



## **Ordinary Council Meeting**

# **Agenda**

**16 November 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, 16 November 2023 commencing at 5:00 pm.**

**Mayor:** Cr Ambrose Doolan

**Councillors:** Kodi Brady  
Dale Hogden  
Zoe Holcombe  
Aniello Iannuzzi  
Carlton Kopke  
Jason Newton  
Kathryn Rindfleish (Deputy Mayor)  
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

# **WARRUMBUNGLA SHIRE COUNCIL**

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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**

19 October 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**

# WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

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### **Item 1 Mayoral Minute – Mayors Log of Activity, Kilometres Travelled and Expenses from 12 October 2023 to 8 November 2023**

#### **MAYORAL MINUTE - MAYORS ACTIVITY**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Type</u></b>	<b><u>In/Out</u></b>	<b><u>Activity</u></b>
18-Oct	Email	Out	Sam Malfroy - Dunedoo TRRRC
19-Oct	Email	In	Warwick Giblin - Key recommendation from NSW Electricity supply and reliability checkup
	Email	In	Ratepayer - Sherwood Lane pothole repair thank you
	Email	In	DCCS - Code of Conduct advice
	Email	In	GM - REZ Steer Co Agenda
	Email	In	Ratepayer - Werribee Road
20-Oct	Email	In	Ratepayer - Federal Electoral Redistribution
	Email	In	Warwick Giblin - Liverpool Range Windfarm
	Email	Out	Energy Co - Transmission Line concerns
21-Oct	Email	In	Warwick Giblin - Liverpool Range Windfarm
22-Oct	Email	In	Ratepayer - Renewables in Dunedoo district
23-Oct	Email	In	Transport for NSW - Regional Emergency Repair Fund
23-Oct	Email	Out	GM - REZ
24-Oct	Email	Out	GM - REZ
24-Oct	Email	In	Mayor of Armidale - COREM meeting
	Email	In	Uniab Geoffrey - Warrumbungle Engagement Closing Report
	Email	In	Graeme Fleming - GM Review
26-Oct	Email	In	Uniab Geoffrey – Warrumbungle Shire Audit Report 2023
27-Oct	Email	In	Cooinda - Invitation
	Email	In	Sam Malfroy - TRRRC
	Email	In	DEDS - Castlereagh Water Plan
	Email	Out	DEDS - Castlereagh River Submission
28-Oct	Email	In	Warwick Giblin - Cobbora Solar Farm
	Email	Out	Mayor Armidale - CoREM Meeting
	Email	Out	GM - Coolah CC Meeting
30-Oct	Email	In	Ratepayer - CWO REZ
	Email	In	Cr Rindfleish - CWO REZ
31-Oct	Email	In	James Arena - Landcom Reservoir Street, update
	Email	In	Geoff Freudenstein - Lions Convention
	Email	In	Anne-Louise Capel - Liverpool Range Windfarm
	Email	Out	GM & DEDS - forwarded letter of thanks from Lions Club
1-Nov	Email	In	Paul Scully MP - need for more housing
	Email	In	Damien Pfeiffer - Invitation to meet Minister for Regional Transport
	Email	In	Mayor of Singleton - Resources for Regions
	Email	In	Coona Public School - Invitation
	Email	In	Simon Martin Art - Initiation
	Email	Out	GM - Mayoral Minute
	Email	Out	Councillors - forwarded letter from Planning Minister
2-Nov	Email	In	Warwick Giblin - REZ
3-Nov	Email	In	Matt Armstrong - NBN Fixed Wireless Update

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6-Nov	Email	In	Coona High School - Invitation
	Email	Out	Cooina - Invitation acceptance
7-Nov	Email	In	GM - Johns Crossing, Baradine
8-Nov	Email	Out	Damien Pfeiffer - Invitation to meet Minister for Regional Transport acceptance

Date of Journey		Purpose of Journey	Odometer		KM Travelled
Start Date	End Date		Start	Finish	
12-Oct	12-Oct	Council Chambers EnergyCo Meeting	29896	29931	35
13-Oct	13-Oct	Lions Convention Welcome	29931	29985	54
14-Oct	14-Oct	Lions Convention Open	29985	30039	54
14-Oct	14-Oct	100th Birthday Celebration	30039	30074	35
16-Oct	16-Oct	Welcome Uruguay delegation	30074	30144	70
16-Oct	16-Oct	Dinner with Uruguay delegation	30144	30179	35
19-Oct	19-Oct	Meeting GM and Deputy Mayor	30179	30214	35
19-Oct	19-Oct	Council Meeting - Coonabarabran	30214	30249	35
23-Oct	23-Oct	Mendooran Community Consultation Meeting	30249	30399	150
24-Oct	24-Oct	Binnaway Community Consultation Meeting	30399	30451	52
26-Oct	26-Oct	Coonabarabran Office	30451	30486	35
30-Oct	30-Oct	Coolah Community Consultation Meeting	30486	30644	158
31-Oct	31-Oct	Coonabarabran Office	30644	30676	32
3-Nov	3-Nov	Coonabarabran Office	30676	30708	32
6-Nov	6-Nov	Baradine Community Consultation Meeting	30708	30834	126
<b>Total KM travelled for period 12 October – 6 November 2023</b>					<b>938</b>

### MAYORAL MINUTE - EXPENSES 11 October 2023 to 8 November 2023

<u>Date</u>	<u>Transaction Details</u>	<u>Comments</u>	
30.10.23	Coles Express	Fuel	\$ 95.50
31.10.23	Mecure Sydney	Accommodation - Country Mayors	\$ 700.20
<b>Total expenditure for period 11/10/2023 – 8/11/2023</b>			<b>\$ 795.70</b>

### RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- Notes the report on the Mayor's Activity and Log of Kilometres Travelled for the period 12 October 2023 to 8 November 2023.
- Notes the report on the Mayor's credit card expenses between 11 October 2023 and 8 November 2023 and approves the payment of expenses totalling \$795.70.

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### Item 2 Councillors' Monthly Travel Claims

<b>Division:</b>	Executive Services
<b>Management Area:</b>	Governance
<b>Author:</b>	EA to the General Manager – Erin Player
<b>CSP Key Focus Area:</b>	Civic Leadership
<b>Priority:</b>	CL2.1 Provide Council's leadership with a strong governance and management framework that promotes transparent and informed decision-making.

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### 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	-	0.95	-
Cr Doolan	-	0.95	-
Cr Hogden	200	0.95	\$190.00
Cr Holcombe	-	0.95	-
Cr Iannuzzi	-	0.95	-
Cr Kopke	288	0.95	\$273.60
Cr Newton	-	0.95	-
Cr Rindfleish	614	0.95	\$583.30
Cr Todd	346	0.95	\$328.70
		<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,375.60</b>

### Issues

Nil.

### Options

Nil.

### Financial Considerations

Outlined above.

### Risk Considerations

This report involves operational level risks. The risk level is low and falls within Council's risk appetite.



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### **Community Engagement**

To inform the community.

### **Attachments**

1. Councillors Monthly Travel Claims

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Councillors' monthly travel claims report in the amount of \$1,375.60 be noted for information.

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### **Item 3 Delegates Report – Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Meeting Monday 28 August 2023**

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

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#### **Reason for Report**

To report to Council on the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Meeting on Monday 30 October 2023.

#### **Background**

On Monday 30 October 2023, Cr Holcombe and Cr Todd attended the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Meeting in Coonabarabran.

On Sunday the 29<sup>th</sup> the CMCC Councillors had a weeds bus trip around the Warrumbungle Shire. We had a look at the Common in Coolah where St Johns Wort had been sprayed. Mendooran Common where we looked at African Box Thorn and how the bio control release site was going and Rope Pear along the river. Along the road back to Coonabarabran we had a look at the African Olive control site and we stopped in Nandi Park to look at the Green Cestrum.

Elections for Chair Person and Deputy were held for period ending September 2024 and Cr Doug Batton was elected as Chair and Deputy Cr Bill Fisher.

#### Hudson Pear Baradine

Baradine residents will need to keep a close eye on a small Hudson Pear that has emerged again. This plant was on a known infestation spot on the Gulargambone Road approximately 5kms from Baradine.

The first plant was detected 1st February 2019. The plant was hand removed and total area sprayed. From that date routine inspections have been conducted fortnightly and reduced to quarterly. The ISP key objective for the initial inspection was 2.2 Rapid response to eradicate or contain. While we achieved this it still comes as a clear reminder the behaviour of Hudson Pear and the challenges it brings. Ongoing herbicide control and checking your property is vital.

The local council workers have been shown where the pear is by Cr Todd so that it is not disturbed or spread. There is currently also a Hudson Pear on show in a Perspex case at the Baradine Bowling Club to make people more aware of the invasive plant. The Council also asked if these can also be put into visitor centres in areas where Hudson Pear is an issue to create more awareness and show what it looks like.

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The next meeting will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023. Where the CMCC will meet in Coonamble.

All business papers and minutes of meeting can be found here.

<https://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 note the Delegate's Report in relation to Castlereagh Macquarie County Council meeting held on Monday 30 October 2023.

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## Ordinary Meeting – 16 November 2023

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### Item 4 Meeting Schedule

<b>Division:</b>	Executive Services
<b>Management Area:</b>	Governance
<b>Author:</b>	Executive Assistant to General Manager – Erin Player
<b>CSP Key Focus Area:</b>	Civil Leadership
<b>Priority:</b>	CL2.1 Provide Council's leadership with a strong governance and management framework that promotes transparent and informed decision-making

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### Reason for Report

To schedule Council's meetings from February 2024 to December 2024.

### Background

On 8 December 2022 Council dealt with the Council meeting schedule.

#### ***Item 4 Meeting Schedule***

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

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

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

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

*An Ordinary meeting will not be held in January. Council may change the time and/or date of any particular meeting by resolution.*

### Issues

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

Council meetings continue to be webcast live to the community.

### Options

Local Government Elections are to be held on Saturday, 14 September 2024 and this will affect the meeting schedule. It is to be recommended that Council not hold an

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Ordinary Council meeting during the month of September 2023. It will be further recommended that Council authorise the General Manager to call an Extra Ordinary Council meeting to be held within five days of the declaration of the election and the purpose of this meeting is to hold the election of the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor, appoint Councillors to Committees and as delegates along with any other matters deemed necessary at this time.

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

### 2024 Meetings

February 2024	Thursday 15
March 2024	Thursday 21
April 2024	Thursday 18
May 2024	Thursday 16
June 2024	Thursday 20
July 2024	Thursday 18
August 2024	Thursday 15
October 2024	Thursday 17
November 2024	Thursday 21
December 2024	Thursday 12#

#Meeting held on the second Thursday in December

### Financial Considerations

Council meetings are a normal part of the operation of the organisation, and budgeted for in the 2023/24 and 2024/2025 Operational Plans. This includes travel reimbursement costs of councillors and catering for meals.

### Risk Considerations

This report involves operational level risks. The risk level is low and falls within Council's risk appetite.

### Community Engagement

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

### Attachments

Nil

### RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Adopts the following Ordinary Meeting Schedule for 2024:

February 2024	Thursday 15	Coonabarabran
March 2024	Thursday 21	Coolah
April 2024	Thursday 18	Coonabarabran
May 2024	Thursday 16	Coolah

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June 2024	Thursday 20	Coonabarabran
July 2024	Thursday 18	Coolah
August 2024	Thursday 15	Coonabarabran
October 2024	Thursday 17	Coolah
November 2024	Thursday 21	Coonabarabran
December 2024	Thursday 12#	Coolah

2. Authorise the General Manager to call a meeting within five days after the declaration of the 2024 Council election.
3. That the purpose of the meeting to be held following the 2024 election be an Extra Ordinary meeting to elect a Mayor and Deputy Mayor along with the appointment of Councillors as delegates and to Committees, along with other matters deemed appropriate by the General Manager.

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### Item 5 Demolition Tender, Sullivan Street, Dunedoo

<b>Division:</b>	Executive Services
<b>Management Area:</b>	Governance
<b>Author:</b>	Executive Assistant to General Manager – Erin Player
<b>CSP Key Focus Area:</b>	Civil Leadership
<b>Priority:</b>	CL6.2 Advocate for the community to attract external funding to deliver services, facilities and programs

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### Reason for Report

To seek delegation of authority to accept tenders for the demolition of structures on the property at Lot 10 DP 1239415, Sullivan Street, Dunedoo.

### Background

The Three River Regional Retirement Community (TRRRC) project proposed to construct a senior living development comprising of 27 independent living units, community centre, community garden and small education facility. Stage 1 of the project proposed 21 units. The contract between Council and the builder, Boulus Constructions, was terminated on 2 August 2018. Due to ongoing legal action the structures needed to remain in place, with legal action now complete demolition can take place.

NSW Public Works have conducted tenders for the demolition of the site, which closed on Tuesday 24 October 2023. The purpose of the tender is to:

1. Demolish and dispose of existing structures, concrete slabs, and miscellaneous building waste from the Three Rivers Regional Retirement Community (TRRRC) Site,
2. Rectification/reinstate parts or all of any retaining walls on site so that access and movement on and around the site, post building demolition work, is safe.
3. Supply and install permanent 1800mm high chain-link fence complete with double access gates.

NSW Public Works are currently assessing the tenders and are confident of identifying a suitable tender and completing the project.

Once accepted NSW Public Works will continue to manage the tender.

In order to deal with the matter expediently it is felt that delegating the authority to the Council's General Manager to accept the tender is the best course of action.

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### **Financial Considerations**

Funding is provided under the Dunedoo Infrastructure Renewal Project via the NSW Department of Regional NSW.

### **Community Engagement**

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

### **Attachments**

Nil

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Note the report on the Demolition Tender, Sullivan Street, Dunedoo.
2. Authorise the General Manager to accept the most suitable tender within the funding limit provided for the demolition of the structures on the Sullivan Street, Dunedoo site.



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### Item 6 Council Resolutions Report

<b>Division:</b>	Executive Services
<b>Management Area:</b>	Governance
<b>Author:</b>	Executive Services Administration Officer – Joanne Hadfield
<b>CSP Key Focus Area:</b>	Civic Leadership
<b>Priority:</b>	CL2.1 Provide Council's leadership with a strong governance and management framework that promotes transparent and informed decision making

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### 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

### Risk Considerations

This report involves operational level risks. The risk level is low and falls within Council's risk appetite.

### Community Engagement

Level of Engagement - Inform

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### **Attachments**

1. Council Resolution Report

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Council Resolution Report be noted for information.

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### Item 7 Revotes and High Value Projects Report

<b>Division:</b>	Executive Services
<b>Management Area:</b>	Governance
<b>Author:</b>	Executive Assistant to the General Manager – Erin Player
<b>CSP Key Focus Area:</b>	Civic Leadership
<b>Priority:</b>	CL1 That Council is financially sustainable over the long term

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### 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.

### Risk Considerations

This report deals with operational and project level risks. The risk is inherently high and consequently managed by ELT and Council in accordance with the Enterprise Risk Management Plan.

### Community Engagement

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

### Attachments

1. Revote Report

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2. High Value High Risk Revotes

### **RECOMMENDATION**

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

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### Item 8 Child Safe Scheme – Child Protection Policy

<b>Division:</b>	Corporate and Community Services
<b>Management Area:</b>	Children's & Community Services
<b>Author:</b>	Manager Children's & Community Services – Ngaire Stevens
<b>CSP Key Focus Area:</b>	Supporting Community Life
<b>Priority:</b>	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.

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#### **Reason for report**

To seek Council adoption of the Child Protection Policy as part of the Child Safe Scheme.

#### **Background**

Council received the draft Child Protection Policy at the Ordinary Council meeting of 21 September 2023, and resolved to place the draft Child Protection Policy on public exhibition (Resolution 87/2324).

The draft policy was on public exhibition from 25 September 2023 until 3 November 2023. Submissions closed at 4.30pm on 3 November 2023. Following the public exhibition and submission period, no submissions were received and no amendments are proposed to the draft policy. The draft policy is provided as an attachment to this report.

#### **Issues**

Nil

#### **Options**

Council may endorse the documents as presented, or with amendments; or may decline to endorse any or all of the documents.

#### **Financial Considerations**

None

#### **Risk Considerations**

This report involves operational level risks. The risk level is high and falls within Council's risk appetite.

#### **Community Engagement Considerations**

Level of Engagement - Inform

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### **Attachments**

1. Draft Child Protection Policy

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council adopts the Child Protection Policy.

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### Item 9 Draft Privacy Management Plan

<b>Division:</b>	Corporate and Community Services
<b>Management Area:</b>	Governance
<b>Author:</b>	Manager Corporate Services – Jenni Maundrell
<b>CSP Key Focus Area:</b>	Local Government and Finance
<b>Priority:</b>	CL2 Council meets its legislative and compliance requirements and implements opportunities for organisational improvement

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### Reason for Report

To seek Council endorsement of the draft Privacy Management Plan.

### Background

Section 33 of the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* (NSW) (the PPIP Act) requires all councils to have a privacy management plan. Council's current Privacy Management Plan was adopted on 17 October 2023 (Resolution 149/1718).

### Issues

The Privacy Management Plan (PMP) explains how Council manages personal and health information in accordance with the:

- PPIP Act;
- *Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002* (NSW);
- *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (NSW);
- *State Records Act 1998* (NSW); and
- Privacy Code of Practice for Local Government.

The PMP must include information on:

- the devising of Council policies and practices in line with the State's information and privacy Acts;
- how Council disseminates these policies, protocols and practices within the organisation and educates staff in their use;
- Council's internal review procedures; and
- any other matters Council considers relevant in relation to privacy and the protection of any personal information it holds.

An update to the PMP since 2017 is the inclusion of dealing with data breaches. From 28 November 2023 all councils in NSW will be required to comply with the Mandatory Notification of Data Breach Scheme, a new provision of the PPIP Act. In preparation for compliance with mandatory notification provisions, the PMP was reviewed and updated to include information about data breaches involving personal and/or health information of individuals.

The current PMP was based on the Office of Local Government's Model Privacy Management Plan. The OLG no longer publishes a Model Privacy Management

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Plan, and so the draft PMP was developed with reference to the Information and Privacy Commission guidelines and checklist for privacy management plans.

### **Options**

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

### **Financial Considerations**

Nil

### **Risk Considerations**

The report deals with operational level risks (policy development and legislative requirements). The risk rating is low and is within Council's adopted risk appetite.

### **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 Privacy Management Plan

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That:

1. Council endorses the draft Privacy Management Plan 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 Privacy Management Plan after the public exhibition period is completed.



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### Item 10 2022/23 Annual Report

<b>Division:</b>	Corporate and Community Services
<b>Management Area:</b>	Governance
<b>Author:</b>	Manager Corporate Services – Jenni Maundrell
<b>CSP Key Focus Area:</b>	Local Government and Finance
<b>Priority:</b>	CL2 Council meets its legislative and compliance requirements and implements opportunities for organisational improvement

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### Reason for Report

The reason for this report is to present Council with the 2022/23 Annual Report.

### Background

The 2022/23 Annual Report has been prepared as required by sections 428 and 428A of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) and clause 217 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (NSW) and is attached to this report.

### Issues

The Annual Report highlights Council's achievements and progress against each of the *2022-2037 Community Strategic Plan* key themes:

- Caring for the Environment.

Goal: the good health of our natural environment and biodiversity is preserved and enhanced.

*"We value our pristine, healthy, natural environment with clean water resources and diverse flora and fauna. We enjoy the close proximity to National Parks and large areas of forest and bushland. We love that we are surrounded by wide open spaces and spectacular mountain landscapes. We enjoy the peace and quiet, our temperate climate with four distinct seasons, the fresh, unpolluted air and clear night skies."*

- Civic Leadership.

Goal: leadership will foster collaborative approaches to the governance of our area across all levels of government, to focus on delivering results against our agreed strategic outcomes in the most cost-effective way. The community will be at the heart of decision-making and service delivery.

*"To look after the Warrumbungle community, a great deal of work happens behind the scenes to ensure there are planned, resourced, efficient and transparent systems in place to enable our community to function and prosper."*

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*The community expects responsible and transparent decision-making with a focus on public conversations and ownership.”*

- Strengthening the Local Economy.

Goal: a strong and sustainable economy provides our community with localised employment opportunities and ease of access to markets, goods and services.

*“Our community has access to positive choices for investment, employment and study. This includes supporting our predominantly agricultural economy while also strengthening and diversifying the economy by targeting new and innovative industries.*

*Our solid local tourism industry is based on local attractions including three National Parks, Siding Spring Observatory and a range of tailored facilities and amenities. The contribution of our varied agricultural industry is highly valued, made possible by good climate and rainfall, productive soils, clean water supplies and ready access to markets.”*

- Supporting Community Life.

Goal: to maintain a community where people are welcomed, healthy and connected, with opportunities to prosper in their individual pursuits. Active community participation is supported by cultural and recreational facilities and inclusive services that cater to all residents.

*“Our communities are strong, resilient and inclusive, and provide support and assistance to those in need. We enjoy the freedoms that are afforded through our safe, friendly and caring community. Our local government area is a great place to raise a family and we value the contributions and participation of our younger people who are provided opportunities to support their development. Our diverse community is reflected through a wide range of arts and cultural activities, festivals and events.*

*People with the local government area have opportunities to participate in a diverse range of locally based sports catering for people of all ages, activity levels and interests. Our rural setting provides children with opportunities to play in and explore their natural environment and our communities have easy access to a wide range of active and passive recreational pursuits.”*

The Annual Report documentation comprises the 2022/23 Annual Report which highlights Council’s achievements and progress towards the Community Strategic Plan and other statutory information as prescribed by the Local Government Act and Regulations.

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The final audited Financial Statements will be presented as an attachment to the Annual Report when it is made available to the Minister for Local Government by 30 November 2023, as prescribed.

The audited Financial Statements 2022/23 detail the income and expenditure and financial position of Council over this period as well as specific schedules and the Special Purpose Financial Reports.

### **Options**

NA

### **Financial Considerations**

Nil

### **Risk Considerations**

The report deals with operational level risks (legislative compliance). The risk rating is low and is within Council's adopted risk appetite.

### **Community Engagement**

The level of community engagement for this item is Inform.

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

### **Attachments**

1. Warrumbungle Shire Council 2022/23 Annual Report

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That: Council:

1. Endorses the 2022/23 Annual Report.
2. Makes the Annual Report available to the public on Council's website.
3. Submits the Annual Report to the Minister for Local Government.

# WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

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### Item 11 Delivery Program Progress Report – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2023/24

<b>Division:</b>	Corporate and Community Services
<b>Management Area:</b>	Governance
<b>Author:</b>	Manager Corporate Services – Jenni Maundrell
<b>CSP Key Focus Area:</b>	Civic Leadership
<b>Priority:</b>	CL2 Council meets its legislative and compliance requirements and implements opportunities for organisational improvement.

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#### **Reason for Report**

To present the final quarterly Delivery Program Progress Report for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 September 2023 to Council for their information and endorsement.

#### **Background**

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

#### **Issues**

The attached report details Council's progress for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 September 2023 in carrying out and/or completing activities identified in the Delivery Program 2022/23 to 2025/26 adopted by Council at its Ordinary meeting of 19 May 2022 (Resolution 295/2122). The report highlights areas where progress is behind schedule and/or more action is required.

#### **Options**

Nil

#### **Financial Considerations**

Nil

#### **Risk Considerations**

The report involves strategic and operational level risk. The risk level is low and falls within Council's risk appetite.

#### **Community Engagement**

The level of community engagement for this item is Inform.

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

#### **Attachments**

1. Delivery Program Progress Report – 30 September 2023.

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council endorses the Delivery Program Progress Report for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 September 2023.

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### Item 12 Quarterly Budget Review Statement – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2023/24

<b>Division:</b>	Corporate and Community Services
<b>Management Area:</b>	Governance
<b>Author:</b>	Director Corporate and Community Services – Lindsay Mason
<b>CSP Key Focus Area:</b>	Civic Leadership
<b>Priority:</b>	CL2 Council meets its legislative and compliance requirements and implements opportunities for organisational improvement.

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### **Reason for Report**

To present a summary of Council's financial position as at 30 September 2023 including information regarding the supplementary vote requests.

### **Background**

Section 203 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* regarding budget review statements and revision of estimates states that:

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

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

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

- A statement by the responsible accounting officer on council's financial position at the end of the year based on the information in the Quarterly Business Review Statement (Part 2).
- Budget Review – Income and Expenses Statement in one of the following formats (Parts 3, 4, & 5):
  - consolidated;
  - by fund (e.g. General Fund; Water Fund; Sewer Fund); or
  - by function, activity, program etc. to align with the management plan / operational plan.
- Budget Review – Capital Budget (Parts 7 and 8)
- Budget Review – Cash and Investments Position (Part 10)
- Budget Review – Key Performance Indicators (Part 12)
- Budget Review – Contracts and Other Expenses (Part 13)

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

- Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2023 (Part 9)
- A Loan Movement Schedule (Part 11)

During the preparation of the QBRS 1, Council resolved to provide free entry to its pools during the 2023/24 season (93/2324). The effect of this resolution is anticipated to have a detrimental effect on the budget of approximately \$117,448, which has not been adjusted to date in the QBRS 1 statement. Council will need to determine savings in the budget to offset this reduction in income.

### **Issues**

The First Quarterly Budget Review Statement shows that Council's consolidated revised income budget for the 2023/24 financial year is \$67,648,447. Expenses from continuing operations are projected to be \$57,058,784. This results in a projected consolidated operating result from continuing operations of \$10,589,784 surplus as compared to original \$9,636,578, consolidated budget. The revised before Capital Grants & Contributions deficit is (\$1,062,515) as compared to surplus \$21,578 estimated at the original budget.

The General Fund First Quarterly Budget Review Statement figures are a revised income budget for the 2023/24 financial year of \$57,340,518. Expenses from continuing operations are projected to be \$50,998,172. This results in a projected operating surplus from continuing operations of \$6,342,346. The revised before Capital Grants & Contributions deficit is (\$1,295,082) as compared to a deficit of (\$634,201) estimated at the original budget.

The table below shows the movements in the Water, Sewer and Waste fund for the first quarter.

# **WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL**

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	Water Fund		Sewer Fund		Waste Fund	
	Original Budget	QBRs 1	Original Budget	QBRs 1	Original Budget	QBRs 1
Revenue	5,836,000	5,844,256	4,804,000	4,463,673	2,786,000	2,853,695
Expenses	3,962,801	4,036,422	2,005,998	2,024,190	2,450,000	2,448,876
Net Operating Result	1,873,199	1,807,834	2,798,002	2,439,483	336,000	404,819
Net Operating Result before Capital	410,199	345,334	246,002	(112,767)	336,000	404,819

Significant actual items to note from the QBRs include:

### **Revenue**

- Rates and Annual charges are roughly per budget at 99% of the budget forecast
  - This is due to the billing being done in advance for the whole financial year for rates and annual charges.
- User charges and fees are 6% per budget. The major area of variance is:
  - Transport NSW not invoiced in quarter 1;
  - Child Care fees well below expected levels for this time of year, due to preschool being fully subsidised until the end of the current contract period. Adjustments to be made in QBRs2;
  - No Water supply services user charges to date – Billing to occur in October
- Interest and investment revenue is anticipated to grow remarkably during the financial year, given the higher interest rates. At the September Quarter the income has surpassed the budget with changes made as part of the QBRs.
- Other Revenues are at 12% which is less than budget, with rental income to be raised and a delay in the payments by NSW Container Deposit Scheme. Payments received in October.
- Operational Grants and Contributions are at budget at 2% of revised budget. FAG monies will be paid in June 2024, Transport and RMS income not received this quarter, with other grant income expected throughout the year.
- Capital grants income is under budget at 14% of revised budget. Increase in original budget due to LRCI 4 funding, TRRRC demolition funding and Black Stump Way Rehab funding. Milestone claims will be made in 2nd quarter for outstanding funds.

### **Expenditure**

- Employee related expenditure is per pro rata budget at 25%.
- Borrowing costs are (4%) due to reversal of accruals for the 2022/23 financial year.
- Materials & Contracts is roughly as per pro rata budget at 24%.
- Depreciation expenses have not been processed for this quarter. A system of monthly depreciation is being implemented, and charges will be costed to accounts in October.
- Other expenses are at 4%, well under budget with a portion of Budgeted Other Expenses now moved to Materials and Contracts (as per Australian Accounting Standards mapping).

Further information is provided in the First Quarterly Budget Review Statement.



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Table 1 Supplementary Votes					
Description	Revenue	Operational Expenditure	Capital Expenditure	Net Impact on Budget	Comments
<b>General Fund</b>					
<b>General Revenue</b>					
Interest Revenue	(450,000)	0	0	(450,000)	Increased interest rates on term deposits
<b>Total General Revenue</b>	<b>(450,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(450,000)</b>	
<b>Executive Services</b>					
Governance	(1,000,000)	998,123	0	(1,877)	Carryover - W/O 2231 - Drought Relief - Community Events & QBRs - Grant and Project costs for TRRRRC demolition
HR Management	0	38,170	0	38,170	Reallocate wages
Payroll Services	0	(142,273)	0	(142,273)	Reallocate wages
Learning And Development Services	0	109,523	0	109,523	Reallocate wages
<b>Total Executive Services</b>	<b>(1,000,000)</b>	<b>1,003,543</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,543</b>	<b>Reallocate Training budget</b>
<b>Corporate &amp; Community Services</b>					
Corporate Services Management	0	(5,420)	0	(5,420)	Reallocate Training budget
Communications And IT	0	0	28,973	28,973	Remove Video conferencing system as no resources to complete within timeframe
<b>Total Corporate &amp; Community Services</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(5,420)</b>	<b>28,973</b>	<b>23,553</b>	
<b>Corporate And Comm Other</b>					
<b>Total Corporate &amp; Community Services</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>Technical Services</b>					
<b>Roads</b>					
Regional Roads M&R	(647,416)	0	612,442	(34,974)	Grant funding for MR55 Black Stump Way Rehab and LRCI 4 Baradine Road Reconstruction. Remove shoulder widening of MR618 Vinegaroy Road and MR396 Warrumbungle Way as these are no longer funded.
Local Roads M&R	(224,318)	0	(224,318)	(448,636)	LRCI 4 Piambra Road Reconstruction
<b>Total Roads</b>	<b>(871,734)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>388,124</b>	<b>(483,610)</b>	
Property And Risk	0	59,911	0	59,911	Carryover - W/O 3041 - Binnaway Showground Electrical Upgrade & W/O 2235 - Binnaway Jockey Club - New Amenities Building & QBRs - Dunedoo Depot repairs project
Ovals	(382,490)	0	0	(382,490)	Grant LRCI 4 Programs for Community
Town Streets	(7,272)	0	(19,500)	(26,772)	Carryover - W/O 3212 - Cassilis Street Footpath Widening & QBRs - Align CPTIG grants for Bus shelters with grant agreement & include capital projects
<b>Total Urban Services</b>	<b>(389,762)</b>	<b>59,911</b>	<b>(19,500)</b>	<b>(349,351)</b>	
<b>Technical services</b>	<b>(1,261,496)</b>	<b>59,911</b>	<b>368,624</b>	<b>(832,961)</b>	
<b>Development Services</b>					
Development Services Management	(5,400)	5,400	0	0	Carryover - Heritage Grant & QBRs 1 - Align income & project costs with grant funding agreement
<b>Development Services</b>	<b>(5,400)</b>	<b>5,400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Warrumbungle Waste</b>					
Warrumbungle Waste	(67,625)	0	(2,700)	(70,325)	Income - Bring inline with current income. Capital - Payment of consultant fees for ERAMP completed in June for the Coonabarbaran Landfill Site
<b>Total Warrumbungle Waste</b>	<b>(67,625)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(2,700)</b>	<b>(70,325)</b>	
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>(2,784,521)</b>	<b>1,063,434</b>	<b>394,897</b>	<b>(1,326,190)</b>	

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Description	Revenue	Operational Expenditure	Capital Expenditure	Net Impact on Budget	Comments
Warrumbungle Water	(8,839)	(132,127)	(566,236)	(707,202)	Income - to bring in line with current income. Expenditure SSWP Safe & Secure Water (Baradine) Program already in the 2023/24 budget and also carried over from 2022/23 (which netted off to zero). Duplication of Capital mains replacement Coolah includes in original budget and carryovers. \$100k increase in required work on Binnaway Raw Water pump station. \$100k Dedicated Rising Main extension Wentworth Ave transferred to Sewer Rising Main Martin Street. \$450k Coolah Water Supply Scheme Upgrade Scoping Study transferred Sewer Risk 5 Coolah Water Treatment Plant Upgrade \$166k Coonabarabran Water Main Rehab transferred to King Street Mains Replacement and Sewer Mains Replacement Robertson Street Coonabarabran. \$84k increase for King Street Mains Replacement due to using cast iron water mains. \$22,500 increase in Dunedoo Mains REhab using unspent funds from FY 22/23. \$15k Mendooran Water Mains Replacement transferred to Stop Valve Replacement Program Sewer.
<b>Total Water Fund</b>	<b>(8,839)</b>	<b>(132,127)</b>	<b>(566,236)</b>	<b>(707,202)</b>	
Warrumbungle Sewer	339,913	0	(623,000)	(283,087)	Income - reduce budget to reflect annual charges. Extra \$30k for the pump station renewals to remain effective and operational. \$79,872 transferred from Mains-Relining to Sewer Mains Rehab - Coonabarabran. \$82k allocated for Mains replacements Robertson Street Coonabarabran to address water quality issues. A reduction of \$300k Capital expense includes a \$450k transfer from Water for Risk 5 Coolah Water Treatment Plant Upgrade. Reduced Coonabarabran Sewage Treatment Plant Upgrade by \$300k and Dunedoo Sewage Treatment Plant Upgrade by \$1m in line with May 2023 Council report.
<b>Total Sewer Fund</b>	<b>339,913</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(623,000)</b>	<b>(283,087)</b>	
<b>Total Warrumbungle Shire Council</b>	<b>(2,453,447)</b>	<b>931,307</b>	<b>(1,584,133)</b>	<b>(3,106,273)</b>	<b>Overall positive movement in budget by \$3,106,273, with increased income and reduced capital spend</b>
<i>*Negative Revenue is increased income</i>					
<i>** Positive Expenditure is increased expenses</i>					
<i>*** Negative Capital is reduced capital spend</i>					

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Below is a reconciliation of the OPERATING RESULT (Table 1b) from continuing operations (including capital grants) for QBR1 to the Revised Budget 2023/24 (refer Revised Budget Column of Part 3 Income Statement of QBR1 attachment to this report):

**Table 1b – Reconciliation of the Operating Result – Consolidated**

Description – Operating Changes	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Brought Forward Operating Result from Continuing Operations – Original Budget 2023/24</b>		<b>9,637</b>
Revotes operational expenditure adjustment	(569)	
Revenue Budget – Supplementary vote QBR1 increase in Income	2,453	
Operational Expenditure Budget – Supplementary vote QBR1 increase in expenditure	(938)	
<b>QBR1 movement to Income Statement</b>	Subtotal	946
Less: Capital Grants & Contributions		11,652
<b>Net Consolidated Operating Result Surplus/(deficit) before Capital Grants &amp; Contributions</b>		<b>(1,069)</b>

**Table 1c – Reconciliation of the Operating Result – General**

Description – Operating Changes	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Brought Forward Operating Result from Continuing Operations – Original Budget 2023/24</b>		<b>4,966</b>
Revotes operational expenditure adjustment	(437)	
Revenue Budget – Supplementary vote QBR1 increase in Income	2,785	
Operational Expenditure Budget – Supplementary vote QBR1 increase in expenditure	(970)	
<b>QBR1 movement to Income Statement</b>	Subtotal	1,377
Less: Capital Grants & Contributions		7,637
<b>Net Consolidated Operating Result Surplus/(deficit) before Capital Grants &amp; Contributions</b>		<b>(1,294)</b>

**Table 1d – Reconciliation of the Operating Result – Water**

Description – Operating Changes	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Brought Forward Operating Result from Continuing Operations – Original Budget 2023/24</b>		<b>1,873</b>
Revotes operational expenditure adjustment	(132)	
Revenue Budget – Supplementary vote QBR1 increase in Income	9	
Operational Expenditure Budget – Supplementary vote QBR1 increase in expenditure	58	
<b>QBR1 movement to Income Statement</b>	Subtotal	(65)
Less: Capital Grants & Contributions		1,463
<b>Net Consolidated Operating Result Surplus/(deficit) before Capital Grants &amp; Contributions</b>		<b>345</b>

**Table 1e – Reconciliation of the Operating Result – Sewer**

Description – Operating Changes	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Brought Forward Operating Result from Continuing Operations – Original Budget 2023/24</b>		<b>2,798</b>
Revotes operational expenditure adjustment	0	
Revenue Budget – Supplementary vote QBR1 increase in Income	(340)	

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Operational Expenditure Budget – Supplementary vote QBRS 1 increase in expenditure	(19)	
<b>QBRS 1 movement to Income Statement</b>	Subtotal	(359)
Less: Capital Grants & Contributions		2,552
<b>Net Consolidated Operating Result Surplus/(deficit) before Capital Grants &amp; Contributions</b>		<b>(113)</b>

### Rates and Annual Charges

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

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

Council's outstanding ratio as at 30 June 2023 was 11.77% which is below the OLG recommended benchmark.

The outstanding rates and annual charges ratio as at 30 September 2023 is 14.87%, which is more than the 10% bench mark proposed by the OLG. The final instalment of rates due on 31st May 2024.

A sale of land for overdue rates is being planned.

See table of outstanding balances by rate group and rate/charge type below for further details.

**Table 2a: Outstanding balances by rate group and charge type**

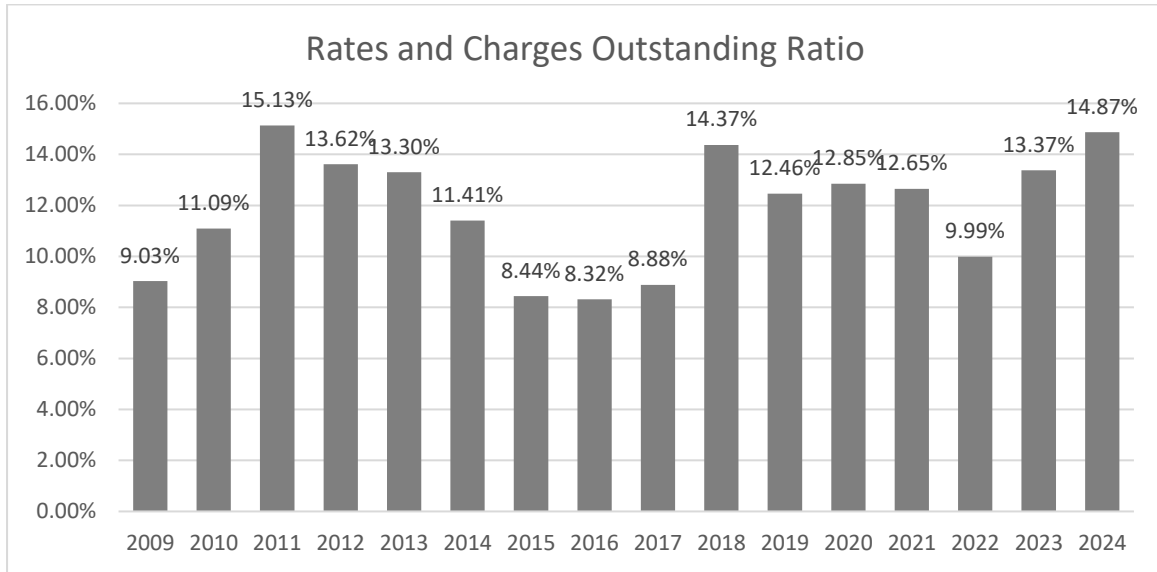
Rates Types	Rates Levy					Water Levy				Grand Total
	General	Domestic Waste	Water Access	Trade Waste	Storm Water	Sewer Access	Water Consumption	Sewer Consumption	Trade Waste Usage	
Business	118,506	75,037	66,643	984	8,732	66,002	138,856	13,473	3,103	491,337
Residential	501,537	420,289	488,307	-	16,549	267,791	388,684	-	-	2,083,156
Farmland	577,491	9,625	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	587,116
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,197,534</b>	<b>504,951</b>	<b>554,949</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>25,280</b>	<b>333,793</b>	<b>527,540</b>	<b>13,473</b>	<b>3,103</b>	<b>3,161,609</b>

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

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

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**Table 2b – Council’s outstanding rates and annual charges ratios for the last six years**

Year	Rates and Annual Charges Outstanding Ratio as at 30 September	Rates and Annual Charges Outstanding Ratio as at 30 June.
2024	14.87%	N/A
2023	14.04%	11.77%
2022	12.28%	9.99%
2021	15.00%	12.65%
2020	14.08%	12.85%
2019	12.63%	12.46%
2018	10.20%	14.37%
2017	10.32%	10.08%

The proportion of rates and annual charges outstanding related to residential properties is 66%; 19% of outstanding rates and annual charges relates to farmland; and 16% to business.

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**Table 2c – Outstanding Rates and Annual Charges – by Rate and Charge Type**

Rate/ Charge Type	Rate Arrears 2022/23	2023/24 Levy	Pensioner Write-off	Abandoned	Interest	Legal Fees	Rate Arrears and Net Levy	Total Payments to date	Total Outstanding 2023/24	Collection % 2023/24	Total Arrears at EOM	Outstanding Rates and Annual Charges %
General	707,421	9,038,639	(145,445)	(740)	15,902	10,870	9,626,647	(2,902,788)	6,723,859	30.15%	1,197,534	12.44%
Water	507,673	2,449,776	(67,761)	-	7,081	-	2,896,769	(862,830)	2,033,939	29.79%	554,949	19.16%
Sewerage	251,099	1,647,789	(48,555)	-	3,573	-	1,853,906	(552,498)	1,301,409	29.80%	271,397	14.64%
Trade Waste	595	9,945	-	-	8	-	10,549	(4,573)	5,975	43.35%	984	9.33%
Storm Water	23,497	103,613	-	-	349	-	127,459	(40,401)	87,057	31.70%	25,280	19.83%
Garbage	455,744	2,306,221	(104,395)	739	6,332	-	2,664,641	(817,068)	1,847,572	30.66%	504,951	18.95%
<b>TOTAL RATES AND ANNUAL CHARGES</b>	<b>1,946,030</b>	<b>15,555,983</b>	<b>(366,157)</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>33,246</b>	<b>10,870</b>	<b>17,179,970</b>	<b>(5,180,159)</b>	<b>11,999,811</b>	<b>30.15%</b>	<b>2,555,097</b>	<b>14.87%</b>
Sewerage Access (Water Billing)	165,615	-	-	1,210	12,423	-	179,248	(116,852)	62,396	65.19%	62,396	34.81%
Water Consumption	1,139,908	-	-	(18,939)	11,841	(713)	1,132,097	(604,557)	527,540	53.40%	527,540	46.60%
Sewer Consumption	38,732	-	-	-	172	-	38,904	(25,430)	13,473	65.37%	13,473	34.63%
Trade Waste Usage	23,974	-	-	-	63	-	24,036	(20,933)	3,103	87.09%	3,103	12.91%
<b>TOTAL WATER SUPPLY SERVICES</b>	<b>1,368,228</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(17,729)</b>	<b>24,499</b>	<b>(713)</b>	<b>1,374,285</b>	<b>(767,773)</b>	<b>606,512</b>	<b>55.87%</b>	<b>606,512</b>	<b>44.13%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>3,314,258</b>	<b>15,555,983</b>	<b>(366,157)</b>	<b>(17,730)</b>	<b>57,745</b>	<b>10,157</b>	<b>18,554,256</b>	<b>(5,947,932)</b>	<b>12,606,324</b>	<b>32.06%</b>	<b>3,161,609</b>	<b>17.04%</b>

# WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

## Ordinary Meeting – 16 November 2023

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### Options

Council can choose to:

1. Accept the Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBR) and:
  - (a) approve all supplementary votes requested; or
  - (b) select projects from the supplementary votes and approve a lower amount; or
  - (c) approve the supplementary votes requested and postpone selected current year projects to reduce the capital works program for 2023/24;  
or
  
2. Accept the Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBR) subject to changes and:
  - (a) approve all supplementary votes requested; or
  - (b) select projects from the supplementary votes and approve a lower amount; or
  - (c) approve the supplementary votes requested and postpone selected current year projects to reduce the capital works program for 2023/24;  
or
  
3. Not accept the Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBR) and:
  - (a) reject the whole amount requested; or
  - (b) select projects from the requested supplementary votes and approve a lower supplementary vote amount; or
  - (c) approve the supplementary votes requested and postpone selected current year projects to reduce the capital works program for 2023/24.

### Risk Considerations

This report deals with operational level risks (financial and legislative compliance). While the risk level is moderate, the control measures in place mitigate the risk exposure and reduce the residual risk level to low, which is within Council's adopted risk appetite.

### Statement by Responsible Accounting Officer

The following statement is made in accordance with clause 203(2) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

It is my opinion that the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for Warrumbungle Shire Council for the quarter indicates that Council's financial position as at 30 September 2023 is satisfactory having regard to the projected estimates of income and expenditure and the original budgeted income and expenditure.



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Responsible Accounting Officer

# **WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL**

## **Ordinary Meeting – 16 November 2023**

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### **Attachments**

1. 3rd Quarter Budget Review Statement

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Accept the 1st Quarter Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the 2023/24 financial year, as presented;
2. Approve the variations as described in Table 1a; and
3. Note and accept the information provided on the status of the rates and annual charges for the period ending 30 September 2023.
4. Identify savings in the QBRS of \$117,448, to fund the loss of revenue associated with free pool entry per Council Resolution 93/2324.



# WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

## Ordinary Meeting – 16 November 2023

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### Item 13 Presentation of 2022/23 External Audited Annual Financial Statements as at 30 June 2023

<b>Division:</b>	Corporate and Community Services
<b>Management Area:</b>	Financial Services
<b>Author:</b>	Director Corporate and Community Services – Lindsay Mason
<b>CSP Key Focus Area:</b>	Local Government and Finance
<b>Priority:</b>	CL2 Council meets its legislative and compliance requirements and implements opportunities for organisational improvement

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#### Reason for Report

This report allows for tabling of the reports on the audit of Council's Audited Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023. The Annual Financial Statements were completed and lodged to the Office of Local Government (OLG).

Copies of the audited 2022/23 Financial Statements have been placed on Council's website and are available at Council's offices in Coolah and Coonabarabran. Additionally, Council libraries provide access for the public to Council's website.

A representative of the Audit Office of NSW or from the contracted External Auditor (Prosperity Advisors Group) is expected to attend the Council Meeting to present the Audited Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023.

A summary of the Consolidated 2022/23 Audited Annual Financial Statements is provided below:

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000
<b>INCOME STATEMENT</b>			
Total income from continuing operations	60,144	52,331	48,494
Total expenses from continuing operations	(46,616)	(39,787)	(38,255)
<b>Net operating result for the year</b>	<b>13,528</b>	<b>12,544</b>	<b>10,239</b>
<b>Net operating result before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes (deficit)</b>	<b>6,848</b>	<b>3,045</b>	<b>1,982</b>
<b>STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION</b>			
Total current assets	55,247	36,552	29,679
Total current liabilities	(11,528)	(10,324)	(10,164)
Total non-current assets	648,202	599,880	552,388
Total non-current liabilities	(3,637)	(6,191)	(4,776)
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>688,284</b>	<b>619,917</b>	<b>567,127</b>
<b>Other financial information</b>			
Unrestricted current ratio (times)	8.68	5.95	4.88

# **WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL**

## **Ordinary Meeting – 16 November 2023**

Operating performance ratio (%)	18.48%	6.11%	3.03%
Debt service cover ratio (times)	17.28	11.59	10.76
Rates and annual charges outstanding ratio (%)	11.25%	9.99%	12.33%
Infrastructure renewals ratio (%)	47.46%	89.00%	160.14%
Own source operating revenue ratio (%)	46.04%	46.83%	44.46%
Cash expense cover ratio (months)	14.53	10.61	9.71

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

Submissions on the 2022/23 Audited Annual Financial Statements close 4:30 pm Friday 24 November 2023, being one week after the meeting which the presentation of 2022/23 Audited Annual Financial Statements occurs.

### **Risk Considerations**

The report deals with operational level risk (legislative compliance, governance). The risk level is low and is within Council's adopted risk appetite.

### **Community Engagement**

The level of engagement for this report is Inform.

### **Attachments:**

1. Copies of the Consolidated General Purpose, Special Purpose Annual Financial Statements and Special Schedule on Permissible Income for General Rates for the year ended 30 June 2023 inclusive of the Audit Certificates, including; Copy of the unaudited Special Schedule, Report on Infrastructure Assets as at 30 June 2023.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Note the report on completion and presentation of the 2022/23 Audited Annual Financial Statements for the Warrumbungle Shire Council as at 30 June 2023.
2. Suspend standing orders to allow for a presentation by the Auditor on the 2022/23 Financial Statements.

# WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

## Ordinary Meeting – 16 November 2023

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### Item 14 Investments and Term Deposits – month ending 31 October 2023

<b>Division:</b>	Corporate and Community Services
<b>Management Area:</b>	Financial Services
<b>Author:</b>	Acting Accountant – Lisa Grammer
<b>CSP Key Focus Area:</b>	Civic Leadership
<b>Priority:</b>	CL1 That Council is financially sustainable over the long term

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#### **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 \$135,206.85 in Interest.

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

- \$1,000,000 with WBC at a rate of 5.05%
- \$500,000 with WBC at a rate of 5.20%
- \$1,000,000 with NAB at a rate of 5.30%
- \$1,500,000 with WBC at a rate of 5.50%

# WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

## Ordinary Meeting – 16 November 2023

The balance of the term deposits at the end of the month was \$39,000,000.00.

### 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, \$2,952.40 interest was earned on the balances in the accounts and net transfers of \$1,590,000 were made from these accounts resulting in a month end balance of \$1,916,849.96.

### Cash at bank balance

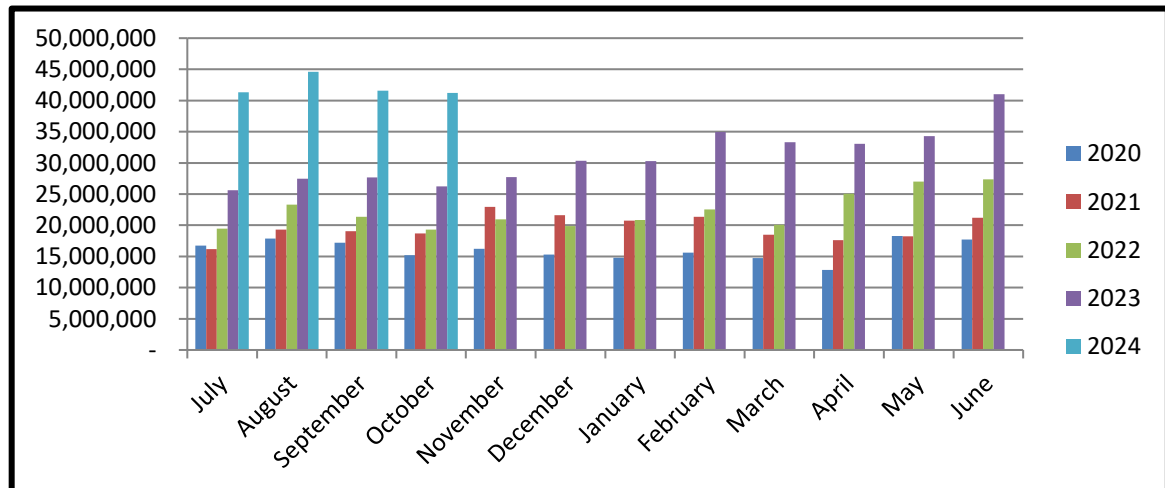
In addition to the at call accounts and term deposits, as at 31 October 2023, Council had a cash at bank balance of \$275,851.90.

### Income Return

The average yield on Investments Council held for October 2023, of 5.0415%. Council uses the Bank Bill Swap Rate (BBSW) supplied by the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) which was 4.3497% for the month of October. The performance of investments for October, based on the comparison, was the portfolio exceeded the benchmark by 0.6918%.

Council's budget for year 2023/24 for interest on investments is \$179,350. At the end of October 2023, the amount of interest received and accrued should be around 33.33% of the total year budget, i.e. \$59,783.33 On a year to date basis, interest received and accrued totals \$500,630.76, which is 279.14% of the annual budget. Council's budget for interest on investments will be reviewed in the December Quarterly Budget Review.

### **Graph by Month Investments**



# WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

## Ordinary Meeting – 16 November 2023

**Table 1: Investment Balances – 31 October 2023**

Financial Institution	Lodgement Date	Maturity Date	Total Days	Original Rating	Current Rating	Yield (%)	Investment Amount (Redemption Value)
<b>At Call Accounts</b>							
NAB	1-Oct-23	At Call	at call	ADI	ADI	0.05%	1,221.49
ANZ	1-Oct-23	At Call	at call	ADI	ADI	0.01%	6,555.93
CBA At Call	1-Oct-23	At Call	at call	ADI	ADI	4.10%	1,909,072.54
							<b>1,916,849.96</b>
<b>Term Deposits</b>							
NAB	13-Jun-23	01-Nov-	141	ADI	ADI	5.05%	1,000,000.00
NAB	10-May-23	08-Nov-	182	ADI	ADI	4.70%	1,000,000.00
MAQ	01-Mar-23	17-Nov-	261	LMG	LMG	4.72%	1,000,000.00
AMP	24-Nov-22	24-Nov-	365	LMG	LMG	4.60%	1,000,000.00
NAB	19-May-23	29-Nov-	194	ADI	ADI	4.80%	500,000.00
NAB	22-May-23	06-Dec-	198	ADI	ADI	4.80%	1,000,000.00
WBC	07-Jun-23	07-Dec-	183	ADI	ADI	5.06%	1,000,000.00
AMP	04-Apr-23	11-Dec-	251	LMG	LMG	4.75%	1,000,000.00
CBA - Sewer	20-Jun-23	18-Dec-	181	ADI	ADI	5.39%	2,000,000.00
NAB	23-Mar-23	19-Dec-	271	ADI	ADI	4.40%	1,000,000.00
WBC	08-Jun-23	22-Dec-	197	ADI	ADI	5.11%	500,000.00
CBA	28-Jun-23	02-Jan-	188	ADI	ADI	5.34%	1,000,000.00
NAB	04-Jul-23	04-Jan-	184	ADI	ADI	5.40%	500,000.00
NAB	17-May-23	12-Jan-	240	ADI	ADI	4.75%	1,000,000.00
NAB	28-Jun-23	16-Jan-	202	ADI	ADI	5.35%	1,000,000.00
CBA	28-Jun-23	23-Jan-	209	ADI	ADI	5.34%	500,000.00
NAB	24-Jul-23	30-Jan-	190	ADI	ADI	5.40%	1,000,000.00
WBC	31-Jul-23	06-Feb-	190	ADI	ADI	5.09%	500,000.00
WBC	31-Jul-23	13-Feb-	197	ADI	ADI	5.09%	500,000.00
CBA	27-Feb-23	27-Feb-	365	ADI	ADI	5.06%	2,000,000.00
CBA	28-Jun-23	05-Mar-	251	ADI	ADI	5.42%	500,000.00
NAB	31-Jul-23	05-Mar-	218	ADI	ADI	5.25%	1,000,000.00
CBA	08-Aug-23	12-Mar-	217	ADI	ADI	5.01%	1,000,000.00
MAQ	21-Aug-23	19-Mar-	211	LMG	LMG	4.83%	1,000,000.00
WBC	15-Aug-23	19-Mar-	217	ADI	ADI	5.02%	500,000.00
WBC	29-Sep-23	26-Mar-	179	ADI	ADI	5.00%	1,000,000.00
CBA	28-Jun-23	02-Apr-	279	ADI	ADI	5.46%	1,000,000.00
WBC	28-Aug-23	09-Apr-	225	ADI	ADI	4.98%	1,000,000.00
WBC	29-Aug-23	16-Apr-	231	ADI	ADI	5.00%	1,000,000.00
MAQ	30-Aug-23	23-Apr-	237	LMG	LMG	4.75%	1,000,000.00
NAB	31-Aug-23	30-Apr-	243	ADI	ADI	5.05%	1,000,000.00
WBC - Sewer	31-Oct-23	30-Apr-	182	ADI	ADI	5.20%	500,000.00
NAB	31-Aug-23	07-May-	250	ADI	ADI	5.05%	500,000.00
WBC	31-Aug-23	14-May-	257	ADI	ADI	4.95%	500,000.00
MAQ	01-Aug-23	21-May-	294	LMG	LMG	5.07%	1,000,000.00
AMP	29-May-23	24-May-	361	ADI	ADI	5.20%	1,000,000.00
WBC	04-Oct-23	28-May-	237	ADI	ADI	5.05%	1,000,000.00
CBA	28-Jun-23	25-Jun-	363	ADI	ADI	5.50%	1,000,000.00
CBA	30-Jun-23	28-Jun-	364	ADI	ADI	5.55%	500,000.00
AMP	28-Jun-23	27-Jun-	365	ADI	ADI	5.70%	500,000.00
NAB	31-Oct-23	02-Jul-	245	ADI	ADI	5.30%	1,000,000.00

# WARRUMBUNGLA SHIRE COUNCIL

## Ordinary Meeting – 16 November 2023

WBC	31-Aug-23	30-Aug-	365	ADI	ADI	5.08%	1,000,000.00
WBC	31-Oct-23	31-Oct-	366	ADI	ADI	5.50%	1,500,000.00
						<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>39,000,000.00</b>
<b>Total</b>							<b>40,916,849.96</b>

### Credit Rating Legend

<b>P</b>	Prime
<b>ADI</b>	Big Four – ANZ, CBA, NAB, WBC
<b>HG</b>	High Grade
<b>UMG</b>	Upper Medium Grade
<b>LMG</b>	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	1,221.49	-	-	1,221.49
ANZ	6,555.93	-	-	6,555.93
CBA At Call	316,120.14	2,952.40	1,590,000.00	1,909,072.54
<b>Total at call</b>	<b>323,897.56</b>	<b>2,952.40</b>	<b>1,590,000.00</b>	<b>1,916,849.96</b>
WBC	1,000,000.00	15,913.97	(1,015,913.97)	-
NAB	500,000.00	6,712.33	(506,712.33)	-
NAB	500,000.00	7,191.78	(507,191.78)	-
NAB - Sewer Fund	500,000.00	11,219.18	(511,219.18)	-
CBA	500,000.00	8,243.84	(508,243.84)	-
WBC	2,000,000.00	66,417.53	(2,066,417.53)	-
NAB	1,000,000.00	19,508.22	(1,019,508.22)	-
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	500,000.00			500,000.00
NAB	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
NAB	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
CBA	500,000.00			500,000.00

# WARRUMBUNGLA SHIRE COUNCIL

## Ordinary Meeting – 16 November 2023

NAB	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
WBC	500,000.00			500,000.00
WBC	500,000.00			500,000.00
CBA	2,000,000.00			2,000,000.00
CBA	500,000.00			500,000.00
NAB	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
CBA	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
MAQ	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
WBC	500,000.00			500,000.00
WBC	1,000,000			1,000,000.00
CBA	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
WBC	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
WBC	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
MAQ	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
NAB	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
WBC - Sewer Fund			500,000.00	500,000.00
NAB	500,000.00			500,000.00
WBC	500,000.00			500,000.00
MAQ	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
AMP	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
WBC			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
NAB			1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
WBC	1,000,000.00			1,000,000.00
WBC			1,500,000.00	1,500,000.00
<b>Total Term deposits</b>	<b>41,000,000.00</b>	<b>135,206.85</b>	<b>(2,135,206.85)</b>	<b>39,000,000.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,323,897.56</b>	<b>138,159.25</b>	<b>(545,206.85)</b>	<b>40,916,849.96</b>

### 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
ANZ	ADI	6,555.93	0.02%	33.30%	Compliant
CBA	ADI	1,409,072.54	27.88%	33.30%	Compliant
WBC	ADI	10,500,000.00	25.66%	33.30%	Compliant
NAB	ADI	11,501,221.49	28.11%	33.30%	Compliant
	<b>Total ADI</b>	<b>33,416,849.96</b>	<b>81.67%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>Compliant</b>
MAQ	UMG	4,000,000.00	9.78%	20.00%	Compliant
	<b>Total UMG</b>	<b>4,000,000.00</b>	<b>9.78%</b>	<b>20.00%</b>	<b>Compliant</b>

# WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

## Ordinary Meeting – 16 November 2023

AMP	LMG	3,500,000.00	8.55%	10.00%	Compliant
	<b>Total LMG</b>	<b>3,500,000.00</b>	<b>8.55%</b>	<b>10.00%</b>	<b>Compliant</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>40,916,849.96</b>	<b>100.00%</b>		

### **Risk Considerations**

This report deals with strategic and operational level financial risks, being managed within Council's Investment Policy. While the risk level is inherently high, the control measures in place mitigate the risk exposure and the risk is within Council's adopted risk appetite.

### **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 31 October 2023 including a total balance of \$41,192,701.86 being:

- \$1,916,849.96 in at call accounts.
- \$39,000,000.00 in term deposits.
- \$275,851.90 cash at bank.



# WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

## Ordinary Meeting – 16 November 2023

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### Item 15 Outcome of Tender Negotiations for Tennis Court Upgrades at Binnaway and Mendooran

<b>Division:</b>	Technical Services
<b>Management Area:</b>	Design & Urban Services
<b>Author:</b>	Manager Projects – Rejoice De Vera
<b>CSP Key Focus Area:</b>	SC3 A healthy and active community is supported by sport and recreational infrastructure
<b>Priority:</b>	SC3.1 Identify and deliver sport and recreation facilities to service the community into the future.

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#### **Reason for Report**

To report to Council on the tender negotiations for Tennis Court Upgrades at Binnaway and Mendooran.

#### **Background**

The scope of works for Binnaway is to renovate the tennis courts by repairing the existing pavement, installation of two synthetic tennis courts and one multi-sport (netball, basketball and volleyball) court. The Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Phase 3 (LRCIP3) budget allocation is \$261,000.

The scope of works for Mendooran is to renovate the tennis courts by repairing the existing pavement and installation of synthetic turf surfacing and fencing. The LRCIP3 budget allocation is \$130,000.

Council at its meeting on 20 July 2023 considered a tender report on the Tennis Court Upgrades at Binnaway and Mendooran and resolved the following.

#### ***'36/2324 RESOLVED that Council:***

- 1. Not accept tenders received for Tennis Court Upgrades at Binnaway and Mendooran.*
- 2. Authorise the General Manager in accordance with Clause 178 (3) (e) of the Local Government (General) Regulation to enter into negotiations with any contractor for Tennis Court Upgrades at Binnaway and Mendooran.*
- 3. Should negotiations be successful then Council authorise the General Manager to accept the tender.*
- 4. The General Manager report to Council on the tender negotiations.'*

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Negotiations between Council and Tuff Group Holdings Pty Ltd (Tuff Group) for the Tennis Court Upgrades in Binnaway and Mendooran commenced on 31 July 2023 and concluded on 28 August 2023.

### **Issues**

Negotiations centred around Council's available project budget; the cost to deliver the project; and options to reduce the scope of works to enable Council to complete upgrades to both facilities.

One option was to remove the fencing component of the Mendooran Tennis Court Upgrade until funding became available to complete the works.

Council and Tuff Group agreed to enter into a contract for the upgrades to tennis courts at Binnaway and Mendooran excluding the Mendooran fencing component and that site works would not commence until after 30 November 2023; or once funds for the fencing component were secured, whichever came first. The reason for the November deadline was that Council intended seeking funds through its application to Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Phase 4 (LRCIP4) for the fencing component. Based on previous years applications the funding outcomes would likely be known towards the end of November. It was also agreed, that if funds for the fencing were secured, the contract would be varied by the cost of the fencing to include these works.

On 4 September 2023 Council entered into a contract with Tuff Group Holdings Pty Ltd for \$366,820 (inc GST) to complete the Tennis Court Upgrades at Binnaway and Mendooran.

On 9 October 2023 Council was advised that its LRCIP4 funding had been approved. This included \$120,000 for the fencing around the Mendooran Tennis Courts.

Works are underway with the synthetic turf being manufactured and site works due to commence late November. The contractor will now submit a variation to complete the fencing at Mendooran Tennis Courts. Both tennis court upgrades are expected to be finalised by 30 June 2024.

### **Options**

Nil – the report is for information.

### **Financial Considerations**

The total project budget is \$511,000 made up of \$391,000 from LRCIP3 and \$120,000 from LRCIP4.

### **Community Engagement**

The level of community engagement is to inform. Tennis Clubs at Binnaway and Mendooran have been, and will continue to be engaged with during the works.

### **Attachments**

Nil.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council note the report on the outcome of tender negotiations for Tennis Court Upgrades at Binnaway and Mendooran.

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### Item 16 Natural Disaster Response and Recovery Monthly Report

<b>Division:</b>	Technical Services
<b>Management Area:</b>	Road Operations
<b>Author:</b>	Director Technical Services – Nicole Benson
<b>CSP Key Focus Area:</b>	Supporting Community Life
<b>Priority:</b>	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.

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#### **Reason for Report**

To provide a monthly update on the natural disaster response and recovery, as well as specific information on Local Government Recovery Grants.

#### **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. \$4,996,965 has been submitted for the September 2022 event. The variance between the original submission amount and the current submission amount is due to several 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 \$9,842,923 for essential public asset restoration works and a payment of \$725,570 has been made for the emergent works. As reported last month, the September 2022 AGRN 1034 current estimate was \$4,996,965 with further defects still to be included.

As at 1 November 2023, there are 1,701 defects approved for funding for the November 2021 event and 80 defects for the September 2022 event identified though not approved yet. There will be no restoration defects for the August 2022 event as this claim will be emergency works only.

To date, the amount of \$10,582,454 has been approved for restoration and works are being carried out.

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
<b>AGRN 987</b>	<b>\$10,568,493</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$10,568,493</b>
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 – sealed			\$3,004,143	\$3,004,143
Road – unsealed – formed	\$13,961		\$594,051	\$608,012
Emergent Works			\$137,030	\$137,030
<b>AGRN 1034</b>	<b>\$13,961</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$4,983,004</b>	<b>\$4,996,965</b>
Emergent Works			\$176,122	\$176,122
<b>AGRN 1030</b>			<b>\$176,122</b>	<b>\$176,122</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$10,582,454</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$5,159,126</b>	<b>\$15,741,580</b>

- Approved refers to defects that have been assessed by TfNSW and the upper funding limit has been set.
- Queried refers to defects that have been submitted and TfNSW is 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 the upper limit for the restoration works.*

Expenditure to 1 November 2023 for AGRN 987, 1030 and 1034 is \$5,758,293 and includes emergent and full restoration works.

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

Lawson Park Road	Scully Road
Pine Ridge Road	Dennykymine Road
Melrose Road	Corella road
Cliffdale Road	Merotherie Road
Patrick Road	Warrumbungles Way (MR396)
Blue Springs Road	Danabar Road
Dandry Road	Dapper Road
Homestead Road	Lambing Hill Road
Sandy Creek Road	

There were no AGRN 1034 Natural Disaster Emergency Works carried out in October 2023 as the emergent works period has now finished.

During October 2023, Council was also delivering the following grant funded projects concurrently with the Natural Disaster Restoration Works:

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- Pothole Repair Program – as at 1 November 2023 there have been 16,287 potholes repaired on 3,910km of regional, local rural and urban roads under this program
- Regional and Local Roads Repair Program – Warrumbungles Way, Black Stump Way, Lawson Park Road and Vinegaroy Road
- Regional Roads Block Grant
- Fixing Local Roads – Tooraweenah Road Sealing Project
- RMCC Maintenance and Ordered Works.

The road crews are working six (6) days a week most weeks on our local rural roads performing pothole repairs. Urban Services crews are also working up to three (3) days per week in urban areas where service levels permit, and crews are also working longer hours where necessary to get the work completed quicker.

Council has engaged two (2) Contractors under the Casual Plant Hire Contract to supply an unsealed road maintenance crew to assist with the Natural Disaster Restoration Works.

Tender 1 closed on 19 October 2023 and tenders are being assessed. Tender 2 closed on 7 November and Tender 3 closes on 14 November. All tenders have been advertised on Council's website.

The roads included in the tenders are as follows and are expected to be less than \$500,000 per Contract.

<b>Tender 1 Sandy Creek Area</b>	<b>Tender 2 Upper Laheys Creek Area</b>	<b>Tender 3 North of Oxley (Goolhi and Surrounds)</b>
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 following the prioritisation process approved by Council.

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### **‘113/2223 RESOLVED that Council:**

1. *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.*
2. *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.*
3. *Notes that all restoration works associated with the November 2021 natural disaster must be completed by 30 June 2024.’*

Council work crews will be used as much as resourcing allows and will be supplemented with contractors when available.

### **Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund (RERRF)**

As previously reported the Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund (RERRF) supports councils across Regional NSW to fix damaged roads and ensure the Regional and Local Road Network is safe and reliable.

Council’s allocation under RERRF is \$6,435,772 and is expected to be received in full by December 2023. The funding is on top of the \$4,590,978 RLRRP allocation. Council’s RLRRP funding deed was varied to incorporate the additional RERRF funds and was signed and returned to TfNSW on 31 October 2023.

RERRF guidelines have been attached and funds can be used for corrective maintenance works such as unplanned maintenance activities that are necessary to ensure continued access and the safe operation of the road network. It can also be used for selected renewal and upgrades including but not limited to bridge maintenance, gravel resheeting, widening shoulders/carriageways and resealing/resurfacing etc. Renewal and upgrade works not funded under RERRF include planned or scheduled asset renewals. Asset renewals are defined as those works which return the road asset to its “as-new” condition and in doing so extend the design life of the asset. Works such as as culverts and drainage replacements will not be covered.

New activities planned as part of the RERRF will need TfNSW approval before starting and this can be achieved through the submission of a revised workplan. All RLRRP and RERRF funds must be spent by 31 October 2027 and staff are currently assessing the best way to deliver projects and maintenance tasks across the road network.

### **Local Government Recovery Grants**

The purpose of Local Government Recovery Grants is to support the emerging relief and recovery needs within impacted communities and contribute to building disaster resilience and reducing the impact of future disaster events. Submissions for the

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projects listed below were lodged on 13 October 2023 and Council and the community will be advised of the outcome once know.

Name	Funds Requested
Coolah Rising Main – Coolaburragundy River Crossing	\$200,000
Coolah Rising Main – Saleyards Creek Crossing	\$100,000
Fixed Road Closure Barriers	\$100,000
Neible Siding Box Culvert	\$500,000
Coolah Sewer Treatment Plant (STP) Fencing Upgrade	\$50,000
Coonabarabran Swimming Pool Complex Flood Mitigation	\$50,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>

### Issues

It is 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.

At the time of writing this report, 10 locations have been reported to 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.
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 by 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) were 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 as required 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 following 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.

Council is delivering several projects using grant funding to return the 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 1 November 2023.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>Submitted</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Percentage Spent</b>	<b>Construction Completion Date</b>
Natural Disaster AGRN 987	\$10,568,493		\$4,039,891	38%	30/06/2024
Natural Disaster AGRN 1034		\$4,983,004	\$1,542,278	31%	30/06/2025
Natural Disaster AGRN 1030		\$176,122	\$176,122	100%	30/06/2025
Pothole Repair Program	\$864,683		\$565,008	65%	01/01/2024
Regional and Local Roads Repair Program	\$4,590,987		\$1,196,491	26%	31/10/2027
Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund	\$6,435,772		\$0	0%	31/07/2027
Local Government Recovery Grants	\$1,000,000		\$36,819	4%	30/06/2025

### **Risk Considerations**

There are operational, project and financial risks associated with the projects outlined within the report. They are managed and mitigated through regular risk assessments, recording of information on risk registers, and following adopted policies and procedures.

### **Community Engagement Considerations**

The level of community engagement is to inform.

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### **Attachments**

1. Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund Guidelines.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

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

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### Item 17 Baradine Sewage Scheme Report

<b>Division:</b>	Environment and Development Services
<b>Management Area:</b>	Warrumbungle Water
<b>Author:</b>	Manager Warrumbungle Water – Tom Cleary
<b>CSP Key Focus Area:</b>	Supporting Community Life
<b>Priority:</b>	SC4.4 The future requirements for water and power are identified and adequately planned for by the service providers.

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### Reason for report

To provide Council with an update on the Baradine Sewerage Scheme as Resolution 17/223 remains outstanding for a period greater than twelve (12) months.

### Background

At the July 2022 Council meeting, Council received a report in relation to the Baradine Sewerage Treatment Plant Scoping Study. The report provided an update on the outcomes of a scoping study completed by Council to assess the current treatment performance of the Baradine Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) and determine the overall treatment capacity of the STP in light of the proposed Inland Rail construction workers camp to be located at Camp Cypress. In addition, the report discussed options available to Council to connect Camp Cypress to the sewerage reticulation system that services Baradine, noting that Camp Cypress is currently serviced by on-site sewerage management systems and is not connected to the sewerage reticulation system.

It was determined that the current treatment capacity of the STP would not be sufficient to effectively treat the load from the proposed construction workers camp in addition to the existing loading from the permanent population within Baradine. The report provided Council with options on how to proceed with upgrading the STP in order to treat the additional load to be imposed by the Inland Rail construction workers camp. As such, Council resolved under resolution 152/2122:

#### **152/2122 RESOLVED** that:

- 1. Notes the information in the Baradine Sewerage Treatment Plant Scoping Study Report.*
- 2. Actively engages with ARTC and their contractors to seek funding for the necessary treatments to the Baradine Sewerage Treatment Plant to address the additional loading to the plant from the proposed construction workers camp.*

### Issues

The Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) whom are delivering the Inland Rail project have announced that delivery of the section of rail north of Parkes which includes the segment that will pass through the Warrumbungle Shire Council has

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been delayed, with further investigations to be completed. As such, the construction workers camp to be located at Camp Cypress has also been delayed.

On this basis, Council has no immediate requirement to perform capital upgrades to the Baradine Sewerage Treatment Plant, as the plant has sufficient capacity to treat the existing sewerage load from Baradine. In the event that Camp Cypress is also connected to the sewerage reticulation system, the plant will still have sufficient capacity to treat the load from both the existing Baradine catchment as well as Camp Cypress. Only if a construction workers camp is established at Camp Cypress will upgrades to the STP be required in order to service the forecasted sewerage loading.

Camp Cypress is currently serviced via on-site sewerage management systems. Most of these systems are reaching the end of their design life and require upgrades to comply with current on-site sewerage management system standards. Connecting Camp Cypress to the Baradine sewerage reticulation system will have both beneficial environmental and economic outcomes for all stakeholders.

### **Options**

Council have submitted a variation to the funding body Infrastructure NSW (INSW) whom funded the initial scoping study to complete further detailed assessments of the Baradine sewerage reticulation system. The variation has been approved and Council have engaged a consultant to complete detailed investigations on the existing sewerage reticulation system to determine if further upgrades are required to the reticulation system in order to service the proposed Camp Cypress sewer reticulation connection.

Baradine Sewerage Scheme is serviced by a vacuum system, which operates in a manner where sewerage is sucked via negative pressure to a centralised pumping station and is then transferred to the STP. The vacuum pumps which service the reticulation system have not been assessed to determine whether they have sufficient capacity to service the proposed Camp Cypress connection. Council will work closely with the consultant to determine if any upgrades to existing infrastructure within the reticulation system are required based upon the proposed connection. Council will take into consideration the proposed load from a construction workers camp that is likely to be located at Camp Cypress in assessments of the reticulation system.

Following assessment of existing reticulation system, Council will have developed a sufficient scope of works, design plans and pricing schedules to better inform the funds required to fund a sewerage reticulation connection to Camp Cypress.

### **Financial Considerations**

Council will be conducting these works through a variation to an existing funding deed through INSW. The scope of the funding deed is to develop a scoping study for upgrading the Baradine STP to improve sewerage services, including providing services to Camp Cypress. Overall the funding deed is worth a total value of \$100,000 with INSW contributing \$75,000 and Council contributing \$25,000. To date, Council has expended \$69,357.40 on the project.

Council has submitted a deed variation to INSW to expend a further \$30,000 on the reticulation assessment, this variation has now been approved. These works will be funded through a revote item from the FY 22/23 budget for the Baradine Sewerage

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Scheme Upgrade Scoping Study which has an allocation of \$20,461. The \$30,000 approved variation includes \$10,000 in contingency funding, in the event that further funds are required to finalise the assessment a supplementary vote will be presented in QBR5 2 for the consideration of Council.

### **Risk Considerations**

This report involves strategic and project level risks. The strategic risk is moderate and falls within Council's adopted risk appetite. The project risk is low and falls within Council's adopted risk appetite.

### **Community Engagement Considerations**

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

### **Attachments**

Nil.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Notes the information contained in the Baradine Sewerage Scheme Report.
2. Receives a report upon completion of the sewerage reticulation assessment for connection of Camp Cypress to the Baradine Sewerage Scheme.

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### Item 18 Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone Report – November 2023

<b>Division:</b>	Environment and Development Services
<b>Management Area:</b>	Planning and Regulation
<b>Author:</b>	Director Development Services – Leeanne Ryan
<b>CSP Key Focus Area:</b>	Strengthening the Local Economy
<b>Priority:</b>	LE3 – The community benefits from the economic returns of local renewable energy production, and mining and extractive industries

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#### **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 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) – proposed to be increase to 6 gigawatts.
- 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 – in progress at the present time to increase gigawatts. EnergyCo recently advised plans to amend the CWOREZ declaration to increase the intended network capacity from 3GW to 6GW in line with the NSW Network Infrastructure Strategy.

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- There are 4 other REZ's in 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.
- 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, and also on Council's 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.

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### Issues

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

- 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:
  - Liverpool Range Wind Farm on 13/10/23.
- Participated in update meetings with EnergyCo on 13/09/23, 29/09/23, 11/10/23, 12/10/23.
- Participated in Temporary Workers Accommodation discussion with DPE on 21/09/23.
- Participated in CWOREZ discussions with training provider on 10/10/23.
- Participated in the 5 working groups related to the REZ Steering Group being Housing and Accommodation, Transport and Logistics, Environmental Delivery, Social Services and Economic Participation. Meetings of the working groups have been ongoing since September 2023.
- Update Council's website to provide a new information section titled Renewable Energy Zone, where access to submissions and information produced by Council can be found (relating to the REZ).
- Prepared and lodged submission on Response to Submissions/Amended Project for Liverpool Range Wind Farm on 16 October 2023 (attached)
- Prepared and lodged submission on Response to Submissions/Amended Project for Birriwa Solar Farm on 19 October 2023 (attached).
- Assessed and commenced preparation of submission on EnergyCo Transmission Project EIS.

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 (stage)
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	Response to Submissions
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	EIS on Public Exhibition, closing 8/11/23



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		from these lines to projects in the REZ	
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	Assessment
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 infrastructure, transport route and increase native veg clearing limits	Assessment
Valley of the Winds Wind Farm	Warrumbungle	Construct and operate wind farm up to 148 turbines, energy storage and assoc. infrastructure	Response to Submissions
Narragamba Solar Farm	Mid-Western and Warrumbungle	320MW solar farm including associated infrastructure	Preparing EIS
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 \$294,338.43 on matters relating to the REZ. This consists of the following expenditure incurred from the 1 September 2022 to 26 October 2023:

- Staff costs = \$38,629.81
- Contractors = \$255,708.62

### Risk Considerations

This report involves strategic level risks. The risk is moderate and falls within Council's adopted risk appetite.

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### **Community Engagement**

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

### **Attachments**

1. Submission on Response to Submissions/Amended Project for Liverpool Range Wind Farm on 16 October 2023.
2. Submission on Response to Submissions/Amended Project for Birriwa Solar Farm on 19 October 2023.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

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

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### **Item 19 Inland Rail Update Report – November 2023**

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

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### **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](http://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.

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- The project north of Parkes is now being delayed, including the N2N section. Further work is also required to be completed prior to approvals being issued by the Federal Government. The rail corridor (northern section) still needs to be secured (procured). Planned forward activities are commencing on this section with a number of studies and costings to be undertaken in the future. The Baradine workers camp is currently on hold.
- Discussions on the Inland Rail Development Agreement (MIRDA) have not progressed, though ARTC advised on 4 October 2023 they would reach out to Council shortly.
- Engagement with ARTC and their contractors regarding the sealing of the Baradine Aerodrome are on hold due to the staged approach now being taken by ARTC.
- Given that progress on the Inland Rail Project, particularly the Narromine to Narrabri section, is now delayed it is proposed that this reporting to Council be eased.

### **Options**

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

### **Financial Considerations**

Nil

### **Risk Considerations**

This report involves strategic level risks. The risk is moderate and falls within Council's adopted risk appetite.

### **Community Engagement**

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

### **Attachments**

Nil

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Notes the information in the Inland Rail Update Report – November 2023.
2. Receives future update reports as and when new information is available on the Inland Rail project.

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### Item 20 Development Approvals

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

### Development Applications

#### (i) Approved –

Development Application / Complying Development	Date Lodged	Date Approved	Applicant's Name	Location	Town	Type of Development	Referral Days	Stop the Clock Days
CDC9/2023	12/10/2023	17/10/2023	Brad Weatherall	Buelah 415 River Road	Coonabarabran	Alteration and Additions	0	0
DA20/2023	27/06/2023	23/10/2023	Warrane Design Constructions Fitout	49-55 Edwards Street	Coonabarabran	Alterations and Additions	104 #	3
DA35/2023	24/08/2023	16/10/2023	Premise	2 Nelson Street	Coonabarabran	Sub-division	16	0
DA40/2023	15/09/2023	25/10/2023	Warrumbungle Steel Buildings	36 Barker Street	Coonabarabran	Shed	2	0
DA32/2023	26/07/2023	16/10/2023	Fernleigh Drafting	82 Yarrow Street	Dunedoo	Shed	9	0
DA36/2023	12/09/2023	25/10/2023	James Frampton	296 Fairfield Road	Dunedoo	Dwelling	15	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.

**# NSW Police Licensing Sergeant**

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

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

# **WARRUMBUNGLA SHIRE COUNCIL**

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### **Item 21 Notice of Motion – Council Reports – Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone**

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I hereby advise that I propose to move the following Notice of Motion at the Council meeting.

Currently Council is being provided with reports every second month on the status of matters within the CWOREZ. These reports have not only been very informative for the councillors keeping track of matters but they have also been informative for the community to follow progress.

With the increase in activity in the CWOREZ, I feel that it is time that these reports become monthly.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That henceforth Council be provided with monthly Renewable Energy Zone reports.

**KATHRYN RINDFLEISH  
COUNCILLOR**

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### Item 22 Reports to be Considered in Closed Council

**Item 22.1**      **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 2021* (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 22.2**      **Mayoral Minute – General Manager Annual Performance Review**  
**Division:**      **Executive Services**  
**Author:**        **Mayor Ambrose Doolan**

#### **Summary**

The purpose of this report is to provide councillors an update on the General Managers Annual Performance Review.

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) (*'the Act'*) and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (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)



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### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Mayoral Minute – General Managers Annual Performance 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).

### **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).