	Email	Out	Mary Doolan - NAIDOC invitation
17-Jun	Email	In	Cr Rindfleish - news report
19-Jun	Email	In	2357 Secretary - Hearty Welcome Event
20-Jun	Email	In	2357 Secretary - Hearty Welcome Event
	Email	In	Warwick Giblin - Spicers Creek Wind Farm
21-Jun	Email	In	Ratepayer Baradine - complaint re garbage trucks
	Email	In	Minister for Local Government - reply to letter objecting to Government discontinuing Emergency Services Levy subsidy
22-Jun	Email	In	Armidale Mayor - CoREM organisation details
	Email	Out	Councillors - Armidale Mayor re CoREM
23-Jun	Email	In	Deputy Mayor - Forest of the Fallen request
26-Jun	Email	In	GM - RDO
	Email	In	Cr Brady - town signage
27-Jun	Email	In	GM - REZ
28-Jun	Email	In	Warwick Giblin - MOU with Energy Co
	Email	In	Cr Brady - apologies for July Council Meeting
29-Jun	Email	In	GM - Regional Housing Delivery Plan
	Email	In	GM - No. 3 Oval project
	Email	In	Cr Hogden and GM - Dunedoo Medical Centre
30-Jun	Email	In	Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier - REZ
	Email	In	Warwick Giblin - Liverpool Range Wind Farm
4-Jul	Email	In	Pittsworth Mens Shed - Shed Down the Murray
	Email	In	GM - No. 3 Oval project
	Email	In	Director Energy & Resources DPIE - Energy Policy
	Email	Out	Julie Sprake - meeting with Energy Minister
	Email	Out	EA to GM - visit by Pittsworth Mens Shed
5-Jul	Email	In	GM - Dunedoo Renewal project
	Email	In	Federal Minister for Local Government - A Voice to Parliament
	Email	Out	GM - Dunedoo Infrastructure Renewal

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	Email	Out	Deputy Mayor - NSW Rural Doctors Network
	Email	Out	GM - Dunedoo Infrastructure Renewal
	Email	Out	Warwick Giblin - REZ
6-Jul	Email	In	Hayley Crump - Youth Grant Opportunities
7-Jul	Email	In	Julie Sprake - meeting with Energy Minister
8-Jul	Email	Out	Julie Sprake - meeting with Energy Minister

Date of Journey		Purpose of Journey	Odometer		KM Travelled
Start Date	End Date		Start	Finish	
13-Jun	16-Jun	ALGA Meeting Canberra	26577	27702	1,125
21-Jun	21-Jun	Meeting with LGNSW	27702	27732	30
26-Jun	26-Jun	Meeting with Inland Rail	27732	27762	30
27-Jun	27-Jun	BFMC Meeting	27762	27792	30
30-Jun	30-Jun	NAIDOC Coonabarabran High School	27792	27825	33
1-Jul	1-Jul	Robertson Oval Opening	27825	28048	223
Total KM travelled for period 16 May 2023 - 7 June 2023					1,471

MAYORAL MINUTE – EXPENSES 13 June 2023 to 16 June 2023

<u>Date</u>	<u>Transaction Details</u>	<u>Comments</u>	
13-Jun	King O'Malleys	Meal - ALGA Canberra	\$ 49.00
13-Jun	McDonalds	Meal - ALGA Canberra	\$ 14.20
14-Jun	Gus' Place	Meal - ALGA Canberra	\$ 37.88
15-Jun	Mocan & Green Grout	Meal - ALGA Canberra	\$ 50.00
16-Jun	RAM Narayan Service Station	Fuel - ALGA Canberra	\$ 78.00
16-Jun	Clementine Restaurant	Meal - ALGA Canberra	\$ 22.00
16-Jun	Mocan & Green Grout	Meal - ALGA Canberra	\$ 36.00
Total expenditure for period 13/06/2023 - 16/06/2023			<u>\$287.08</u>

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Notes the report on the Mayor's Activity and Log of Kilometres Travelled for the period 7 June 2023 to 8 July 2023.
2. Notes the report on the Mayor's credit card expenses between 13 June 2023 and 16 June 2023 and approves the payment of expenses totalling \$287.08.

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Item 2 Councillors' Monthly Travel Claims

Division:	Executive Services
Management Area:	Governance
Author:	EA 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	200	0.78	\$156
Cr Holcombe	541	0.78	\$421.98
Cr Iannuzzi	-	0.78	-
Cr Kopke	144	0.78	\$112.32
Cr Newton	-	0.78	-
Cr Rindfleish	174	0.78	\$135.72
Cr Todd	-	0.78	-
		Total:	\$826.02

Issues

Nil.

Options

Nil.

Financial Considerations

Outlined above.

Community Engagement

To inform the community.

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Attachments

1. Councillors Monthly Travel Claims

RECOMMENDATION

That the Councillors' monthly travel claims report in the amount of \$826.02 be noted for information.

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Item 3 Delegate’s Report – Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Meeting 26 June 2023

Division:	Executive Services
Management Area:	Governance
Author:	Councillor Zoe Holcombe
CSP Key Focus Area:	Civic Leadership
Priority:	CL6 To build strong relationships

Reason for Report

To report to Council on the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Meeting held 26 June 2023.

Background

On Monday 26 June 20223, Cr Todd and myself attended the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Meeting in Coonamble.

Update on several Biosecurity matters:

Parkinsonia

Ground control for Parkinsonia was carried out W/C May 15, 2023.

Control works were completed in 1 week via helicopter. It is estimated using vehicle and side by side this would have taken 1 month and some areas would not have been accessible.

Approximately 3000 Parkinsonia plants were treated with Access and diesel along the Barwon and Narran rivers.

Hudson Pear

With the funding announced at the end of last year of 2.6million. Between now and 2027 the funding will:

- Enable the engagement of spraying contractors to assist landowners and land manager to spray existing and new outbreaks of Hudson Pear infestation,
- Provide a local landowner chemical supply program,
- Employ a cacti Coordinator to assist the community in contacting the spread, and
- Employ a biosecurity Field Officer on the ground spraying.

In order to ensure the funding could “hit the ground running”, on the 1st March 2023 North West Land Services contracted CMCC to manage its delivery of the Hudson Pear Control initiative.

Since then CMCC has conducted a comprehensive aerial inspection over outlying and core infestations at lighting ridge, Cumborough, Grawin and Narran Lakes

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Reserve covering approx. 50,000 hectares. This enabled precise coordinates and mapping for on ground spray work.

Professional spray contractors have since been engaged and 7,500 hectares covered across the area. (since end of April) And local land owner chemical supply has also been initiated.

CMCC Biosecurity Officers continue to work with land owners and community to provide support with integrated control options including biological, contract spraying, landowner chemical supply program and the overall best practice management.

St Johns Wart

Several land owners in the Warrumbungle Shire have made contact with councillors regarding St Johns Wart in the area. These have been passed on the Bio security officer.

The next meeting will be held on the 28 August 2023.

All business papers and minutes of meeting can be found here.
www.cmcc.nsw.gov.au/business-papers/

Issues

Nil

Options

Nil

Financial Considerations

Nil

Community Engagement

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

Attachments

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the Delegate's Report on the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council meeting held on 26 June 2023.

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Item 4 Warrumbungle Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting – 15 May 2023

Division:	Technical Services
Management Area:	Technical Services Management
Author:	Acting Director Technical Services – Nicole Benson
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 Warrumbungle Local Emergency Management Committee held at Coolah on the 15 May 2023.

Background

Local Emergency Management Committees are established in terms of s28 of the State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989.

Each such Committee is to consist of:

- a) the General Manager of the council of the relevant local government area, who is to be the Chairperson of the Committee, and
- b) a senior representative of each emergency services organisation operating in the relevant local government area, and
- c) a representative of each organisation that:
 - i. provides services in a functional area or areas in the relevant local government area, and
 - ii. the council of that area determines from time to time is to be represented on the Committee, and
- d) the Local Emergency Operations Controller for the relevant local government area.

A Local Emergency Management Committee is responsible for the preparation and review of plans in relation to the prevention of, preparation for, response to and recovery from emergencies in the local government area for which it is constituted.

(1A) Without limiting subsection (1), any such Committee may:

- a) give effect to and carry out emergency management policy and practice, consistent with information on that policy and practice disseminated by the State Emergency Management Committee, and

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- b) review and prepare plans in respect of the relevant local government area that are, or are proposed to be, subplans or supporting plans established under the State Emergency Management Plan, and
- c) make recommendations about and assist in the co-ordination of training in relation to emergency management in the relevant local government area, and
- d) develop, conduct and evaluate local emergency management training exercises, and
- e) facilitate local level emergency management capability through inter-agency co-ordination, co-operation and information sharing arrangements, and
- f) assist the Local Emergency Operations Controller for the relevant local government area in the Controller's role under section 31, and
- g) such other functions as are—
 - i. related to this Act, and
 - ii. assigned to the Committee (or to Local Emergency Management Committees generally) from time to time by the relevant Regional Emergency Management Committee or by the State Emergency Management Committee.

(2) In the exercise of its functions, any such Committee is responsible to the relevant Regional Emergency Management Committee.

Issues

The following matters were considered by the Committee:

1. Contact List
2. Acting and Alternate LEMO Positions
3. Regional Emergency Management Officer (REMO) Report
4. NSW Reconstruction Authority Report
5. NSW SES Agency Report
6. Fire & Rescue NSW Agency Report
7. NSW Rural Fire Service Agency Report
8. NSW VRA Agency Report
9. NSW Ambulance Agency Report
10. Events
11. Hartwood Music Festival Bushfire Management Report
12. Evacuation Centre Audits
13. CV-19 Reports
14. Biosecurity Exercise Brief
15. LEMC Exercise – Inland Rail Derailment Scenario

The following additional items were raised:

- Wind farm and transporting of blades on Saxa Road, which is closed.
- Impact of Police Highway Patrol on safety at worksites through presence.
- Council road closures now on live traffic.
- First black spot mobile phone tower switched on near Uarbry.

Options

The following Committee recommendation will be dealt with under Delegation:

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'5/2223 RECOMMENDED that Schools be removed as evacuation centres and only pursued in the case of no suitable alternate location.'

Financial Considerations

Nil.

Community Engagement

The level of engagement for this report is to inform.

Attachments

1. Minutes of the Warrumbungle Local Emergency Management Committee – 15 May 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Warrumbungle Local Emergency Management Committee meeting held on the 15 May 2023 are noted for information.

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Item 5 Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting – 25 May 2023

Division:	Technical Services
Management Area:	Technical Services Management
Author:	Acting Director Technical Services – Nicole Benson
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 25 May 2023.

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:

- a) Coonabarabran Pony Club – Request to Close John Street for Pony Camp Street Parade – 29 September 2023
- b) Binnaway Progress Association – Request for Community Events Sign at the Intersection of Renshaw Street and Bullinda Street
- c) Request to Reduce Speed Limit on Timor Road from Timor Rock to Siding Spring Observatory Road Intersection
- d) Signs and Markings for Caravans and Oversize Vehicles in Coolah
- e) Speed Trailer Program – Locations
- f) Camp Quality – 400kms for Kids Bike Ride Event – 19-24 October 2023

The following additional items were raised:

- Dragon's teeth at the intersection of Namoi and Dalgarno Streets, Coonabarabran.

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- Heavy vehicles doing u-turns on the Oxley Highway just past Newell Highway.
- Installation of driver reviver signs at the entrances to Shire towns.

Options

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

- Binnaway Progress Association – Request for Community Events Sign at the Intersection of Renshaw Street and Bullinda Street
- Request to Reduce Speed Limit on Timor Road from Timor Rock to Siding Spring Observatory Road Intersection
- Signs and Markings for Caravans and Oversize Vehicles in Coolah
- Speed Trailer Program – Locations
- Camp Quality – 400kms for Kids Bike Ride Event – 19-24 October 2023

Financial Considerations

The majority of the recommendations from the meeting on the 25 May 2023 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 – 25 May 2023

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. The minutes of the Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting held on the 25 May 2023 are noted for information.
2. Approval be granted to the Coonabarabran Pony Club for part closure of John Street, Coonabarabran between Edwards Street and Dalgarno Street on Friday, 29 September 2023 from 3.00pm to 3.30pm subject to compliance with and receipt of:
 - Traffic Management Plan
 - Traffic Guidance Scheme
 - Council's Road Closure Guidelines
 - TfNSW Road Occupancy Licence
 - TfNSW Special Events Guide
 - Current Public Liability Insurance.

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Item 6 Robertson Oval Advisory Committee Meeting – 5 June 2023

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 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 minutes from the meeting of the Robertson Oval Advisory Committee held at Dunedoo on 5 June 2023.

Background

Council established the Robertson Oval Advisory Committee to review and assist with the preparation of a strategy document and involve the community along with staff and possibly specialist consultants, to identify current and potential users, demand and frequency of use and importantly operation management of any new facility at the Robertson Oval complex.

Issues

The construction of the amenity building at Robertson Oval is complete and the official opening is scheduled for 1 July 2023 at 1.15pm. Media and advertising of the event is in hand and invitations have been sent to dignitaries and guests.

The Advisory Committee has now achieved the purpose of the group as set out in the Committee Terms of Reference and it is appropriate that the Committee now be dissolved. Council officers will continue to work with users of Robertson Oval, as well as all other Shire wide community and recreational facility user groups, on planning for facility upgrades.

Options

Council may wish to note the action items 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.

Attachments

1. Minutes of the Robertson Oval Advisory Committee Meeting – 5 June 2023.

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RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council notes the minutes of the Robertson Oval Advisory Committee meeting held at Dunedoo on 5 June 2023.
2. Council writes to the members of the Robertson Oval Advisory Committee and thank them for their contribution to the improvements at Robertson Oval Dunedoo.
3. The Robinson Oval Advisory Committee be dissolved.

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Item 7 Minutes of Economic Development and Tourism Meeting

Division:	Environment and Development Services
Management Area:	Economic Development and Tourism
Author:	Acting Manager Economic Development and Tourism – Jeff Woo
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 Monday 19 June 2023.

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:

Tourism Report – provided an update on projects such as:

- We Are Explorers (WAE) - a collaboration work with Narrabri Council that emphasizes outdoor experiences, that has since launched successfully around March/April 2023.
- Real Country Partnerships promotions - Regional Lifestyle Magazine and Link Airways inflight magazine.

Economic Development Report – provided an update on projects such as:

- Coonabarabran Driver Reviver
- BizHQ Business Workshops; feedback was provided to committee on how successful the workshops went in Coonabarabran and Coolah
- Lions Club Conference; scheduled to happen in October
- Real Country Business Case and Strategy Development with Gilgandra and Coonamble Shires
- Renewal of the EDT Strategy in 23/24FY

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- Update on the Community Events Program.
- Town Entrance Sign Project - examples of signs were considered, with the committee agreeing the signs to be constructed of corten steel to provide consistency in design across the Shire. Supporting materials for the signs (e.g. sandstone, timber etc), individual layout and preferred locations are to be advised after EDT Committee members consult with their relevant communities. The budget for the project is \$28,334 per community for Baradine, Binnaway, Coolah, Coonabarabran, Dunedoo and Mendooran.

Visitor Information Centre Report – information was provided as follows:

- Coonabarabran History Group licence renewal for room use
- Merchandise sales have decrease heading into colder months
- VIC is listed on Explore Australia – Visitors Centres App; with suggestion from the committee that the App provide information of surrounding areas
- Visitors stats were provided to the committee; it was noted that while visitor counts were consistent, stats from online presence had dropped for website visits and Facebook visits/post from late February to early June.

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 19 June 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the minutes of the Economic Development and Tourism Committee meeting held on 19 June 2023.

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Item 8 Disclosure of Interests under clause 4.21 of the *Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW*

Division:	Executive Services
Management Area:	Governance
Author:	General Manager – Roger Bailey
CSP Key Focus Area:	Civic Leadership
Priority:	CL2 Council meets its legislative and compliance requirements opportunities for organisational improvement

Reason for the Report

To advise Council of the returns required to be lodged with the General Manager under clause 4.21 of the *Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW* (“the Model Code of Conduct”) for Councillors & Designated Person for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

Background

Clause 4.21 of the Model Code of Conduct requires Councillors and designated persons to lodge returns under section 449 for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

Clause 4.21:

A councillor or designated person must make and lodge with the general manager a return in the form set out in schedule 2 to this code, disclosing the councillor’s or designated person’s interests as specified in schedule 1 to this code within 3 months after:

- a) Becoming a councillor or designated person, and*
- b) **30 June of each year, and***
- c) The councillor or designated person becoming aware of an interest they are required to disclose under schedule 1 that has not been previously disclosed in a return lodged under paragraphs (a) or (b).*

Under clause 4.25 returns are required to be lodged with the General Manager and then tabled at the first meeting of Council after the last day the return is required to be lodged.

Councillors will now need to submit their forms for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

Clause 4.8 classifies a designated person as:

Designated persons include:

- 1. The general manager*
- 2. Other senior staff of the council for the purposes of section 332 of the LGA*

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3. *A person (other than a member of the senior staff of the council) who is a member of staff of the council or a delegate of the council and who holds a position identified by the council as the position of a designated person because it involves the exercise of functions (such as regulatory functions or contractual functions) that, in their exercise, could give rise to a conflict between the person's duty as a member of staff or delegate and the person's private interest*
4. *A person (other than a member of the senior staff of the council) who is a member of a committee of the council identified by the council as a committee whose members are designated persons because the functions of the committee involve the exercise of the council's functions (such as regulatory functions or contractual functions) that, in their exercise, could give rise to a conflict between the member's duty as a member of the committee and the member's private interest.*

In addition to the General Manager it would be appropriate that Council identify the following as designated persons:

- Director Environment and Development Services
- Director Technical Services
- Director Corporate and Community Services
- Manager Projects
- Manager Road Operations
- Manager Planning and Regulation
- Building Certifier
- Town Planner

The Returns have now been issued to all persons (councillors and designated persons) and are due to be returned by no later than 30 September 2023.

Financial Implications

Nil

Attachments

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Note the report on Disclosure of Interests under clause 4.21 of the *Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW* for the period to 30 June 2023.
2. Identify the following positions as designated staff:
 - Director Development Services
 - Director Technical Services
 - Director Corporate and Community Services
 - Manager Projects
 - Manager Roads
 - Manager Planning and Regulation
 - Building Certifier

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- Town Planner
- 3. Note the relevant forms have been issued to all councillors and designated staff.
- 4. Note that the Returns are to be provided to the General Manager by no later than 30 September 2023.

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Item 9 Citizenship Ceremony Dress Code Policy

Division:	Executive Services
Management Area:	Governance
Author:	Executive Assistant to the General Manager – Erin Player
CSP Key Focus Area:	Supporting Community Life
Priority:	SC2.3 Celebrate and conserve the diverse cultural heritage of the urban, village and rural communities

Reason for Report

To seek Council endorsement for the adoption of the Citizenship Ceremony Dress Code Policy for ceremonies held in the Warrumbungle Shire.

Background

Australian Citizenship Ceremonies are public, ceremonial occasions, which fulfil legal requirements by the *Australian Citizenship Act 2007* and *Australian Citizenship Regulation 2016*. Warrumbungle Shire Council conducts two citizenship ceremonies per year.

The Australian Citizenship Ceremonies Code (the Code) follows the *Australian Citizenship Act 2007* and sets out the legal requirements for conducting citizenship ceremonies. In December 2022 a new version of the Code was released and came into effect.

Individual councils are required to establish their own Dress Code for ceremonies, and provide a copy of the Dress Code to the Department of Home Affairs. Councils determining their own Dress Code helps reflect the importance the ceremony deserves.

The first the Citizenship Ceremony Dress Code Policy was created in March 2020. There have been no changes to the Dress Code Policy and is attached to this report for endorsement.

Options

Nil

Financial Considerations

Nil

Community Engagement

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

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Attachments

1. Draft Citizenship Ceremony Dress Code Policy

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Adopt the Citizenship Ceremony Dress Code Policy, and
2. Provides a copy of the Code to the Australian Government Department of Home Affairs.

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Item 10 2023 Local Government NSW Annual Conference

Division:	Executive Services
Management Area:	Governance
Author:	Executive Assistant to the General Manager – Erin Player
CSP Key Focus Area:	Civic Leadership
Priority:	CL6.1 Work in partnership with other councils, regional organisations and State and Federal Governments

Reason for Report

The Local Government NSW 2023 Annual Conference will be held from Sunday 12 November 2023 to Tuesday 14 November 2023 at the Rosehill Gardens Racecourse, Sydney.

Background

The Annual Conference is the main policy making event for the local government sector. The event brings together representatives from Local Government Councils across NSW to provide a forum to debate against important issues relevant to local communities.

Conference key dates are as follows:

24 July 2023	Event registration opens (note: voting delegates must be registered to attend the Conference and be registered as a nominated voting delegate)
15 September 2023 12 midnight (AEST)	Deadline for submitting motions (note: the latest date motions can be accepted for inclusion in the Business Paper is 14 October 2023)
27 October 2023 5pm (AEST)	Deadline for nominating voting delegates
12 – 14 November 2023	LGNSW Annual Conference

Council is entitled to one voting delegate attending the Conference.

Council's Policy for the Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities to Mayors and Councillors provides for the General Manager plus up to three councillors (3) to attend the LGNSW Conference.

Accommodation has been booked for four attendees.

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Financial Considerations

Costs are yet to be determined for registration, travel, food and accommodation and will be provided as per the Policy for Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities to Mayors and Councillors.

Attachments

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Notes the report on the LGNSW Annual Conference to be held at the Rosehill Gardens Racecourse in Sydney from 12 November 2023 to Tuesday 14 November 2023.
2. Calls for draft motions from councillors for the conference.
3. Considers motions and councillor attendees at the August 2023 Council meeting.

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Item 11 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

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RECOMMENDATION

That the Council Resolution Report be noted for information.

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Item 12 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.

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Item 13 Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) 2022-2026

Division:	Corporate and community Services
Management Area:	Children's & Community Services
Author:	Manager Children's & Community Services – Ngaire Stevens
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

To present Council with an updated Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) 2022-2026 for their information and endorsement.

Background

Under the NSW Disability Inclusion Act 2014, councils are required to review their DIAP every four years. Legislation also requires councils to report progress on DIAP implementation in their Annual Report.

A Disability Inclusion Action Plan demonstrates local government's commitment to people with a disability on improving access to services, facilities and jobs. It's also designed to change perceptions about people with a disability.

As of July 2022, all local councils need to not only regularly review their DIAPs, but also remake them. Under the Disability Inclusion Act 2014, amended by the Disability Inclusion Amendment Act 2022 local councils must:

- review their 2017 Disability Inclusion Action Plans before the end of 30 November 2022
- have new (remade) DIAPs by the end of 30 November 2023
- the next DIAP review will be due 1 July 2025, with new plans due by 1 July 2022

The previous Manager of Community Services reviewed the 2017 DIAP and held community consultation meetings from May to September 2021, and drafted a DIAP. Based on this document the 2022-2026 DIAP was updated to incorporate the community consultation that had already taken place, however the community feedback for each town was summarised and then key priorities that were common themes across all four focus areas of the DIAP were identified.

From these priorities strategies and actions were created for each focus area, also guided by other Councils that have used this approach. Tables were created for each focus area to display the strategy, actions, outcomes, responsible manager and

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timeframe. The Managers were consulted on their specific actions and timeframes to ensure they are realistic and fit within their delivery programs and budgets.

Community members who contributed to the consultation meetings were contacted where possible to ensure they are still happy to have their feedback included and to provide further feedback on the updated DIAP. The Community Development Coordinators in each town also reviewed a draft of the updated DIAP and provided feedback. At the end of 2024, Community Consultation meetings will once again be held in each town as part of the DIAP review due 1 July 2025. A new four-year DIAP is then due by 1 July 2026.

Issues

Nil

Options

Nil

Financial Considerations

As set out in the action plan and budget

Community Engagement Considerations

Level of Engagement - Inform and consult by placing the report on public exhibition.

Attachments

1. WSC 2022-2026 Disability Inclusion Action Plan

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorses the Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2022-2026 and that the DIAP be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days for community comment.

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Item 14 Council Facilities Waiver of Council Fees and Charges Policy

Division:	Corporate and Community Services
Management Area:	Governance
Author:	Acting Manager Corporate Services – Claudia Knight
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 seek Council adoption of the Council Facilities Waiver of Council Fees and Charges Policy.

Background

Council currently provides delegation to the General Manager for the waiving of fees and charges for the use of Council facilities. The Council Facilities Waiver of Council Fees and Charges Policy has been developed to provide more clarity about fee waivers. This policy has been developed to ensure a consistent approach for identifying reduction, waiver or refund of Council fees and charges.

Issues

This policy deals only with the waiver of Council fees and charges associated with the use of Council facilities and seeks to ensure:

- A standard process for applicants to follow;
- Equitable assessment of each request received;
- Transparency and accountability to the community; and
- Effective reporting mechanisms.

The guidelines and application form provide customers with a clear process to apply for financial or in-kind support from Council. The guidelines set out the categories for eligibility, and how applications will be assessed.

The policy aims to:

- establish a governing framework for the consideration of requests for financial and/or in-kind assistance by way of fee-waiving;
- ensure that the administration of such requests is conducted in a consistent, equitable, transparent and financially sustainable manner.

Options

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

Financial Considerations

Council to allocate \$15,000 annually for this purpose.

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Community Engagement

The level of community engagement for this item is Inform + Consult.

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

The community is consulted through the Have Your Say function, whereby community members are invited to make written submissions on the draft policy.

Attachments

1. Draft Council Facilities Waiver of Council Fees and Charges Policy.
2. CONFIDENTIAL – list of waivers provided during the 2022-23 Financial Year.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council endorses the draft Council Facilities Waiver of Council Fees and Charges Policy for the purpose of public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days, with submissions invited for a minimum of 42 days.
2. A further report be presented to Council on the draft policy for fee waivers after the public exhibition period is completed.

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Item 15 Investments and Term Deposits – month ending 30 June 2023

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 2021*, 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 2021* (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, \$6,000,000.00 worth of term deposits matured, earning Council a total of \$115,265.76 in Interest.

In May, the following placements were made into term deposits totalling \$14,000,000:

- \$500,000 with WBC at a rate of 3.84%
- \$500,000 with NAB at a rate of 4.85%
- \$500,000 with WBC at a rate of 4.75%
- \$500,000 with NAB at a rate of 5.00%
- \$500,000 with NAB at a rate of 5.00%

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- \$500,000 with NAB at a rate of 5.00%
- \$500,000 with CBA at a rate of 5.10%
- \$1,000,000 with NAB at a rate of 5.05%
- \$1,000,000 with WBC at a rate of 5.06%
- \$2,000,000 with CBA at a rate of 5.39%
- \$500,000 with WBC at a rate of 5.11%
- \$1,000,000 with CBA at a rate of 5.34%
- \$1,000,000 with NAB at a rate of 5.35%
- \$500,000 with CBA at a rate of 5.34%
- \$500,000 with CBA at a rate of 5.42%
- \$1,000,000 with CBA at a rate of 5.46%
- \$1,000,000 with CBA at a rate of 5.50%
- \$500,000 with CBA at a rate of 5.55%
- \$500,000 with AMP at a rate of 5.70%

The balance of the term deposits at the end of the month was \$40,000,000.00.

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, \$4,275.90 interest was earned on the balances in the accounts and net transfers of \$200,000 were made from these accounts resulting in a month end balance of \$816,625.02.

Cash at bank balance

In addition to the at call accounts and term deposits, as at 30 June 2023, Council had a cash at bank balance of \$190,840.62.

Income Return

The average yield on Investments Council held for June 2023, of 4.7584%. Council uses the Bank Bill Swap Rate (BBSW) supplied by the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) which was 4.2680% for the month of May. The performance of investments for June, based on the comparison, was the portfolio exceeded the benchmark by 0.4904%.

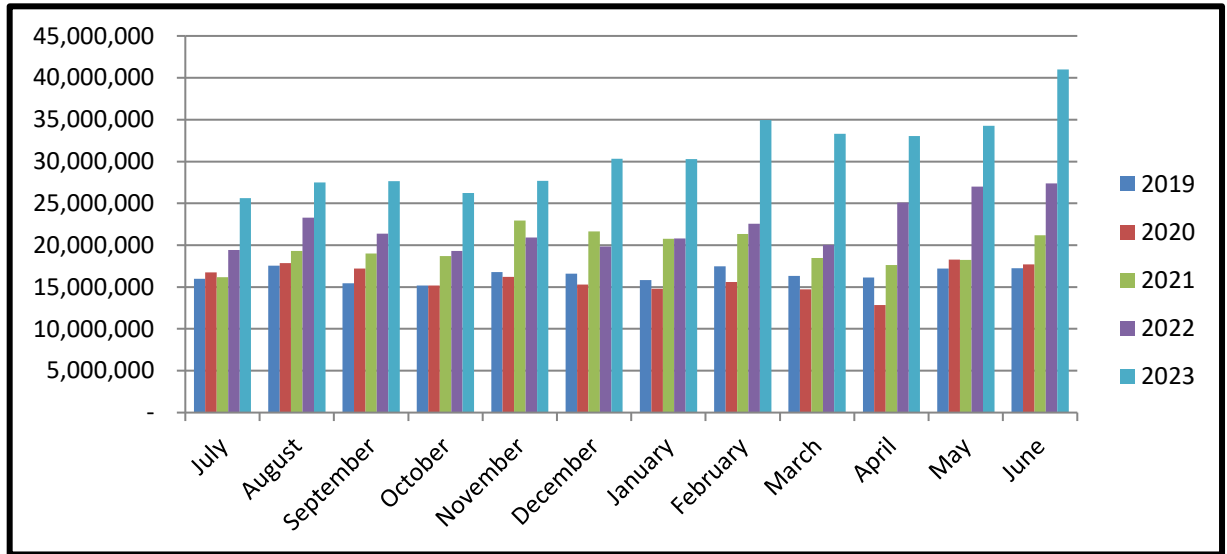
Council's revised budget for year 2022/23 for interest on investments is \$640,549. At the end of June 2023, the amount of interest received and accrued should be around 100.00% of the total year budget, i.e. \$640,549. On a year to date basis, interest received and accrued totals \$659,303.35, which is 102.93% of the revised annual budget. The original budget for 2022/23 was \$140,000, therefore the total interest on investments in 2022/23 was 470.93% above the original budget.

It should be noted that Council has received 100% of the allocated 2023/24 Financial Assistance Grant in advance in June 2023. This totalled \$8,990,720, and has been invested during June. Other advanced payments received throughout the year include \$4,590,978 for the Local Roads Repair Program, \$864,683 in Pothole repair program, and \$1,000,000 in emergency flood repair funding.

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Graph by Month Investments



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Table 1: Investment Balances – 30 June 2023

Financial Institution	Lodgement Date	Maturity Date	Total Days	Original Rating	Current Rating	Yield (%)	Investment Amount (Redemption Value)
At Call Accounts							
NAB	1-June-23	At Call	at call	ADI	ADI	0.05%	1,220.78
ANZ	1-June-23	At Call	at call	ADI	ADI	0.01%	6,555.82
CBA At Call 1	1-June-23	At Call	at call	ADI	ADI	0.02%	335.34
CBA At Call 2	1-June-23	At Call	at call	ADI	ADI	4.10%	808,513.08
							816,625.02
Term Deposits							
NAB	28-Feb-23	04-Jul-23	126	ADI	ADI	4.26%	500,000.00
WBC	29-Apr-22	12-Jul-23	439	ADI	ADI	2.55%	1,000,000.00
NAB	17-Apr-23	17-Jul-23	91	ADI	ADI	4.30%	1,000,000.00
NAB	24-Apr-23	24-Jul-23	91	ADI	ADI	4.30%	1,000,000.00
WBC	30-Jun-23	31-Jul-23	31	ADI	ADI	3.84%	500,000.00
MAQ	24-Apr-23	01-Aug-23	99	UMG	UMG	4.42%	1,000,000.00
CBA	08-Mar-23	08-Aug-23	153	ADI	ADI	4.40%	1,000,000.00
MAQ	24-Apr-23	15-Aug-23	113	UMG	UMG	4.42%	500,000.00
MAQ	21-Feb-23	22-Aug-23	182	UMG	UMG	4.52%	1,000,000.00
WBC	27-Feb-23	28-Aug-23	182	UMG	UMG	4.63%	1,000,000.00
MAQ	31-May-23	30-Aug-23	91	UMG	UMG	4.63%	1,000,000.00
NAB	03-Apr-23	31-Aug-23	150	ADI	ADI	4.40%	1,000,000.00
NAB	08-Jun-23	06-Sep-23	90	ADI	ADI	4.85%	500,000.00
WBC	08-Jun-23	13-Sep-23	97	ADI	ADI	4.75%	500,000.00
NAB	28-Jun-23	20-Sep-23	84	ADI	ADI	5.00%	500,000.00
CBA	27-Feb-23	25-Sep-23	210	ADI	ADI	4.74%	1,000,000.00
WBC	31-May-23	29-Sep-23	121	ADI	ADI	4.61%	1,000,000.00
NAB	28-Jun-23	04-Oct-23	98	ADI	ADI	5.00%	500,000.00
NAB	28-Jun-23	11-Oct-23	105	ADI	ADI	5.00%	500,000.00
NAB - Sewer Fund	20-Apr-23	17-Oct-23	180	ADI	ADI	4.55%	500,000.00
CBA	28-Jun-23	24-Oct-23	118	ADI	ADI	5.10%	500,000.00

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WBC	31-Jan-23	31-Oct-23	273	ADI	ADI	4.44%	2,000,000.00
NAB	04-May-23	31-Oct-23	180	ADI	ADI	4.65%	1,000,000.00
NAB	13-Jun-23	01-Nov-23	141	ADI	ADI	5.05%	1,000,000.00
NAB	10-May-23	08-Nov-23	182	ADI	ADI	4.70%	1,000,000.00
MAQ	01-Mar-23	17-Nov-23	261	LMG	LMG	4.72%	1,000,000.00
AMP	24-Nov-22	24-Nov-23	365	LMG	LMG	4.60%	1,000,000.00
NAB	19-May-23	29-Nov-23	194	ADI	ADI	4.80%	500,000.00
NAB	22-May-23	06-Dec-23	198	ADI	ADI	4.80%	1,000,000.00
WBC	07-Jun-23	07-Dec-23	183	ADI	ADI	5.06%	1,000,000.00
AMP	04-Apr-23	11-Dec-23	251	LMG	LMG	4.75%	1,000,000.00
CBA - Sewer Fund	20-Jun-23	18-Dec-23	181	ADI	ADI	5.39%	2,000,000.00
NAB	23-Mar-23	19-Dec-23	271	ADI	ADI	4.40%	1,000,000.00
WBC	08-Jun-23	22-Dec-23	197	ADI	ADI	5.11%	500,000.00
CBA	28-Jun-23	02-Jan-24	188	ADI	ADI	5.34%	1,000,000.00
NAB	17-May-23	12-Jan-24	240	ADI	ADI	4.75%	1,000,000.00
NAB	28-Jun-23	16-Jan-24	202	ADI	ADI	5.35%	1,000,000.00
CBA	28-Jun-23	23-Jan-24	209	ADI	ADI	5.34%	500,000.00
CBA	27-Feb-23	27-Feb-24	365	ADI	ADI	5.06%	2,000,000.00
CBA	28-Jun-23	05-Mar-24	251	ADI	ADI	5.42%	500,000.00
CBA	28-Jun-23	02-Apr-24	279	ADI	ADI	5.46%	1,000,000.00
AMP	29-May-23	24-May-24	361	ADI	ADI	5.20%	1,000,000.00
CBA	28-Jun-23	25-Jun-24	363	ADI	ADI	5.50%	1,000,000.00
CBA	30-Jun-23	28-Jun-24	364	ADI	ADI	5.55%	500,000.00
AMP	28-Jun-23	02-Jul-24	370	ADI	ADI	5.70%	500,000.00
						Sub-	40,000,000.00
						Total	40,816,625.02

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Credit Rating Legend

P	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	Net Placements / Withdrawals	Closing Balance
NAB	1,219.34	1.44		1,220.78
ANZ	6,555.71	0.11		6,555.82
CBA At Call	335.34			335.34
CBA At Call	604,238.73	4,274.35	200,000.00	808,513.08
Total at call	612,349.12	4,275.90	200,000.00	816,625.02
CBA	1,500,000.00	21,955.07	(1,521,955.07)	
NAB	1,000,000.00	20,331.51	(1,020,331.51)	
CBA - Sewer Fund	2,000,000.00	42,483.29	(2,042,483.29)	
MAQ	1,000,000.00	23,476.71	(1,023,476.71)	
WBC	500,000.00	7,019.18	(507,019.18)	
NAB	500,000.00			500,000.00
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
WBC	-		500,000.00	500,000.00
MAQ	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
CBA	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
MAQ	500,000.00			500,000.00
MAQ	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
NAB	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
NAB			500,000.00	500,000.00
WBC			500,000.00	500,000.00
NAB			500,000.00	500,000.00
CBA	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
WBC	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
NAB	-		500,000.00	500,000.00
NAB	-		500,000.00	500,000.00
NAB - Sewer Fund	500,000.00			500,000.00
CBA	500,000.00			500,000.00
WBC	2,000,000.00			2,000,000.00

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NAB	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
MAQ	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
AMP	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
NAB	500,000.00			500,000.00
NAB	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
CBA - Sewer Fund			2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00
NAB	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
WBC			500,000.00	500,000.00
CBA			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			500,000.00	500,000.00
CBA	2,000,000.00			2,000,000.00
CBA			500,000.00	500,000.00
CBA			1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
AMP	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
CBA			1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
CBA			500,000.00	500,000.00
AMP			500,000.00	500,000.00
Total Term deposits	32,500,000.00	115,265.76	7,384,734.24	40,000,000.00
Total	33,112,349.12	119,541.66	7,584,734.24	40,816,625.02

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		0.00%	100.00%	Compliant
ANZ	ADI	6,555.82	0.02%	33.30%	Compliant
CBA	ADI	11,808,848.42	28.93%	33.30%	Compliant
WBC	ADI	7,500,000.00	18.37%	33.30%	Compliant
NAB	ADI	13,501,220.78	33.08%	33.30%	Compliant
	Total ADI	32,816,625.02	80.40%	100.00%	Compliant
MAQ	UMG	4,500,000.00	11.02%	20.00%	Compliant
	Total UMG	4,500,000.00	11.02%	60.00%	Compliant

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ME	LMG	-	0.00%	10.00%	Compliant
AMP	LMG	3,500,000.00	8.57%	10.00%	Compliant
	Total LMG	3,500,000.00	8.57%	10.00%	Compliant
	Grand Total	40,816,625.02	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 2021* and Council's Investments Policy.



Responsible Accounting Officer – Lisa Grammer

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accept the Investments Report for the month ending 30 June 2023 including a total balance of \$41,007,465.64 being:

- \$190,840.62 in at call accounts.
- \$40,000,000.00 in term deposits.
- \$816,625.02 cash at bank.

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Item 16 Natural Disaster Response and Recovery Monthly Report for July 2023

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 were submitted for restoration works. The submissions have been assessed and adjusted with \$10,568,493 being approved including emergency and immediate restoration (emergent) for the November 2021 event. \$1,261,741 has been submitted for the September 2022 event. The variance between the original submission amount and current submission amount is due to a number of urban streets being removed from the submission with Council being unable to meet the proof of damage criteria. Several of the causeways have also been moved from the November 2021 submission to the September 2022 submission due to additional damage.

The November 2021 natural disaster event upper limit has been finalised at \$9,842,922.74 for essential public asset restoration works and a payment of \$725,570 has been made for the emergent works. September 2022 AGRN 1034 current estimate is \$1,261,741 with further defects still to be included. The estimate numbers for the September 2022 event will continue to move as each defect is assessed.

As of 7 July 2023, there are 1,701 defects receiving for the November 2021 event and 80 defects for the September 2022 event identified. There will be no restoration defects for the August 2022 event as this claim will be emergency works only.

To date the amount of \$10,568,493 has been approved for restoration and works have commenced.

Asset Type	Approved	Queried	Submitted	Grand Total
Road - bridge / structure	\$71,737			\$71,737
Road - culvert / floodway	\$59,798			\$59,798
Road - sealed	\$1,992,529			\$1,992,529
Road - unsealed - formed	\$7,701,024			\$7,701,024
Road - unsealed - unformed	\$10,916			\$10,916
Stormwater infrastructure	\$6,919			\$6,919
Emergent Works	\$725,570			\$725,570
AGRN 987	\$10,568,493	\$0	\$0	\$10,568,493
Road - bridge / structure			\$1,189,788	\$1,189,788

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Asset Type	Approved	Queried	Submitted	Grand Total
Road - culvert / floodway			\$57,992	\$57,992
Road - unsealed - formed	\$13,961			\$13,961
AGRN 1034	\$13,961	\$0	\$1,247,780	\$1,261,741
Grand Total	\$10,582,454	\$0	\$1,247,780	\$11,830,234

- Approved refers to defects that have been assessed by TfNSW and the upper funding limiting has been set.
- Queried refers to defects that have been submitted and TfNSW are asking for additional information.
- Submitted refers to defects that have been submitted to TfNSW and are currently being assessed.

Note:

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

Expenditure to 7 July 2023 for AGRN 987, 1030 and 1034 is \$4,174,318 and includes emergent and full restoration works.

AGRN 987 Natural Disaster Restoration Works carried out in June 2023 on the following roads (in order of expenditure):

- Munns Road
- Napier Lane
- Tabletop Road
- Flags Rockedgiel Road
- Sleightholmes Road
- Nullawa Road
- Round Mountain Road
- Barneys Reef Road
- Gundare Road
- Blue Springs Road
- Ropers Road
- Maranoa Road
- Merryula Road
- Tooraweenah Road
- Brooks Road
- Yearinan Station Road
- Yattendon Road
- Hollymount Road

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- Guinema Road
- Dandry Road
- Digilah Road
- Caledonia Road
- Finlays West Road
- Munns Road
- Tabletop Road

AGRN 1034 Natural Disaster Emergency Works carried out in June 2023 on the following roads (in order of expenditure):

- Black Stump Way
- Ropers Road
- Nullawa Road
- Brooks Road
- Cumbil Road
- Baradine Town Streets
- Sleightholmes Road
- Yearinan Station Road
- Napier 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.

During June 2023, we were also delivering the following grant funded projects concurrently with the Natural Disaster Restoration Works:

- Pothole Repair Program – as of 7 July 2023 there has been 4,509 potholes repaired on 622km of local rural and urban roads under this program.
- Regional and Local Road Repair Program – submitted works schedule.
- Regional Road Repair Program – Black Stump Way.
- Regional Roads Block Grant.
- Fixing Local Roads – Tooraweenah Road Sealing Project.
- RMCC Maintenance, Heavy Patching, Guardrail Installation and Flood Restoration Works.

The road crews are working six (6) days a week most weeks on our local rural roads performing pothole repairs. Crews are also working longer hours where necessary to get the works completed quicker. The additional hours staff are working are being monitored for negative safety impacts such as manual handling incidents as a result of fatigue.

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Council has engaged two Contractors under the Casual Plant Hire Contract to supply an unsealed road maintenance crew to assist with the Natural Disaster Restoration Works.

Three (3) tenders are in the final draft stage for Natural Disaster Restoration Works and are currently being prepared for advertising. The roads, listed below, have been reviewed against the damage from the September 2022 Natural Disaster Event AGRN 1034 and no significant increase in restoration costs is expected. The roads included in the tenders are as follows and are expected to be less than \$500,000 per Contract.

Tender 1 Sandy Creek Area	Tender 2 Upper Laheys Creek Area	Tender 3 North of Oxley (Goolhi and Surrounds)
Danabar Road	Brooklyn Road	Albert Wright Road
Dapper Road	Lincoln Road	Ameys Road
Diehm Road	Upper Laheys Creek Road	Apricot Lane
Lambing Hill Road		Bakers Lane
Sandy Creek Road		Balmoral Road
		Bellings Road
		Borah Creek Road
		Goolhi Road
		Keeches Road
		McEvoy's Road
		Quaker Tommy Road
		Rayak Road
		Reddens Road
		Schumacks Road
		Yaminbah Road

Restoration works are being carried out in accordance with the prioritisation process approved by Council.

‘113/2223 RESOLVED that Council:

- Endorses the Natural Disaster Recovery approach for the restoration of the Shire's road network with road priorities as:*
 - Priority 1 – Regional Roads*
 - Priority 2 – Local Arterial Roads*
 - Priority 3 – Local Distributor Roads*
 - Priority 4 – Local Collector Roads*
 - Priority 5 – Local Access Roads.*
- Endorses that lower priority roads may be considered to be brought forward in the program if it is more practical or cost effective to deliver the works along with a higher priority road.*

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3. *Notes that all restoration works associated with the November 2021 natural disaster must be completed by 30 June 2024.'*

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.

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.

The funding submissions for ARGN 1030 and 1034 are currently being prepared with 100% of the inspections being completed. The submissions are required to be submitted to TfNSW by 30 September 2023. Our submissions are currently being prepared and will be submitted on time.

At the time of writing this report, 11 locations are recorded on NSW Live Traffic as having partial road closed or changed road conditions.

Main Street	Suburb	Other Information
Boomley Road	Dunedoo	Culvert under the road has been severely damaged in the 2021 & 2022 Natural Disaster Events.
Brooklyn Road	Dunedoo	Road has been severely damaged in the 2021 & 2022 Natural Disaster Events.
Sandy Creek Road	Dunedoo	Road severely damaged in the 2021 & 2022 Natural Disaster Events.
Yarrow Road	Mendooran	There is an unsafe level of sand and water on this causeway.
Neible Siding Road	Weetaliba	There is an unsafe level of water on this causeway.
Sandy Creek Road	Dunedoo	Causeway severely damaged in the 2021 & 2022 Natural Disaster Events.
Doganabuganaram Road	Neilrex	Road severely damaged in the 2021 & 2022 Natural Disaster Events.
Laheys Creek Road	Dunedoo	Road severely damaged in the 2021 & 2022 Natural Disaster Events.
Cumbil Road	Baradine	Causeway has been severely damaged from 2021 & 2022 Natural Disaster Events. A section of the causeway and the road approach on the eastern side has been washed away. There is no access across the causeway.
Boomley Road	Dunedoo	Bridge approaches (road) was severely damaged in the 2021 & 2022 Natural Disaster Events.
Pandora Pass Road	Coolah	Causeway was severely damaged in the 2021 & 2022 Natural Disaster Events.

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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 is 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. Council is also required to submit the corresponding Form 306 when submitting a claim for payment.

As per Council's resolution from the 16 February 2023 Council meeting, the nominated projects for Category D funding were submitted to the Office of Local Government. We were only able to submit a maximum of \$1 million. The seven (7) projects nominated totalled \$1.7 million so we had to remove the seventh project. Staff were assured that should one or more of the nominated projects not meet the criteria the seventh project could be reintroduced. While Council has received the \$1 million funding, the submission process for the nominated projects is not yet open. Council has only received the guidelines for this program on 5 July 2023 and are still waiting on the Schedule of Works Template to be supplied by the department. There has been no expenditure on the individual projects to date.

Council is delivering a number of projects using grant funding to return our road network to pre disaster condition and to address other unfunded road maintenance issues. The following table provides the financial status of these projects as at 7 July 2023.

Project	Budget	Expenditure	Percentage Spent	Construction Completion Date
Natural Disaster AGRN 987, 1030 and 1034	\$10,568,492	\$4,174,318	39%	30/06/2025
Pothole Repair Program	\$864,683	\$183,583	21%	01/01/2024
Regional and Local Roads Repair Program	\$4,590,987	\$0	0%	29/02/2024
Category D	\$1,000,000	\$0	0%	30/06/2025

Community Engagement Considerations

The level of community engagement is to inform.

Attachments

Nil.

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RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the Natural Disaster Response and Recovery Monthly Report for July 2023.

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Item 17 Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program – Phase 4

Division:	Technical Services
Management Area:	Technical Services
Author:	Acting Director Technical Services – Nicole Benson
CSP Key Focus Area:	CL1 That Council is financially sustainable over the long term.
Priority:	CL1.2 Grant funding is sourced to value-add to Council funded activities.

Reason for Report

To inform Council that Phase 4 of the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Program has been announced.

Background

The objective of the LRCI Program is to support additional infrastructure construction activity in local communities across Australia.

Council has received funding under LRCI Phases 1, 2 and 3 with projects either completed; under construction and/or design; or procurement is underway. Examples of projects include road rehabilitation, sporting facility upgrades and pathway construction. Monthly updates are provided on Council's website under the Major Project Updates tab.

Issues

The LRCI Program commenced in July 2020 and Phase 4 provides a further \$750 million provided in two (2) funding allocations:

- Part A - \$500 million available to 550 councils across Australia to spend on local roads and community infrastructure projects, and
- Part B - \$250 million available to 466 councils in rural, regional or outer-urban areas to spend exclusively on roads projects.

Council received a total allocation of \$2,449,382 with Part A funding of \$1,553,366 for approved local road and community infrastructure projects. This is the first time Council has been eligible for Part B funding with an allocation of \$896,016 approved for road projects in regional, rural and outer-urban areas.

LRCI funding is not intended to replace existing expenditure commitments or regular scheduled maintenance but rather to enable further, additional expenditure to meet the local needs of the community. Phase 4 of the LRCI Program is a temporary measure of direct funding to local councils to deliver priority local road and community infrastructure projects, supporting local jobs, firms and procurement.

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Council's grant agreement was signed and returned to the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts on 10 July 2023.

Options

In order for Council to receive the full Phase 4 Funding Allocation, a draft Work Schedule for the total amount of \$2,449,382 must be lodged by 31 December 2024. Projects must be completed by 30 June 2025.

A summary of Council's projects funded in Phases 1, 2 and 3 and their progress is being collated along with a list of potential projects for Council to consider for inclusion in its Phase 4 Draft Work Schedule.

Council can nominate discrete later stages of projects that are already receiving funding under the LRCI Program, however the Phase 4 nomination must be a new, separate and previously unfunded project stage. Any component funded under Phase 1, Phase 2 or Phase 3 must not be amended without approval and must maintain eligibility under the relevant program guidelines.

Funding received under Part A can be spent on any eligible local road or community infrastructure project. Funding received under Part B should be spent on eligible local rural, regional or outer-urban road projects.

The guidelines for Phase 4 have been attached and a report is being prepared for the August Council meeting to consider potential projects for inclusion in Council's draft Work Schedule.

Financial Considerations

The total maximum amount Council is entitled to this phase is \$2,449,382.

The funding allocation is different to previous years and is comprised of:

- Part A - \$1,553,366 for approved local road and community infrastructure projects; and where applicable,
- Part B - \$896,016 for approved road projects in regional, rural and outer-urban areas only, unless otherwise agreed by the Department.

Co-contribution is not required by Council.

Community Engagement

The scale of this project is assessed as being moderate and impact as being low, which indicates the minimum level of community engagement is to inform and consult.

Attachments

1. LRCI Program Phase 4 Grant Guidelines.

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RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Notes the information contained within the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program – Phase 4 report.
2. Notes that a further report will be provided to Council with potential projects and recommendations.

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Item 18 Review of the 2022/23 Pool Operations

Division:	Technical Services
Management Area:	Urban Services & Facilities
Author:	Acting Director Technical Services – Nicole Benson
CSP Key Focus Area:	CL1 That Council is financially sustainable over the long term. SC3 A healthy and active community is supported by sport and recreational infrastructure.
Priority:	CL1.1 Ensure that Council is generating sufficient funds to provide the levels of service and infrastructure agreed with the community. SC3.1 Identify and deliver sport and recreation facilities to service the community into the future.

Reason for report

To provide information about the 2022/23 pool season including operational hours, attendance, planned maintenance, renewal and capital works, and staffing levels.

Background

Council operates six outdoor seasonal swimming pools that are located at Baradine, Binnaway, Coolah, Coonabarabran, Dunedoo and Mendooran. The swimming season traditionally runs from October to April each year.

Issues

Operational Hours

Coolah and Dunedoo Pools opened on Saturday 22 October 2022.

The opening of Coonabarabran Pool was hampered by constant heavy rain that caused overland water flow and runoff from surrounding properties to enter the pool grounds. The toddler pool was contaminated with dirt on several occasions as a result of this. The pool opened to the public on 12 November 2022 but was closed on 14 November and reopened again on 17 November.

Baradine and Mendooran Pools opened on Saturday 12 November 2022 and Binnaway Pool opened on Sunday 27 November 2022.

All pools closed to the public on Thursday 6 April. Following a number of requests from local schools, Coolah pool opened from 10 to 14, and 17 to 21 April to allow several students who had been selected for the NSW Combined High School Swimming Championships continue training in preparation for the event.

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Public Health Guidelines

Microbiological testing is completed on a monthly basis and there were a number of occasions when water quality did not meet the Public Health Guidelines and pools, or bodies of pools within the facilities were closed. The major cause of the closures was high amounts of heterotrophic bacteria, which is an indicator of poor disinfection performance and problems with water treatment.

The presence of ducks and their faecal matter also contributed to poor water quality.

Ducks at Binnaway, Coonabarabran and Mendooran Pools

Staff engaged with Local Land Services and National Parks & Wildlife regarding the management of ducks at the pools. To trap, relocate or otherwise harm ducks a licence to harm native animals must first be obtained. During these discussions it was highlighted that it is a common experience for swimming pool managers that trapping and removing ducks is not likely to be an effective or permanent solution as the pools large water body and green grass provides an attractive habitat that continues to attract ducks.

Other options to help reduce the number of ducks include chemical deterrents applied to the water and surrounds; motion activated sprinklers/repellers; and ultrasonic pest repellers. Use of chemicals and/or motion sensor devices are not preferred options, however two ultrasonic pest repellers have been purchased and trialled at Coonabarabran Pool with positive results. The ducks have not completely left the facility but the levels of activity and faecal matter around the edge of the pool has decreased and repellers have been ordered for Binnaway and Mendooran Pools.

Staffing Levels

Throughout the season there were nine Pool Attendants employed on a casual basis. Additionally, there is a full time Pool Supervisor who performed lifeguard duties from time to time as well as office-based coordination of pool operations. Similar to last season, attracting and retaining Pool Attendants was a significant challenge for pool operations, not only to keep pools open but to maintain consistency in pool operations and pool water quality. Some of the reasons for the lack of interest in the role include the seasonal nature of the work and sometimes the spread of hours.

Of the nine casuals, five are located closest to Dunedoo which made it challenging to staff pools in the northern part of the Shire including Baradine, Binnaway and Coonabarabran.

From time to time operational hours and the daily timetable was disrupted due to staff shortages and resources had to be directed to pools where booking for lifeguard services had been made. This sometimes meant that other pools were only open to season pass holders.

Recruitment of pool staff for the 2023/24 season has commenced and the aim is to have at least two Pool Attendants available to work across each pool.

Electronic Key Holders

Compared to last season, less electronic keys were issued as shown below in Table 1. Electronic key holders must be a current season ticket holder; pay a key deposit; must sign an indemnity waiver and be inducted into the pool facility before they can swim. Use of electronic keys is planned to be promoted for the 2023/24 pool season.

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Table 1 – Electronic Keys Issued

Pool	2022/2023	2021/2022	2020/2021
Baradine	44	102	67
Binnaway	24	52	34
Coolah	74	97	68
Coonabarabran	87	173	129
Dunedoo	28	77	52
Mendooran	24	45	38

Pool Attendance

Pool attendance has been declining since 2018/19. Dunedoo Pool attendances appear to have only slightly decreased compared to other pools. The slight increase in attendances at Binnaway in 2022/23 compared to 2021/22 and 2020/21 could be partly attributed to the Youth Development Group who attended the pool on a weekly basis during January 2023.

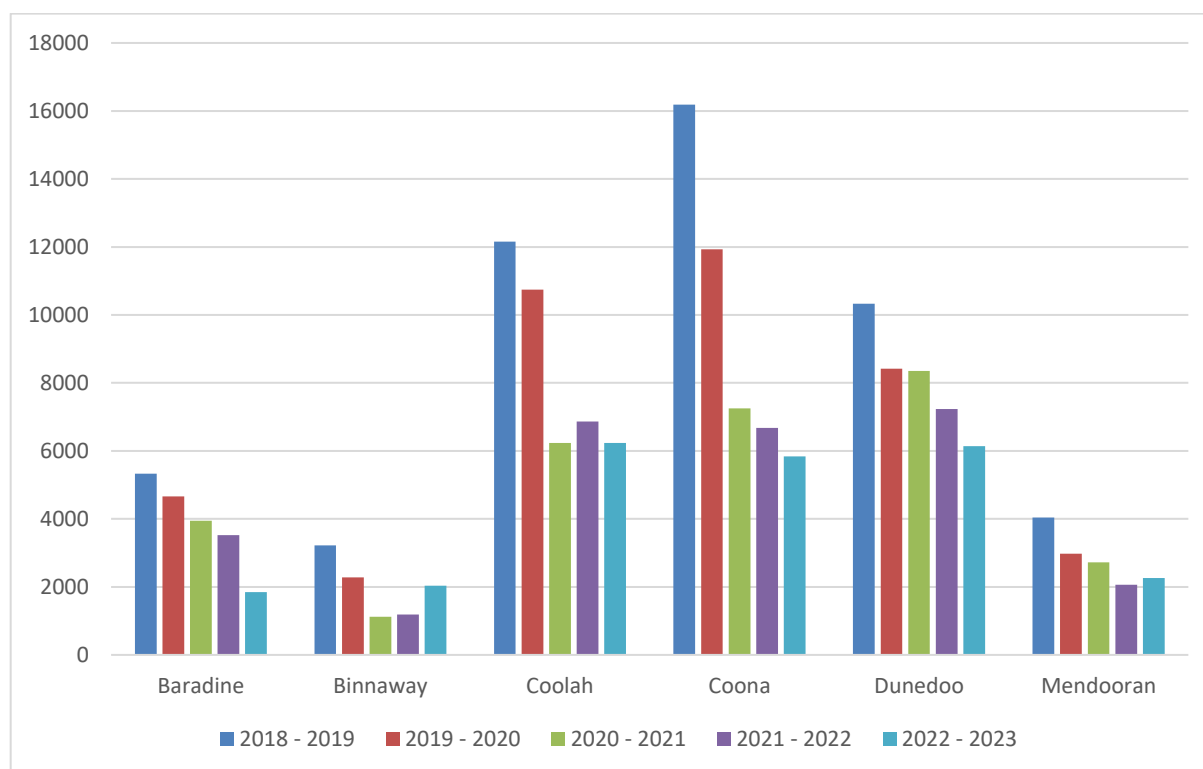


Figure 1 – Pool Attendance Trends 2018/19 to 2022/23

It is important to note that the figures for the 2022/23 season are what was recorded at each pool. The actual attendances could be higher, however due to the way people access some pools, the entry may not be recorded due to a lack of interest to do so, especially at unsupervised pools.

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Table 2 – Attendance Data

Year	Baradine	Binnaway	Coolah	Coona	Dunedoo	Mend	Total
2016/17	8,444	3,090	11,218	15,643	10,529	5,588	54,512
2017/18	6,979	2,804	13,930	16,544	11,359	6,466	58,082
2018/19	5,331	3,225	12,153	16,182	10,327	4,037	51,255
2019/20	4,664	2,280	10,747	11,926	8,421	2,981	41,019
2020/21	3,945	1,119	6,234	7,255	8,356	2,726	29,635
2021/22	3,524	1,184	6,862	6,675	7,229	2,059	27,533
2022/23	1,850	2,036	6,232	5,842	6,143	2,262	24,365

Cashless Entry

As reported last year, it was planned to transition all pools to cashless entry over the 2021/22 and 2022/23 pool seasons by providing an EFTPOS terminal at each pool. Other operational matters took priority however, arrangements are underway for EFTPOS terminals to be in place in at least Coolah, Coonabarabran and Dunedoo Pools from the start of the 2022/23 season.

It is acknowledged that not all customers use debit cards (eg children or elderly residents) and the proposed procedure will be well advertised to customers who will be encouraged to pre-purchase season tickets or ensure they have an alternate payment option to cash. Cashless entry is effective in that it reduces risks associated with cash handling at pools and is generally easier to balance than cash entries.

Kiosk Operations

Kiosks operated at Coolah and Dunedoo during the season and advertisements will be placed in local print media and on Councils website seeking operators for the 2023/2024 season. There are no plans at this stage to operate kiosks at other pools due to the proximity to fast food outlets and/or the condition of the kiosks.

Maintenance, Renewal and Capital Works

All pools are experiencing maintenance issues, particularly in relation to pumps, filter equipment and water leakage. Works completed in 2022/23 included replacement of the pump at Dunedoo Pool, which was planned for 2023/24 but failed during the season and had to be replaced in December 2022. An electrical assessment of all pools, assessment of pumps at Baradine and Binnaway Pools, unplanned replacement of the filter at Mendooran Pool as well as repair of the chemical storage area were also undertaken.

Last financial year Council received \$199,440 from the Resources for Regions Round 9 Program to complete a Masterplan, design and construction plans for the redevelopment of the Coonabarabran Pool. The request for quotation for the works closes in August 2023 and the project is expected to take up to 12 months to complete. A significant amount of community engagement will be undertaken to develop the Masterplan and the outcome will be a shovel ready project that will enable Council to seek funding for.

Council was also successful in the Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 5 with an application for \$511,476 to complete Shire Wide Swimming Pool Upgrades. Works include installation of continuous disinfectant dosing systems at Baradine,

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Binnaway and Coonabarabran Pools, which is underway with pipework and tanks being installed. Accompanying works including electrical upgrades at Baradine, Binnaway, Coonabarabran and Dunedoo were also funded and are underway. Pump, plant and plant shed upgrades are also planned for Coolah, Coonabarabran and Dunedoo Pools.

Other planned works include joint and leak repairs across all pools, waste water disposal solution for Binnaway Pool, auto-pool cleaner upgrades and plant room drainage improvements at Coolah Pool.

The replacement of the amenities at Dunedoo Pool is also underway with the assessment of tenders completed and a report to the August Council meeting being prepared.

Options

Council may wish to note the information in the report or propose additional recommendations.

Financial Considerations

The annual nett operating cost for all pools is shown in Table 5. The operating revenue for each pool over the last six years is shown in Table 6 and the operating expenditure is shown in Table 7. The figures include costs for wages, chemicals, utilities as well as minor repairs and maintenance. They do not include depreciation of assets or on costs. All 2022/23 figures are as at the end of June 2023.

Table 5 – 2022/23 Actual Expenditure and Income for all Pools

	Actual
Expenditure	578,576
Income	57,471
Nett Result	521,159

Table 6 – Annual Operating Revenue (\$)

	Baradine	Binnaway	Coolah	Coona	Dunedoo	Mend	Total
2017/18	11,985	8,564	29,289	41,699	19,172	9,432	120,141
2018/19	12,429	7,635	27,539	40,324	18,186	10,113	116,226
2019/20	14,432	7,521	27,541	39,404	17,802	11,019	117,719
2020/21	12,257	4,218	17,556	30,967	16,807	8,967	90,772
2021/22	10,952	3,842	18,790	26,773	14,390	12,294	87,042
2022/23	4,112	2,514	16,222	16,698	12,807	5,064	57,417
Average	11,028	5,716	22,823	32,639	16,527	9,481	98,219

Table 7 Annual Operating Expenditure (\$)

	Baradine	Binnaway	Coolah	Coona	Dunedoo	Mend	Total
2017/18	129,992	79,359	117,675	160,153	108,636	93,644	689,460
2018/19	113,981	92,034	119,569	154,090	117,710	80,664	678,048
2019/20	106,389	86,084	128,392	118,859	119,501	89,685	648,910

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	Baradine	Binnaway	Coolah	Coona	Dunedoo	Mend	Total
2020/21	101,539	73,213	102,151	122,479	93,756	60,934	554,072
2021/22	80,399	67,989	104,848	134,351	94,209	84,996	566,792
2022/23	75,282	74,288	87,521	166,403	101,084	73,998	578,576
Average	101,264	78,828	110,026	142,722	105,816	80,653	619,309

Table 8 – 2022/23 Annual Nett Operating Cost per Pool

Baradine	Binnaway	Coolah	Coona	Dunedoo	Mend	Total
71,170	71,774	71,299	149,705	88,277	68,934	521,159

While Council has attracted significant funding to upgrade and renew the deteriorating plant and equipment, attendances and subsequent revenue dropped substantially in the 2022/23 season compared to previous years. This could be attributed to a number of factors including weather conditions, accessibility to facilities (eg affordability, opening hours to the public), and length of the season.

If, after the plant and equipment at the pools has been upgraded and the nett operational costs continue to increase, Council may need to consider reviewing the length of the season, opening and closing times and/or services offered at pools.

Community Engagement Considerations

The level of community engagement for this report is to inform.

Attachments

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the information contained within the Review of the 2022/23 Pool Operations Report.

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Item 19 Castlereagh Country – Regional Drought Resilience Plan Project

Division:	Environment and Development Services
Management Area:	Economic Development and Tourism
Author:	Director Environment and Development Services – Leeanne Ryan
CSP Key Focus Area:	Strengthening the Local Economy
Priority:	LE2.2 – Work with local business and industry to foster local economic development, innovation and expansion

Reason for Report

To advise of the success of a grant application under the Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program in collaboration with Gilgandra Shire Council.

Background

The Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program (RDRP) is co-funded by the Commonwealth Government's Future Drought Fund and the NSW Government's Regional Growth Fund. It provides support to identified regions in NSW to develop drought resilience plans that can be implemented by Councils and their communities to manage future risks.

The RDRP aims to build capability and empower regional communities to plan and act early to reduce and respond to drought risks.

The program is designed to support the development of drought plans to consider:

- Growing the self-reliance and drought resilience of regional communities including the agricultural sector
- Improving natural capital of agricultural landscapes for better environmental outcomes
- Strengthening the wellbeing and social capital of rural, regional and remote communities.

It will enable small Council led groups of between 2 and 6 local governments to better prepare for, respond to and recover from drought.

Eligible applicants must be Councils located in one of the eligible Local Government Areas (LGAs) identified in the Program Guidelines. These LGAs are eligible because they have been identified as being vulnerable to drought, with a strong reliance on agriculture.

Issues

Gilgandra, Warrumbungle, and Mid-Western Councils were identified in the guidelines as eligible to lodge a joint application to develop a Regional Drought Resilience Plan in collaboration. Council contacted both of the other Councils to

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gauge their interest in a joint submission, and Gilgandra accepted the invitation, while Mid-Western Regional Council declined.

A joint application for funding was subsequently developed in collaboration, by staff of both Councils, under the project title Castlereagh Country – Regional Drought Resilience Plan Project (Castlereagh Country RDRP).

The Castlereagh Country RDRP Project will identify proactive strategies for the community; develop investment-ready project opportunities; share information, data and learning across regions; capitalise on economies of scale and strengthen partnerships; ensure data driven decision making; and improve management of natural assets across the Castlereagh region and beyond.

The development of the Castlereagh Country RDRP will capture key significant ecological, economic and social community investment-ready opportunities and transformational projects under the key focus areas: Farm Gate, Wellbeing, Vitality and Service, Investment and Sustainment, and Ecology and System Health.

Additionally, anticipated community benefits identified in the Castlereagh Country RDRP and Priority Action Plan under the five key priority areas include:

Farm Gate

- Improved water security
- Identifying new technological infrastructures and modern learning and education
- Increased data collection on weather patterns, river levels
- Education programs
- Improved connectivity
- Increased agri-tourism initiatives or diversifying business opportunities and private investment
- Strengthened industry that can support through down-times

Wellbeing

- Programs and initiatives that support community functionality and healthy wellbeing
- Healthy wellbeing and promotions
- Increased events and social connections
- Greater communications and opportunities for networking and sharing
- Strengthening social capital

Vitality and Service

- River beautification initiatives
- Increased service and recreation provision including parks, pools and sportsgrounds
- Cultural celebration, heritage and town beautification
- Provisions or water supply and access

Investment and Sustainment

- Leveraging Inland Rail opportunities
- Increasing industrial opportunities

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- Improved connectivity
- Tourism opportunities
- Business expansion and diversification
- Village management planning
- Business support
- Road networks

Ecology and System Health

- Long-term planning and prioritising of natural assets through renewable energy, water-saving mechanisms and new technologies to reduce water consumption, overflows and unnecessary emissions, and long-term impacts of drought.
- Smart technologies for water readings, weather station data, water levels.

The local community, industries and key stakeholders will further benefit from the extensive community consultations and workshops throughout the planning process by highlighting and sharing their priorities, needs, and stories, and how as a community we can plan for a more resilient and sustainable future.

Options

A third-party consultant will be engaged to assist in the development of the RDRP across the two Councils.

Additionally, Gilgandra has made an offer to Warrumbungle to provide an internal project management resource to lead the project, which has been accepted.

Before proceeding, the project will need to progress to tender to select preferred consultant to undertake works on behalf of both Councils. Tender brief is under preparation presently.

Financial Considerations

Grant funding for the project totals \$450,000 (for the two Council's combined) in two parts:

- RDRP development \$200,000
- RDRP implementation actions \$250,000

The project is required to be completed by 29 March 2024.

Community Engagement

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

Attachments

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That the successful grant application under the Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program to deliver Castlereagh Country – Regional Drought Resilience Plan Project in collaboration with Gilgandra Shire Council be noted.

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Item 20 Planning Fee Increases for 2023/24FY

Division:	Environment and Development Services
Management Area:	Planning and Regulation
Author:	Manager Planning and Regulation – Kelly Dewar
CSP Key Focus Area:	Civic Leadership
Priority:	CL1 That Council is financially sustainable over the long term

Reason for report

To advise of the new fee unit for planning services as per *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*.

Background

On 29 May 2023 NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) advised the fee unit for planning services will be increased to reflect movements in CPI. This includes development application fees contained in Schedule 4 of *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*.

The fee unit for the financial year commencing 1 July 2023 will be \$107.28, increasing from \$100 in the previous year. Updating the fee unit each year in line with CPI changes means that fees reflect the cost of providing planning services.

DPE have prepared an amendment to the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021* with the new fee being applicable from 1 July 2023.

Issues

The new fees for planning and development need to be included in the *Revenue Policy Fees and Charges* for FY2023/2024. The new charges are set via legislation. A copy of the new fees for planning services are provided as Attachment 1.

Options

As the new fees and charges are supported by the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*, Council is required to implement the new fees from 1 July 2023.

Financial Considerations

Nil

Community Engagement Considerations

Community Engagement is to Inform.

Attachments

1. New fee increase for planning services as per *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*

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RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the information contained in the Planning Fee Increases for 2023/24 FY Report.

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Item 21 Companion Animals Fees and Charges FY2023/2024

Division:	Environment and Development Services
Management Area:	Planning and Regulation
Author:	Manager Planning and Regulation – Kelly Dewar
CSP Key Focus Area:	Civic Leadership
Priority:	CL1 That Council is financially sustainable over the long term.

Reason for report

To advise of the new registration fees and charges for Companion Animals for FY2023/24 as released by Office of Local Government (OLG).

Background

On 23 June 2023 OLG released Circular 23–06 to Councils (copy attached) advising of the new fees and charges for Companion Animals for FY2023/24. The fees have slightly increased from FY2022/23 as outlined in the following Tables 1 and 2:

Table 1: FY2022/2023 Companion Animal Registration Fees and Charges

Companion Animals Lifetime - Registration Fee for dog – relevant age 2022/2023	
Registration Category	2022/2023
Assistance Animal	\$0.00
Dog – Service of the State	\$0.00
Not Desexed	\$224
Desexed	\$66
Desexed and sold by rehoming organisation	No Charge
Not Desexed – kept by recognised breeder	\$66
Restricted or Dangerous Dog Annual permit	\$197

Companion Animals Lifetime - Registration Fee for cat – relevant age	
Registration Category	2022/2023
Desexed – Obtained from pound	\$0.00
Not Desexed (Annual Permit required)	\$137
Desexed by relevant age	\$56
Desexed & sold rehoming organisation	No charge
Not Desexed – kept by Recognised Breeder	\$51
Non Desexed Cates – Annual Permit	\$81

Companion Animals Lifetime - Registration Fee for dog or cat	
Registration Category	2022/2023
Pensioner Rate – Desexed	\$27
Assistance or Working Dog	No Charge

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Table 2: FY2023/2024 Companion Animal Registration Fees and Charges

Registration Category	New fee
Dog – Desexed (by relevant age)	\$75
Dog – Desexed (by relevant age – eligible pensioner)	\$32
Dog – Desexed (sold by pound/shelter)	\$0
Dog – Not Desexed or Desexed (after relevant age)	\$252
Dog – Not Desexed (not recommended*)	\$75
Dog – Not Desexed (not recommended* eligible pensioner)	\$32
Dog – Not Desexed (recognised breeder)	\$75
Dog – Working	\$0
Dog – Service of the State	\$0
Assistance Animal	\$0
Cat – Desexed or Not Desexed	\$65
Cat – Desexed (eligible pensioner)	\$32
Cat – Desexed (sold by pound/shelter)	\$0
Cat – Not Desexed (not recommended*)	\$65
Cat – Not Desexed (not recommended* – eligible pensioner)	\$32
Cat – Not Desexed (recognised breeder)	\$65
Registration late fee	\$21
Annual permit category	New fee
Cat not Desexed by four months of age	\$92
Dangerous dog	\$221
Restricted dog	\$221
Permit late fee	\$21

*Not Recommended – pet not recommended by Vet to undergo desexing.

Issues

The new fees and charges were not known at the time Council adopted its *Revenue Policy Fees and Charges* for FY2023/2024. The new charges are set via legislation.

Options

As the new fees and charges are supported by the *Companion Animals Regulation 2018*, Council is required to implement the new fees as outlined in Table 2 above.

Financial Considerations

Nil

Community Engagement Considerations

Community Engagement is to Inform.

Attachments

1. OLG Circular to Councils 23-06 / 23 June 2023 / A858925 – Increases to companion animal registration and permit fees 2023/24.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the information contained in the Companion Animals Fees and Charges FY2023/2024 Report.

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Item 22 Charitable Collection of Funds in Warrumbungle Shire Offices Policy

Division:	Environment and Development Services
Management Area:	Environment and Development Services
Author:	PA to Director Environment and Development Services – Meg Meier
CSP Key Focus Area:	Strengthening the Local Economy
Priority:	LE2.3 Encourage a 'buy local' and 'sell local' approach to business activity.

Reason for Report

The reason for this report is to seek Council endorsement of the draft *Charitable Collection of Funds in Warrumbungle Shire Offices Policy*.

Background

In December 2018, in response to a request from a “not for profit” charitable organisation to sell items from Council’s Visitor Information Centre in Coonabarabran, Council moved the following resolution;

That Council develops a policy around the charitable collection of funds at the Visitor Information Centre for direct distribution within the communities of the shire

As Council did not have a policy at the time that dealt with the collection of funds for local “not for profit” organisations a report was presented to the October 2019 Council Meeting outlining roles and responsibilities of the “not for profit” organisation and Council.

Issues

The attached policy has been revised and outlines the rules for selling of goods to fundraise in Warrumbungle Shire Council Offices throughout the Shire such as:

- Council buildings – Coonabarabran and Coolah
- Visitor Information Centres
- Yuluwirri Kids
- Warrumbungle Community Care buildings
- Council Libraries
- Castlereagh Family Day Care
- Connect 5 Children’s Services

The revised policy outlines the roles and responsibilities of the “not for profit” organisation and Council, noting that it is at the discretion of the Council staff member most impacted by the activity as to whether the placement of goods and posters promoting their purpose are accept or not. The following stipulations apply:

- Staff will not be selling the goods on behalf of the “not for profit” group
- Neither Warrumbungle Shire Council or staff are held responsible for funds or merchandise (damaged or stolen)

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- Funds must be collected by the coordinator of the organisation on a regular basis to ensure security
- Funds raised which will be distributed locally will be given priority over charity organisations that send raised funds to a central account.

Options

No changes have been made to the existing policy as a result of the review. Council can choose to endorse the reviewed policy as presented or make amendments to the policy

Financial Considerations

Nil

Community Engagement

The level of community engagement is 'Inform' as per Council's *Community Engagement Strategy 2022-2026*.

Attachments

1. *Charitable Collection of Funds in Warrumbungle Shire Offices Policy*

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council endorses the Draft *Charitable Collection of Funds in Warrumbungle Shire Offices Policy* for the purposes of public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days.
2. A further report be presented to Council on the Draft *Charitable Collection of Funds in Warrumbungle Shire Offices Policy* after the public exhibition period is completed.

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Item 23 Liquid Trade Waste Policy

Division:	Environment and Development Services
Management Area:	Warrumbungle Water
Author:	Manager Warrumbungle Water – Thomas Cleary
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

The reason for this report is to seek Council endorsement of the reviewed *Liquid Trade Waste Policy*.

Background

The existing policy titled *Liquid Trade Waste Policy* was adopted in September 2017.

The policy (and its accompanying documents) outlines how Council will regulate liquid trade waste discharges to its sewerage systems in accordance with the NSW Framework for Regulation of Liquid Trade Waste.

Issues

The policy aims to ensure that Council:

- Provides protection to the public, Council and its employees and the environment from discharge of waste that may have a detrimental effect
- Meets its statutory obligations in relation to acceptable sewerage discharges
- Monitors compliance of liquid trade waste dischargers within Council's approved conditions
- Has commercial provision of services and full cost recovery through appropriate sewerage and liquid trade waste fees and charges.

The recent review of the existing policy identified the document incorporated operational information causing the policy to be unnecessarily lengthy, wordy and in-depth. To rectify, the policy has been reduced to capture the key points, and the remainder of the information formatted into two accompanying documents titled *Liquid Trade Waste Management Plan*, and *Liquid Trade Waste FAQs*.

As well as layout and formatting changes, the information within the policy and accompanying documents has been updated to include any changes to relevant legislation and the NSW framework (for regulation of liquid trade waste).

Options

Council can endorse the reviewed policy as presented or make amendments to the policy and accompanying documents.

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Financial Considerations

Nil

Community Engagement

The level of community engagement is Inform as per Council's *Community Engagement Strategy 2020-2026*.

Attachments

1. Liquid Trade Waste Policy
2. Liquid Trade Waste Management Plan
3. Liquid Trade Waste FAQs

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council endorses the Draft *Liquid Trade Waste Policy* and accompanying documents for the purposes of public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days.
2. A further report be presented to Council on the Draft *Liquid Trade Waste Policy* after the public exhibition period is completed.

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Item 24 Drinking Water Quality Policy Report

Division:	Environment and Development Services
Management Area:	Warrumbungle Water
Author:	Manager Warrumbungle Water – 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 seek Council adoption of the *Drinking Water Quality Policy*.

Background

The *Drinking Water Quality Policy* is a strategic policy that outlines Council's responsibility and mission in the delivery of drinking water services across the LGA.

Council has a *Drinking Water Quality Policy* that was endorsed under Resolution 336/1819.

The recent review conducted by Council staff noted some minor changes were needed to the policy to update legislation titles and to reference the *Warrumbungle Water Drought Management Plan (2019)* that was endorsed by Council.

The remainder of the policy has not changed.

Issues

The draft *Drinking Water Quality Policy* was presented to Council in April 2023 seeking endorsement to place on public exhibition for 28 days.

The draft policy was exhibited from 27 April 2023 to 8 June 2023. No submissions were received.

Options

To adopt the policy as presented.

Financial Considerations

Nil

Community Engagement

The level of community engagement is 'Inform' as per Council's *Community Engagement Strategy 2022-2026*.

Attachments

1. Draft *Drinking Water Quality Policy*

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RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the Drinking Water Quality Policy.

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Item 25 Contaminated Land Policy

Division:	Environment and Development Services
Management Area:	Planning and Regulation
Author:	Manager Planning and Regulation – Kelly Dewar
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 seek Council adoption of the *Contaminated Land Policy*.

Background

The existing *Contaminated Land Policy* was adopted in March 2017. The policy was developed to provide a guide for the community and practitioners in relation to delivering Councils requirements relating to the use and or development of land that is or may be contaminated.

The policy aims to ensure that Council:

- Maintains a register of contaminated or potentially contaminated land and any information on remediation, abatement, or Site Audits of work on contaminated land undertaken in the Warrumbungle Shire Council area.
- Provide information to support Council's decision-making and to inform and liaise with the community on contaminated land.
- Ensure that appropriate consideration of contaminated land is made during development assessment and planning proposal processes.
- Ensure that changes to land use will not increase the risk to health or the environment.

The review of the policy required considerable updating as legislation had changed since 2017, and formatting of the policy was required to the new template.

Further to that, key definitions, associated legislation, and more information has been included in the policy statement to advise the role and actions that will be undertaken by Council relating to contaminated land as required.

Issues

The Draft *Contaminated Land Policy* was presented to Council in May 2023 seeking endorsement to place on public exhibition for 28 days.

The draft policy was exhibited from 26 May 2023 to 30 June 2023. No submissions were received.

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Options

To adopt the policy as presented.

Financial Considerations

Nil

Community Engagement

The level of community engagement is 'Inform' as per Council's *Community Engagement Strategy 2022-2026*.

Attachments

1. Draft *Contaminated Land Policy*

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the *Contaminated Land Policy*.

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Item 26 Compliance and Enforcement Policy

Division:	Environment and Development Services
Management Area:	Planning and Regulation
Author:	Manager Planning and Regulation – Kelly Dewar
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 seek Council adoption of the *Compliance and Enforcement Policy*.

Background

The existing policy titled *Enforcement Policy* was adopted in August 2017.

The policy outlines how Council addresses compliance and enforcement matters as part of our regulatory functions.

The policy aims to ensure that Council:

- Meets obligations under the *Local Government Act 1993*,
- Exercises its regulatory functions consistently and without bias,
- Respond promptly, consistently and effectively in relation to allegations of unlawful activities,
- Establish clear guidelines for Council staff when dealing with compliance and enforcement matters.

The recent review of the existing policy identified it also dealt with compliance matters as well as enforcement and has been drafted in line with the *NSW Ombudsman Model Compliance and Enforcement Model Policy* template.

The template was used for the foundation of the Council policy and tailored to Council's specific needs including all or some of the template policy depending on the compliance roles within Council.

Council's policy has been updated to include a section of shared enforcement responsibilities and the role of Council where there is a private certifier.

Issues

The draft *Compliance and Enforcement Policy* was presented to Council in May 2023 seeking endorsement to place on public exhibition for 28 days.

The draft policy was exhibited from 26 May 2023 to 30 June 2023. No submissions were received.

Options

To adopt the policy as presented.

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Financial Considerations

Nil

Community Engagement

The level of community engagement is 'Inform' as per Council's *Community Engagement Strategy 2022-2026*.

Attachments

1. Draft *Compliance and Enforcement Policy*

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the Compliance and Enforcement Policy.

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Item 27 Business Use of Footpaths Policy

Division:	Environment and Development Services
Management Area:	Planning and Regulation
Author:	Manager Planning and Regulation – Kelly Dewar
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 seek Council adoption of the *Business Use of Footpaths Policy*.

Background

The existing *Business Use of Footpath Policy* was adopted in February 2021 and was amended in June 2021.

The policy was developed to facilitate businesses, community groups and entertainers use of footpaths for either commercial or community activities, through the issuing of relevant approvals.

The policy promotes a safe environment for shoppers and patrons, without compromising the safety or amenity of the public domain for pedestrians using the public footpath and adjoining public spaces and for motorists parking or alighting from their vehicles.

The recent review conducted by staff of the policy and accompanying guidelines noted no changes were needed to either document, apart from updating into current templates.

Issues

The draft *Business Use of Footpaths Policy* was presented to Council in May 2023 seeking endorsement to place on public exhibition for 28 days.

The draft policy was exhibited from 26 May 2023 to 30 June 2023. No submissions were received.

Options

To adopt the policy as presented.

Financial Considerations

Nil

Community Engagement

The level of community engagement is 'Inform' as per Council's *Community Engagement Strategy 2022-2026*.

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Attachments

1. Draft *Business Use of Footpaths Policy*
2. Guidelines for *Business Use of Footpaths Policy*

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the *Business Use of Footpaths Policy*.

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Item 28 Inland Rail Update Report

Division:	Environment and Development Services
Management Area:	Economic Development and Tourism
Author:	Director Environment and Development Services – Leeanne Ryan
CSP Key Focus Area:	Strengthening the 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.

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. A detailed map of the alignment through Warrumbungle Shire can be found at: inlandrail.artc.com.au/where-we-go/#narromine-to-narrabri

Issues

The following updates on the project are provided:

- Since release of the Independent Inland Rail Review, ARTC is taking a staged approach to deliver Inland Rail. As part of this staged approach, the section of Inland Rail between Beveridge in Victoria and Parkes in New South Wales has been prioritised for completion by 2027. The delivery of these

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works will enable Inland Rail to connect to existing rail networks between Melbourne, Sydney, Perth, Adelaide and the Illawarra via Parkes and Narromine.

- ARTC representatives will brief Council on the Narromine to Narrabri section in the coming weeks.
- Discussions on the Inland Rail Development Agreement (MIRDA) are continuing between ARTC and Council; and will be presented to a future Council meeting when finalised.
- Major construction on the Narrabri to North Star Phase 1 project is expected to be complete in the coming months.
- Subject to the Narromine to Narrabri section achieving Australian Government approvals, Inland Rail will conduct further investigations, such as locating utilities and investigating ground conditions, to help refine the project's detailed design and provide more certainty on the delivery and cost of the full Inland Rail project.
- The Australian Government has announced that the Inland Rail service offering of double-stacked trains will operate between the intermodal terminal at Beveridge in Victoria and a proposed terminal at Ebenezer in Queensland, with a single-stacked, dual gauge connection to be built between Ebenezer and Kagaru. The Government also agreed that a second intermodal terminal at Truganina in Victoria be developed.

Options

The Inland Rail project will continue to show its presence within Warrumbungle Shire, as construction of the project approaches.

Financial Considerations

Nil

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.

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Item 29 Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone Report – July 2023

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 6,000 construction jobs in the region, however this could be as high as 8,000.
- 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 this infrastructure.

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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 either State Significant Infrastructure or State Significant Development requiring approval from the State Government, not Council.

Issues

Since the last update report in May 2023, Council has been involved in a number of matters pertaining to the REZ as follows:

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- Attended meetings both online and in-person with potential REZ project developers regarding matters of concern to our LGA and the impacts on our communities; these were as follows:
 - Cobbora Solar Farm on 22/05/23
 - Liverpool Range Wind Farm on 28/06/23
 - Orana Wind Farm on 06/07/23
- Participated in DPE Update Meeting (REZ related matters) on 18/05/23.
- Participated in REZ Steering Group with councils, EnergyCo and govt agencies on 22/06/23.
- Prepared and lodged submission on draft SEARs for Orana Windfarm on 22/05/22.
- Participated in Power Purchasing Agreements workshop hosted by EnergyCo an Business Renewables Centre Australia on 25/05/23 and 29/06/23.

The below Table 1 provides the current status of the major projects (currently listed on the DPE Major Projects Portal) that will impact on the Warrumbungle LGA.

Table 1: Major Projects that impact WSC

Major Project	LGA	Description	Status
Sandy Creek Solar Farm	Warrumbungle and Dubbo	750 MW solar farm and assoc. infrastructure	Preparing EIS
Dapper Solar Farm	Warrumbungle and Dubbo Regional	300 MW solar farm and assoc. infrastructure	Preparing EIS
Spicers Creek Wind Farm	Warrumbungle and Dubbo	Wind energy generation project with up to 122 wind turbines, with transmission connection and assoc. infrastructure	Preparing EIS
Cobbora Solar Farm	Warrumbungle and Dubbo	700 MW solar farm with energy storage and assoc. infrastructure	Preparing EIS
Central-West Orana REZ Transmission Line	Warrumbungle, Mid-Western, Dubbo, Upper Hunter	New twin double circuit 500Kv transmission lines between Wollar and the proposed substations at Methotherie and Elong Elong, and connections from these lines to projects in the REZ	Preparing EIS
Orana Wind Farm	Warrumbungle and Mid-Western	Wind farm with up to 92 wind turbines, battery storage and associated infrastructure	Preparing EIS
Barneys Reef Wind Farm	Mid -Western	350 MW wind farm, including 65 turbines (220m), battery storage and assoc. infrastructure	Preparing EIS
Birriwa Solar Farm	Mid-Western and Warrumbungle	600 MW solar farm, energy storage facility and assoc. infrastructure	Response to Submissions
Tallawang Solar Farm	Mid-Western	500 MW solar farm with 500 MW/1,000 MWh battery energy storage system and assoc. infrastructure	Response to Submissions
Liverpool Range Wind Farm Modification 1	Warrumbungle, Upper Hunter and Mid-Western	Increase maximum tip height to 250m, decrease number of turbines to 220, amend	Response to Submissions

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		infrastructure, transport route and increase native veg clearing limits	
Valley of the Winds Wind Farm	Warrumbungle	Construct and operate wind farm up to 148 turbines, energy storage and assoc. infrastructure	Response to Submissions
Dunedoo Solar Farm	Warrumbungle	55 MW solar farm with energy storage and assoc. infrastructure	Determined

Considerable staff resources will be required to review the documents that are yet to be publicly exhibited such as the EIS's (that are currently under preparation) and the Response to Submissions documents. It is expected that there are also some projects not listed in Table 1 that may not have yet started the State Significant Development determination process.

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 \$218,017.16 on matters relating to the REZ. This consists of the following expenditure:

- Staff costs = \$21,637.06
- Contractors = \$196,380.10

Community Engagement

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

Attachments

1. Submission – draft SEARS for Orana Wind Farm

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone Report – July 2023.

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Item 30 Development Applications

Division:	Development Services
Management Area:	Regulatory Services
Author:	Administration Assistant Environment and Development Services – Jenni Tighe
CSP Key Focus Area:	Strengthening the Local Economy
Priority / Strategy:	LE5 Opportunities exist for the establishment of light industries and range of housing options

Development Applications

(i) Approved – June 2023

Development Application / Complying Development	Date Lodged	Date Approved	Applicant's Name	Location	Town	Type of Development	Referral Days	Stop the Clock Days
DA9/2023	28/04/2023	14/06/2023	Warrumbungle Steel Buildings	9315 Newell Highway	Coonabarabran	Shed	1	0
DA12/2023	9/05/2023	14/06/2023	Amanda & Grant Browan	11 Cisco Street	Binnaway	Dwelling	18	0
DA14/2023	11/05/2023	14/06/2023	Mark Sullivan	4 River Street	Dunedoo	Alterations and Additions	3	0
DA17/2023	21/06/2023	29/06/2023	Dunedoo Sports Club	58 Wargundy Street	Dunedoo	Shed	3	0

Note: The applicant lodges the DA via the NSW Planning Portal, Council makes all referrals to Government Agencies within two (2) days via the Concurrence and Referral dashboard through the NSW Planning Portal.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the Applications and Certificates approved during June 2023, under Delegated Authority.

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Item 31 Reports to be Considered in Closed Council

Item 31.1 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 31.2 Regional Tender for Provision of Bitumen Spray Seal

Division: Technical Services

Author: Manager Road Operations – Kylie Kerr

Summary

The purpose of this report is determine tenders for the provision of bitumen spray seal.

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)

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RECOMMENDATION

That the Regional Tender for Provision of Bitumen Spray Seal 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 31.3 Tender for Tennis Court Upgrades at Binnaway and Mendooran

Division: Technical Services

Author: Acting Director Technical Services – Nicole Benson

Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with relevant information required to select the most suitable company to carry out upgrades to the tennis courts at Binnaway and Mendooran.

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 Tender for Tennis Court Upgrades at Binnaway and Mendooran 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 31.4 Land Owned by Council in Reservoir Street, Coonabarabran

Division: Technical Services

Author: Acting Director Technical Services – Nicole Benson

Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek Council’s endorsement to sign a Collaboration Deed for the development of lots in Reservoir Street, Coonabarabran.

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.

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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 Collaboration Deed for Land Owned by Council in Reservoir Street Coonabarabran 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.
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).