

AGENDA

Ordinary Council Meeting Tuesday, 26 July 2022

Date: Tuesday, 26 July 2022

Time: 5PM

Location: Council Chambers, Market Street Balranald

Jeff Sowiak

General Manager

BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

In Case of an emergency, for example a fire, please evacuate the building following the direction of the Administrator. The order to evacuate may be signified by a council officer of myself. Please proceed to the assembly area (in front of police station) or in the car park across the road. An instruction to evacuate to an area should be followed without delay to assist Council in ensuring the Health and Safety of all staff and visitors.

LIVE STREAMING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS PLEASE NOTE: This Council meeting is being streamed live, recorded, and broadcast online via Facebook. To those present in the gallery today, by attending or participating in this public meeting you are consenting to your image, voice and comments being recorded and published. The Administrator and/or General Manager have the authority to pause or terminate the stream if comments or debate are considered defamatory or otherwise inappropriate for publishing. Attendees are advised that they may be subject to legal action if they engage in unlawful behaviour or commentary.

Our Vision

To create a better, more vibrant, more resilient and more engaged community, by capitalising upon its human, cultural, environmental and business assets and encouraging a strong sense of civic participation and price.

Our Mission

"Committed to Balranald Shire, Providing for our People, Protecting our Heritage, and Planning for our Future."

Our Values

Honesty: We will be transparent, frank and truthful to ourselves, each other

and with other people we deal with.

Respect: We will treat others as we want to be treated ourselves, we will be

tolerant of each other and accept that people have different

opinions.

Enjoyment: We will create a pleasant and enjoyable working environment with

satisfying jobs.

Teamwork: We will cooperate and support each other to achieve common

goals.

Openness: We will collaborate openly and provide opportunities to

communicate and network regularly with each other.

Leadership: We will provide a clear strategy and direction and support all to

achieve organisational and community goals.

Customer

Focus: We will constantly strive to be responsive to our customers' needs

and preferences by providing high quality services.

Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held in the Council Chambers, Market Street Balranald on:
Tuesday, 26 July 2022 at 5PM

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1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Council's Charter

(Chapter 3. Section 8 (1) Local Government Act 1993)

- (1) A Council has the following charter:
- To provide directly or on behalf of other levels of government, after due consultation, adequate and appropriate services and facilities for the community and to ensure that those services and facilities are managed efficiently and effectively;
- To exercise community leadership;
- To exercise its functions in a manner that is consistent with and actively promotes the principles of multiculturalism:
- To promote and to provide and plan for the needs of children;
- To properly manage, develop, protect, restore, enhance and conserve the environment of the area for which it is responsible, in a manner that is consistent with and promotes the principles of ecologically sustainable development;
- To have regard to the long term and cumulative effects of its decisions;
- To bear in mind that it is the custodian and trustee of public assets and to effectively account for and manage the assets for which it is responsible;
- To facilitate the involvement of councillors, members of the public, users of facilities and services and council staff in the development, improvement and co-ordination of local government;
- To raise funds for local purposes by the fair imposition of rates, charges and fees, by income earned from investments and, when appropriate, by borrowings and grants;
- To keep the local community and the State government (and through it, the wider community) informed about its activities;
- To ensure that, in the exercise of its regulatory functions, it acts consistently and without bias, particularly where an activity of the council is affected;
- To be a responsible employer.
- (2) A council, in the exercise of its functions, must pursue its charter but nothing in the charter or this section gives rise to, or can be taken into account in, any civil cause of action.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Acknowledgement of Country

We pay our respect to the Traditional Custodians of the Lands where we hold this meeting to Elders past, present and emerging.

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3 APOLOGIES

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 28 JUNE 2022

File Number: D22.68758

Reporting Officer: Carol Holmes, Senior Executive Assistant

Responsible Officer: Jeff Sowiak, General Manager

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28 June 2022 be received and noted.

REPORT

Council held its Ordinary Meeting on Tuesday 28 June 2022 with the Minutes of that meeting being attached.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28 June 2022

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MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting Tuesday, 28 June 2022

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MINUTES OF BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MARKET STREET BALRANALD ON TUESDAY, 28 JUNE 2022 AT 5PM

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The meeting opened at 5.10pm

2 ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

We pay our respect to the Traditional Custodians of the Lands where we hold this meeting to Elders past, present and emerging.

PRESENT:

Administrator Mike Colreavy

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jeff Sowiak (General Manager), Kerry Jones (Executive Manager of Engineering), Glenn Wilcox – Consultant and Carol Holmes (Senior Executive Officer)

3 APOLOGIES

Nil

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17 MAY 2022

RESOLUTION 2022/107

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17 May 2022 be received and noted.

CARRIED

5 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

There were no Disclosures of Interests submitted to this Meeting

6 ADMINISTRATOR MINUTE/REPORT

There was no Administrator's Minute/Report to this Meeting

7 COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR ADOPTION

7.1 EUSTON PROGRESSIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING - HELD ON 26 APRIL 2022

RESOLUTION 2022/108

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That Council receives and notes the Minutes of the Euston Progressive Advisory Committee (EPAC) meeting held on Tuesday 26 April 2022.

CARRIED

7.2 BALRANALD BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE HELD ON 4 MAY 2022

RESOLUTION 2022/109

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That the Minutes of the Balranald Beautification Advisory Committee meeting held on 4 May 2022 be received and the recommendations noted.

CARRIED

7.3 EUSTON PROGRESSIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 30 MAY 2022

RESOLUTION 2022/110

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

- 1. That the Minutes of the Euston Progressive Advisory Committee (EPAC) meeting held on Monday 30 May 2022 be received and noted.
- 2. That Council investigate funding options for a new playground to be installed in the new estate area at Euston.
- 3. That Council notes the suggested alterations of the Euston Recreation project.

CARRIED

7.4 GROWING BUSINESS INDUSTRY & TOURISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 7 JUNE 2022

RESOLUTION 2022/111

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That the Minutes of the Growing Business Industry & Tourism Advisory Committee meeting held on Tuesday 7 June 2022 be received noted and that the recommendations therein be adopted.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS (INCORPORATING ALL STAFF REPORTS)

PART A – ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

8 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS

8.1 DATE AND TIME FOR ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETINGS

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Section 365 of the Local Government Act 1993 ("the Act") requires Council to meet at least 10 times each year, each time in a different month. Clause 3.1 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice ("Meeting Code") provides that Council shall, by resolution, set the frequency, time, date and place of its ordinary meetings. This report is set out to provide dates and times for these meetings for the remainder of 2022/2023.

RESOLUTION 2022/112

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

- Pursuant to Section 362 of the Local Government Act 1993 and Clause 3.2 of Councils Code of Meeting Practice, that Council adopts the proposed 2022/2023 Schedule of Ordinary Council Meetings contained in this report.
- 2. Pursuant to section 9 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and clause 3.4 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, that Council provide public notice of the time, date and place of each scheduled Ordinary Meeting as set out in the table included in this report.

CARRIED

8.2 ORDER OF BUSINESS

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To set the order of business by resolution by Council as per the Code of Meeting Practice.

RESOLUTION 2022/113

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That the order of business for each Council meeting as detailed in this report be adopted.

8.3 DONATION REQUEST - BALRANALD CENTRAL SCHOOL YEAR 12 FORMAL

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Council of a donation request received by Year 12 Year Advisor, Wyatt Cutting of Balranald Central School on behalf of Year 12 students.

RESOLUTION 2022/114

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

- That Council waives the fees of hiring Theatre Royal of \$512 for the 2022 Year 12 Formal.
- 2. That Balranald Central School Year 12 students be requested to pay the cleaning deposit of \$350.00 which will be fully refunded if the hall is left clean and tidy.

CARRIED

8.4 BALRANALD VISITOR CENTRE ALTERATIONS

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To recommend that Council proceed with the invitation of tenders for the redevelopment of the Balranald Visitor Information Centre complex and give consideration to public submissions on the proposed works prior to proceeding with the works.

RESOLUTION 2022/115

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That

- 1. Provided funding for this project is confirmed by the Far West Joint Organisation;
- 2. The revised plans for the Balranald Visitor Information Centre be endorsed and
- 3. Council proceed with fully developed architectural and structural plans for the extensions to the Balranald Visitor Information Centre in accordance with the preliminary plans and
- 4. Tenders be invited for the construction of the proposed works

9 CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORTS

9.1 SALE OF LAND FOR UNPAID RATES

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To write off rates, charges and debts outstanding following sale of land by public auction for unpaid rates

RESOLUTION 2022/116

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That Council write off the amount of \$7,706.05 as the rates are not lawfully recoverable beyond the amount received by sale of land.

CARRIED

10 INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT REPORTS

10.1 OFFICIAL NAMING OF DRY LAKE ROAD

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To finalise the process of officially naming a road

RESOLUTION 2022/117

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That Council:

- 1. adopts Dry Lake Road as the name for the private road on Lot 2 DP 1244585; and
- 2. Finalise the process of official road naming in accordance with the Roads Act 1993 and the NSW Address Policy and User Manual.

CARRIED

10.2 DRAFT THEATRE ROYAL CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To exhibit a draft Conservation Management Plan for the Theatre Royal

RESOLUTION 2022/118

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That Council

- 1. Place the draft Conservation Management Plan for the Theatre Royal on public exhibition for a period of 28 days; and
- 2. The current tenants of the building be notified and sent a written copy of the draft Conservation Management Plan for comment within the 28 day public exhibition period;

and

3. Receive a further report following conclusion of public exhibition to consider any submissions.

CARRIED

PART B - ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

11 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS

11.1 CIRCULARS FROM OFFICE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Council with information of the circulars received from Office Local Government since the May 2022 Council Meeting.

RESOLUTION 2022/119

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That Council receive and note this report.

CARRIED

11.2 ADMINISTRATOR, GENERAL MANAGER AND DIRECTORS MEETINGS

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Council of the meetings undertaken on behalf of Council by the Administrator, General Manager and Managers since May 2022 Ordinary Meeting.

RESOLUTION 2022/120

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED

11.3 OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To bring forward for information the Action Report with outstanding actions from previous Council resolutions.

RESOLUTION 2022/121

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That the report be received and noted.

11.4 NSW GOVERNMENT GRANTS PROGRAMS REPORT

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Council with the Government's Response to the Public Accountability Committee's Final Report on its inquiry into the integrity, efficacy and value for money of NSW Government grants programs.

RESOLUTION 2022/122

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED

11.5 GRANT STATUS UPDATE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Council with an updated summary of the current and active grant funded projects across Council.

RESOLUTION 2022/123

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That the report be received and noted.

12 CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORTS

12.1 REPORT ON AREAS OF COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise and report to council on the status of the following financial areas of operation-

- 1 Investments
- 2 Bank Reconciliation
- 3 Monthly Statement of Rates and Charges
- 4 Monthly Summary of Revenue and Expenditure for the Caravan Park
- 5 Monthly Summary of Revenue and Expenditure for the Bidgee Haven Hostel
- 6 Monthly Summary of Revenue and Expenditure for the Tourist Information Centre
- 7 Statement of Currency of Work within the Finance Function of Council
- 8 Grants Summary Update
- 9 Debtors

RESOLUTION 2022/124

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That Council receives and notes the financial information for the period ending 30 May 2022 as set out in the report.

CARRIED

13 INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT REPORTS

13.1 PLANNING ADMINISTRATION

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Council of activities in the Planning area

RESOLUTION 2022/125

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That the report be received and noted.

13.2 CORRESPONDENCE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Council of the recent correspondence received that may be of interest to public.

RESOLUTION 2022/126

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy
That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED

13.3 INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Council with an update on Infrastructure works currently in hand and in planning, updated to 14 June 2022

RESOLUTION 2022/127

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED

14 NOTICE OF MOTION / QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

15 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Having read the confidential report(s) listed below out of the open meeting in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993:

15.1 SUNDRY DEBTORS WRITE-OFF

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - a of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

15.2 TENDER - RFT 21/22-04 DOMESTIC WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - c of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

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Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

In relation to;

Item 15.1 Sundry Debtors Write-Off;

that Council write off the amount of \$26,111.63 in Outstanding Debts,

Item 15.2 - Tender -RFT 21/22-04 Domestic Waste Collection Service;

- 1. That Council reject all submitted Tenders due to non-compliance with the Tender requirements; and
- 2. That the Tenders be referred to Council's Works Committee to assess and consider the tenders

CARRIED

The Meeting closed at 6.10pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held on 19 July 2022.

.....GENERAL MANAGER

ADMINISTRATOR

5 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

6 ADMINISTRATOR MINUTE/REPORT

6.1 ADMINISTRATOR'S MINUTE - RURAL FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT

File Number: **D22.68743**

Reporting Officer: Jeff Sowiak, General Manager

Responsible Officer:

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council writes to the Member for Murray the Helen Dalton MP the Treasurer the Hon Matt Kean MP, Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience the Hon Stephanie Cook MP and the Minister for Local Government Wendy Tuckerman MP:
 - a. Expressing Council's objection to the NSW Government's determination on ownership of Rural Fire Service assets;
 - b. Advising of the impact of the Government's position on Council finances of this accounting treatment;
 - Informing that Council will not carry out RFS assets stocktakes on behalf of the NSW Government and will not record RFS assets in Balranald Shire Council's financial statements;
 - d. Calling on the NSW Government to take immediate action to permanently clear up inequities and inconsistencies around the accounting treatment of Rural Fire Service (RFS) assets by acknowledging that rural firefighting equipment is vested in, under the control of and the property of the RFS; and
 - e. Amending s119 of the *Rural Fires Act 1997* so that the effect is to make it clear that RFS assets are not the property of councils.
- 2. Council writes to the Auditor General advising that notwithstanding any overtures of future qualified audits, it will not carry out RFS stocktakes on behalf of the NSW Government and will not record RFS assets in Balranald Shire Council's financial statements, noting that the State Government's own Local Government Accounting Code of Practice and Financial Reporting provides for councils to determine whether or not they record the RFS assets as council assets.
- 3. Re-affirms its complete support of and commitment to local RFS brigades noting that Balranald Shire Council's action is entirely directed towards the NSW Government's nonsensical position that rather than being owned and controlled by local brigades, RFS assets are somehow controlled by councils, which councils consider to be a cynical financial sleight of hand abdicating the NSW Government's responsibilities at the cost of local communities.
- 4. That Council affirms its support to Local Government NSW (LGNSW) and requests LGNSW continue advocating on Council's behalf to get clarification finally from the State Government about the accounting treatment of RFS assets

CONTEXT

LGNSW is seeking support for a local government campaign on the financial accounting treatment of Rural Fire Service (RFS) mobile assets known as the 'Red Fleet'.

A long-standing dispute over the accounting treatment of the Red Fleet has come to a head with the Auditor-General's 2021 Report on Local Government on 22 June 2022. The Audit Report reemphasises the State Government determination that RFS assets are the "property" of councils

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and must be recorded in Council's financial statements with Council required to therefore absorb all depreciation costs.

The Audit Office Local Government Report has reinforced the notion that RFS mobile and other fire-fighting assets can somehow be deemed to be council assets and applies more pressure on councils and the Office of Local Government (OLG) to conform with this determination, even though councils do not have effective management or control of these assets.

Councils across the State and Local Government NSW (LGNSW) refute this determination. Councils do not have any say in the acquisition, deployment, or disposal of these assets. Comparable assets held by Fire & Rescue NSW (FRNSW) and the State Emergency Service (SES) are not vested anywhere other than with the organisations that purchase, use, maintain and dispose of them.

Councils and LGNSW have also raised concerns that the requirement breaches Australian Accounting Standards. The State Government's own *Local Government Accounting Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting* provides for councils to determine whether to record RFS assets on their books as council assets. This position has been confirmed by the Secretary of the Department of Planning and Environment in his letter to the Auditor-General dated 7 June 2022, presented in Appendix1 on page 47 of the 2021 Local Government Audit Report.

Council notes advice from LGNSW that many councils are refusing to comply with the Auditor General's instructions. Councils remained firm in 2021, resisting pressure to record RFS assets with the majority (68), choosing not to record the RFS mobile assets in accordance with the *Local Government Accounting Code*. This was the same number of councils as in 2020. LGNSW is encouraging councils to continue resisting pressure from the Audit Office and make their own determinations notwithstanding overtures that ongoing non-compliance with the Auditor General's instructions may result in future qualified financial reports.

The latest Audit Report has made further impositions on (Council) by:

- recommending Council undertakes a stocktake of RFS assets and records the value in Council's financial statements:
- warning that if Council does not recognise the assets, it will be found non-compliant and will have a high risk finding reported; and
- calling on the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (OLG) to intervene where councils do not recognise rural firefighting equipment.

The Government's blanket determination is not only nonsensical, but also inconsistent with the treatment of the comparable assets of other emergency service agencies such as Fire & Rescue NSW (FRNSW) and the State Emergency Service (SES). There is no rational reason for maintaining this anomaly.

LGNSW has been advocating this position on councils' behalf and has written to the NSW Treasurer the Hon. Matt Kean MP, Minister for Emergency Services, the Hon. Steph Cooke MP, Minister for Local Government the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP and the Auditor-General, Ms Margaret Crawford to express the local government sector's strong objection to the NSW Government's determination, applied by the Auditor-General, that RFS assets are the property of councils for accounting purposes and amend the *Rural Fires Act 1997*.

LGNSW has advised it will continue its advocacy efforts on councils' behalf and is asking all affected councils in NSW to consider adopting a resolution advising the Audit Office that Council will not carry out the RFS stocktakes on behalf of the NSW Government and will not record RFS assets on Council's financial statements.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. LGNSW Circular Concerning Red Fleet
- 2. Letter Dept Planning to AG

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The Red Fleet Fight Comes to a Head

As many of you would be aware, the accounting dispute over the Red Fleet is rapidly coming to a head following the release of the Auditor-General's latest Report on Local Government this week.

In the Report, the Auditor General reiterates the State Government determination that Rural Fire Service (RFS) assets are the "property" of councils, who must therefore absorb all depreciation costs.

This Determination is nothing more than a financial sleight of hand, which would force councils to absorb significant depreciation costs for assets over which we have precisely zero management or control.

Councils have **no** say in the acquisition of the assets, **no** involvement in their deployment, and **none** in their disposal.

In fact, the *only* connection between the two is the Government's nonsensical determination that the Auditor General has called out in this latest report.

Comparable assets held by Fire & Rescue NSW (FRNSW) and the State Emergency Service (SES) are not vested anywhere other than with the organisations that purchase, use, maintain and dispose of them.

The State Government's own *Local Government Accounting Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting* states councils are able to choose whether or not to record this RFS equipment on their books.

Unsurprisingly, 68 impacted rural and regional councils have refused to record these assets just as they refuse to wear costs which last year stood at \$145 million.

The latest Audit Report tightens the screws on councils by:

- recommending them to undertake a stocktake of RFS assets and record the value in their financial statements;
- warning councils that do not recognise the assets will be found non-compliant; and
- calling on the NSW Department of Planning and Environment to intervene.

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This latest development only compounds the farce, given the Government's 7 June letter – included in the Report and attached to this email – which states neither it nor the Local Government Minister have legal authority to direct councils to record the assets and assume the costs.

I have today written urgently to the NSW Treasurer Matt Kean, Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience Steph Cook, and Local Government Minister Wendy Tuckerman.

I have urged them to finally clear up this mess once and for all by ensuring the NSW Government acknowledges rural firefighting equipment is controlled by and the property of the RFS.

I am also appealing to you to join your fellow councils in rejecting this shameless financial chicanery.

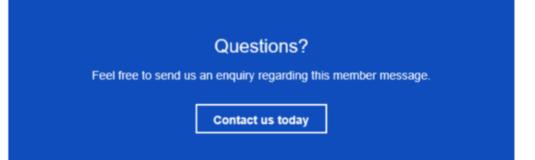
Help restore financial transparency and integrity to the process by moving motions advising the Audit Office your council will not carry out the stocktakes, and will not record RFS assets on your financial statements.

This action is supported by resolutions passed at several LGNSW Conferences and meetings of the Country Mayors Association.

Local government in NSW stands together, and speaks with one voice. To help us amplify that voice, please let us know of the actions you intend to take by contacting our Chief Economist Shaun McBride via email at shaun.mcbride@lgnsw.org.au.

Kind Regards,

Cr Darriea Turley AM President LGNSW



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Strengthening local government

Appendix one - Response from the Office of Local Government within the Department of Planning and Environment



5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541 Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541

Our Reference: Your Reference: Contact:

D2206464 Ally Dench

Ms Margaret Crawford Auditor-General for New South Wales GPO Box 12 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Email:

Dear Ms Crawford

7 June 2022

Thank you for the opportunity to review an updated draft of the report on Local Government 2021.

I have reviewed the changes in the draft report and would like to clarify my feedback in relation to the recognition of rural firefighting equipment (RFS Assets) for your consideration in finalising the report.

I acknowledge the State's position is that it does not control RFS assets. Councils need to assess whether they control any rural firefighting equipment in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. Councils need to recognise, in their financial statements, any material assets under their control and state the relevant accounting policy in relation to the treatment to the Audit Office.

The Minister for Local Government and the Department do not have legal authority to direct councils in this matter. However, we are working closely with Treasury to educate, guide and assist councils to understand the State's view regarding the ownership and recognition of the RFS assets in their financial reporting.

Should you require further assistance in relation to these matters, please do not hesitate to contact Ally Dench, OLG's Executive Director on email at olg@olg.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Michael Cassel

Department of Planning and Environment

E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au W www.olg.nsw.gov.au ABN 20 770 707 468

A822114

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NSW Auditor-General's Report to Parliament | Local Government 2021 | Appendix one - Response from the Office of Local Government within the Department of Planning and

Item 6.1 - Attachment 2

7 COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR ADOPTION

7.1 MINUTES OF THE WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 1 JULY 2022

File Number: D22.68744

Reporting Officer: Fiona Scoleri, Executive Assistant

Responsible Officer: Kerry Jones, Executive Manager - Engineering

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

 That the Minutes of the Works Committee Meeting held on 1 July 2022 be received and noted.

2. That Council resolve to

- Negotiate a 10% commission with the Euston Post Office and the Discovery Centre at Balranald from each Token sold to cover administration costs;
- That Council provide 100 tokens to the Local Aboriginal Land Council Office to allow distribution as required;
- That tokens be provided to local service organisations to distribute to residents who may be financially impacted by waste disposal costs;
- Amend its 2022/23 waste management budget to allocated 50% cost of purchase of a suitable 4x4 Rangers (Regulations Officer) vehicle to the Plant Reserve to cover the cost of undertaking illegal waste inspections at Balranald and Euston;
- That 50% of all running expenses for the vehicle including fuel shall be paid from the waste management budget
- That 50% of the Rangers time is allocated to the waste management budget to cover inspections, illegal dumping follow up and travelling; and
- Advertising and implementation of the new fees to be undertaken as soon as possible.

REPORT

Works Committee Meeting was held on 1 July 2022. The minutes are attached.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes of the Works Committee Meeting held on 1 July 2022

Item 7.1 Page 26



MINUTES

Works Committee Meeting Friday, 1 July 2022

Order Of Business

1	Open		3				
2	Present3						
3	Apologies						
4	Business Arising						
5	Action List						
6	Reports						
	6.2	COUNCIL TENDERING PROCESS/PROCEDURE	3				
	6.3	WASTE MANAGEMENT FEES & CHARGES	4				
	6.1	RFT 21/22-04 CONTRACT FOR WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES FOR BALRANALD & EUSTON	4				
	6.4	RFT 21/22-03 - CONSTRUCTION OF SHOULDER WIDENING OF TAYLOR ROAD AND LESLIE ROAD AND PAVEMENT REHABILITATION OF KILPATRICK ROAD EUSTON	5				
	6.5	SUPPLIER PANEL FOR THE HIRE OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	5				
7	Next	Meeting	6				
8	Close	<u> </u>	6				

MINUTES OF BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MARKET STREET BALRANALD ON FRIDAY, 1 JULY 2022 AT 2PM

1 OPEN

2.05pm

2 PRESENT

Chairperson Mike Colreavy, General Manager Jeff Sowiak, Executive Manager of Enginering Kerry Jones, Executive Assistant Fiona Scoleri

3 APOLOGIES

Nil

4 BUSINESS ARISING

Nil

5 ACTION LIST

Nil

6 REPORTS

MOTION

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2022/1

Moved: Chairperson Mike Colreavy

That items 6.2 and 6.3 be brought forward and discussed prior to entering closed meeting to discuss items 6.1, 6.4 and 6.5.

CARRIED

6.2 COUNCIL TENDERING PROCESS/PROCEDURE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Council with a formalized process for Tendering. A secondary purpose is to provide Council an Audit Trail for all Council Tenders.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2022/2

Moved: Chairperson Mike Colreavy

That Council Endorse the New Tendering Process to comply with Best Practice in Financial Management within Council and to assist with Procurement and Tendering requirements of Section 55 of the Local Government Act 1993.

6.3 WASTE MANAGEMENT FEES & CHARGES

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report has been prepared due to the reintroduction of waste management charges for residents to utilise the waste depots.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2022/3

Moved: Chairperson Mike Colreavy

That Council resolve to

- Negotiate a 10% commission with the Euston Post Office and the Discovery Centre at Balranald from each Token sold to cover administration costs;
- That Council provide 100 tokens to the Local Aboriginal Land Council Office to allow distribution as required;
- That tokens be provided to local service organisations to distribute to residents who may be financially impacted by waste disposal costs;
- Amend its 2022/23 waste management budget to allocated 50% cost of purchase of a suitable 4x4 Rangers (Regulations Officer) vehicle to the Plant Reserve to cover the cost of undertaking illegal waste inspections at Balranald and Euston;
- That 50% of all running expenses for the vehicle including fuel shall be paid from the waste management budget
- That 50% of the Rangers time is allocated to the waste management budget to cover inspections, illegal dumping follow up and travelling; and
- Advertising and implementation of the new fees to be undertaken as soon as possible.

CARRIED

MOTION

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2022/4

Moved: Chairperson Mike Colreavy

That the committee move into closed committee to discuss items 6.1, 6.4 and 6.5 at 2.35pm as per *Local Government Act 1993*, Section 10A(2) d(i) - The matters and information are commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

CARRIED

6.1 RFT 21/22-04 CONTRACT FOR WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES FOR BALRANALD & EUSTON

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Council on the outcome of a tender for kerbside waste collection services for Balranald & Euston

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2022/5

Moved: Chairperson Mike Colreavy

That Council consider the options as below;

- Cancel Tender RFT21/22-04 Contract For Waste Collection Services For Balranald & Euston in accordance with Clause 178 (3)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 due to a lack of a wider interest in the tender process; and/or
- 2. Authorise the General Manager to enter into negotiations with Balranald Diesel Service in accordance with Clause 178 (3)(e) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021due to their interest in the tender with the requirement that all WH&S and Financial documentation is provided to Council.

CARRIED

6.4 RFT 21/22-03 - CONSTRUCTION OF SHOULDER WIDENING OF TAYLOR ROAD AND LESLIE ROAD AND PAVEMENT REHABILITATION OF KILPATRICK ROAD EUSTON

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To report to Council on the Tender Evaluation of RFT 21/22-03 – Construction of Shoulder Widening of Taylor Road and Leslie Road and Pavement Rehabilitation of Kilpatrick Road in Euston.

General Manager Discussion;

The General Manager advised the Council that having twice gone to the market and having received tender prices that are well above the available funding, it would be in order for Council, pursuant to Clause 178 (1) to decline to accept any of the tenders submitted and to authorise the General Manager to enter into negotiations for undertaking part or so much of the works as the budget would permit in accordance with Section 178(3)(e), with Harril Pty Ltd trading as Coburns Earthmoving, being the company that submitted the lowest conforming tender received.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2022/6

Moved: Chairperson Mike Colreavy

That the Council having twice gone to the market and having received tender prices that are well and above the available funding, decline to accept any of the tenders received pursuant to Clause 178 (1) and to authorise the General Manager to enter into negotiations for undertaking part or so much of the works as the budget would permit in accordance with Section 178(3)(e), with Harril Pty Ltd trading as Coburns Earthmoving, being the company that submitted the lowest conforming tender received.

CARRIED

6.5 SUPPLIER PANEL FOR THE HIRE OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to recommend the establishment of a Supplier Panel for the hire of plant and equipment for the 2022/2023 financial year, for use on Council's capital works and maintenance programmes at various locations within the Shire.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2022/7

Moved: Chairperson Mike Colreavy

That a Supplier Panel be established for the hire of Plant and Equipment for the 2022/2023 financial year, comprising the firms responding the Council's request for Quotations RFQ 21/22-05

and the rates quoted for various items as recorded in document D22.68144 On Council's Record Management System.

CARRIED

MOTION

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2022/8

Moved: Chairperson Mike Colreavy

That the meeting be moved back into open session at 2.55pm to report on the resolutions from items 6.1, 6.4 and 6.5 being:

Item 6.1

- That Council not accept tenders for RFT 21/22-04.
- That the General Manager is authorised to enter into negotiations in relation to a contract.

Item 6.4

• That Council will decline to accept any of the tenders received pursuant to Clause 178 (1) and to authorise the General Manager to enter into negotiations in accordance with Section 178(3)(e), with one of the tenderers.

Item 6.5

 That Council adopt the plant hire tenders according to the schedules presented at the meeting.

CARRIED

7 NEXT MEETING

Monday 25th July 2022 at 3.00pm

8 CLOSE

The Meeting closed at 3.02pm

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Works Committee Meeting held on Monday 25^{th} July 2022.

CHAIRPERSON

7.2 STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY ACCESS INCLUSION AND WELLBEING ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 23 JUNE 2022

File Number: **D22.69023**

Reporting Officer: Carol Holmes, Senior Executive Assistant

Responsible Officer: Jeff Sowiak, General Manager

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Minutes of the Strengthening Community Access Inclusion and Wellbeing Advisory Committee (SCAIW) meeting held on Thursday 23 June 2022 be received and noted.
- 2. That Council support SCAIW offering in-kind support to MaariMa with planning and delivery of the November White Ribbon event; and
- 3. That Council commences planning for the 2023 Australia Day celebrations including committee membership and funding opportunities for Balranald Shire.

REPORT

Strengthening Community Access Inclusion & Wellbeing Advisory Committee held a meeting in Council Chambers on Thursday 23 June 2022 and discussed the following;

- Correspondence received from Connie Mallet regarding EOI for funding from Office of Gambling being successful for the Change Makers Program.
- Safe bus solutions Transport for NSW updates by Emma Moore, Mandy Haley and Michelle White.
- Sustainable Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) model for the Shire.
- Potential Guest Speakers to support priorities and workplan.
- White Ribbon Event SCAIW offer in-kind support MaariMa with the planning and delivery
 of the November White Ribbon event.
- Australia Day Event for 2024.
- Disability Inclusion Action Plan to be discussed at the July Meeting.

_

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes - SCAIW - 23 June 2022

Item 7.2 Page 33

Location: Balranald Shire Council Chambers, Market St

Start Time: 4.00-5:30 pm

Or via Zoom:

1. Opening of Meeting

2. Acknowledgement of Country

We pay our respect to the Traditional Custodians of the Lands where we hold this meeting and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

3. Apologies: Mandy Haley

Present: Sue Balshaw, Lea Lawrie, Lyn Flanagan, Emma Moore, Natalie Lay (zoom), Michelle White (zoom), Rachael Williams

- 4. Previous Minutes (May 2022) Moved: Sue Balshaw, Seconded: Lyn Flanagan, CARRIED
- 5. Disclosures of Interest NIL
- 6. Reports from Council / Chair NIL
- 7. Correspondence / Connections of note

Connie Mallet received an email (17/05/2022) from Office of Gambling informing of our successful EOI for funding. We await receival of the formal contract.

8. Safe bus solutions – Transport for NSW Update from Emma Moore.

- Moore's Bus lines had previously tried to have the Piper St end included on the bus service but this had been but rejected. Now have a new contracts Manager who seems supportive
- Only K/1/2 students are eligible all parents of eligible students have been sent a letter by
 Moore's requesting certain information the form that needs competing is quite lengthy
- Moore's cannot create a new service, it can only drop off students from an existing 'run' and then go to complete the Piper St run this may mean these students would not arrive to school until bell time for St Joseph's (8:45am)
- The pick-up points listed for the Piper ST bus run showed good coverage of area
- Emma will support by sending out a list of family names included in the original letter to Nat Lay and Michelle White, who can follow-up with these families offering them support to complete the application (note Michelle is away until the end of the term so will find someone from BCS to follow-up on her behalf)
- An approximate count of children in the K/1/2 cohort eligible for the Piper St run suggests there would be 12+ children

Update from Mandy H

Mandy reported (via the Messenger group) she is waiting on Jenene to return her call.

Update from Michelle White

Michelle is negotiating with NSW Transport on behalf of the family of a small boy with a disability at Euston who needs transport to Mildura Specialist School.

Item 7.2 - Attachment 1 Page 34

Natalie sent Jenene's details to Michelle for Michelle to request her support. Note the commonalities between this issue and the Balranald to Swan Hill school transport issue means Michelle and Mandy should unite their efforts.

9. Change Makers Program

Connie Mallet completed an EOI to the Office of Community Safety and Cohesion for a Local Government Social Cohesion Grant. This EOI was successful in progressing to the full application stage. Final application was not successful.

10. Responsible Gambling funding possibility – Sustainable Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) model for the Shire. Funding successful – SCAIW Advisory Committee will receive \$84,764 each year for 3 years. Unsure about final parameters – timeframes etc

Application documented preliminary idea - that Strengthening Community Access, Inclusion & Wellbeing Advisory Committee manages funding and a process that recruits 2-4 Euston and Balranald locals to train in Mental Health First Aid training (and potentially the extension program in Managing Gambling Conversations) and then pays for the catering for these trainers to then deliver 3 x programs in each community (for free). Post this these new trainers can charge for program delivery as their own business enterprise but remain a local community resources.

Discussion:

Michelle is trained in MHFA and also the Teen Mental Health First Aid module

The training costs \$5000 (Michelle did one training in Melbeurne and another in Alb

The training costs \$5000 (Michelle did one training in Melbourne and another in Albury. It is a national program so State borders are not relevant.

Ongoing costs of delivery are the Manual \$15 / person

Completion Certificate \$2 / person

Trainers are expected to deliver 2-3 trainings per year to maintain their accreditation

Group agrees we should advertise through an expression of interest to the whole community for the opportunity to participate in the training and become a local trainer

If there is not enough interest we can then approach people

Michelle to email through some example resources

Sue Balshaw expressed an interest in becoming one of the trainers

Michelle noted it may be difficult to expend the full budget – group discussed the potential to also develop localised resources with key Mental Health contact numbers and supports (Louise Murray could be paid for a design)

Hold annual community events which bring people together and support community mental health and awareness etc, guest speakers

- 11. Review of potential guest speakers to support priorities and workplan Corina Kemp FWLHD, Sue to continue to follow-up
- 12. Items without Notice

Item 7.2 - Attachment 1 Page 35

1. White Ribbon event in November

RESOLUTION That SCAIW Advisory Committee in-kind support MaariMa with the planning and delivery of the November White Ribbon event

Moved: Lea Lawrie, Seconded: Lyn Flanagan. CARRIED

Discussion ensued:

Not the White Ribbon event is the night before the St Joseph's Fete MaariMa will do the march from CBD to Hospital, have balloons, bbq etc in November. Extra hands to help out in the lead up and on the night would be very beneficial. SCAIW will support with these roles.

Emma to talk with MaariMa staff and determine how we can support.

2. Start Australia day committee and planning earlier

RESOLUTION – That Council commences planning for the 2023 Australia Day celebrations including the committee membership and funding sources earlier (within the second half of 2022).

Moved: Lyn Flanagan, Seconded: Lea Lawrie, CARRIED

13. Next Meeting (Thursday 28th July)

Full meeting focus on Disability Inclusion Action Plan - General Manager to lead

Item 7.2 - Attachment 1 Page 36

7.3 EUSTON PROGRESSIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 27 JUNE 2022

File Number: D22.68760

Reporting Officer: Carol Holmes, Senior Executive Assistant

Responsible Officer: Jeff Sowiak, General Manager

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Minutes of the Euston Progressive Advisory Committee meeting held on Monday 27 June 2022 be received and noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update Council of the Euston Progressive Advisory Committee meeting held on Monday 27 June 2022.

REPORT

Euston Progressive Advisory Committee held its meeting on Monday 27 June and discussed the following;

- Euston Recreation Grounds members met with Robinvale/Euston Football Netball Club to discuss the issues of the Football Oval.
- IPLAN project committee members to send any comments to Jeff Sowiak.
- Committee Priorities Listing of Works March 2022
- Letter received from Euston/Robinvale Historical Society regarding the upkeep and maintenance of Euston Court House.
- A letter received from Joshua Bell from Robinvale Workforce Pilot notifying of the Park Run.
- Concerns regarding the frequency of the Euston Public Toilets being cleaned
- IPLAN include Carpark Lighting?
- Footpath along side of the Sturt Highway to join up with the Bridge walk.

The Committee's priority listing of works.

- 1 Entry to Euston upgrading the roundabout, water tower, (Regent parrot mural), signage
- 2 Sewerage and water
- 3 Asset management planning-including explicit criteria, asset classes/adjusted for population growth
- 4 Identify areas for residential growth
- **5** Economic development strategy for Euston-Robinvale
- 6 Netball/Basketball courts
- 7 Euston Branding-river, heritage and Regent parrots
- 8 Footpaths
- **9** Upgrading bus route roads
- 10 Euston Forest eco-trail walking and bike riding
- Tourism strategy including developing new products

 Access to Council scheduling a Council meeting, regular/predictable staff visits, contact details
- 12 displayed at new Post office
- 13 Promoting Euston voucher booklet or pamphlet

Item 7.3 Page 37

- 14 Water park Fountains, water play equipment
- 15 Upgrade the Max Willis park
- 16 Identify and enhance heritage assets eucalyptus oil factory, courthouse
- 17 Revitalize iconic local events New Year's Eve (fireworks display on riverfront)
- **18** Vocational training opportunities

Recommendations to Council

There were no recommendations submitted to Council from this meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes - Euston Progressive Advisory Committee - 27 June 2022

Item 7.3 Page 38

Euston Progressive Advisory Committee

Monday 27th of June 2022

Open Meeting at 6.00pm

Acknowledgement of Country

Present: Jeff Sowiak, Kerry Jones, Louie Zaffina, Santina Zappia, Gray Woodhead, Geoff & Jan

Windmill

Apologies: Guy Fielding, Rusty Roberts, Glen Stewart

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Moved by; Geoff Windmill 2nd Santina Zappia

Matters Arising:

Recreation Grounds:

Louie, Rusty & Geoff met with Phillip Lamattina and David Camera from the Robinvale/Euston Football Netball Club, discussing what needs to be done to the footy oval. The REFNC will contribute \$10,000 to repairing the ground. Gray had a look with Rusty to see what needs to be done to level the ground and grade it. Gray is also waiting on feedback from the Turf people. Kerry is waiting on the irrigation plans from Rusty.

Council will seek funding for repairs too, but first we need to:

- 1: Make a list of items that need to be done
- 2: Provide an estimate of the cost
- 3: Council can then put in a proposal for funding

Other Items discussed:

- Playground in new estate, Thai is looking for funding
- Local Roads, waiting on tenders
- Survey on boundary at the Euston Recreation Reserve, Thai is seeing to this

Agenda Items:

IPLAN Project - send any comments to Jeff.

A copy of the new list of priorities is attached as requested

Committee Priorities Listing of works: March 2022

- 1 Entry to Euston upgrading the roundabout, water tower, (Regent parrot mural), signage
- **2** Sewerage and water
- 3 Asset management planning-including explicit criteria, asset classes/adjusted for population growth
- 4 Identify areas for residential growth
- **5** Economic development strategy for Euston-Robinvale
- 6 Netball/Basketball courts
- 7 Euston Branding-river, heritage and Regent parrots
- 8 Footpaths
- **9** Upgrading bus route roads
- 10 Euston Forest eco-trail walking and bike riding
- Tourism strategy including developing new products

 Access to Council scheduling a Council meeting, regular/predictable staff visits, contact details
- **12** displayed at new Post office
- 13 Promoting Euston voucher booklet or pamphlet
- 14 Water park Fountains, water play equipment
- 15 Upgrade the Max Willis park
- 16 Identify and enhance heritage assets eucalyptus oil factory, courthouse
- 17 Revitalize iconic local events New Year's Eve (fireworks display on riverfront)
- **18** Vocational training opportunities

Correspondence

• Euston/Robinvale Historical Society, regarding their concern on the upkeep and maintenance of the Euston Court House.

Louie did contact Bev Harbison and she said Ray Mitchell has been in to see what needs to be done.

Guy, Jeff would like a copy of this letter.

• Joshua Bell from Robinvale Workforce Pilot, letter to notify of the Park Run.

Items Without Notice:

Jan:

Concerns over the public toilets aren't getting cleaned enough.

Geoff:

Does the carpark in the IPLAN have lighting?

Louie:

A need of a footpath along side of the Sturt Hwy to join up with the bridge walk.

Louie to email Jeff on suggestions to the IPLAN.

Meeting Closed at 7.05pm

Next meeting: Monday 25th of July 2022

7.4 GROWING BUSINESS INDUSTRY AND TOURISM MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 5 JULY 2022

File Number: D22.68759

Reporting Officer: Carol Holmes, Senior Executive Assistant

Responsible Officer: Jeff Sowiak, General Manager

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Minutes of the Growing Business Industry & Tourism (GBIT) meeting held on Tuesday 5 July 2022 be received and noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update Council of the Growing Business Industry & Tourism (GBIT) Meeting held on Tuesday 5 July 2022.

REPORT

The Growing Business Industry & Tourism Meeting was held on Tuesday 5 July and discussed the following items;

- Community Strategic Plan now endorsed by Council
- Burrawong Wind Farm correspondence forwarded from Iain to Jeff, and Jeff will meet with Lisa Mango to discuss.
- Draft Settlement Strategy detailed review by the committee led by lain, comments compiled by Jeff.
- Community Trust Fund Jeff to contact Tumut regarding their fund as comparable community and structure.
- Connie advised she has successfully lobbied to host the Regional Economic Development Strategies (REDS) workshop in Balranald on 18 July 2022.

Recommendations to Council

There were no recommendations for Council from this meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Minutes GBITAC Meeting July 2022
- 2. 2022 REDS Update FAQ GBIT July 2022
- 3. Robinvale Euston Workforce Network (GBIT) July 2022

Item 7.4 Page 42

CHAIR: Iain Lindsay-Field

MINUTES OFFICER: Simone Carmichael

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION
1.	Meeting commenced at 5:31pm
	Attendees:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- ✓ Iain Lindsay-Field (Chair)
- ✓ Simone Carmichael (Secretary)
- √ Guy Fielding (Zoom)
- ✓ Dianne Williams

- ✓ Peter Lawler
- ✓ Sam Papa
- × Bronwyn Brougham
- × Linda Nelson

COUNCIL

- ✓ Jeff Sowiak (BSC GM)
- ✗ Mike Colreavy (BSC Administrator)
- ✓ Connie Mallet

GUESTS

Glenn Stewart, Robinvale Euston Workforce Network

2.	Acknowledgement of country: lain
3.	Guest Speaker: Glenn Stewart, Robinvale Euston Workforce Network. Glenn spoke about the work he is doing in the Robinvale – Euston communities which began with additional support services in the local school but has grown to address much broader issues in the community including employment, training and housing. See attached presentation.
4.	Apologies: Linda
5.	Disclosures of Interest: Nil
6.	Confirmation of minutes: Minutes true & correct. Moved Dianne, 2nd Peter
7.	Business arising from minutes

- 7.1 Balranald Shire Community Strategic Plan. Now endorsed by council. Review by committee held over 7.2 Burrawong Wind Farm correspondence forwarded from Iain to Jeff. Jeff meeting with Lisa Mango next
- 7.2 Burrawong Wind Farm correspondence forwarded from lain to Jeff. Jeff meeting with Lisa Mango nex week.
- 7.3 Draft Settlement Strategy detailed review by the committee led by Iain, comments compiled by Jeff. Members to email additional comments to Jeff.
- 7.4 Community Trust Fund Jeff contacting Tumut re their fund as comparable community and structure. Mon suggested contacting the peak body (Australian Community Philanthropy) re structure options.

8. Report from council meeting

7.4 GROWING BUSINESS INDUSTRY & TOURISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 7 JUNE 2022 RESOLUTION 2022/111

Moved: Administrator Mike Colreavy

That the Minutes of the Growing Business Industry & Tourism Advisory Committee meeting held on Tuesday 7 June 2022 be received noted and that the recommendations therein be adopted.

CARRIED

NIL		
10.	Items Without Notice	
Connie advised the committee she has successfully lobbied to host the REDS (Regional Economic Development Strategies) workshop in Balranald on the 18th July. See attached FAQs		
11.	MEETING CLOSED – 7:45pm - Next Meeting	



Frequently Asked Questions

General project FAQs

What is a Regional Economic Development Strategy (REDS)?

REDS are strategic documents that identify priority areas for investment to drive growth and jobs in communities across regional NSW.

In 2018, the Government supported councils and communities to develop Regional Economic Development Strategies (REDS) for regional economies across NSW. Groupings called Functional Economic Regions (FERS) define each regional economy.

Each REDS sets out a vision for the future of its region, highlights key local endowments (strengths), key engine and emerging industries and the most significant strategies and actions needed to help drive economic growth and jobs.

A supplement assessing the impacts of bushfires in impacted FERs was delivered by the Government in 2021.

What is happening with the REDS this year?

The Department of Regional NSW in 2022 is leading a project to update the Regional Economic Development Strategies. These updates will be released later in 2022.

What is a Functional Economic Region (FER)?

Functional Economic Regions are clusters of one or more local government areas in regional NSW, reflecting communities with strong economic links. These links are driven by where people live and work, as well as broader community and economic measures.

There are 38 FERs identified in regional NSW (outside Greater Sydney. Newcastle and Wollongong). There are 11 comprised of only one LGA and six which straddle state borders and include local government areas from Victoria and Queensland or the ACT.

Why are FERs used?

Evaluating regional economic development across FERs provides a better understanding of economic endowments, specialisations, opportunities and risks as well as what is needed to enable growth and jobs. Strategic planning and initiatives are most effective when aligned to these foundations as part of a robust, evidence-based regional plan.

What is the purpose of REDS? How are they used?

REDS support economic development by calling out the most significant opportunities and priorities in each Functional Economic Region, with a focus on guiding investment and setting a clear path to create growth and jobs, building on each region's strengths and key current and future industries.

Regional NSW | April 2022 | 1



Frequently Asked Questions

Each REDS is informed by evidence and data and can be used by the NSW Government, local councils and the private sector to guide investment and decision making.

Why are the REDS being updated now?

Regional communities need a current, evidence-based plan to drive growth and jobs.

Councils are in the process of updating their community strategic plans and reviewing their delivery plans. The REDS can be used by councils to support this process.

In 2021 the Government released a refreshed 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW with updated priorities and plans to achieve social and economic success. This accounted for the changing economic landscape and current opportunities given the impacts of drought, bushfires, floods and the COVID-19 pandemic.

If the REDS reflect current contexts, they are a useful an evidence base to support the Government in identifying the best ways to drive economic growth and jobs.

Will the FER boundaries be reviewed as part of the update process?

The purpose of the REDS update is to confirm whether the current REDS strategic direction and priorities remain valid given unfolding events and trends. This will focus on highlighting significant Government, council and private sector investments and other achievements in each region and examine key economic priorities and challenges.

The census data which informs the FER boundaries won't be made available for some time. For the purposes of the REDS update, the 2018 FER boundaries will remain in place.

What will be in each update document?

A short update will be prepared for each existing REDS document. This document will:

- · reflect current context and trends
- provide a high-level update of progress and achievements made since 2018, reflecting on the actions and strategies in each document
- outline changes in each regional economy to:
 - Local endowments
 - Specialisations (industries), and
 - o Enablers and key actions, and
- identify key strategic opportunities for each FER arising from global, state and regional trends, current policy settings and key investments.

Who will be involved in updating the REDS?

Councils and other regional organisations will play a crucial role in informing the updates.

The Department of Regional NSW will run workshops with councils and other key regional stakeholders in each FER to capture local context and priorities.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Councils will also be invited to make written submissions and to provide further feedback before the draft Update document is finalised, and a business survey process will capture views from that key sector about future key priorities.

Businesses will also be surveyed.

What does the Government's Six Cities vision mean for the REDS?

The NSW Government has announced its Six Cities vision, which will bring together strategic planning for a larger, globally significant metropolitan region. DRNSW is working closely with the Greater Sydney Commission about links to this vision to ensure alignment between their future work and the REDS.

How will Aboriginal people, communities and business be engaged?

DRNSW recognises that the 2018 REDS don't reflect the economic aspirations of the Aboriginal people. The update to the REDS will seek to fill this gap and acknowledge the importance of economic growth for Aboriginal communities.

Will there be a written submission process?

Local governments and other key organisations will be invited to make a submission. Joint organisation submissions on behalf of members are encouraged.

The submission process will provide an opportunity for councils to provide more detailed data and other relevant information.

To help each organisation make a well targeted submission, the online portal will pose a series of questions for feedback, focused on:

- initiatives in the region to implement the REDS since 2018.
- the nature and severity of economic impact of recent events
- · key opportunities and challenges emerging since 2018, and
- strategic economic priorities that will inform policy and investments.

Information gathered from the submissions will help to inform and shape the focus of the discussion at each FER workshop and inform the draft REDS Update documents.

When will written submissions be accepted?

Councils are invited to make submissions from 14 April 2022 until 10 June 2022. Councils will be able to finalise their submissions after workshops are held in each region.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Questions from the webinars

Are there any opportunities for Councils to co-design as part of the REDS process?

DRNSW wants to work closely with councils to ensure that the REDS updates closely reflect their priorities and expectations. There will be multiple opportunities for councils can participate and provide valuable input to shape the REDS update. Councils are welcome to reach out to DRNSW if they require more engagement or would like to schedule separate sessions to extract and explore ideas.

What type of cross-border support is provided to the Local Government Areas? Will the REDS update include input from Victorian Councils where cross-border FERs exist?

DRNSW will be reaching out across state borders to hear from interstate councils (e.g. Victoria and Queensland) regarding particular regional NSW areas where FERs extend into other jurisdictions. This will ensure that these communities and their local economies will also have an opportunity to contribute.

Are there any planned linkages to federal funding and strategic programs?

The REDS updates are fundamentally an evidence base that will assist decision making. This may include decision-making around funding programs or strategic planning processes, however there is no specific funding attached to the REDS. DRNSW hopes that the REDS update will be drawn and relied on by other government agencies as an evidence base and inform scoping of future funding programs.

Will Geo-tourism be included and investigated as a holistic framework to drive nature-based tourism?

The focus of engagement with councils is to identify the economic opportunities that are present in that region. This will be supplemented by economic analysis and feedback from industry. Through this engagement, DRNSW will be looking at local, state-wide and sector opportunities wherever they emerge, this may include geo-tourism for regions where nature-based tourism is rapidly emerging.

Will the outcomes and priorities arising from current NSW Women's Economic Opportunities (WEO) Review be included in this REDS update?

An objective of the REDS is to reflect the key achievements and priorities on both a local and state-wide scale. The WEO Review and more broadly, other priorities such as women's economic participation and Aboriginal economic inclusion are examples of gaps that have been identified from the previous set of REDS. The REDS update will see that these opportunities are included.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Will the REDS updates align with council plans and strategies?

One of the objectives of the update is to ensure the REDS reflect current contexts which includes reflecting councils' strategies and plans that reflect current aspirations.

What are the plans for involving Joint Organisations in the consultation and REDS update process (noting boundaries are not aligned)?

Joint Organisations are welcome and will be encouraged to participate in the consultation process. Additionally, the written submission process will be open to councils and joint organisations.

Is there a definition for business in terms of the survey? E.g. private sector only, or economic contributors such as universities, defence bases?

The survey is just for non-government businesses.

How will the business survey be structured and conducted?

The business survey will be distributed to businesses across all FERs. It will test investment confidence in both establishing and expanding industries. There are four focus of the survey: general profiling questions; questions about government enablers; what government can do to promote economic development in the regions; and the impact of the various shocks to businesses over the past 4-5 years. The survey will be distributed using the platform Qualtrics and councils will be able to distribute to their own business networks.

Will councils be able to see the questions to be asked in the survey and the distribution methodology, in order to avoid duplication?

DRNSW is aware that this is an issue and want to avoid placing any additional pressure on businesses who are responding to the survey. If councils are conducting a survey within the next two months, it is encouraged that they reach out directly to DRNSW. DRNSW is committed to working out a way forward to enable the sharing of information but also avoiding duplication.

How will responses to the survey be collated and assessed and interpreted?

The intent is to capture both quantitative data and qualitative data (which will be gained through feedback from businesses). This will help us to understand what their priorities are and what they see as some of the challenges.

The survey is currently in draft form and is around 20 questions. It will take 15 minutes for businesses to complete. Respondents will be able to complete the survey on most devices (including smart phones, iPads or laptops). PwC will collect all of the responses and do data cleansing. An anonymous summary will be provided to DRNSW.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Will the results of the survey be shared with councils?

DRNSW will seek to share information with councils where it shapes the outcomes of the updates. This may include the survey results.

Will Regional Development Australia (RDA) or Regional Australia Institute (RAI) be used as a source of input and data for regional migration, liveability factors etc?

DRNSW will engage with RDA as part of the project in those areas where they have a strong and active presence. DRNSW is not specifically working with RAI on the REDS update, however, DRNSW works closely with RAI on a range of issues across multiple economic development policies and programs and consults with the RAI regularly.

Will accountants be included in the business survey?

The business survey will be sent to a randomised sample of NSW-based businesses. This may include accountants. Additionally, councils will be able to forward the survey to business contacts in their area.

Will the May-June workshops be with Local Government Areas or businesses – or both?

The workshops will be joint sessions by FER which includes both local government representatives and businesses. The focus of these workshops will be understanding local government priorities and their understanding of where local economies are heading. The intention is to hold the FER level workshops with councils within that FER. The workshops may include key industry groups that are influential to the FER.

Will the Joint Organisations need to go to multiple workshops as they are likely to cover more than FER?

Joint Organisations may choose which FER workshops they attend.

Will DRNSW be reviewing the Economic Development Strategies and Destination Management Plans of Local Government Areas ahead of the workshops? If those alignments are already identified that would make the sessions more productive.

Reviewing the strategies and plans will make the sessions more productive. Before the workshops, desktop level analysis will be conducted and a review of the relevant strategies that are already in place and any insights given by council through the submission process will also inform these workshop sessions.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Will the REDS be linked directly to grant funding development of new programs or alike?

This is the not purpose of this exercise. DRNSW and other agencies within the NSW Government are always reviewing our regional development infrastructure programs. DRNSW will be looking to use the feedback received and the insights gained about regional economies to inform new programs and policies.

There are state-wide issues in regional areas (e.g. social and affordable housing, skills and training with shortage of staff in trades and businesses). Do each FER have to respond to these State-wide issues?

The update to the REDS is both a state-wide and local exercise. Councils should reflect how some of these state-wide challenges impact local economies. We are particularly interested in the enablers of the relevant industries for your local economy. Through this process we can identify some of the actions each level of government should be taking to maximise the opportunities for job creation and growth.

Will you be using Treasury Common Planning Assumptions for population and workforce?

A key component of the data used for the REDS will be the DPE population projections and REMPLAN data. The workshops will also be an opportunity to discuss these data sources. DRNSW also welcomes any other data sources from councils that may not have been previously captured by DRNSW. To ensure that the REDS update will consist solely of data sources, there are also other inputs into the analysis to balance what the data says (e.g. workshops with councils, written submissions and the business survey).

Will the net migration of population from Sydney to the regions place additional weight on the importance of the refreshed REDS?

Through the update the impact of migration in and out of regional areas will be explored and will form part of the analysis.

Is an environmental bottom line/sustainability/circular economic context integral to the survey and the REDS?

The circular economy is a significant economic opportunity in a lot of regional economies. Businesses are investing and employing people right now in this space. It is an emerging opportunity. This topic will probably come up in the workshops held with councils and businesses. If there is something that you know from your experience in engaging with local industries or any opportunities in your region, please raise it and share your thoughts on what we can do to activate those opportunities more broadly.

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Frequently Asked Questions

In relation to the timing of the new REDS is due to be complete in July - noting that Councils are undertaking their IP&R processes currently - what expectation is there from the Government that the outcomes of the REDS documents will be built into the CSP, DP and OP documents produced by each Council?

DRNSW will be contacting councils for the scheduling of workshops and will try to accommodate preferences on timing. Certainly, where there are opportunities to leverage existing meetings or avoid clashes this will be prioritised.

Councils can decide how the REDS are applied in their local planning documents. The REDS are voluntary documents and can be used as an evidence base to support planning at a local scale. The REDS will sometimes capture the economic picture across a number of local government areas and may not focus on the priorities of any one council.

Given the size and diversity of the Western Murray FER is there an opportunity for more than one workshop?

Currently there is one workshop for each FER, however DRNSW recognises that councils may be particularly busy with their Community Strategic Plans (CSP) process. It may not be feasible for all councils to attend the workshop. There will be many opportunities for councils to contribute to the process, including making a written submission. Councils will also get an opportunity to view the draft updates before they are published. Councils can also directly engage with DRNSW.

Moree Plains Shire is experiencing a burst of economic development activities partly due to SAP related activities. It would be great to have an inhouse Service NSW for business staff in the council rather than travelling to Service NSW in Inverell (1.5 hour drive away)

DRNSW recognises that there have been pockets of economic activity where services are in place to facilitate long-term economic growth. A business concierge service is a good example of the service-type enabler to help business establish and achieve sustainable growth. These ideas and examples can be discussed as part of the workshops or included in the written submissions.

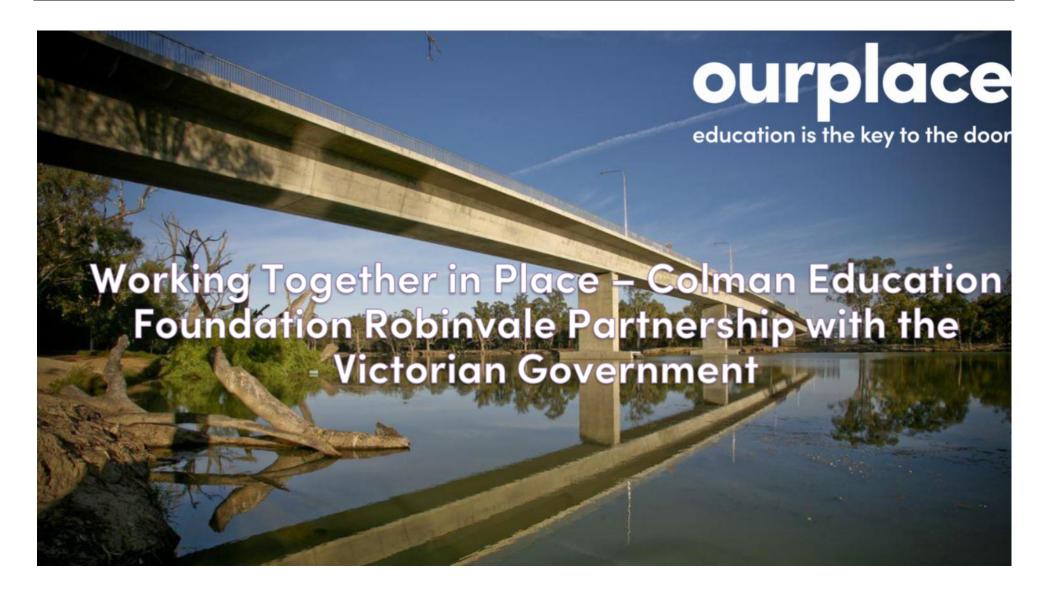
Is this being managed through a consultancy or by NSW Government staff?

DRNSW have engaged PricewaterhouseCoopers to assist with the collation of data and the running of workshops. However, DRNSW will be leading all of the workshop sessions, drafts for the updates and will bring them directly to councils for final input. If there are any concerns regarding the process or methodology, please reach out to DRNSW.

Please contact: redsproject@regional.nsw.gov.au

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Working Together in Place (WTIP)

Background: A partnership was formed in March 2020 between the Victorian Government (WTIP) and the Colman Education Foundation (CEF) with the aim to address the following target outcomes:

- Local business and civic networks, relationships and partnerships support the establishment of Our Place Robinvale and Working Together in Place;
- Strong engagement with local Aboriginal organisations ensures implementation of initiatives is shaped by and responsive to the community;
- Local employment and training opportunities for young people to develop their skills and capabilities are established;
- Learnings are drawn from the collaboration with Our Place to inform policy recommendations to the Victorian Government





Working Together In Place Initiative outcomes

Our Place advocacy has resulted in the following achievements; Sunitafe providing Skills and Jobs Centre services one day a week to Year 9 -12 students on the Robinvale College

- Victorian Government allocated \$1.3 million to enable Sunitafe to pilot a mobile Skills and Jobs service across the Mallee
- Victorian Government allocated \$3.2 million dollars to a partnership between Olam Orchards and Telstra, resulting in 2,650 houses and businesses having access to world class VOIP services thus removing barriers to remote learning
- Murray PHN allocating a one day a week mental health service to Robinvale & Euston residents
- 46 entry-level positions (apprenticeships / traineeships) have been pledged by local Robinvale and Euston businesses as a direct result of an industry forum initiated and facilitated Our Place in December 2021
- Development and financial support for the Robinvale Euston Jobs
 Ecosystem 1.43 million from the Victorian Government 2022 2025







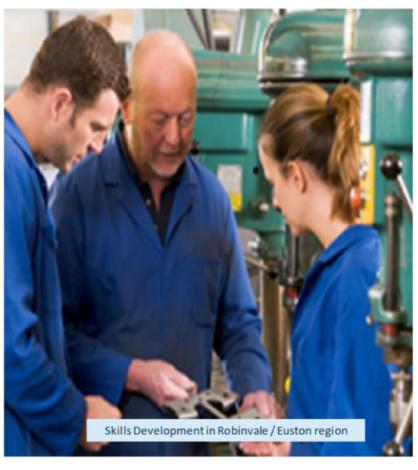
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Robinvale Euston Jobs Ecosystem

Our Place Robinvale through its Working Together In Place partnership focused on the findings of the Robinvale Euston Jobs Ecosystem to:

- 1. Create the supports for local community members to develop skills and realise employment opportunities in order to benefit from the significant economic growth in the region
- 2. Establishing an inclusive and collaborative governance structure that supports and sustains initiatives that can drive positive change for all members of the community





Methodology – Robinvale Euston Jobs Ecosystem



Employers and employees were required to;

- Be based within a 90 Km radius of Robinvale & Euston;
- Be engaged in one of the six identified industry clusters identified for the project; and
- Have recently (within the past 12 36 months) employed staff within their organization or be employed in that time period

Note: The 40 businesses employ approximately 800 employees in the region and have invested over 1.8 billion dollars in permanent plantings and infrastructure



4



Robinvale Euston Jobs Ecosystem - Objectives



- Create the <u>Robinvale Euston Workforce Network (REWN)</u> to develop a Workforce Action Plan that would, with flexible workforce development funding from government and corporate stakeholders, support the development of innovative partnerships between industry, training providers and universities in the region to ensure the ongoing skills development of residents
- The REWN through collaborative efforts of its partner base and through government support
 (Vic/NSW) would develop partnerships to help overcome the complex barriers to <u>economic inclusion</u> of local residents
- Ensure all community members, including the most vulnerable ones, are provided the opportunity to
 participate in the benefits of economic growth through greater uptake by them of local job
 opportunities (industry can fill vacancies with local people)
- Improve effectiveness of investment in Robinvale Euston to address key <u>community needs / barriers to</u> <u>employment</u> (housing strategy, service delivery, childcare, transport etc)
- Establish a <u>Robinvale Euston backbone</u> to drive action and collaboration across industry, government, key stakeholders and the community, building on established relationships and demonstrated willingness to collaborate developed through the REWN
- Via the backbone and the REWN, <u>provide advice to governments</u> on the services and investments that would enhance the liveability and amenity of the Robinvale/Euston region - housing, childcare, health and other services, arts/recreation/cultural initiatives etc

Where to next?



- Establish a REWN Working Party to determine the makeup of the REWN, TOR, appoint of interim chairperson
- Formalise the membership / potential partner base
- Develop an Expression of Interest process from partner base to be on the REWN
- Establish & launch the REWN
- Develop Position Descriptor for the role of Robinvale Euston Workforce Network Facilitator
- · Identify focus populations
- Develop an Impact & Learning Plan
- Establish a "quick wins" working party



GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS (INCORPORATING ALL STAFF REPORTS)

PART A - ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

8 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS

8.1 RURAL FIRE SERVICE ASSETS

File Number: D22.68745

Reporting Officer: Jeff Sowiak, General Manager

Responsible Officer:

Operational Plan Objective: Pillar 6: Our Leadership - A community that values and

fosters leadership, lifelong learning, innovation and good

governance.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the General Manager's response to the Auditor General concerning the accounting treatment of rural fire service vehicles and equipment.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To support representations concerning the accounting treatment of rural fire service assets.

REPORT

The NSW Auditor General has tabled a Report to Parliament on Local Government 2021, which in part, recommends that NSW councils should include rural firefighting equipment, (otherwise described as the Red Fleet) that has been vested to them, in their financial statements.

The Auditor General's recommendation has been debated by Local Government in NSW since the Rural Fire Service was given control over the assets in 1997, this was despite the fact that the assets were vested in Council pursuant to that same legislation. (Sect 119).

Balranald Shire Council was one of 68 Council's in NSW that did not record Rural Fire Service equipment in the Annual Financial Statements. Whilst the estimated value of this equipment was not significant enough to warrant a qualification of the Council's financial reports, the matter was raised as a high risk in the management letter. The problem for the Auditor General is that at present neither the Rural Fire Service, nor the Councils have recognised the value of this equipment and any depreciation thereon.

Adding to the controversy is that a service level agreement exists that allocates responsibility for the purchase, operation and maintenance of the equipment to the Rural Fire Service and Council does not have responsibility for registering or insuring the vehicles.

In response to the issue being raised in the Management letter the General Manager has responded to the issue in the following terms;

Balranald Shire Council does not recognise the Rural Firefighting equipment in the financial statements as they have transferred essentially all the rights and obligations in relation to the operation of firefighting equipment to the New South Wales Rural Fire Service. Firefighting equipment, operation and maintenance is the responsibility of the Commissioner. Council has no right of use for assets and has no part in determining how assets are utilised.

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Council believes that the criteria of asset recognition included in the AASB Accounting Framework and Standards are considered that the New South Wales Rural Fire Service retains control of the Fire-fighting.

The essential nature of the inconsistency is that whilst supposedly the Red Fleet is vested in Council the Council exercises no control over this asset. The position paper prepared by the LGPro highlights the conflict between the account standards (SAC 4) and the Auditor Generals insistence that the assets be reported in the Annual Accounts.

The Office of Local Government and the Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting also confirms the view that Council's must assess whether they control any rural firefighting equipment in accordance with the standards and that clause 37 of the SAC 4 confirms that an asset that has been 'vested' in itself does not determine control.

The lack of control over the assets is clearly at odds with the Auditor Generals recommendation and the assets should, in accordance with the Accounting Standards, rightfully be reported as assets of the Rural Fire Service.

The letter from the General Manager in response to the Auditor General's recommendation highlights this response and it is referred to Council for endorsement.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

The replacement value of the RFS vehicles and equipment was estimated to be \$2.7m in 2019 with an annual depreciation of approximately \$160k and written down value of \$1.35m. Therefore the inclusion of the RFS assets would have no impact on Council's reported cash position and/or unrestricted working capital, but would marginally impact on the Council's operating result.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATION

Rural Fires Act 1997 clause 119(2)

POLICY IMPLICATION

The General Manager is required to prepare the Annual Financial Statements in accordance comply with the Accounting Standards.

RISK RATING

Low

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Auditor General Letter Rural Fire Fighting Equipment
- 2. Letter in Response to Auditor General RFS Assets
- 3. LGPro Position Paper RFS Assets

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Mr Jeff Sowiak General Manager Balranald Shire Council Contact: Aaron Green

Phone no: 02 9275 7209

Our ref: D2210985/FA1687

By email only

23 June 2022

Dear Mr Sowiak

Rural Firefighting Equipment

I am writing to let you know that our Report to Parliament, 'Local Government 2021' was recently tabled and is available on our website. This report brings together findings and recommendations from our 2020–21 financial audits of local councils and comments on financial reporting and performance, internal controls and governance, and areas of interest that are in focus during the conduct of our audits.

The intent of this letter is to draw your attention to the specific findings and recommendations reported to Parliament about rural firefighting equipment vested to councils. Please refer to the Appendix for the relevant extract from the Report.

Our management letters issued to councils on the 2020–21 financial audits included recommendations to undertake a stocktake of the rural firefighting equipment vested to councils and record the value in the council's financial statement. I trust these recommendations are being actioned. Please share this letter with relevant staff within your council to ensure they consider recommendations when preparing your financial statements for the 2021–22 financial year.

If you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Aaron Green on 02 9275 7209.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Crawford

Auditor-General for New South Wales

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Level 19, Darling Park Tower 2, 201 Sussex Street, Sydney NSW 2000 GPO Box 12, Sydney NSW 2001 | t 02 9275 7101 | mail@audit.nsw.gov.au | audit.nsw.gov.au

APPENDIX

Sixty-one per cent of the total value of uncorrected errors was due to unrecorded rural firefighting equipment

In 2017, we recommended that OLG should address the different practices across the local government sector in accounting for rural firefighting equipment.

In 2020–21, 68 (2019–20: 68) councils did not record rural firefighting equipment in their financial statements estimated to be \$145 million (2019–20: \$119 million). Forty-one councils recognise this equipment in their financial statements with a total value of \$162.8 million, highlighting the inconsistent recognition practices across the local government sector.

The financial statements of the NSW Total State Sector and the NSW Rural Fire Service do not include these assets, as the State is of the view that rural firefighting equipment that has been vested to councils under section 119(2) of the *Rural Fires Act 1997* is not controlled by the State. In reaching this conclusion, the State argued that on balance it would appear the councils control the rural firefighting equipment that has been vested to them. It is important to note that there are only two parties to the agreements that govern the use of vested rural firefighting equipment, leaving only two parties who would be considered to control this equipment- the NSW Rural Fire Service in the State sector, or councils in the Local Government sector.

The Department of Planning and Environment (inclusive of the Office of Local Government) (the Department) confirmed in the 'Report on Local Government 2020' (tabled in Parliament on 27 May 2021) their view that rural firefighting equipment is not controlled by the NSW Rural Fire Service.

The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting confirms the State's view that it does not control these assets but provides that 'Councils need to assess whether they control any rural firefighting equipment in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards'. It would seem however, given the State's view that it does not control these assets, that these assets can only be controlled and therefore recognised by councils in the local government sector.

Despite this, many councils do not report these critical assets in their financial statements.

The continued non-recording of rural firefighting equipment in financial management systems of some councils increases the risk that these assets are not properly maintained and managed. Councils who have rural firefighting equipment vested from the NSW Rural Fire Service should recognise these assets in their financial management systems and consider their condition and useful life.

Recommendation to councils

Councils should perform a full asset stocktake of rural firefighting equipment, including a condition assessment for 30 June 2022 financial reporting purposes.

Consistent with the requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards, councils should recognise this equipment as assets in their 30 June 2022 financial statements.

The Department should intervene where councils do not recognise rural firefighting equipment

The Department, through the Office of Local Government, requires each council to prepare financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (accounting standards), as required by the LG Act. The State Government, through NSW Treasury (and in agreement with the Department), has concluded that under accounting standards rural firefighting equipment vested to councils is not controlled by the State, and further on balance that councils in the local government sector control this rural firefighting equipment.

The Department's role includes assessing whether intervention is appropriate with respect to council's compliance with and performance against legislative responsibilities, standards or guidelines. Given the State's clear position, it would appear that any council not recognising this equipment is non-compliant with the relevant accounting standards.

Having considered the accounting position papers prepared by the respective stakeholders, the Audit Office has advised councils and the Department that any council not recognising this equipment is not complying with the requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards.

The Department should now intervene to address this matter as a priority.

Recommendation to the Department

Consistent with the Department's role to assess council's compliance with legislative responsibilities, standards or guidelines, the Department should intervene where councils do not recognise rural firefighting equipment.

We acknowledge that the Department has committed to working closely with NSW Treasury to educate, guide and assist councils to understand the State's view regarding ownership and recognition of rural firefighting equipment in their financial statements.

Non-recognition of this equipment may impact the financial statements audit opinions of those councils The NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS), a state government entity, has spent in excess of \$1.1 billion over the past ten years on rural firefighting activities and equipment. While confirming the State Government's position that it does not control this equipment, the NSW RFS advised it has a complete listing of the rural firefighting equipment vested to councils under section 119(2) of the *Rural Fires Act 1997*, and has provided this to the Department. The NSW RFS also confirmed that as it does not control the equipment, it is unable to confirm its value or condition.

This raises two general questions: whether these assets are being properly managed as in some instances they are purportedly not controlled by any government sector and are not recorded in either the State or the local government sector financial records, and whether in these instances there is non-compliance with accounting standards if this equipment is not recorded in the financial statements of councils. This may impact audit opinions on the financial statements of councils.

The Audit Office is conducting performance audits of the NSW Rural Fire Service (Planning and managing bushfire equipment) and the Office of Local Government (the effectiveness of local government regulation and support).



Balranald Shire Council

ALL COMMUNICATIONS MUST BE ADDRESSED TO THE GENERAL MANAGER

Contact: JS:

70 Market Street, Balranald NSW 2715 PO Box 120, Balranald NSW 2715

> Tel: 03 5020 1300 Fax: 03 5020 1620

Email: council@balranald.nsw.gov.au Web: www.visitbalranald.com.au

Thursday, 21 July 2022

Mrs Margaret Crawford Auditor General NSW GPO Box 12 Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Ms Crawford,

Re: Rural Firefighting Equipment

Thank you for your letter received 23 June 2022, and for drawing my attention to the Audit Office's Report to Parliament on "Local Government 2021".

I note from the recommendations of the Report, which are also emphasised in your letter, that the Report is recommending that the rural firefighting equipment vested to councils be recorded in the council's financial statements.

As you would be aware, when ascertaining whether an asset is to be recognised in a financial statement, the Australian Accounting Standards and other pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board prescribe the application of a "control" test. After applying this control test to the rural firefighting equipment that has been "vested" to Council, I have formed the opinion that this equipment is not controlled by Council.

The State Government's own Local Government Accounting Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting states councils can choose whether or not to record this Rural Fire Services equipment as part of their financial statement. The Government has also provided advice that neither the Department of Planning and Environment, nor the Local Government Minister have legal authority to direct councils to record the assets and assume the costs.

Taking all of the above into account, and noting that I'm obliged to attest that Council's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and other pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, as required by the Local Government Act, Council will not be recording these assets in Council's financial statement.

If you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact my office on the number below.

Yours faithfully,

Jeff Sowiak

GENERAL MANAGER

RFS Assets – Rural Firefighting Equipment Position Paper

1. Introduction

The NSW Auditor General has tabled a Report to Parliament on Local Government 2021, which in part, recommends that NSW councils should include rural firefighting equipment, that has been vested to them, in their financial statements.

This position paper has been prepared in response to this recommendation.

In reviewing this position paper it is important to note that this document has been prepared to assist councils in determining whether they "control" the rural firefighting assets that have been vested to them. This paper <u>has not</u> been prepared to determine whether these assets are controlled by the NSW Rural Fire Service or any other State agency. This assessment should be undertaken by the relevant State agency.

The NSW Auditor General is to be commended on attempting to bring this situation to a resolution. This matter, despite numerous requests from the Local Government Industry, has remained unresolved for a significant number of years, and continues to be a distraction in the preparation and audit of council financial statements.

The Board of the Local Government Professionals Australia, NSW looks forward to ongoing discussions through engagement with the NSW Auditor General and the Office of Local Government to resolve this situation in an appropriate and timely manner.

2. Documents relied upon in forming a Position

Recommendations arising from NSW Auditor General's Report – Local Government 2021

Recommendation to councils

Councils should perform a full asset stocktake of rural firefighting equipment, including a condition assessment for 30 June 2022 financial reporting purposes.

Consistent with the requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards, councils should recognise this equipment as assets in their 30 June 2022 financial statements.¹

<u>Statement of Accounting Concepts (SAC) 4 – Definition and Recognition of the Elements of Financial</u> Statements

Definitions

Clause 14

"Assets" are future economic benefits controlled by the entity as a result of past transactions or other past events; and

"control of an asset" means the capacity of the entity to benefit from the asset in the pursuit of the entity's objectives and to deny or regulate the access of others to that benefit.

¹ NSW Auditor General's Report to Parliament – Local Government 2021 – Page 12

Legal Enforceability

Clause 37

... the presence of legal rights does not guarantee control... Another example is where a government entity, such as a government department, does not have legal ownership of the buildings in which it operates, such ownership vesting in another government entity, but controls the future economic benefits embodied in the buildings because of the terms of a particular government policy, ministerial directive or administrative arrangement.

Rural Fires Act 1997

Section 119 - Maintenance and disposal of fire fighting equipment purchased from Fund

(1) In this section—

fire fighting equipment means fire fighting apparatus, buildings, water storage towers or lookout towers.

- (2) All fire fighting equipment purchased or constructed wholly or partly from money to the credit of the Fund is to be vested in the council of the area for or on behalf of which the fire fighting equipment has been purchased or constructed.
- (3) A council must not sell or otherwise dispose of any fire fighting equipment purchased or constructed wholly or partly from money to the credit of the Fund without the written consent of the Commissioner.
- (4) There is to be paid to the credit of the Fund
 - a. if the whole of the cost of the purchase or construction of any fire fighting equipment was met by money to the credit of the Fund
 - i. an amount equal to the proceeds of sale of any such equipment, and
 - ii. any amount recovered (whether under a policy of insurance, from the Bush Fire Fighters Compensation Fund under the Workers Compensation (Bush Fire, Emergency and Rescue Services) Act 1987, or otherwise) in respect of the damage to, or destruction or loss of, any such equipment, and
 - b. if a part only of the cost of the purchase or construction of any such equipment was met by money to the credit of the Fund—an amount which bears to the amount that would be required by this subsection to be paid if the whole of that cost had been met by money to the credit of the Fund the same proportion as that part of the cost bears to the whole of that cost.
- (5) A council must take care of and maintain in the condition required by the Service Standards any fire fighting equipment vested in it under this section.
- (6) The Commissioner may, with the concurrence of the council in which fire fighting equipment is vested under this section, use any of the equipment not reasonably required by the council to deal with incidents in the area of the council to deal with incidents outside the area.

Rural Fire District Service Agreement²

Clause 4 – Commissioner to exercise Councils' Functions and manage the District

•••

4.2 The Commissioner will, in consideration of an annual fee of \$1.00 payable by the Council:

² Rural Fire District Service Agreement between The Council and The Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service – Template Version: February 2012

- a. exercise, for the Term, all of the functions imposed on the Council by or under the Act other than those function specified in
 - i. Sections 7,12A, 37(3), 60(2), 62, 63, 64, 65, 74(1)(2)(a) & (b), 74C(3), 76, 77, 79, 95, 83(1)(a), 100E (2)(b) & (c), 100G, 100H, 104, 109, 110, 119 (save for sub-section 119(5)), 120 and 126 of the Act; and
 - ii. Regulations 14(a), and 37 of the Rural Fires Regulation (2008).
- b. undertake the day to day management of the RFS in the District.

3. Position Paper Considerations

The NSW Auditor General is recommending that councils record the Rural Firefighting Equipment that has been "vested" to the councils, in their financial statements.

The determination as to whether councils' "control" these assets by the NSW Auditor General appears to have been formed on advice from State agencies that the State Government does not control these assets, so therefore "by default" they must be controlled by the councils that they are vested in.

The financial statements of the NSW Total State Sector and the NSW Rural Fire Service do not include these assets, as the State is of the view that rural firefighting equipment that has been vested to councils under section 119(2) of the Rural Fires Act 1997 is not controlled by the State. In reaching this conclusion, the State argued that on balance it would appear that councils control the rural firefighting equipment that has been vested to them. It is important to note that there are only two parties who would be considered to control this equipment – the NSW Rural Fire Service in the State sector, or councils in the local government sector.

The Department of Planning and Environment (inclusive of the Office of Local Government) (the Department) confirmed in the 'Report on Local Government 2020' (tabled in Parliament on 27 May 2021) their view that rural firefighting equipment is not controlled by the NSW Rural Fire Service.

The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting confirms the State's view that it does not control these assets but provides the 'Councils need to assess whether they control any rural firefighting equipment in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards'. It would however seem, given the State's view that it does not control these assets, that these assets can only be controlled and therefore recognised by councils in the local government sector.³

Whilst the references above have formed the common view in that the rural firefighting equipment <u>is not</u> controlled by NSW Rural Fire Service, or any other State agency, the references do not appear to have undertaken an assessment of these assets to ascertain that they <u>are</u> controlled by councils. The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice acknowledges the need for this assessment to be undertaken by prescribing that "... Councils need to assess whether they control any rural firefighting equipment in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards"⁴.

Accordingly, it is appropriate that councils undertake a control test to ascertain whether they control the rural firefighting equipment that has been vested to them by Section 119(2) of the Rural Fires Act 1997.

³ NSW Auditor General's Report to Parliament – Local Government 2021 – Page 12

⁴ Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting 2021/22 – January 2022

SAC 4 provides guidance to councils to ascertain control. Clause 37 of SAC 4 confirms that an asset that has been "vested" in itself does not determine control.

Clause 37 elaborates on an example, which is very relevant, and not too dissimilar to the current situation with rural firefighting equipment. This example is again repeated below:

Another example is where a government entity, such as a government department, does not have legal ownership of the buildings in which it operates, such ownership vesting in another government entity, but controls the future economic benefits embodied in the buildings because of the terms of a particular government policy, ministerial directive or administrative arrangement.

This example can now be updated, to reflect this current situation, by inserting the relevant agencies party to this situation:

Another example is where a government entity (eg: NSW Rural Fire Service), such as a government department, does not have legal ownership of the buildings (or rural firefighting equipment) in which it operates (or uses), such ownership vesting in another government entity (eg: the councils), but controls the future economic benefits embodied in the buildings (or rural firefighting equipment) because of the terms of a particular government policy, ministerial directive or administrative arrangement (eg: a Rural Fire District Service Agreement).

Reference is then drawn to the Rural Fire District Service Agreement, specifically clause 4.2 which provides that the Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service is to "…exercise Council's Functions and manage the District." Accordingly, an "administrative arrangement" is present that assigns the day-to-day management, and therefore the future economic benefits, of the rural firefighting equipment to the Commissioner.

4. Conclusion

Applying the control provisions of SAC 4 confirm that the rural firefighting equipment are <u>not</u> controlled by the council in which these assets have been "vested".

In reaching this determination it is appropriate, and encouraged, that each council undertake their own individual assessment. The above assessment has been prepared on information that is generically available, and as such, individual arrangements that exist between a council and their respective Rural Fire District Service Agreement may differ from the Template referenced in this position paper.

Councils should also be encouraged to include a notation in their financial statements that acknowledges that a control test over rural firefighting equipment has been undertaken, and also report on the outcome of the control assessment.

⁵ Rural Fire District Service Agreement between The Council and The Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service – Template Version: February 2012

8.2 ROBINVALE EUSTON WORKFORCE NETWORK

File Number: D22.68836

Reporting Officer: Jeff Sowiak, General Manager

Responsible Officer:

Operational Plan Objective: Pillar 3: Our Economy – A community that ensures a strong

and resilient economy.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council write to the Coleman Foundation (Our Place) to agree to be a partner organisation of the Robinvale Euston Workforce Network. (REWN)

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider Council agreeing to be a partner organisation of the Robinvale Euston Workplace Network working with the Coleman Foundation and the Victorian Government on the "Our Place Robinvale" project to focus on strengthening approaches to increase local employment and training opportunities for residents

REPORT

The Robinvale / Euston Region is experiencing significant expansion in horticulture and food manufacturing capacity. In addition, the region is also seeing significant planning for predicted growth in renewable energy, minerals sands mining and other industries. As a result, the Robinvale / Euston region is expecting to experience ongoing, strong near-term growth in demand for skilled and semi-skilled labour.

High labour market participation, low unemployment rates, restricted overseas travel and the ageing workforce present challenges to filling these vacancies, let alone sustaining current employment levels. However, meeting workforce requirements will also create or exacerbate other challenges such as housing, retention of employees and access to services. Failure to actively address these challenges in a timely manner, many of which already exist and have been ongoing issues for a considerable time, will create or exacerbate negative impacts for both businesses and the community.

Despite high number of employment opportunities across many industries in the region, many local residents are not taking up these positions due a number of significant barriers. As highlighted in the Robinvale Euston Jobs Ecosystem report, issues such as lack of skills training services, literacy upskilling opportunities, childcare, transport, mental health services, and a general awareness of the number and types of roles in the region are understood to be significant barriers to the economic participation of local residents, particularly young people and those from Aboriginal, Pasifika backgrounds and CALD community.

One of the primary outcomes from the Robinvale Euston Industry Forum held in December 2021 was general consensus from the 57 participants who attended that collaborative action needed to be taken by industry, government, schools, training providers, local government and other community organisations through the formation of the Robinvale Euston Workforce Network (REWN) to identify and prioritise the solutions needed to overcome the existing and future challenges to ensure the region can sustainably realise its full potential and deliver prosperity for all community members.

As part of the Working Together in Place initiative, the Victorian Government is supporting the Colman Foundation through its Our Place Robinvale presence, part of an existing partnership with the Victorian Government Department of Education & Training, to provide broader support in the community (beyond the school platform that is the basis of the Our Place approach) to address barriers that often prevent the full engagement of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups within the community.

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This partnership is testing a new way of working together to demonstrate how strong local placebased partnerships with the right support from Government can lead to better outcomes in addressing local social and economic disadvantage.

To achieve this objective, Our Place began investigating several key focus areas including employment and training outcomes for local community members. In seeking to better understand how the local Robinvale Euston Jobs Ecosystem operates, Our Place Robinvale engaged with local employers, employees, service providers and the wider community to create the Robinvale Euston Workforce Network (REWN). This project group will seek to develop a Workforce Action Plan that would, with flexible workforce development funding from government and corporate stakeholders, support the development of innovative partnerships between industry, training providers and universities in the region to ensure the ongoing skills development of residents.

Balranald Council has been invited to participate in the steering committee and has been asked to sign an agreement to being a partner organisation. The agreement states that as a partner Council agrees to support the terms of reference for the REWN which are to:

- support the development of innovative partnerships between industry, training providers and universities in the region to ensure the ongoing skills development of residents
- develop partnerships to help overcome the complex barriers to economic inclusion of residents
- ensure all community members, including the most vulnerable ones, are provided the
 opportunity to participate in the benefits of economic growth through greater uptake by
 them of local job opportunities (industry can fill vacancies with local people Grow Your
 Own Strategy)
- improve effectiveness of investment in Robinvale Euston region to address key community needs / barriers to employment (housing strategy, service delivery, childcare, transport etc)
- investigate a Robinvale Euston backbone that would drive action and collaboration across industry, government, key stakeholders, and the community, building on established relationships and demonstrated willingness to collaborate developed through the REWN
- provide advice to governments on the services and investments that would enhance the liveability and amenity of the Robinvale Euston region - housing, childcare, health and other services, arts/recreation/cultural initiatives etc

It is recommended that Council support participation in this working group and agree to the terms of reference as indicated.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

The cost of attendance at meetings is provided for in Council's budget.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATION

None specific.

POLICY IMPLICATION

Council is supportive of employment promotion and economic development opportunities.

RISK RATING

Low

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

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9 CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORTS

Nil

10 INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT REPORTS

10.1 BALRANALD LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2010 - HOUSEKEEPING AMENDMENT

File Number: D22.68746

Reporting Officer: Ray Mitchell, Health & Development Coordinator

Nikkita Manning-Rayner, Administration Officer - Health &

Development

Responsible Officer: Jeff Sowiak, General Manager

Operational Plan Objective: Pillar 4: Our Culture - A community that respects and

celebrates its diverse cultures, heritage and arts.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Support Planning Proposal Balranald LEP Housekeeping Amendment to amend the Balranald Local Environmental Plan 2010.
- 2. Submit the Planning Proposal to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment for Gateway Determination seeking public exhibition of the proposed amendments.
- 3. Receive a further report after the public exhibition period addressing any submissions made in respect of the Planning Proposal.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To recommend that Council proceed with a Planning Proposal to amend the *Balranald Local Environmental Plan 2010* that achieves the following outcomes:

- Correction of a number of mapping anomalies as they relate to the Land Zoning, Minimum Lot Size, Natural Resources Sensitivity – Biodiversity and Riparian Land, Waterways and Groundwater Vulnerability Maps.
- Update Schedule 5 and the Heritage Maps of the LEP to implement the recommendations of the Balranald Shire Community Heritage Study.
- Introduction of a new local provision regarding boundary adjustments in certain rural and environmental zones.
- Deletion of the Additional Permitted Uses Map to reflect the fact that Schedule 1 of the LEP is blank

REPORT

Background

The Balranald Local Environmental Plan 2010 ("LEP") was gazetted on 9 July 2010 and is the principal planning instrument affecting land use in the Balranald Local Government Area.

Since the introduction of the LEP, a number of mapping anomalies have been identified that need correcting in the Land Zoning, Minimum Lot Size, Natural Resources Sensitivity – Biodiversity and Riparian Land, as well as the Waterways and Groundwater Vulnerability Maps. These primarily relate to mapping errors contained on the biodiversity maps that currently apply to land that contains no environmental features.

Furthermore, Council have previously prepared the Balranald Shire Community Heritage Study 2006-2007 and the Balranald Shire Heritage Review 2013. The purpose of these studies is to

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provide a comprehensive identification of places of heritage significance based upon community interest.

To implement the recommendations of the study, Schedule 5 and the Heritage Maps of the LEP need to be amended. It is noted that the amendment seeks to list 32 items within Council's heritage schedule in addition to the 8 items already listed.

Lastly, during the operation of the LEP it was discovered that much of the Balranald Shire LGA consists of fragmented land parcels contained across the rural and conservation (environmental) zones of the Shire. Whilst a large number of these undersized lots are held within the same ownership (landholding), opportunities to undertake boundary adjustments between these lots is severely restricted as the 'resultant lots' cannot achieve the minimum lot size requirement of Clause 4.1 of the LEP.

Therefore, the introduction of a new local provision, which allows for flexibility in the minimum lot size requirements between certain rural and environmental zones is recommended to resolve this issue.

In order to amend the LEP as outlined above, a Planning Proposal needs to be prepared and submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Environmental following both Council endorsement and public exhibition.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

Council has allocated funding to prepare the LEP amendment.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATION

Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979

Balranald Local Environmental Plan 2010

POLICY IMPLICATION

Community Strategic Plan

Far West Regional Plan 2036

Balranald Shire Community Heritage Study 2006-2007

Balranald Shire Heritage Review 2013

RISK RATING

Matters regarding the listing of individual properties as items of environmental heritage are sensitive and are often subject to objection from individual owners due to various reasons such as perceived constraints on further development, additional development costs and implications in terms of rates, insurance, re-sale and property prices.

It is noted that Council has an important role to play in the preservation and promotion of key items of historical or social importance as they provide important connections to the past. The purpose of the heritage study was to identify those places and objects that hold historical, aesthetic, social and scientific significance in accordance with the Burra Charter for the betterment of the community.

Notwithstanding the above, in response to the politically sensitive nature of listing individual properties as heritage items, the decision has been made to only list publicly/community owned buildings for heritage listing.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

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10.2 NSW PUBLIC SPACES CHARTER

File Number: D22.68748

Reporting Officer: Ray Mitchell, Health & Development Coordinator

Nikkita Manning-Rayner, Administration Officer - Health &

Development

Responsible Officer: Jeff Sowiak, General Manager

Operational Plan Objective: Pillar 2: Our Place – A liveable and thriving community that

maintains lifestyle opportunities and addresses its

disadvantages.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Become a signatory to the NSW Public Spaces Charter; and
- 2. Seek guidance from the NSW Public Spaces Charter project team to develop an action plan to implement the NSW Public Spaces Charter; and
- 3. Undertake consultation in relation to the action plan in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Strategy 2020–2024.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

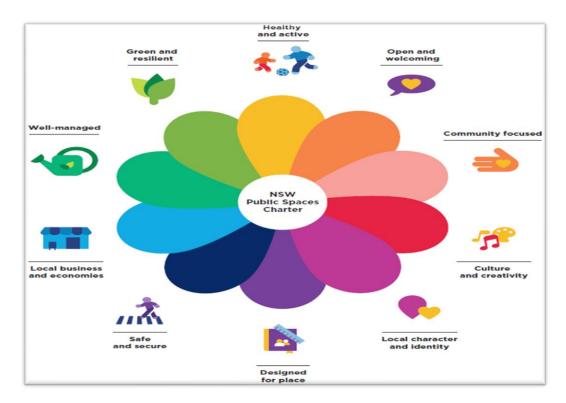
To advise of the Transport for NSW – Cities and Active Transport Public Spaces Charter.

REPORT

Transport for NSW has recently become the custodian for the NSW Public Spaces Charter (the Charter) that is described as one of the flagship programs of the NSW Government's priority for Greener Public Spaces. The Charter is the culmination of a process of global and local evidence building and engagement with nearly 200 individuals across NSW Government, Local Government, industry, business, Aboriginal knowledge holders and community. It is intended to align with, and not replace, existing NSW Government policy, strategy or non-statutory guidance for public space.

The Charter identifies 10 principles for quality public space that will guide advocates, advisors, decision-makers, planners, designers and place managers in creating new, more and better public spaces for everyone across NSW. The principles are show in the graphic below.

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Transport for NSW has requested that Council consider becoming a signatory to the NSW Public Spaces Charter, thus showing a commitment to embed the 10 principles when we plan for, design, manage or activate public spaces.

The benefits of becoming a signatory are that Council would be supported with advice from the NSW Public Spaces Charter project team on how to develop an action plan to implement the Charter. We would also have access to a community of practice, delivered quarterly. The community of practice will be focused on building the capacity of signatories to apply the charter, by connecting them to public space experts, providing opportunities for information and data sharing, and for promoting their own public space projects or practice.

Becoming a signatory may have some relevance over and above existing commitments to best practices and guidelines given Council's infrastructure program is looking to undertake some significant public space programs in Balranald and Euston. Additionally, consideration of the Charter principles would be in line with Council's responsibilities for the provision and maintenance of public spaces.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

To be accounted for under grant programs

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATION

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATION

NSW Public Spaces Charter

RISK RATING

Low

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Becoming NSW Public Spaces Charter signatories
- 2. Transport NSW Becoming NSW Public Spaces Charter signatories

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Transport for NSW



Mr Glenn Wilcox General Manager/ Chief Executive Officer Balranald Shire Council PO Box 120 BALRANALD NSW 2715

Re: Becoming NSW Public Spaces Charter signatories

1 July 2022

Dear Glenn Wilcox,

I am writing to share with you a copy of the NSW Public Spaces Charter (the Charter) and to encourage that your Council become a signatory to the Charter.

Since the most recent Machinery of Government changes effective from April 2022, the Charter is one of the many projects I have been delighted to bring across with me from the NSW Department of Planning and Environment to Transport for NSW – Cities and Active Transport.

The Charter is one of the flagship programs of the NSW Government's priority for Greener Public Spaces. It identifies 10 principles for quality public space that will guide advocates, advisors, decision-makers, planners, designers and place managers in creating new, more and better public spaces for everyone across NSW.

The Charter is the culmination of a process of global and local evidence building and deep engagement with nearly 200 individuals across NSW Government, local government, industry, business, Aboriginal knowledge holders and community. It is intended to align with, and not replace, existing NSW Government policy, strategy or non-statutory guidance for public space.

To promote the delivery of high-quality public space across NSW, we are encouraging all NSW local councils to become a signatory to the Charter.

Signatories will have access to a community of practice, which will focus on building the capacity of signatories to apply the Charter, providing opportunities for information and data sharing, and promoting signatories' public space projects or practice. We have included as one of the first tools the <u>final draft of the Practitioner's Guide</u>, developed to support signatories to apply the Charter. We will be consulting with signatories and others, seeking feedback on the guide over the coming months.

OFFICIAL

231 Elizabeth Street, Sydney NSW 2000 PO Box k659, Haymarket NSW 1240 (02) 82022200 transport.nsw.gov.au

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Transport for NSW



As such, I am writing seeking the following:

- Confirmation that your council will become a signatory to the NSW Public Spaces
 Charter
- Confirmation of the contact details of a member of your council who my staff can coordinate with.

It would be appreciated if you or your staff could provide confirmation of these items to Dr Caroline Butler-Bowdon, Executive Director Cities Revitalisation and Place at Caroline.Butler-Bowdon@planning.nsw.gov.au or on (02) 9274 6008.

If you require any further information about the Charter, Caroline and her staff would be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

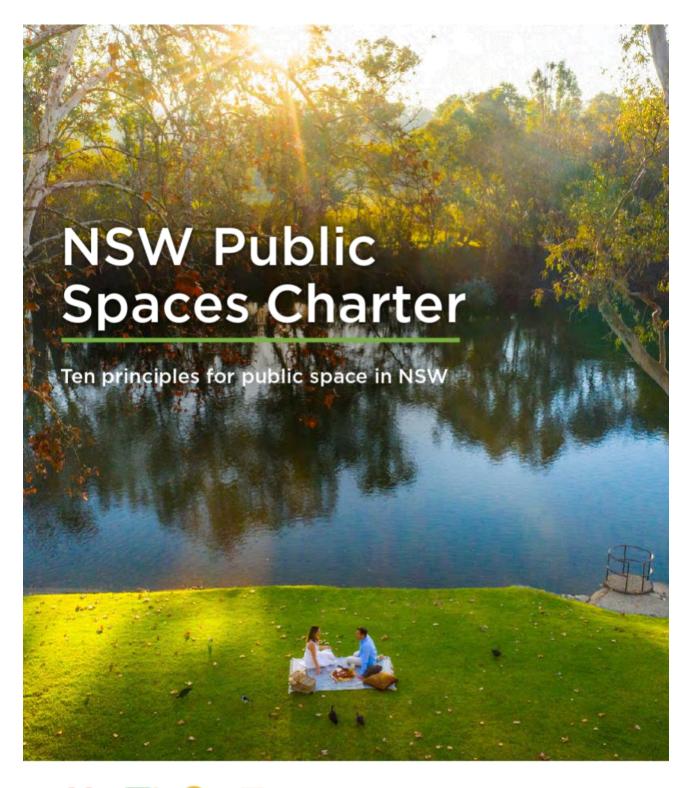
Kiersten Fishburn

Deputy Secretary, Cities and Active Transport

Transport for NSW

OFFICIAL

2







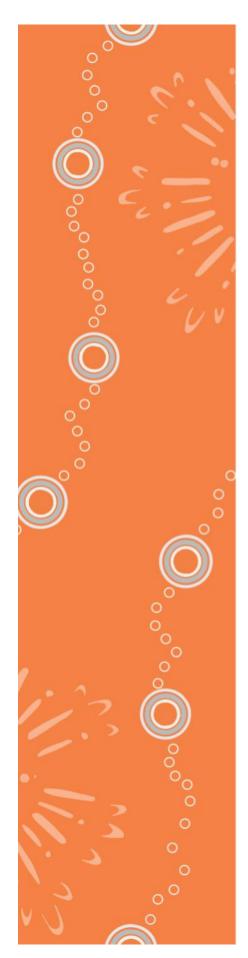




NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

October 2021





Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.

We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to place and their rich contribution to society. NSW is Aboriginal land, so throughout this document Aboriginal peoples are referred to specifically, rather than First Nations, or Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Aboriginal peoples take a holistic view of land, water and culture and see them as one, not in isolation to each other. The NSW Public Spaces Charter is based on the premise upheld by Aboriginal peoples that if we care for Country, it will care for us.

Published by the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

dpie.nsw.gov.au

NSW Public Spaces Charter

Image on front cover: Noreuil Park, Albury. Courtesy of Destination NSW.

Artwork (left) by Nikita Ridgeway.

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Ministerial foreword

As the first NSW Minister for Public Spaces, it's clear to me that public space is everyone's business. This is why it's a priority of the NSW Government to increase access to quality, green public spaces, and why we have developed the NSW Public Spaces Charter.

The charter provides ten principles for quality public space that have been designed to maximise the social, cultural, environmental and economic benefits that public space delivers.

The charter has been more than a year in the making and is based on deep and broad engagement. It's truly a community-led tool, designed in collaboration with practitioners and reflecting what communities love about public spaces and what they tell us should be improved.

In November 2021 the NSW Government released survey results showing almost half of respondents were using public spaces and parks more than ever before.

Indeed, our love for public spaces has never been more in focus. It's no secret that the pandemic has emphasised the inherent need we have for safe and welcoming public space. At the height of COVID-19, many of us experienced newfound joy and delight in public spaces that we may have previously taken for granted. This showed how much we need them on a physical, emotional and psychological level.

The Government is responding to the community with this new charter. We're setting the bar to help change how people think about, view, and engage with great public spaces.

This unifying set of principles, based on solid evidence and research, will underpin the creation and improvement of high-quality public spaces across NSW.

All our public spaces should reflect the values, needs and aspirations of the communities they serve, including those who are vulnerable and hard-to-reach. Ensuring public spaces are

equitable and inclusive will lead to the creation of a more just State. Making public spaces that enable social interaction in beautiful places is an amazing vision that I believe everyone can share.

I encourage every organisation that creates, cares for, and uses public spaces in NSW to sign up to the charter. Let's work together to bring forth a new legacy for public space. Let's use these principles to transform how we think about and deliver quality public spaces that help all NSW communities love the places they live.



The Hon. Rob Stokes, MPMinister for Planning and Public Spaces
Minister for Transport and Roads

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Country is a holistic worldview that incorporates humans, non-humans, more-than-humans and all the complex networks and systems that connect them. Country is known to be alive and sentient, and continually communicating. Country is not constrained by boundaries, lines on a map, or edges of a site. Instead, Country soars high into the atmosphere, plunges far into the ocean, and deep into the earth's crust. Country has diverse and distinct ways of expressing and being understood depending on the people, place, and context. Country is associated with Aboriginal people's cultural groups, it is where their ancestors still walk, and the places to which they belong. But it is much more than this. Country is known in physical, spiritual, and cultural ways. Tangibly it might include the flora, fauna, geology, elements, and waters. Intangibly Country includes expressions about place, spirit, narratives, identity, cultural practice, Law, lore, languages, and customs. Country holds all these individual aspects together harmoniously, storing knowledges like an eternal library.

While it may not have been built in the way it is currently understood, Aboriginal people have always designed and managed the environment, in collaboration with Country. The built environment is part of Country and needs to be cared for and designed as such. Likewise, relating to Country through public spaces enables those

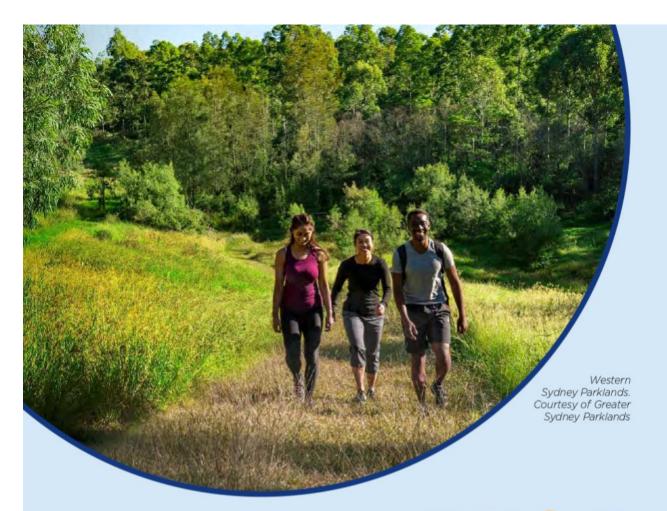
spaces to embody the spirit of place as story, culture and life are celebrated there. Because Country communicates and holds all knowledges, Country can guide what it needs to be healthy, and how it must be designed and managed, including in public spaces. Being in and activating public spaces as an extension of Country is part of caring for Country. Allowing Country to be lead designer or planner ensures the inclusion of all who access spaces, not just humans, as Country is inherently inclusive. Knowledge Holders of Country are descended from Country and know it best. Working together with them is key to understanding how to connect with and care for Country. Everyone is responsible for caring for Country as we all live, learn, work, and play on Country.

With thanks to the Elders, Knowledge Holders, kin, and family who have generously shared their knowledges and means of connecting to Country. With thanks to Country for providing these words and understandings.

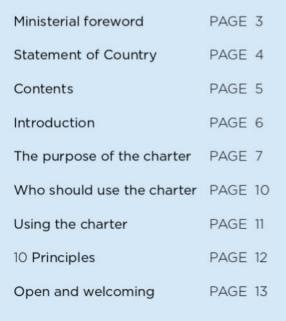
Dr Danièle Hromek

Dr Hromek is a Budawang woman of the Yuin nation. She works as a cultural designer and researcher considering how to Indigenise the built environment by creating spaces to substantially affect Indigenous rights and culture within an institution.

4



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5

Introduction

Public space is where public life happens.

It guides and shapes our experience of the places where we live, work and visit, filling them with vibrancy and energy as we connect, interact and share with others. It begins the moment you leave your front door and connects us to both work and leisure, and public and personal life. It includes the streets we walk or cycle in, the town squares we socialise in, libraries we learn in, community halls we gather in and parks, playgrounds and sport fields where we relax or play. It provides a wealth of social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that are critical to the health, wellbeing and prosperity of communities.

People are at the heart of public space. The way they use it transforms it into a meaningful place with layers of shared experiences, collective memories and a mixture of identities. When people feel attached to public space, they are more likely to adopt, use and care for the space themselves and have a more powerful sense of belonging to their community.

Greek Festival of Sydney, Darling Harbour. Courtesy of Placemaking NSW Public spaces are all places publicly owned or of public use, accessible and enjoyable by all for free and without a profit motive. They include:



PUBLIC OPEN SPACES

parks, gardens, playgrounds, public beaches, riverbanks and waterfronts, outdoor playing fields and courts, and bushland that is open for public access



PUBLIC FACILITIES

public libraries, museums, galleries, civic/community centres, showgrounds and indoor public sports facilities



STREETS

streets, avenues and boulevards; squares and plazas; pavements; passages and lanes, and bicycle paths

The quality of public space is just as important as its accessibility, as quality makes people feel safe, welcome and included. The quality of a public space is reflected not only in its physical form—how it's designed, maintained and integrated with its environment—but also through the activities it supports and the meaning it holds. It can be evaluated by asking:

- Am I able to get there?
- · Am I able to play and participate?
- · Am I able to stay?
- · Am I able to connect?



6

The purpose of the charter

The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has developed the NSW Public Spaces Charter to support everyone in NSW to have access to high-quality public space that allows them to enjoy and participate in public life. The charter identifies 10 principles for quality public space that distil and reflect evidence-based research, best practice and consultation with Aboriginal peoples, community members and representatives from state and local government, industry, the business and cultural sectors and a diverse range of public space experts.

The charter's principles are premised on the understanding that there isn't a one-size-fits-all approach to public space. Every public space has its own unique history, heritage, context and is supporting the different needs and uses of a specific community. There are significant and important differences in landscape, climate, amenity, population density and social and cultural demographics across Greater Sydney and regional and rural New South Wales. All these factors influence where and how people use public space and what the priorities are for their community. There are no set rules as to where and how the charter applies - it could apply to the management of a national or regional scale parkland, just as it could to the design of a new pocket park.



The 10 principles

The charter identifies 10 principles for quality public space, to support all those who advocate on behalf of, provide advice on, make decisions about, or plan, design, manage and activate public spaces in NSW.



8

The values

The charter is also built on the following core values that resonate strongly across all the principles. These values should always be considered when applying the principles.

Courtesy of Destination NSW



Connection to Country

All public space in NSW is on Country, which is at the core of every Aboriginal person's identity and sense of belonging. It is the place from which Aboriginal languages and cultures are derived, which determine families, kinship and communities. Aboriginal peoples are the Traditional Custodians of all public space in New South Wales. Acknowledging and valuing Aboriginal peoples and cultural knowledge when public space is planned, managed and delivered can promote and strengthen connection to Country and create healing for both Aboriginal communities and non-Aboriginal peoples too.

Courtesy of Adam Hollingworth



Equity and inclusion

Public space is a community asset that should support a society in which everyone can participate, prosper, and reach their potential. Inclusion in public spaces and in the processes to plan, design, manage and activate them is central to creating equitable public spaces and ensuring all people can access the benefits they provide.



Community engagement

Engaging the community as active participants in decision-making processes when planning, designing, managing and activating public space will help ensure that it reflects their values, needs and aspirations. Participatory processes, collaboration and co-design in public space projects help build trust, which then increases people's use of and attachment to the space. Ensuring that vulnerable and hard-to-reach communities are engaged in these processes leads to more welcoming and inclusive public space.

Kids on Q, Campbelltown. Courtesy of Campbelltown City Council

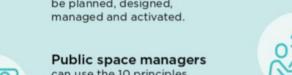
c

Who should use the charter

The charter can be used by any organisation or practitioner involved in the planning, design, delivery, management or evaluation of public space. Becoming a signatory to the NSW Public Spaces Charter will help your organisation to provide or advocate for better public spaces. It will also allow your organisation to access the charter's community of practice, one-on-one support from the department, promotional opportunities and data sharing. Examples of how the charter can be used are outlined below.



The community can use the 10 principles to understand the value and benefits of quality public space. The charter will help the community to participate in the conversation about how public spaces should be planned, designed, managed and activated.





can use the 10 principles to inform plans of management and the policies and programming that respond to the needs of their users.



Strategic and statutory planners can apply the 10 principles as they develop planning proposals, local planning instruments and plans for precincts, local government areas, districts or regions.



Public policy makers can incorporate the 10 principles within policy and advice that informs NSW Government and council investment priorities.



Local businesses and chambers of commerce can use the 10 principles to better understand how they can leverage public spaces for their business and advocate for public spaces in their area.



Development professionals such as architects, heritage specialists and arborists can use the 10 principles to inform the design and delivery of a public space.



Industry bodies can use the 10 principles to inform and support members involved in the planning, design, delivery, management or evaluation of public space.



Developers can draw from the 10 principles to plan for and provide quality public spaces within their developments.

To become a signatory to the charter, register your interest by emailing Public.Space@planning.nsw.gov.au

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Using the charter

We have developed the charter to support all those who advocate on behalf of, provide advice on, make decisions about, or plan, design, manage and activate public spaces in NSW.

It is intended to align with other government and non-government strategies and policies for creating great places, where people can easily access a diversity of public spaces to enjoy the outdoors, interact with others or just relax.

The charter can also be used by the community to understand what quality public space is and to inform their participation when they are engaged in decisions about how public space is planned, designed, managed and activated.

Practitioner's guide

An accompanying practitioner's guide supports the charter. We have developed this to help practitioners understand the charter and how they can embed it into their work. The guide also explains the 10 charter principles and how practitioners should apply these when planning, designing, managing and activating public space.

For each of the 10 principles, the guide:

- explains the principles
- describes what the principle will look like in action
- provides practitioner tips to support how the principle can be followed as public space is planned, designed, managed and activated

- provides relevant examples
- · links to relevant, supporting policies or plans.

Great Public Spaces Toolkit

The charter and practitioner's guide are also supported by the <u>Great Public Spaces Toolkit</u>, which provides in-depth case studies and free resources to support local government, state agencies, industry and the community. The toolkit includes the Great Public Spaces Guide and the Evaluation Tool for Public Space and Public Life, which can be used by anyone who wants to better understand the strengths and areas for improvement in a public space.

Become a signatory

While we have developed the charter for use by anybody involved in the planning, design, delivery or management of public space, the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment encourages organisations and practitioners to become signatories to it. In becoming a signatory to the NSW Public Spaces Charter, an organisation or individual is showing a commitment to embed the 10 principles when they plan for, design, manage or activate public spaces.

Signatories to the charter will be supported with advice from the NSW Public Spaces Charter project team on how to develop an action plan to implement the Charter in their organisation or practice. They will also have access to a community of practice, delivered quarterly. The community of practice will be focused on building the capacity of signatories to apply the charter, by connecting them to public space experts and providing opportunities for information and data sharing and for promoting their own public space projects or practice.

To register your organisation's interest in becoming a signatory to the charter, email PublicSpace@planning.nsw.gov.au

While the department does not intend to subject the charter to regular review, we may update it as required to reflect contemporary practice and emerging research.



Market Square, Grafton Photographer: Alison Page and Nikolas Lachajczak

10 PRINCIPLES Stirling Brown, Mavis Feirer, Queenie Walker, Janelle Brown and Robyn Bancroft in

Item 10.2 - Attachment 2 Page 92

12

Open and welcoming



Everyone can access public space and feel welcome, respected and included.



Prince Alfred Square, Parramatta. Courtesy of Destination NSW

Public space should be inclusive of all people, regardless of their gender, age, sexuality, race, ethnicity, religion, cultural background, socioeconomic status, ability and/or personal values, so social, cultural, environmental and economic benefits are shared equitably.

For public space to be inclusive, it must be culturally, physically and socially accessible, and perceived by the community to be so. They should be places where everyone feels safe, welcome and able to participate in public life. They should offer a diversity of uses and well-designed experiences that are free of charge regardless of income, ability or where they live. Amenities such as seating, shade and shelter, end-of-trip facilities, accessible toilets and inclusive play spaces that anyone can use and enjoy should be provided.

The physical design of a space, how people get there and move through and between public spaces, is critical. Public space should be designed and maintained to ensure the highest possible level of accessibility, so that people of all ages and with differing cognitive, sensory, physical, or developmental abilities can use them with dignity and ease. They should have

clear entrances and exits, open sightlines, visible wayfinding and clear navigation. They should be well integrated with surrounding land uses and public transport options, and easy to walk or cycle to.

Individual public spaces can have distinct purposes and functions, and may not be able to cater to every need. Planning public spaces to be linked and equitably distributed can create a more connected network of spaces that work together, and support each other.

Creating open and welcoming public spaces requires early and ongoing engagement with communities regarding how they are planned, designed, managed and activated. Including diverse groups of people, including Aboriginal peoples, young people, people with disability, people experiencing homelessness and culturally and linguistically diverse people in shaping public spaces can help create more accessible, inclusive and welcoming public spaces for everyone. It is especially important to have strategies in place to engage community members and groups who have historically felt excluded from these processes.

13

Community focused



Public space brings people together and builds strong, connected and resilient communities.

Public spaces are the meeting and gathering places where we socialise with friends and loved ones and experience social connections that are fundamental to individual and community health and wellbeing.

Public space is important because it can bring us side-by-side with people whom we don't know, to share space and experiences with others who are different from us. This can create mutual understanding, empathy and trust, which over time strengthens the social capital of communities. Social capital is what makes communities cohesive and resilient, providing them with the relationships and networks of support that they need to withstand and adapt to broader economic and social shifts.

A key outcome when planning, designing, managing and activating a public space should be how it facilitates formal and informal social interaction and fosters social connectedness amongst diverse people, cultural communities, age groups, religious groups, families and friends.

Public spaces must also be places that promote equity, inclusion, social justice and democracy. They should allow free expression, collective action, public debate and opportunities for people of all backgrounds to participate in civic life.

Public space that is community-led, with a strong foundation of inclusive and equitable engagement, collaboration and co-design is more likely to meet the desires, expectations, traditions and needs of its community. Involving the community, including diverse, under-represented and hard-to-reach groups, in decisions about how public space is planned, designed, managed and activated builds trust and ultimately a sense of belonging and attachment to place.

Kerrabee Soundshell, Moama. Courtesy of Murray River Council/Rebecca Pilgrim



14

Culture and creativity

1

Public space provides a platform for culture and creative expression that makes places more colourful, animated and thought-provoking.

All public space is on Country, which is deeply embedded with knowledge and memories that are the starting point for considering the culture of a place. Aboriginal peoples have always used ceremony, rituals and storytelling to engage with the spirit of a place, activate memories and connect with Country.

It's important that Aboriginal peoples can access public spaces for cultural practices, which incorporate any practice that connects them to their culture, Country and Dreaming. Cultural practices may involve caring for Country activities and are not restricted to traditional practices.

By listening to Aboriginal peoples and sharing the stories of Country, we can all strengthen our understanding of, and connection to, place and to each other. In being sites for truthtelling about our history and the impacts of colonisation, public spaces can also become places of reconciliation and healing.

Culture and creativity are powerful tools for communities to create a positive narrative about who they are and what they want their futures to look like. Arts and culture brings people together, allowing them to share experiences that powerfully builds community. Places with a rich and exciting cultural and creative offering are more liveable and distinct, with people more likely to want to live, work and spend time there.

Public space can embed arts, music, literature, screen, performance and cultural experiences, public art and events directly into the heart of communities. Supporting local opportunities for cultural and creative expression in public spaces encourages more diverse and equitable participation for audiences and artists.

The rich cultural diversity of NSW brings an exciting energy into our public spaces, making them places of cultural interaction and exchange. Programming and events such as concerts, festivals, storytelling, and ceremonies can reflect local histories, cultures and traditions. They can foster social inclusion and intercultural dialogue among diverse communities.



Manning Regional Art Gallery, Taree. Courtesy of MidCoast Council

Public spaces such as libraries, parks, laneways and plazas can provide flexible and informal space that supports ephemeral, temporary and permanent creative works to be more visible, valued, distinctive and accessible. The spaces around and in between public facilities such as libraries, museums, galleries and community centres are especially well-placed locations for planning creative and cultural projects and activities. Place-based approaches that involve local artists and creative organisations can build on the unique identity of a local area and community to activate public spaces.

15

Local character and identity



Public space reflects who we are and our diverse stories and histories.

Public space contains layers of built and natural heritage that cut across time and provide communities with a specific sense of character, place and identity. This heritage can be tangible or intangible, embedded in built form and landscapes or living in stories, memories and oral histories.

Country is the foundation of a place's identity. Public space should acknowledge and reflect Aboriginal languages, place names, and histories. It should provide space for Aboriginal cultures to be practised and shared, as this helps people feel more connected to Country and place. Public spaces such as parks, libraries, community centres, plazas, and sports grounds have aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value that enriches our lives and make us feel deeply connected to our community and our landscape.

The character and quality of heritage in public spaces should be carefully managed and maintained, to promote local identity and to pass it on to the future generations. New public spaces should be sympathetic to the history and heritage

of the site and to the communities who live and have lived there, especially in urban renewal and brownfield developments. Adaptive re-use of heritage buildings such as town halls, fire stations and hospitals can provide new and exciting public spaces and uses that build on the history and connection that communities have to these places.

Supporting local artists and creatives to work collaboratively with communities can deliver public art and creative placemaking programs that respond to place and celebrate local stories, cultures and histories.

Communities are the best experts for recognising and valuing the local character and identity of a place and should be engaged early in the process of planning, designing and activating public space. Engaging communities meaningfully and effectively will ensure that diverse voices, cultures and histories can be reflected in the character of public space and everyone feels a more powerful sense of pride and belonging.

Line of Lode Miners Memorial, Broken Hill Courtesy of Destination NSW



16

Green and resilient



Public space connects us to nature, enhances biodiversity and builds climate resilience into communities.



Great River Walk, Penrith. Courtesy of Destination NSW

Public space supports the natural flows and cycles of the environment, by connecting ecological systems and networks of green space, waterways, bushland, riparian landscapes and wildlife corridors. Wildlife relies on public space for food and refuge, and their use and needs should be considered and protected. Native trees and vegetation should be prioritised in public space as these provide animals with their natural habitats, and are more suited to Australian climate and soil conditions.

By respecting, valuing and being guided by Aboriginal knowledge and land management practices in how we care for public space, we can help to support the health and wellbeing of Country. The planning, design, management and activation of public space can also support them to be sites for education about caring for Country's health and wellbeing and their role in supporting biodiversity and broader ecosystems.

Public space should be integrated with green infrastructure to ensure that urban and regional communities have equitable access to the social, environmental and economic benefits of quality green space. Green infrastructure is the network of green spaces, natural systems and semi-natural systems that supports sustainable communities.

It includes waterways, bushland, tree canopy and green ground cover, parks, and green open spaces that are strategically planned, designed and managed to support a good quality of life in the urban environment.

Public space that has quality green infrastructure, including tree canopy cover, can increase the long-term removal and storage of carbon, provide relief from urban heat and heatwaves, improve air and water quality, increase natural shade and the walkability of neighbourhoods, reduce noise pollution and the likelihood of flooding and sewage overflow.

Through careful planning and design, public spaces can build climate resilience into urban and regional communities. This includes using sustainable materials and integrating green walls and roofs into the built environment, providing green fire breaks between natural and built environments and flood mitigation zones in flood-prone areas. Planning and designing adaptable community facilities that are capable of changing use as refuge spaces and distribution points will ensure critical social infrastructure is available in the time of crisis and disaster.

17

Healthy and active



Public space allows everyone to participate in activities that strengthen our health and wellbeing.

Public space plays a crucial role in building sustainable and healthy communities by supporting social interaction and connection and providing play and active recreation opportunities, green and natural environments, access to local healthy foods and safe routes to walk and cycle.

Public space that is well-designed, connected and inclusive can support everyone to build walking, exercise and physical activity into our everyday lives, helping prevent chronic disease such as cancer, heart disease, diabetes and depression. Increased availability and equitable distribution of accessible public open space can improve the opportunities for active and passive recreation, such as walking, running, cycling, team sports, picnicking and playing.

By providing access to cool, green spaces and connecting people to natural landscapes, such as nature trails, river and coastal walks and bushland, public space powerfully improves our mental health, reducing depression, anxiety and stress and improving memory and concentration. It should encourage and support social interaction and connection, which is important to our social wellbeing, and can help to reduce social isolation and loneliness. People should have access to a mix and balance of comfortable, tranquil spaces with places to sit and relax as well as space for higher-intensity activities such as sport and recreation, prioritising appropriate uses for different spaces.

Public space that is safe, well connected and high-quality encourages a culture of walking and cycling. Wider contiguous footpaths, tree canopy and shaded corridors, barriers between traffic and people. well-designed lighting, frequent crossings and lower traffic speeds

Sydney Olympic Park. Courtesy of Sydney Olympic Park Authority/Fiora Sacco

can all contribute to increased walkability. Using a movement and place lens to plan, design and manage streets can help to ensure these dual functions are supported. Street environments should be considered as places to attract people to visit and stay, not just as places to move through. They should contribute to the network of public space within a location, where people can live healthy, productive lives, meet each other, interact, and go about their daily activities.

The quality of public space is crucial in shaping the physical, cognitive and social development of children. Their needs, as well as that of their families, should always be considered. Supporting inclusion in the processes that shape public space will facilitate a broad range of healthy activities and behaviours and enable more people to have equitable access to the health benefits they provide.



Local business and economies



Public space supports a dynamic economic life and vibrant urban and town centres.

The public space network supports lively high streets, outdoor dining and cafés, and popular tourist destinations, as well as providing low-barrier commercial opportunities, such as markets, food vans and live performance.

The way that we value buildings and places is strongly linked to people's experience of these places and whether it includes spaces that meet their needs. Locations with highquality, well-designed and well-managed public places attract residents, customers, employees and services, which in turn attracts business and investment. To deliver a high-quality experience, public space should have a strong vision and layers of activities to attract different groups of people and helps them form a connection to place.

Privately-owned spaces and commercial activity can complement and activate public space, but this should not compromise their primary function of delivering public benefit. Active facades, building edges and podiums can create economic activity and vitality that draws people into an area, while public space attracts diverse groups of people and connects them to retail and business. Town centres and retail precincts that are supported with quality public spaces where people can sit, rest and connect with each other are more likely to thrive.

Using streets as public spaces can create more vibrant and dynamic retail and hospitality precincts and attract higher foot traffic. Activating streets and laneways with creative



Blak Markets, La Perouse. Courtesy of Destination NSW

placemaking and programming can breathe life and energy into public space that turns neighbourhoods into destinations, spurs innovation and improves land and property value.

Activating public spaces such as parks, plazas, libraries, museums and community centres in a safe and welcoming way after dark is critical for a more diverse and vibrant night-time economy. Understanding the rhythm and patterns of how public space is used at different times of the day can inform a strategic and place-based approach to programming and activation that supports the local economy at all hours.

19

Safe and secure



Everyone feels safe to access and use public space at all times of the day.

Perceptions of personal safety influence how public spaces are accessed and used. Public space feels safer when it is well-used and inclusive, and people can see and interact with others. It should encourage a diverse mix of intergenerational and intercultural users, and recognise children as active users of the space. It should be activated with a mix of uses at all times of the day and people-oriented lighting at night, especially along pedestrian and cycle routes.

Incorporating crime-prevention strategies such as the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles when planning and designing public space can reduce crime and anti-social behaviours, making places and spaces feel safer, which in turn can enhance the physical, mental and social wellbeing of community members. It's important, however, that strategies and approaches to designing and managing safe public spaces don't strip them of their

distinctiveness and public amenity, or cause marginalised groups to be excluded.

Risk assessments and safety audits are valuable tools for understanding if there are safety issues in a public space and what measures could be put in place to address these. Consulting diverse groups of people, including women and vulnerable or marginalised groups, is important to understand their experience of accessing and using public space and their perception of its safety.

Feeling culturally, physically and spiritually safe when accessing public spaces is especially important for Aboriginal peoples and communities. Involving Aboriginal communities, at all stages of public spaces development and its continuing management, is key to creating and maintaining culturally safe places.

Inner West Fest - Baludarri. Courtesy of Inner West Council/Daniel Kukec



20

Designed for place



Public space is flexible and responds to its environment to meet the needs of its community.



Leagues Club Park, Gosford. Courtesy of Hunter & Central Coast Development Corporation

The way that public space is designed can directly or indirectly affect the way that it is used, and who uses it. Public space should provide open space and facilities that are multi-purpose, connected and flexible enough to support a broad range of uses, activities and experiences throughout the day and night. It should respond to its environment and the diversity of its users, incorporating universal design principles so that everyone can enjoy it, regardless of age, ability and mobility.

Public space that is co-located with other uses, such as education, health, cultural facilities and other public spaces, can help create a sense of place and community. For example, co-locating libraries within community centres or open space near schools can diversify the use of these spaces and provide more equitable access. Planning for place across the whole lifecycle of a project, from concept, to design, delivery and implementation will lead to more successful public spaces.

Every public space is unique and has its own specific context, community and environment. It should be fit-for-purpose, designed with an understanding of how it will be used and who will use it. It should be capable of adapting to

changing uses and demands. It should encourage formal and informal interaction and provide people with different levels of engagement so that they don't have to interact with the space in the same way. It should have complementary uses whenever possible and be well-connected to surrounding areas and other public space to provide a richer experience for its users.

The connectivity of public space to the ground floor of buildings and the way they work together to support each other is important. Planning, designing and activating ground planes that support surrounding streets, laneways and open spaces encourages vibrant public life and provides a continuous network of pathways and experiences that makes it easier and safer for people to move around.

Aboriginal Knowledge Holders, organisations and communities should be engaged at an early stage of the design process for public space, to ensure that knowledge about Country is considered. This could include identifying stories or narratives connected to a place that can inform its design, or to understand if there are key movement paths or Songlines that can direct how people move in and through the public space.

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Well-managed



Well-managed and maintained public space functions better and invites people to use and care for it.

All public spaces require some form of management so that they can continue to fulfil their various roles and provide a safe and welcoming environment. There are often multiple and diverse stakeholders whose involvement, activities and relationships can affect the quality of a public space and who have their own concerns and needs for how the space should be maintained. Public space management and governance agreements, strategies and frameworks that define roles and responsibilities, support collaboration and consider sustainable funding models can deliver better place quality outcomes.

Public space should be managed in a way that encourages and is considerate of users. Rules governing public space should only restrict activities and behaviours that are unsafe and shouldn't target user groups who have historically been excluded from public space, including young people, Aboriginal peoples and people experiencing homelessness.

Public spaces should be designed with consideration of their financial sustainability, and how long-term operating and maintenance costs can be minimised. Smart infrastructure, systems and technology can also improve the ways that public space is monitored and managed. Cleaning, maintenance and repairs of public space and its amenities should be carried out in line with their levels of use to maintain a welcoming environment.

Aboriginal people are experts in land management practices that ensure the health and wellbeing of Country. Valuing and respecting Aboriginal cultural knowledge and working with Aboriginal peoples should be a priority in managing public space. This will also ensure that culturally significant places are respected and protected, and there is access for cultural practice.

Flexible community-led design, inclusive processes and capacity-building can also

foster more efficient and dynamic models of stewardship to emerge. When power and responsibility for managing public space is shared with the community, people feel more invested and are more willing to maintain, program, beautify, and advocate for those spaces. Volunteer groups such as scouts and girl guides, local schools, sports and surf lifesaving clubs, bush care groups or citizen science networks can provide valuable community partnerships for managing public space.

Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney's Aboriginal Education & Engagement Manager Renee Cawthorne Courtesy of Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust



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PART B - ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

11 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS

11.1 INSURANCE RENEWALS 2022 23

File Number: D22.68753

Reporting Officer: Jeff Sowiak, General Manager

Responsible Officer:

Operational Plan Objective: Pillar 6: Our Leadership - A community that values and

fosters leadership, lifelong learning, innovation and good

governance.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update Council on the cost and details of Council's insurance for the current year.

REPORT

Council is required to have insurance and is a member of a NSW local government mutual insurance scheme; Statewide Mutual; that was established in 1993 and currently has 113 member Councils. This scheme was established at a time when Council's where having considerable difficulty in procuring Public Liability insurance and premiums and deductibles were growing exponentially. JLT public sector are the mutual brokers and provide the day to day service to Councils in the scheme.

The concept of having a mutual is that the 113 councils pool their resources and this enables all to benefit from having a higher deductible, for which the fund self-insures, whilst going to the market for the higher end claims. The money that would have been expended on premiums, is used to build a buffer for self-insurance and flexibility in relation to the assessment of claims. In some cases claims that might not have been eligible under standard contract arrangements are accepted by the Board and paid to members. The scheme also provides training and incentives for risk management. i.e risk management training, self-assessment software and the like.

However, as Statewide does go to the market for policies it is not immune to the global trends in terms of the re-insurance market. For Council however being part of a mutual does tend to soften the blow by spreading one off premium spikes over several years.

This year the market report highlights a continuing trend of falling increases in premiums from a peak in 2020 of 22% to around 11% with particular concern with policies concerning professional indemnity, Cyber, Covid 19 and floods being key market drivers.

Council has renewed all it insurance as at 1st July and the table below illustrates the current cost of insurance as compared to the previous financial year. The average increase in premiums including for additional assets, was approximately 16% for the year.

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Insurance Renewals 2022 2023							
Policy	Premium	Premium	Difference	%			
	21/22	22/23		Increase			
Public Liability and Professional Indemnity	107,205	120,606	13,401	13%			
Casual Hirers Liability	5,680	6,390	710	13%			
Crime	6,743	7,760	1,017	15%			
Property	220,666	259,026	38,360	17%			
Property New Additions		4,789	4,789				
Councillors and Officers Liability	30,103	33,113	3,010	10%			
Motor Vehicle	54,136	59,588	5,452	10%			
Vehicle New Additions		690	690				
Personal Accident	2,927	2,789	- 138	-5%			
Total Incl GST	427,460	494,751	67,291	16%			

Whilst the increase of 16% is well above inflation the predicted increase, not including new additions, was only slightly higher than budget overall as indicated in the table below:

Insurances 2022/23					
	Budget	GST	Budget Incl GST	JLT Invoices	Budget Difference +/-
Public Liability and Professional Indemnity	114,600	11,460	126,060	120,606	5,454
Casual Hirers Liability	6,000	600	6,600	6,390	210
Crime	7,100	710	7,810	7,760	50
Property	211,985	21,199	233,184	259,000	-\$25,817
Councillors and Officers Liability	31,600	3,160	34,760	33,113	1,647
Motor Vehicle	57,000	5,700	62,700	59,000	3,700
Personal Accident	3,100	310	3,410	2,789	621
Total Net GST	\$431,385	43,139	474,524	\$488,658	-\$14,135

The shortfall will be incorporated in the September budget review as the premiums have been paid to ensure coverage from 1st July, 2022.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

The amount paid is above the estimated budget allowed of \$474,524 including GST and so the shortfall will need to be incorporated from savings in the September budget review.

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LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATION

Council has a fiduciary duty to responsibly protect the community assets with appropriate insurance.

POLICY IMPLICATION

Council is required to have adequate insurance.

RISK RATING

High

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

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11.2 GRANT STATUS UPDATE

File Number: D22.68996

Reporting Officer: Carol Holmes, Senior Executive Assistant

Responsible Officer: Jeff Sowiak, General Manager

Operational Plan Objective: Pillar 2: Our Place – A liveable and thriving community that

maintains lifestyle opportunities and addresses its

disadvantages.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Council with an updated summary of the current and active grant funded projects across Council.

REPORT

Council staff have been gathering information to complete the 2022 Grants Register. Listed in the summary attached are the grants currently on the 2022 register, that are active or in the process of being acquitted or recently acquitted.

The final 2 pages of the attachment have a list of the grant applications that have been submitted and are currently pending.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

Nil - grant funded

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATION

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATION

As per individual projects

RISK RATING

Low

ATTACHMENTS

1. BSC Grants-Projects Update Summary July 2022

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Balranald Shire Council Grants/Projects Update Summary As at 19th July 2022 Projects in **BLUE** were added to this month's report



Page 1:

- Block Grant 2021/22
- RMS Repair Program 2018/2019
- Regional Roads Repair Program
- Fixing Local Roads (FLR) Round 2
- Fixing Local Roads (FLR) Round 2

Page 2:

- Roads to Recovery 2019-2024
- Wooltrack Grant
- Tourism Small Business Funding
- ClubGrant Euston Gym 2021/2022

Page 3:

- Youth Grant Youth Week 2022
- NSW Partnerships Local Council Stage 2-Response to COVID 19
- Retirement Hostel Workforce Bonus Payment
- Everyone Can Play 2022

Page 4:

- Active Pools
- E-Planning Programs
- Financial Assistance Grant 2021 2023
- Bidgee Haven Expansion Grant

Page 5:

- Library Subsidy Grant 2021/22
- Local Priority Grant 2021/22
- Public Library Infrastructure Grant 2021/22
- Discovery Centre Redevelopment Far West JO Grant

Page 6:

- Market Street Revitalisation
- Our Rivers Our Region
- · Drought Community Funding Grant

Page 7:

- Local Roads Community Infrastructure Round 2 (LRCI1)
- Local Roads Community Infrastructure Round 2 (LRCI2)

Page 8:

- Local Roads Community Infrastructure Round 3 (LRCI3)
- Stronger Country Community Funds Round 2
- Stronger Country Community Funds Round 3

Page 9:

- Stronger Country Community Funds Round 4
- Small Business Month Grant 2022
- The Festival of Place Summer Night Fund 2022

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- Transport Access Regional Partnerships Funding (TARP) 2019 – 2023
- Street Light Subsidy
- Increasing Resilience to Climate Change 2021 IRCC

Page 11:

- Crown Reserve Improvement Fund 21/22
- Community Building Partnership 2021

Page 12 - 13: APPLICATIONS PENDING

- Community Building Partnership Grant 2022
- Business Improvement Fund 2022
- COVID-19 Aged Care Support Program
 Extension COVID Outbreak Reimbursement
- Office of Responsible Gambling Community Contribution Panel
- Building Better Regions Fund Community Stream Round 6
- Reconnecting Regional NSW Community Events Program

Item 11.2 - Attachment 1

Grant/Project	CM Ref	Project Manager	Description	Funding Value	Status to Date
Block Grant 2021/2022 – Transport NSW	F21.521	Vince Scoleri	Roads Component: \$1,165,000 Traffic Facilities component: \$42,000 Supplementary component: \$89,000	\$1,296,000	1 st Payment \$649,000 (Receipt 52575 Aug2021 2 nd Payment \$647,000 (Receipt 53927 Jan 2022
RMS Repair Program 2018/2019 – Roads and Maritime Services	D19.12442 – Works Schedule	Vince Scoleri	MR514 - Reconstruction and initial seal on Oxley Road (Length 1.76km)	\$230,000 – Grant \$576,026 Council Contribution	Final Certificate was submitted on the 26 th February 2020. Receipt of funds to be confirmed
Regional Roads Repair Program – Transport NSW	F22.139	Vince Scoleri	Increased heavy vehicle traffic on MR67 has resulted in push outs and edge breaks along large sections of the road. To repair damage by adding an overlay of gravel to shoulders and cement stabilising road edges and shoulders. Reseal and reinstall line marking.	\$200,000 – Grant \$200.000 Council Contribution	On the 29 th April 2022 Early advice of Council's Priority 2 Project – Balranald Ivanhoe Road was successful for funding. Update on project progress is required
Fixing Local Roads (FLR) – Round 2 – Transport NSW	F20.525 F20.573	Vince Scoleri	Sealing existing road for safety improvements – Weimby Kyalite Road	\$1,377,500 – Grant \$128,500 Council Contribution	Road construction is complete and balance of funds of \$550,000 has been transferred to Marma Box Creek Road project under Fixing Local Roads Round 3 via a Variation of Transfer D22.65622. Latest update is that new signs have been ordered but not yet delivered.
Fixing Local Roads (FLR) Round 3 – Transport NSW	F21.582	Vince Scoleri & Fraser White	Sealing existing road for safety improvements – 1. Marma Box Creek Road Sealing, 2. Euston Prungle 3. Tapalin Mail Road	1. \$600,000 – Grant \$200,000 Council Contribution 2. \$300,000 – Grant \$100,000 Council Contribution 3. \$412,500 – Grant \$137,500 Council Contribution	Marma Box Creek Road estimated costs not matching actual cost of works. Works have been stooped until a full review of scope of works is done by Kerry and Richard. Euston Prungle Road initial pricing of works assumed a local source of gravel. This may not be available. Review of costings and gravel sources underway. Tapalin Mail Road may not be sealed till Sept/Oct 2022 due to weather.

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Item 11.2 - Attachment 1

Grant/Project	CM Folder	Project Manager	Description	Funding Value	Status to Date
Roads to Recovery 2019-2024 – Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development & Communications	F19.751	Vince Scoleri	Funding is allocated to 21 road projects. You can view detailed allocation of expenditure at D22.65956 on CM	\$4,997,524 Paid to Date = \$2,984,482	Works in progress. Proposed completion date is 2024. Status at 19 th July 2022: All road projects completed except for Kilpatrick Road Resealing, Weimby Kyalite Road, Marma Box Creek Road, Leslie Drive, Tapalin Mail Road
Wooltrack Grant	F17.267 F19.110	Vince Scoleri	\$4.7 million allocated to Balranald and Central Darling Shire Council towards the sealing of the Wool Track between Balranald and Ivanhoe	\$2,770,000 Balranald Shire	Receipts to date: \$170,235 Receipt No: 49243 - 26/08/2020 \$135,318.00 Receipt No: 44201 - 29/04/2019 \$1,958.00 Receipt No: 43894 - 29/03/2019 \$264,756.00 Receipt No: 42080 - 28/09/2018 Total to date: \$572,259.00
Tourism Small Business Funding – Small Business Video Project Job Code: 6560-2304-0000	F22.296	Connie Mallet	This project is being funded by a Small Business Grant that John Batchelor had found that had not been expended as at 30/6/2021. The project involves the filming of Balranald Shire visitor services' small businesses. The video will be used across a number of digital and social media platforms.	\$5,000 Grant \$1,000 Council Contribution	Filming was now completed just prior to 30 th June. 1 st draft of video will be released shortly. Launch of video is still due end of July 2022
ClubGrant Euston Gym 2021/2022 – Euston Club Job Code: 4684-4999-0012	F21.490	Thai Dang	Riverfront Outdoor Fitness Equipment	\$63,055	On the 12 th July 2022 an Acquittal Report was submitted to the funding body. Follow up receipt of funds.

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Grant/Project	CM Folder	Project Manager	Description	Funding Value	Status to Date
Youth Grant – Youth Week 2022 – NSW Government Communities & Justice Job Code: 2580-2220-0000	F22.4	Fraser White	Activities for Youth Week	\$3,644.30 Grant \$2,513.00 Council Contribution	Project completed. On the 14 th July 2022 the Project Manager received an email from the funding body requesting a completion report that was due on the 30 th June 2022. To Follow-up in ensuring completion report is submitted
NSW Partnerships Local Council Funding Stage 2 – Response to Covid 19 – Office of LG Job Code: Various	F22.192 F22.206	Connie Mallet	Funding of \$90,000 was allocated to Balranald Shire Council by the Office of Local Government for expenses against activities implemented in response to Covid19. Allocation was against various activities and job codes	\$90,000	Project completed and fully acquitted at 31st May 2022 – All acquittal documentation is on Content Manager and recorded on the Grant Register This project will now be taken off this status report
Balranald Retirement Hostel – Aged Care Workforce Bonus Payment 2022 – Department of Health General Ledger: 2620-1100-0002	F22.75	Sheridan Hammet	Workforce Bonus Payments to Hostel Workers who have worked through the pandemic	\$10,160	Project completed 03-05-2022 and all workers have received the payment - All acquittal documentation is on Content Manager and recorded on Grant Register This project will now be taken off this status report
Everyone Can Play 2022 – Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Job Code: 4682-4999-0013	F22.292	Thai Dang	Everyone Can Play (ECP) Lions Park Inclusion Project	\$200,000	We have received the first payment of \$40,000. Project has now commenced - In Progress

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Grant/Project	CM Folder	Project Manager	Description	Funding Value	Status to Date
Active Pools – NSW Government of Sport General Ledger: 1020-3110-0001	Not on CM	Janaya Gaston	Active pools youth program	\$5,000	Project completed 02-06-2022 This project will now be taken off this Status Report
E-Planning Programs Job Codes: 5521-2390-0000 5521-2070-0000 5521-4999-0000	F19.717	Ray Mitchell	Funding allocated between 3 projects: Materials & Contract Training WIP Capitalised	\$50,000	All 3 projects are currently in progress
Financial Assistance Grant 2021/22 2022/2023 – Office of Local Government – Department of Planning & Environment Job Code: 6660-2550-0200	F21.477	General Manager	Local Government Grants Commission financial assistance	\$4,721,432	Total funding value is \$4,721,432 .We have received 4 instalments of \$607,708 plus \$2,290,600 advance from the 20/21 GL. We have also received an advance of \$3,737,513 for the 22/23 GL
Bidgee Haven Retirement Hostel Expansion Grant – Department of Health Job Code: 2620-4999-0021	F19.244	General Manager	Bidgee Haven Expansion Construction - Specialised Dementia Wing	\$4,680,000	First payment of \$500,000 has been received. Project currently on hold

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Grant/Project	CM Folder	Project Manager	Description	Funding Value	Status to Date
Library Subsidy Grant 21/22 – Library Council NSW Job Code: 4520-4999-0012	21/22 documentation is not yet on CM	Janaya Gaston	Library Books Replacement	\$47,459	Following up updates on this grant and receipt of funds.
Local Priority Grant 21/22 – Library Council NSW General Ledger: 4520-1100-0000	D22.60803 – Grant Application	Janaya Gaston	Funding is for: Book collection & Bookshelves Printing services School Holiday & community programs Building enhancements or expansion programs Upgrades to the library management system	\$20,340	On the 13 th January 2022 the signed Local Priority Grant Application form was on Content Manager. Will follow up on receipt of funds.
Public Library Infrastructure Grant 21/22 – Library Council NSW General Ledger: 4520-1100-0000	F22.190 F22.204	Connie Mallet & Janaya Gaston	Funding is for Stage 1 of the project which includes access to the adjoining unused CWA room, a technology support hub, removal of a double window to create a double door for wheelchair access, removal of a small window for a larger window to view playground, building of a wall, ceiling and flooring for server room.	\$67,862	Revised costings have been received for certain project elements. Project implementation was reviewed by Kerry Jones and Richard on. Kerry and Richard will be providing an updated infrastructure plans and revised costings for Council staff/job component. Project is now in progress Progress report due in December 2022.
Discovery Centre Redevelopment – Far West Joint Organisation	F20.593	General Manager	Redevelopment of the Discovery Centre. Job Code: 6560-4999-0033	\$950,000	Initial plans for the Redevelopment of the Centre have ceased and new draft plans are in progress

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Grant/Project	CM Folder	Project Manager	Description	Funding Value	Status to Date
Market Street Revitalisation – Department of Industry – Part of Our Rivers our Region Total Value amongst a number of LGA's is \$16,803,000	F19.607	Ray Mitchell	Market Street Improvement activities. Mayall Street to River Street –	\$1,898,592.60 Grant \$109,242.46 Council Contribution	Update/Variations on Rounds 1 & 2 can be found at D20.30029 on CM On the 5 th July 2022 we provided the project coordinator Andrea Otto confirmation on particular elements of the Variation document in reference to the Market Street Revitalisation project
Our Rivers Our Region – Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities Job Code: 6000-4999-0012 Total Value amongst a number of LGA's is \$16,803,000	F19.650	Thai Dang	Funding is allocated into 3 projects: 1. Riverfront Enhancement Eco Trails 2. Swing Bridge Widening 3. Riverbend Reserve Place-making includes BBQ, toilet, furniture, gym equipment & signs	Balranald Council Value Components: \$30,0007 – Riverfront EcoTrail \$170,000 for Swing Bridge \$444,000 for Riverbend Reserve Place Making	On the 5th July 2022 we provided the project coordinator Andrea Otto the latest Progress Report, updated Financial Report (by Edna) and relevant photos of completed project components
Drought Community Funding Grant – Department of Industry. Science, Energy & Resources General Leger: 0535-1100-0001 0535-1100-0002 Job Code: Various	D20.46064 Agreement D22.60756 Allocations	Ray Mitchell	Drought relief funding for community projects and groups Funding was allocated between 27 community projects	\$1,000,000,000	Project is completed. Various acquittals from community groups who received the funding On the 5 th July we received noticed that a component of the project at Clare School – the shade sail structure had yet to be installed.

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Grant/Project	CM Folder	Project Manager	Description	Funding Value	Status to Date
Local Roads Community Infrastructure ROUND 1 20/21 - Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications	F20.367	Previous Staff	Project comprised of: ANZAC Park Fencing, Balranald Cemetery Toilet change to ANZAC toilet, Euston Eco Trail, Footpaths for Balranald and Euston, Theatre Royal heating, Bertram Road Traffic Calming, Wampo Corner Safety Upgrade, Puton Lane Sealing, Murrumbidgee Bridge Path Upgrade, Greenham Park Furniture and Storage and Traffic Safety Upgrades	\$832,921	Completed. On the 26 th of June 2022, Fiona Scoleri sent all the final Report Documentation to the funding body On the 14 th of July 2022 we received an email from the funding body to confirm receipt of documentation and is currently queued for final payment installation
Local Roads Community Infrastructure ROUND 2 21/22 - Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications	F20.693 F21.241 F21.242 F21.445 F21.247 F21.445 F21.246 F21.445 F21.245 F22.136 F21.249 F21.248 F21.244	Ray Mitchell Thai Dang Brian Ebery Fraser White Alan Lodge	Funding allocated to the following: Balranald Aerodrome Fencing Toilet at Balranald Cemetery Balranald Irrigation Automation Euston Town Approaches Euston Rec Reserve Upgrade Kyalite Riverside Reserve Enhancements Seal off Street Parking Theatre Royal Refurbishments Church & Harben Street Drainage Improvements Balranald Riverfront Accessibility Works	⇒ \$110,000 ⇒ \$50,000 ⇒ \$66,000 ⇒ \$100,00 ⇒ \$40,000 ⇒ \$30,000 ⇒ \$26,739 ⇒ \$84,000 ⇒ \$30,000 ⇒ \$80,000	Aerodrome Fencing Project - Completed Toilet at Balranald Cemetery - Completed Balranald Irrigation Automation – Request for Extension has been made Euston Town Approaches – Request for Extension has been made Euston Rec Reserve Upgrade – Completed Kyalite Riverside Reserve Enhancements – Not Completed Seal Off Street Parking – Tennis Courts & Gallery – Approx. Sept/Oct 2022 Theatre Royal Refurbishments - Request for Extension has been made Church & Harben Street Drainage Improvements - Request for Extension has been made Balranald Riverfront Accessibility Works - Request for Extension has been made

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Grant/Project	CM Folder	Project Manager	Description	Funding Value	Status to Date
Local Roads Community Infrastructure ROUND 3 22/23 - Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications General Ledger: 6280-1125-0001	F21.478	Kerry Jones	According to the documentation on CM a Work Schedule was submitted on the 8 th March 2022 to the funding body which outlined the scope of works but was not initially accepted due to LRCI Phase 1 report not been completed but this has now been completed.	\$1,665,842	A Revised Schedule is to be prepared and submitted.
Stronger Country Community Funds Round 2 - Department of Premier of Cabinet Job Code: 4662-4999-0015 4640-4999-0009	F19.584	Ray Mitchell	Greenham Park Multipurpose Centre Upgrade Swimming Pool Revitalisation Project	⇒ \$221,486 ⇒ \$185,117	 Invoices for Milestone 2 \$73,090 & Milestone 3 \$75,306 completed Invoices for Milestone 1 \$61,089, Milestone 2 \$61,089 & Milestone 3 \$62,939 completed
Stronger Country Community Funds Round 3 – Local Government NSW General Ledger: 4546-1100-0000 4662-1100-0008	F22.124 F22.123	Ray Mitchell	Construction of Balranald Creative Community Learning Centre Balranald Tennis Court Upgrades Stage 2	\$284,377 \$287,503.80	 Invoice for Milestone 1 \$113,750.80 & Milestone 2 \$85,313.10 completed. Invoice for Milestone 3 \$85,313.10 has been prepared as at 8th June 2022 (7741) ready to be uploaded on Smartygrants Invoice for Milestone 1 \$115,001.60 completed. Invoices for Milestone 2 & 3 each for \$86,251.80 10 has been prepared as at 8th June 2022 (7740) ready to be uploaded on Smartygrants Due to Smartygrant login challenges, the above invoices are to be submitted directly to the funding body if possible

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Grant/Project	CM Folder	Project Manager	Description	Funding Value	Status to Date
Stronger Country Community Funds Round 4 – Local Government NSW General Ledger: 4546-1100-0000 4662-1100-0008	F22.364	Ray Mitchell	Euston Netball Upgrade: Demolition of existing change netball rooms and public toilets at Euston and construction of new, inclusive, change rooms and public toilets combined together. Renewed 200 lux LED outdoor sport lighting to both Balranald and Euston netball courts	\$527,626	At the Grants/Projects workshop on the 19 th July it was stated that there will be a change to the original funding application. A Variation will need to be developed and submitted
Small Business Month NSW 2022 – NSW Treasury Job Code: 6560-2305-0000	F22.194 F22.208	Connie Mallet	Delivery of a Small Business activity/event during NSW Small Business Month in March 2022. Delivery of "Growing Beyond Covid" Small Business Dinner Event	\$2,400	The grant was fully acquitted in April 2022 This will now be removed from this Status Report
The Festival of Place Summer Night Fund 2022 - NSW Government Planning Industry & Environment Job Code: 6560-2306-0000	F22.195 F22.209	Connie Mallet	Reactivation of a night event - The Easter Twilight Market Funding for a series of lights and entertainment	\$14,345	The grant was fully acquitted in June 2022 This project will now be removed from this Status Report

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Grant/Project	CM Folder	Project Manager	Description	Funding Value	Status to Date
Transport Access Regional Partnerships Funding (TARP) 2019 – 2023 – Transport NSW Job Code: 2670-2405-0002 2670-2405-0001 2670-2405-0003	F22.127 F19.277 F19.277	Connie Mallet & Fiona Scoleri	Includes to funding streams: Beating Isolation: Providing transport to community based facilities for disadvantaged community members Backing Balranald Youth: Transport initiative for Balranald youth Building Resources Balranald: To provide funding for at least 12 people to obtain their medium rigid license	⇒ \$20,000 ⇒ \$25,000 ⇒ \$18,000	In Progress. The project has been extended till 2023
Street Light Subsidy – Carbon Bank of Australia General Ledger: 6000-1211-0000		Essential Energy	Energy Saving Street Lighting	\$ 26,753.76	Project Start Date was April 2022.
Increasing Resilience to Climate Change 2021 IRCC – Local Government NSW Job Cost Code: 3160-2390-0001	F19.714	General Manager	Climate change adaptive - Private domestic water supplies on rural and remote properties	\$102,500	The final report and invoice were submitted. On the 15 th June 2022 we received notice that the final report was in the wrong format and a spreadsheet was provided for the update. On the 27 th June 2022 the updated report (updated by Edna) was sent to the funding body.

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Grant/Project	CM Folder	Project Manager	Description	Funding Value	Status to Date
Crown Reserve Improvement Fund 21/22 Job Cost Code: 4682-4999-0008	F21.77 F20.523	Thai Dang – Lions Park Upgrade Ray Mitchell – Caravan Park Upgrade Ray Mitchell- Caravan Park Upgrade	3 Projects comprising of: Lions Park Upgrade: Upgrade of toilets, play area, BBQ etc. Caravan Park Upgrade: Installation of new park facilities and amenities including new meeting room BBQ facility, improved park lighting. Upgrade of power and electrical reticulation. Installation of new guest facilities including a new concrete pool, dump ezy point, new power heads, ensuites, cabin compendiums, quad ensuites, cabins Greenham Park Lighting Updates: Upgrade power supply at Greenham Park	Balranald Lions Park Upgrade \$771,500 Caravan Park Upgrade \$771,500 Greenham Park Lighting Update \$25,850	The Greenham Park Lighting Update has been completed. To follow up receipt of funds Lions Park Upgrade and the Caravan Park Upgrade are work in progress
Community Building Partnership 2021	F19.718	Thai Dang	Project: Kyalite Memorial Park and Foreshore Development. The funding will be used to develop an attractive link between the Wakool River Foreshore and the Kyalite Village with pathways, signage and off-street parking.	\$32,572	 Solar lighting along steps – quotes received Information Bay Slab – completed - \$4,999.00 Information Bay Signage – quotes received

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APPLICATIONS PENDING

Grant/Project	CM Folder	Project Manager	Description	Funding Value	Status to Date
Community Building Partnership Grant 2022	F22.346	Connie Mallet	Enhancements/Upgrade of IT multi-media communications and displays at the Interpretive Pavilion	\$50,040.00 Grant \$50,040.00 Council Contribution	Application Submitted 10 th June 2022
Business Improvement Fund 2022 – Department of Health	F22.149	Sheridan Hammet	Installation of new IT infrastructure at Bidgee Haven Retirement Hostel	\$435,548	Application submitted March 2022 As at the 18 th July 2022 we received news that we have been successful in receiving partial funding of \$285,548 for the IT software and staff training components of the requested funding.
COVID-19 Aged Care Support Program Extension – COVID Outbreak Reimbursement 2022 – Department of Health	F22.303	Sheridan Hammet	Reimbursement for money spent during the May 2022 COVID Outbreak at the Hostel	\$20,700.40	Application submitted June 2022
Office of Responsible Gambling – Community Contribution Panel	F22.220	Connie Mallet	Funds from the Euston Club to be evenly allocated between Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Cooperation, Strengthening Community Access, Inclusion & Wellbeing Advisory Committee (under the auspice of Balranald Shire Council) and Mallee Family Care	Funds to Council's Advisory Committee: \$84,764 per year for 3 years	Signed Document by all panel members was sent to the Minister 27 th May 2022. The Advisory Committee will be responsible for: Gambling education & awareness Mental Health first aid training for community members Develop a health service map and strategic plan for health services in the Balranald Shire Cross-referral to GambleAware counselling services in the Far West NSW

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Grant/Project	CM Folder	Project Manager	Description	Funding Value	Status to Date
Building Better Regions Fund- Community Stream Round 6	F22.349	Connie Mallet	Development of Council's Economic Development Strategy	\$20,000	Application Submitted 10 th February 2022
Reconnecting Regional NSW Community Events Program	F22.193	Connie Mallet	Balranald Shire Council was allocated an amount of \$150,854 for community events. An application was to be submitted with breakdown of allocation of the proposed funding. Funding was to only go to events that were free entry for attendees. Our application prosed the funding of 4 events including: The Sounds & Scribble Youth Summer Festival (proposed new event) The Salami Festival Euston SW Arts Regional Events & Touring Program Stop Shop Stay Bazaar (Christmas Market Daysupporting local businesses)	\$150,854	Application Submitted 8 th July 2022

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11.3 ADMINISTRATOR, GENERAL MANAGER AND DIRECTORS MEETINGS

File Number: D22.68912

Reporting Officer: Carol Holmes, Senior Executive Assistant

Responsible Officer: Jeff Sowiak, General Manager

Operational Plan Objective: Pillar 6: Our Leadership - A community that values and

fosters leadership, lifelong learning, innovation and good

governance.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Council of the meetings undertaken on behalf of Council by the Administrator, General Manager and Managers since June 2022 Ordinary Meeting.

REPORT

The attachment shows the meetings which the Administrator, General Manager and staff have undertaken during the past month.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

Budgeted

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATION

N/A

POLICY IMPLICATION

Payment of Expenses and Provisions for Administrator, Mayor and Councillors Policy

Code of Conduct

Conferences Seminar Attendance Policy

RISK RATING

Low

ATTACHMENTS

1. Meetings - Executive Staff and Administrator

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29/06/22 Depot Staff Meeting Outcomes of Council Meeting GM 29/06/22 Office staff Meeting Outcomes of Council Meeting GM 29/06/22 Transgrid Update on EnergyConenct EME 29/06/22 Euston Staff Meeting Outcomes of Council Meeting GM 29/06/22 Euston Staff Meeting Outcomes of Council Meeting GM 29/06/22 NSW Rural Fire Service National Emergency Awards Administrator and GM Project GM 29/06/22 NSW Justice Community Service Meeting GM 29/06/22 Bidgee Haven Retirement Hostel Staff Meeting GM 29/06/22 Bidgee Haven Retirement Hostel Staff Meeting GM 29/06/22 Inspection Balranald Landfill Administrator, GM and EME 1/07/22 TRONOX Community Session GM 2/07/22 Works Committee Meeting Growing Business Industry & Tourism Meeting Growing Business Industry & Tourism Meeting GM 30/06/22 South West Arts Board Meeting GM 30/07/22 Engineering Team Monthly Meeting GM and EME 30/07/22 Engineering Team Meeting GM Administrator GM Amangeldorf GN Amangeldorf Changeover Dinner Administrator 31/07/22 Executive Catch Up Weekly Meeting Administrator and GM Association Networking Party Meeting GM Development Development Update on Grants EOY GM and EME Project Project Project GM Administrator Administrator Association Service Meeting Administrator and GM Partageore Service GM Administrator Association Service GM Development Update on Grants EOY GM and EME Project Project Project GM Administrator, GM and EME	DATE	Meeting	Торіс	Who was involved
29/06/22 Office staff Meetig Outcomes of Council Meeting GM 29/06/22 Transgrid Update on EnergyConenct Administrator, GM and EME 29/06/22 Euston Staff Meeting Outcomes of Council Meeting GM 29/06/22 NSW Rural Fire Service National Emergency Awards Administrator and GM Presentation GM 29/06/22 NSW Justice Community Service Meeting GM 29/06/22 Bidgee Haven Retirement Hostel Staff Meeting			<u>-</u>	
29/06/22 Euston Staff Meeting Outcomes of Council Meeting GM 29/06/22 NSW Rural Fire Service National Emergency Awards Presentation Community Service Meeting GM 29/06/22 NSW Justice Community Service Meeting GM 29/06/22 Bidgee Haven Retirement Hostel Staff Meeting Balranald Landfill Administrator, GM and EME Meeting GM 29/06/22 Inspection Balranald Landfill Administrator, GM and EME Meeting GM 20/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME Meeting GM 20/07/22 Works Committee Meeting GM 20/07/22 Works Committee Meeting GM 30/06/22 Inspection Balranald Landfill Administrator, GM and EME Meeting GM 20/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting GM 20/07/22 Growing Business Industry & Tourism Meeting GM 30/07/22 Engineering Team Monthly Meeting GM 30/07/22 Engineering Team Monthly Meeting GM and EME Meeting Administrator GM 31/07/22 Lisa Mango and Lisa Windlab Project GM 31/07/22 Robinvale/Euston Rotary Changeover Dinner Administrator and GM 31/07/22 Executive Catch Up Weekly Meeting Administrator and GM 31/07/22 Executive Catch Up Weekly Meeting Administrator and GM 31/07/22 Kyalite Progress Association Networking Party Meeting GM 31/07/22 Robinvale Euston Networking Party Meeting GM 31/07/22 Regional economic Strategies Update GM 31/07/22 Regional economic Strategies Update GM 31/07/22 Finance Contractors Update on Grants EOY GM and EME Projects 32/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME EME 32/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME EME 32/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	29/06/22	Depot Staff Meeting	Outcomes of Council Meeting	
Project EME 29/06/22 Euston Staff Meeting Outcomes of Council Meeting GM 29/06/22 NSW Rural Fire Service Presentation GM 29/06/22 NSW Justice Community Service Meeting GM 29/06/22 Bidgee Haven Retirement Hostel Staff Meeting GM 29/06/22 Bidgee Haven Retirement Hostel Staff Meeting GM 29/06/22 Inspection Balranald Landfill Administrator, GM and EME 1/07/22 TRONOX Community Session GM 2/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 5/07/22 Growing Business Monthly Meeting GM 8/07/22 Growing Business Monthly Meeting GM 8/07/22 South West Arts Board Meeting GM 12/07/22 Engineering Team Monthly Meeting GM and EME 12/07/22 Engineering Team Monthly Meeting GM Administrator 12/07/22 Robinvale/Euston Rotary Changeover Dinner Administrator 13/07/22 Executive Catch Up Weekly Meeting Administrator and GM Association Networking Party Meeting GM 13/07/22 Robinvale Euston Networking Party Meeting GM 14/07/22 Robinvale Euston Networking Party Meeting GM 14/07/22 Regional economic Strategies Update GM 18/07/22 Finance Contractors Update on Grants EOY GM and EME 19/07/22 Finance Contractors Update on Grants EOY GM and EME 20/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 25/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 25/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	29/06/22	Office staff Meetig	Outcomes of Council Meeting	GM
29/06/22 NSW Rural Fire Service Presentation GM 29/06/22 NSW Justice Community Service Meeting GM 29/06/22 Bidgee Haven Retirement Hostel Staff Meeting Balranald Landfill Administrator, GM and EME 30/06/22 Inspection Balranald Landfill Administrator, GM and EME 1/07/22 TRONOX Community Session GM 2/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 5/07/22 Growing Business Industry & Tourism Meeting GM 12/07/22 South West Arts Board Meeting GM 12/07/22 Engineering Team Meeting GM 12/07/22 Lisa Mango and Lisa Mangeldorf Windlab Project GM 12/07/22 Robinvale/Euston Rotary Changeover Dinner Administrator and GM 13/07/22 Executive Catch Up Weekly Meeting Administrator and GM 13/07/22 Robinvale Euston Networking Party Meeting GM 13/07/22 Regional economic Development Development Development Development Development GM 18/07/22 Finance Contractors Update on Grants EOY GM and EME 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting GM 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting GM 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	29/06/22	Transgrid	·	the contract of the contract o
Presentation 29/06/22 NSW Justice Community Service Meeting GM 29/06/22 Bidgee Haven Retirement Hostel Staff Meeting 30/06/22 Inspection Balranald Landfill Administrator, GM and EME 1/07/22 TRONOX Community Session GM 2/07/22 Works Committee Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 5/07/22 Growing Business Industry & Tourism Meeting Meeting GM 8/07/22 South West Arts Board Meeting GM 12/07/22 Engineering Team Monthly Meeting GM 12/07/22 Lisa Mango and Lisa Windlab Project GM Mangeldorf Robinvale/Euston Rotary Changeover Dinner Administrator 13/07/22 Executive Catch Up Weekly Meeting Administrator and GM 13/07/22 Kyalite Progress Monthly Meeting Administrator and GM 13/07/22 Robinvale Euston Networking Party Meeting GM 14/07/22 Robinvale Euston Strategies Update GM 16/07/22 Regional economic Development Development Development Development General Managers Meeting GM 18/07/22 Finance Contractors Update on Grants EOY GM and EME 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	29/06/22	Euston Staff Meeting	Outcomes of Council Meeting	GM
Bidgee Haven Retirement Hostel Staff Meeting 30/06/22 Inspection Balranald Landfill Administrator, GM and EME 1/07/22 TRONOX Community Session GM 2/07/22 Works Committee Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 5/07/22 Growing Business Industry & Tourism Meeting Board Meeting GM 8/07/22 South West Arts Board Meeting GM 12/07/22 Engineering Team Monthly Meeting GM 12/07/22 Lisa Mango and Lisa Mangeldorf Meeting GM 12/07/22 Lisa Mango and Lisa Mangeldorf Changeover Dinner Administrator 13/07/22 Executive Catch Up Weekly Meeting Administrator and GM 13/07/22 Executive Catch Up Weekly Meeting Administrator and GM 13/07/22 Robinvale Euston Networking Party Meeting GM 14/07/22 Regional economic Strategies Update GM 18/07/22 Finance Contractors Update on Grants EOY GM and EME 19/07/22 FWJO General Managers Meeting GM 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	29/06/22`	NSW Rural Fire Service		Administrator and GM
Hostel Staff Meeting 30/06/22 Inspection Balranald Landfill Administrator, GM and EME 1/07/22 TRONOX Community Session GM 2/07/22 Works Committee Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 5/07/22 Growing Business Industry & Tourism Meeting South West Arts Board Meeting GM 12/07/22 Engineering Team Monthly Meeting GM and EME 12/07/22 Engineering Team Monthly Meeting GM Administrator 12/07/22 Lisa Mango and Lisa Windlab Project GM Mangeldorf GM Mangeldorf Administrator 12/07/22 Robinvale/Euston Rotary Changeover Dinner Administrator 13/07/22 Executive Catch Up Weekly Meeting Administrator and GM Association Networking Party Meeting GM (Teams) 13/07/22 Regional economic Strategies Update GM Monthly Meeting GM (Teams) 18/07/22 Finance Contractors Update on Grants EOY GM and EME Projects 20/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	29/06/22	NSW Justice	Community Service Meeting	GM
Interpretation of the community of the c	29/06/22		Outcomes of Council Meeting	GM
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Meeting EME 5/07/22 Growing Business Industry & Tourism Meeting 8/07/22 South West Arts Board Meeting GM 12/07/22 Engineering Team Monthly Meeting GM and EME 12/07/22 Engineering Team Monthly Meeting GM and EME 12/07/22 Lisa Mango and Lisa Mangeldorf GM Mangeldorf Mangeldorf Mangeldorf Administrator 12/07/22 Executive Catch Up Weekly Meeting Administrator and GM Association 13/07/22 Executive Catch Up Weekly Meeting Administrator and GM Association 14/07/22 Robinvale Euston Networking Party Meeting GM Workforce (Teams) 18/07/22 Regional economic Development 19/07/22 Finance Contractors Update on Grants EOY GM and EME Projects 20/07/22 FWJO General Managers Meeting GM 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	1/07/22	TRONOX	Community Session	GM
Industry & Tourism Meeting 8/07/22 South West Arts Board Meeting GM 12/07/22 Engineering Team Monthly Meeting GM and EME Meeting 12/07/22 Lisa Mango and Lisa Windlab Project GM Mangeldorf 12/07/22 Robinvale/Euston Rotary Changeover Dinner Administrator 13/07/22 Executive Catch Up Weekly Meeting Administrator and GM Association 13/07/22 Kyalite Progress Monthly Meeting Administrator and GM Association 14/07/22 Robinvale Euston Networking Party Meeting GM (Teams) 18/07/22 Regional economic Strategies Update GM GM Development 19/07/22 Finance Contractors Update on Grants EOY GM and EME Projects 20/07/22 FWJO General Managers Meeting GM 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	2/07/22		Ordinary Meeting	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
12/07/22 Engineering Team Monthly Meeting GM and EME 12/07/22 Lisa Mango and Lisa Windlab Project GM 12/07/22 Robinvale/Euston Rotary Changeover Dinner Administrator 13/07/22 Executive Catch Up Weekly Meeting Administrator and GM 13/07/22 Kyalite Progress Monthly Meeting Administrator and GM 13/07/22 Robinvale Euston Networking Party Meeting GM Workforce (Teams) 18/07/22 Regional economic Development 19/07/22 Finance Contractors Update on Grants EOY GM and EME 20/07/22 FWJO General Managers Meeting GM 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	5/07/22	Industry & Tourism	Monthly Meeting	GM
Meeting 12/07/22 Lisa Mango and Lisa Windlab Project GM Mangeldorf 12/07/22 Robinvale/Euston Rotary Changeover Dinner Administrator 13/07/22 Executive Catch Up Weekly Meeting Administrator and GM 13/07/22 Kyalite Progress Monthly Meeting Administrator and GM Association Networking Party Meeting GM Workforce (Teams) 18/07/22 Regional economic Development Strategies Update GM 19/07/22 Finance Contractors Update on Grants EOY GM and EME Projects 20/07/22 FWJO General Managers Meeting GM 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	8/07/22	South West Arts	Board Meeting	GM
Mangeldorf 12/07/22 Robinvale/Euston Rotary Changeover Dinner Administrator 13/07/22 Executive Catch Up Weekly Meeting Administrator and GM 13/07/22 Kyalite Progress Monthly Meeting Administrator and GM 13/07/22 Robinvale Euston Networking Party Meeting GM Workforce (Teams) 18/07/22 Regional economic Development 19/07/22 Finance Contractors Update on Grants EOY GM and EME 20/07/22 FWJO General Managers Meeting GM 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	12/07/22		Monthly Meeting	GM and EME
13/07/22 Executive Catch Up Weekly Meeting Administrator and GM 13/07/22 Kyalite Progress Monthly Meeting Administrator and GM 14/07/22 Robinvale Euston Workforce Networking Party Meeting GM (Teams) 18/07/22 Regional economic Development Strategies Update GM 19/07/22 Finance Contractors Update on Grants EOY GM and EME Projects 20/07/22 FWJO General Managers Meeting GM 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	12/07/22		Windlab Project	GM
13/07/22 Kyalite Progress Monthly Meeting Administrator and GM Association 14/07/22 Robinvale Euston Workforce Networking Party Meeting GM (Teams) 18/07/22 Regional economic Development 19/07/22 Finance Contractors Update on Grants EOY GM and EME Projects 20/07/22 FWJO General Managers Meeting GM 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	12/07/22	Robinvale/Euston Rotary	Changeover Dinner	Administrator
Association 14/07/22 Robinvale Euston Workforce (Teams) 18/07/22 Regional economic Development 19/07/22 Finance Contractors Update on Grants EOY GM and EME Projects 20/07/22 FWJO General Managers Meeting GM 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME Administrator, GM and EME	13/07/22	Executive Catch Up	Weekly Meeting	Administrator and GM
Workforce (Teams) 18/07/22 Regional economic Development 19/07/22 Finance Contractors Update on Grants EOY GM and EME Projects 20/07/22 FWJO General Managers Meeting GM 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	13/07/22		Monthly Meeting	Administrator and GM
19/07/22 Finance Contractors Update on Grants EOY GM and EME Projects 20/07/22 FWJO General Managers Meeting GM 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	14/07/22			GM
20/07/22 FWJO General Managers Meeting GM 25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	18/07/22		Strategies Update	GM
25/07/22 Works Committee Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	19/07/22	Finance Contractors	•	GM and EME
EME 26/07/22 Council Meeting Ordinary Meeting Administrator, GM and	20/07/22	FWJO	General Managers Meeting	GM
$\boldsymbol{\mathcal{I}}$	25/07/22	Works Committee	Ordinary Meeting	
	26/07/22	Council Meeting	Ordinary Meeting	

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General Manager (GM) – Jeff Sowiak Executive Manager – Engineering (EME) Kerry Jones

11.4 CIRCULARS FROM OFFICE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

File Number: D22.68776

Reporting Officer: Carol Holmes, Senior Executive Assistant

Responsible Officer: Jeff Sowiak, General Manager

Operational Plan Objective: Pillar 6: Our Leadership - A community that values and

fosters leadership, lifelong learning, innovation and good

governance.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note this report.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Council with information of the circulars received from Office Local Government since the June 2022 Council Meeting.

REPORT

Council receives circulars from Office of Local Government with updates and information relevant to our Council. Whilst many of the circulars are of an administrative nature, there may be matters that are of interest to Community members.

Circulars Council has received since the last Council Meeting;

- 1. Circular 22-17 Increase in tendering threshold for natural disaster response and recovery related contracts.
- 2. Circular 22-18 Updated statutory forms under the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 to take effect from 8 June 2022.
- 3. Circular 22-19 Consultation on regulatory proposals for a new Public Spaces (Unattended Property) (PSUP) Regulation 2022 and to commence the PSUP Act.
- 4. Circular 22-20 Annual Reporting of Labour Statistics.
- 5. Circular 22-21Update on Membership requirements for Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees.

All the circulars can be found on OLG's website https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/circulars/

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

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11.5 OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

File Number: D22.68908

Reporting Officer: Carol Holmes, Senior Executive Assistant

Responsible Officer: Jeff Sowiak, General Manager

Operational Plan Objective: Pillar 6: Our Leadership - A community that values and

fosters leadership, lifelong learning, innovation and good

governance.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To bring forward for information the Action Report with outstanding actions from previous Council resolutions.

REPORT

A list of the actions from previous Council meetings that are still outstanding has been provided for the information of Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

Nil

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATION

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATION

Nil

RISK RATING

Moderate

ATTACHMENTS

1. Outstanding Actions - July 2022

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Meeting	Date	Officer	Title	Target
Council 17/11/2020	17/11/2020	Holmes, Carol	Disability Action Plan Review	30/04/2022

Notes

23 Nov 2020 - 10:08 AM - Peter Kozlowski

This matter is delegated to Gavin for action in conjunction with relevant Advisory Committees.

23 Nov 2020 - 10:16 AM - Peter Kozlowski

Action reassigned to Helgeland, Gavin by: Kozlowski, Peter for the reason: The Manager Strategic Development is the most appropriate person to coordinate this task.

15 Jul 2021 - 2:37 PM - Carol Holmes

Revised Target Date changed by: Holmes, Carol From: 1 Dec 2020 To: 21 Sep 2021

Reason: Given to AWACAF Advisory Committee for their review and comments. Report back to Council after viewing and updating 28 Sep 2021 - 2:53 PM - Carol Holmes

Action reassigned to Holmes, Carol by: Holmes, Carol for the reason: Gavin no longer works for Council

5 Apr 2022 - 3:36 PM - Carol Holmes

Revised Target Date changed by: Holmes, Carol From: 21 Sep 2021 To: 30 Apr 2022 Reason: DIAP forwarded to interest groups for review & comment in March 2022

Meeting	Date	Officer	Title	Target
Council 19/10/2021	19/10/2021	Beauliv, Hodi	Bidgee Haven Retirement Hostel Expansion Project	30/06/2022

Notes

13 Dec 2021 - 3:56 PM - Carol Holmes

Revised Target Date changed by: Holmes, Carol From: 16 Nov 2021 To: 15 Feb 2022 Reason: Placed on hold - report back to Ordinary Council Meeting in February 2022

11 Mar 2022 - 2:55 PM - Carol Holmes

Revised Target Date changed by: Holmes, Carol From: 15 Feb 2022 To: 31 May 2022 Reason: This item remains on hold whilst financial/organisation reviews are undertaken

5 Apr 2022 - 3:37 PM - Carol Holmes

Revised Target Date changed by: Holmes, Carol From: 31 May 2022 To: 30 Jun 2022 Reason: Grant funding applied for to u ndertake Business & Financial assessment

Meeting	Date	Officer	Title	Target
Hostel Committee 15/02/2022	15/02/2022	Hammet, Sheridan	BIDGEE HAVEN INDEPENDENT LIVING UNITS FOR TRANSITIONING INTO HOSTEL	1/03/2022
Notes				

Meeting	Date	Officer	Title	Target
Council 19/04/2022	19/04/2022	Holmes, Carol	Euston Progressive Advisory Committee Meeting - held on 28 March 2022	17/05/2022
Notes				

Meeting	Date	Officer	Title	Target
Council 19/04/2022	19/04/2022	Wilcox, Glenn	CARAVAN PARK MANAGEMENT	17/05/2022
Notes				

Meeting	Date	Officer	Title	Target
Council 19/04/2022	19/04/2022	Mitchell, Ray	Balranald Caravan Park Crown Land Plan of Management	17/05/2022
Notes				

Meeting	Date	Officer	Title	Target
Council 19/04/2022	19/04/2022	Mitchell, Ray	Crown Land Plans of Management: Preschool, Library, Heritage Park, Greenham Park & Euston Recreation Reserve	28/06/2022

Notes

5 May 2022 - 4:07 PM - Carol Holmes

Revised Target Date changed by: Holmes, Carol From: 17 May 2022 To: 28 Jun 2022

Reason: Advertising completed, on councils web for viewing, will be reported to June Council Meeting

Meeting	Date	Officer	Title	Target
Council 17/05/2022	17/05/2022	Knight, Laurie	VALUATION OF COMMUNITY LAND	14/06/2022
Notes				

Meeting	Date	Officer	Title	Target
Council 17/12/2021	17/12/2021	Beauliv, Hodi	LOCAL ROADS AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM PHASE 3	14/01/2022
Notes				

Meeting	Date	Officer	Title	Target
Council 17/12/2021	17/12/2021	Beauliv, Hodi	Unexpended Grants as at 30 June 2021	14/01/2022
Notes				

Meeting	Date	Officer	Title	Target
Council 28/06/2022	28/06/2022	Sowiak, Jeff	Balranald Visitor Centre Alterations	26/07/2022
Notes				

Dalton, Janelle	Sale of Land for unpaid rates	26/07/2022
<u>C</u>	alton, Janelle	Palton, Janelle Sale of Land for unpaid rates

Meeting	Date	Officer	Title Target	
Council 28/06/2022	28/06/2022	Mitchell, Ray	OFFICIAL NAMING OF DRY LAKE ROAD	26/07/2022
Notes				

Meeting	Date	Officer	Title	Target
Council 28/06/2022	28/06/2022	Mitchell, Ray	Draft Theatre Royal Conservation Management Plan	26/07/2022
Notes				

Meeting	Date	Officer	Title	Target
Works Committee 1/07/2022	1/07/2022	Jones, Kerry	COUNCIL TENDERING PROCESS/PROCEDURE	8/07/2022
Notes				

Meeting	Date	Officer	Title	Target	
Works Committee 1/07/2022	1/07/2022	Jones, Kerry	WASTE MANAGEMENT FEES & CHARGES	8/07/2022	
Notes					

Meeting	Date	Officer	Title	Target
Works Committee 1/07/2022	1/07/2022	Mitchell, Ray	RFT 21/22-04 Contract for Waste Collection Services for Balranald & Euston	8/07/2022
Notes				

Meeting	Date	Officer	Title	Target
Works Committee 1/07/2022	1/07/2022	Jones, Kerry	RFT 21/22-03 - CONSTRUCTION OF SHOULDER WIDENING OF TAYLOR ROAD AND LESLIE ROAD AND PAVEMENT REHABILITATION OF KILPATRICK ROAD EUSTON	8/07/2022
Notes				

Meeting	Date	Officer	Title	Target
Works Committee 1/07/2022	1/07/2022	Holmes, Carol	SUPPLIER PANEL FOR THE HIRE OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	8/07/2022
Notes				

12 CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORTS

12.1 REPORT ON AREAS OF COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

File Number: D22.68847

Reporting Officer: Kristy Cameron, Finance Officer

John Batchelor, Finance

Janelle Dalton, Rates Officer

Danika Dunstone, Customer Service Officer

Responsible Officer: Jeff Sowiak, General Manager

Operational Plan Objective: Pillar 6: Our Leadership - A community that values and

fosters leadership, lifelong learning, innovation and good

governance.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the following financial information for the period ending 30 June 2022.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise and report to council on the status of the following financial areas of operation-

- 1 Investments
- 2 Bank Reconciliation
- 3 Monthly Statement of Rates and Charges
- 4 Monthly Summary of Revenue and Expenditure for the Caravan Park
- 5 Monthly Summary of Revenue and Expenditure for the Bidgee Haven Hostel
- 6 Monthly Summary of Revenue and Expenditure for the Tourist Information Centre
- 7 Debtors
- 8 Grants
- 9 Statement of Currency of Work within the Finance Function of Council

REPORT

1 Investments

Council's total investments including cash as at 30 June 2022 is \$22,701,805. This is an increase of \$247,451 on the previous month's total of \$22,454,354. It should be noted the balance of Council's cash at bank account changes daily with revenue receipted and payments made.

Receipts for June 2022 included:-

- Emergency Services Levy \$102,832
- Aged Care Benefits \$96,875
- Streetlighting Subsidy \$19,000
- Safety & Wellbeing Incentive \$17,030

Payments for June 2022 included:-

- Plant Hire \$324,473
- Consultants \$21,092

- Sealing 38,759
- IT Upgrade \$118,415

Total YTD interest received upon maturity of investments to 30 June 2022 and as shown in the General ledger is \$96,004. Council's overall budget across all funds is \$77,000.

Reporting of interest earned on all investments will be revamped for 2022/23 to include monthly interest earned, rather than just those investments which have matured and interest monies deposited into Council's bank account.

Council's cash and at call accounts are used for the purpose of day to day operations of Council.

Term Deposit investments are \$18,000,000 as at 30 June 2022.

A summary of Council's investment and cash balances as at 30 June 2022 is as follows:

	MONTHLY BANK & INVESTMENT REPORT			30/06/2022			
ADI	Term Deposits	S&P Rating	Term (Days)	Start Date	Maturity Date	Interest Rate/ Rate of Return	Investment Value
Westpac	Westpac Bank A/C 176-576	A-1+	371	16/11/2021	22/11/2022	0.25%	1,000,000
СВА	Commonwealth Bank	A-1+	360	4/03/2022	27/02/2023	0.85%	500.000
CBA	Commonwealth Bank	A-1+	360	4/03/2022	27/02/2023	0.85%	1,000,000
MAC	Macquarie Bank - 051049	A-1	365	1/03/2022	1/03/2023	0.95%	500,000
CBA	Commonwealth Bank	A-1+	301	13/01/2022	10/11/2022	0.48%	500,000
AMP	AMP - 51396	A-1+ A-2	340	19/08/2021	25/07/2022	0.46%	500,000
CBA		A-1+	364	18/03/2022	17/03/2023	1.00%	500,000
	Commonwealth Bank				1		
MAC	Macquarie Bank - 055858	A-1	330	23/12/2021	18/11/2022	0.50%	500,000
AMP	AMP - 53454	A-2	337	17/03/2022	17/02/2023	1.00%	500,000
AMP	AMP - 53473	A-2	365	21/03/2022	21/03/2023	1.25%	500,000
СВА	Commonwealth Bank	A-1+	300	23/12/2021	19/10/2022	0.48%	500,000
MAC	Macquarie Bank - 053986	A-1	365	1/03/2022	1/03/2023	0.95%	500,000
MAC	Macquarie Bank - 054099	A-1	365	8/03/2022	8/03/2023	0.95%	500,000
MAC	Macquarie Bank - 054394	A-1	365	28/09/2021	28/09/2022	0.40%	500,000
CBA	<u>Commonwealth Bank -</u>	A-1+	364	11/03/2022	10/03/2023	1.00%	500,000
СВА	<u>Commonwealth Bank</u>	A-1+	364	11/03/2022	10/03/2023	1.00%	500,000
BOQ	Bank of Queensland -	A-2	365	24/03/2022	24/03/2023	1.35%	1,000,000
BOQ	Bank of Queensland	A-2	365	9/05/2022	9/05/2023	2.95%	500,000
MAC	Macquarie Bank - 055055	A-1	333	29/10/2021	27/09/2022	0.50%	1,000,000
MAC	Macquarie Bank - 055370	A-1	332	23/11/2021	21/10/2022	0.50%	500,000
NAB	NAB Bank	A-1+	335	11/01/2022	12/12/2022	0.63%	1,000,000
СВА	Commonwealth Bank	A-1+	365	23/05/2022	23/05/2023	2.94%	1,000,000
NAB	NAB Bank	A-1+	300	23/06/2022	19/04/2023	3.40%	1,000,000
NAB	NAB Bank	A-1+	181	23/06/2022	21/12/2022	2.85%	1,000,000
NAB	NAB Bank	A-1+	365	23/06/2022	23/06/2023	3.40%	1,000,000
Westpac	Westpac Bank	A-1+	304	23/06/2022	23/04/2023	2.61%	1,000,000
	Total Term Deposits At Call Accounts				Avg Rate	1.30%	18,000,000
Westpac	Westpac Cash Reserves A/C 162 975	A-1+			At Call	0.01%	2,104,025
Tcorp	Tcorp A/C 1268	A-1+			At Call	0.01%	1,273,982
MAC	Macquarie Cash Account - 969891944 Total At Call Accounts	A-1			At Call		1,000,234 4,378,242
	Total Investment Accounts						22,378,242
	Cash Accounts					0.0401	000.5
Westpac	Westpac Bank A/C 000 060	A-1+			Cash at Bank	0.01%	323,563
	TOTAL CASH AT BANK TOTAL INVESTMENTS PORTFOLIO INCLUE	UNG CASH					323,563 22,701,805

14,355,000

The table below shows the composition of investments (excluding cash at bank) with financial institutions.

inancial Institution	Ratings	Composition %	Amount ('000)
Westpac	A-1+	18.34	4,104
AMP	A-2	6.70	1,500
CBA	A-1+	22.34	5,000
MAC	A-1	22.34	5,000
Tcorp	A-1+	5.71	1,274
BOQ	A-2	6.70	1,500
NAB	A-1+	17.87	4,000
Total		100.00	22,378

Council is compliant with the Investment Policy, as the funds invested with AMP (an A-2 rated institution) are within Council's portfolio credit limit of 10% for any individual A-2 rated financial institution.

Council's total investment and cash accounts balance of \$22,701,805 across the funds as listed below:

FUNDS HELD	General Fund	Waste Fund	Water Fund	Sewer Fund	TOTAL
Restricted	10,507,000	616,000	2,204,000	1,028,000	14,355,000
Unrestricted	8,346,805	0	0	0	8,346,805
TOTAL FUNDS HELD	18,853,805	616,000	2,204,000	1,028,000	22,701,805

The table below shows the individual make-up of the restricted amounts that combine to a total of \$14,355,000 at end of June. Please note that some changes to the \$ amounts of these restrictions will be made as part of completion of the 2021/22 Annual Financial Statements and will be reflected in next month's report.

Specific Purpose Unexpended Capital Grants - Gen Fund	\$ 3,061,000
Specific Purpose Unexpended Capital Grants - Water Fund	\$ 6,000
Specific Purpose Unexpended Operational Grants - Gen Fund	\$ 549,000
Other - Water Fund	\$ 2,198,000
Other - Sewer Fund	\$ 1,028,000
Other - Domestic Waste Management	\$ 616,000
Internal Restrictions	
Caravan Park	\$ 139,000
Bidgee Haven Hostel Bonds	\$ 2,353,000
Other	\$ 4,405,000

Total Restrictions

<u>Details of Restrictions</u> External Restrictions

SUMMARY

Council currently holds \$22,701,805 in Cash and Investments. The average interest rate trend has increased for June 2022 being 1.16% overall.

I hereby certify that the investments listed within this report were made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and Council's Investment Policy

2 Bank Reconciliation

The bank reconciliation on the Westpac cash account, or operating account, has been reconciled as at 30 June 2022 and is shown below:

Cashbook Summary	
Opening Cashbook Balance	1,115,960
Plus Receipts	3,676,716
Less Payments	(4,648,569)
Cashbook Balance at 30 June 2022	144,108

Statement Summary	
Opening Statement Balance	1,077,148
Plus Receipts	3,713,139
Less Payments	(4,466,724)
Bank Statement Balance at 30 June 2022	323,563
Plus Unpresented Receipts	6,258
Less Unpresented Payments	(185,713)
Reconciliation Balance at 30 June 2022	144,108

3. STATEMENT OF RATES AND CHARGES AS AT 30TH JUNE 2022

	Balranald S	hire Council	Statement of Rates and Charges - As at 30th June 2022					
	Nett Arrears	2021/22 Nett	Total Receivable	Amount Collected as at 30th June 2022	Collection as a % of Total Receivable	Arrears	Arrears as a % of Total Receivable	as a % of
Income Category	1st July 2021	Levy	Receivable	Sour June 2022	Receivable	Amount	Receivable	Nett Levy
General Fund Rates incl Interest / Legal charges	\$106,730.43	\$2,872,613.37	\$2,979,343.80	\$2,857,542.82	95.91%	\$121,800.98	4.09%	3.72%
Waste Management Charges	\$26,217.80	\$380,312.20	\$406,530.00	\$385,473.05	94.82%	\$21,056.95	5.18%	6.89%
Stormwater Levy Charges	\$1,162.43	\$19,043.71	\$20,206.14	\$18,985.69	93.96%	\$1,220.45	6.04%	6.10%
Water Fund - Access Charges	\$52,483.20	\$802,544.48	\$855,027.68	\$811,027.95	94.85%	\$43,999.73	5.15%	6.54%
Sewerage Fund - Annual Charges	\$40,492.31	\$636,210.11	\$676,702.42	\$642,657.39	94.97%	\$34,045.03	5.03%	6.36%
	\$227,086.17	\$4,710,723.87	\$4,937,810.04	\$4,715,686.90	95.50%	\$222,123.14	4.50%	4.82%
Water Fund - Consumption Charges	\$74,208.17	\$762,715.07	\$836,923.24	\$772,941.80	92.36%	\$63,981.44	7.64%	9.73%
Sewerage Fund - Usage Charges Non Residential	\$4,440.70	\$69,073.20	\$73,513.90	\$69,788.42	94.93%	\$3,725.48	5.07%	6.43%
_	\$78,648.87	\$831,788.27	\$910,437.14	\$842,730.22	92.56%	\$67,706.92	7.44%	9.46%
Total 2021/22	\$305,735.04	\$5,542,512.14	\$5,848,247.18	\$5,558,417.12	95.04%	\$289,830.06	4.96%	5.52%

Monthly Summary of Revenue and Expenditure for the Caravan Park 4

CARAVAN PARK 2021/22	Original Budget	Amended Budget March QBR	Actual YTD 30 June 2022	Remaining Budget	Anticipated 30 June 2022	YTD Actual	
REVENUE							
Fees	\$600,000	\$400,000	\$470,745	\$0	\$470,745	100.0%	
Washing Machine Charges	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$4,716	\$0	\$4,716	100.0%	
Caravan Park - Merchandise Sales	\$500	\$4,000	\$4,300	\$0	\$4,300	100.0%	
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	\$604,000	\$407,500	\$479,761	\$0	\$479,761	100.0%	
EXPENDITURE							
Salaries	\$93,580	\$155,000	\$191,848	\$0	\$191,848	100.0%	
Caravan Park Advertising	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0	\$0	\$0		Account for April - June
Bank Charges	\$3,300	\$2,000	\$2,994	\$0	\$2,994	100.0%	still to be received
Caravan Park - Cleaning Services	\$53,700	\$4,580	\$5,331	\$0	\$5,331	100.0%	
Electricity - Operational	\$67,500	\$25,000	\$17,516	\$7,484	\$25,000	70.1%	
Insurance	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$0	\$8,500	100.0%	
Caravan Pk - Management Fees	\$120,000	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$0	\$11,000	100.0%	
Caravan Pk - Administration Fees	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$0	\$40,000	100:0%	Last water account still to
Caravan Park - Legal Expenses	\$4,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	_\$0		be received
Caravan Park - Software Support	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$2,468	\$0	\$2,468	100.0%	
Rates & Charges on Council Property	\$29,500	\$55,000	\$52,030	\$2,470	\$54,500	95.5%	
Telephone	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,831	\$0	\$2,831	100.0%	
Caravan Park R & M	\$46,500	\$30,000	\$34,544	\$0	\$34,544	100.0%	
Caravan Park - Consumables GST	\$40,000	\$15,000	\$21,894	\$0	\$21,894	100.0%	Jnl for Depreciation
Carravan Park - Consumables No GST	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$20	\$0	\$20	100.0%	still to be posted.
Depreciation	\$51,700	\$51,700	\$41,100	\$0	\$41,100	100.0%	still to be posted.
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	\$567,480	\$405,980	\$432,076	\$9,954	\$442,030	97.7%	
NET OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	\$36,520	\$1,520	\$47,685	-\$9,954	\$37,731		
CAPITAL							
Capital Revenue							
Capital Grants	\$0	\$771,000	\$771,500	\$0	\$771,500	100.0%	
Capital Income - Transfer from Reserve	\$126,850	\$724	\$724	\$0	\$724	100.0%	
Total Capital Revenue	\$126,850	\$771,724	\$772,224	\$0	\$772,224		
Capital Expenditure							
Caravan Park Improvements	\$126,850	\$724	\$724	\$0	\$724	100.0%	
Transfer to Restriction	\$0	\$771,000		\$771,500	\$771,500	0.0%	
Total Capital Expenditure	\$126,850	\$771,724	\$724	\$771,500	\$772,224		
Net Capital Surplus/ (Deficit)	\$0	\$0	\$771,500	-\$771,500	\$0		
Net Result Surplus/ (Deficit)	\$36,520	\$1,520	\$819,185	-\$781,454	\$37,731		

SUMMARY

Caravan Park 2021/22	Original Budget	Amended Budget March QBR	Actual YTD 30 June 2022	Remaining Budget	Anticipated 30 June 2022
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	\$604,000	\$407,500	\$479,761	\$0	\$479,761
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	\$567,480	\$405,980	\$432,076	\$9,954	\$442,030
NET OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	\$36,520	\$1,520	\$47,685	-\$9,954	\$37,731
Total Capital Revenue	\$126,850	\$771,724	\$772,224	\$0	\$772,224
Total Capital Expenditure	\$126,850	\$771,724	\$724	\$771,500	\$772,224
Net Capital Surplus/ (Deficit)	\$0	\$0	\$771,500	-\$771,500	\$0
Net Result Surplus/ (Deficit)	\$36,520	\$1,520	\$819,185	\$781,454	\$37,731

5 Monthly Summary of Revenue and Expenditure for the Bidgee Haven Hostel

		Amended					1
BIDGEE HAVEN HOSTEL 2021/22	Original Budget	Budget March QBR	Actual YTD 30 June 2022	Remaining Budget	Anticipated 30 June 2022	YTD Actual	
REVENUE							1
Permanent Care Subsidies	\$850,000	\$900,000	\$965,252	\$0	\$965,252	100.0%	1
Hostel - Training Subsidies	\$0	\$2,200	\$2,132	\$0	\$2,132	100.0%	
Respite Care Fees	\$20,000	\$8,000	\$5,970	\$0	\$5,970	100.0%	
Hostel - Resident Care (Commonwealth)	\$35,000	\$75,000	\$48,420	\$0	\$48,420	100.0%	1
Hostel - Resident Accommodation Fees	\$60,000	\$30,000	\$39,907	\$0	\$39,907	100.0%	
Hostel - Resident Daily Care Fees	\$260,000	\$250,000	\$240,466	\$0	\$240,466	100.0%	
Covid Payment	\$0	\$0	\$10,160	\$0	\$10,160	100.0%	1
Hostel - Interest Received	\$6,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000	100.0%	
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	\$1,231,000		\$1,324,307	\$0		100.0%	1
	V ,,=01,000	**,=**,=**	* **,***	**	¥ 1,0= 1,001		
EXPENDITURE							
Salaries	\$910,700	\$960,000	\$1,031,574	\$0	\$1,031,574	100.0%	1
Medical Expenses	\$8,000	\$4,000	\$3,686	\$0	\$3,686	100.0%	Į.
Training	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$873	\$0	\$873	100.0%	
Recruitment Expenses	\$0	\$100	\$50	\$0	\$50	100.0%	Account for last
Advertising	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$655	\$0	\$655	100.0%	guarter to 30 June
Audit Fees	\$4,500	\$4,700	\$4,700	\$0	\$4,700	100.0%	still to be received
Consultancy	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$581	\$0	\$581	100.0%	
Electricity	\$35,000	\$32,000	\$24,223	\$3,777	\$28,000	86.5%	
Gas	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$431	\$0	\$431	100.0%	
Sundry Expenses	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,545	\$0	\$3,545	100.0%	
Laundry Services	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$8,783	\$0	\$8,783	100.0%	
Insurance	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000	100.0%	
Council Administration Fees	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000	100.0%	L
Printing & Stationery	\$5,000	\$3,000	\$2,313	\$0	\$2,313	100.076	Last water account
IT Expenditure	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0	\$500	100.0%	still to be posted
Rates & Charges	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$9,928	\$2,072	\$12,000	82.7%	
Repairs & Maintenance	\$50,000	\$40,000	\$39,329	\$0	\$39,329	100.0%	
Subscriptions & Memberships	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$5,656	\$0	\$5,656	100.0%	
Telephone	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$2,619	\$0	\$2,619	100.0%	1
Chemist Expenses	\$13,000	\$11,000	\$11,247	\$0	\$11,247	100.0%	
Food Supplies	\$48,000	\$48,000	\$34,155	\$0	\$34,155	100.0%	
Commuter Bus and Sedan Running Costs	\$0	\$0	\$10,125	\$0	\$10,125	100.0%	
Depreciation	\$88,100	\$88,100	\$55,000	\$0	\$55,000	100.0%	
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	\$1,306,300	\$1,329,900	\$1,341,973	\$5,849	\$1,347,822	99.6%	
NET OPERATING SURPLUS/DEFICIT	-\$75,300	-\$52,700	-\$17,666	-\$5,849	-\$23,515		
Capital Revenue							1
Capital Grants	\$4,280,000			\$4,275,020			4
Total Capital Revenue	\$4,280,000	\$4,280,000	\$4,980	\$4,275,020	\$4,280,000	0.1%	
CAPITAL							
Capital Works	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	1
Hostel Extension	\$4,280,000	\$4,280,000	\$4,980	\$4,275,020	\$4,280,000	0.1%	1
Total Capital Expenditure	\$4,300,000	\$4,300,000	\$4,980	\$4,275,020	\$4,280,000	0.1%	
Net Capital Surplus/ (Deficit)	-\$20,000	-\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0		1
Net Result Surplus/ (Deficit)	-\$95,300	-\$72,700	-\$17,666	-\$5,849	-\$23,515		

SUMMARY

Bidgee Haven Hostel 2021/22	Original Budget	Amended Budget March QBR	Actual YTD 30 June 2022	Remaining Budget	Anticipated 30 June 2022
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	\$1,231,000	\$1,277,200	\$1,324,307	\$0	\$1,324,307
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	\$1,306,300	\$1,329,900	\$1,341,973	\$5,849	\$1,347,822
NET OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	-\$75,300	-\$52,700	-\$17,666	-\$5,849	-\$23,515
Fotal Capital Revenue	\$4,280,000	\$4,280,000	\$4,980	\$4,275,020	\$4,280,000
Total Capital Expenditure	\$4,300,000	\$4,300,000	\$4,980	\$4,275,020	\$4,280,000
Net Capital Surplus/ (Deficit)	-\$20,000	-\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Result Surplus/ (Deficit)	-\$95,300	-\$72,700	-\$17,666	-\$5,849	-\$23,515

6 <u>Monthly Summary of Revenue and Expenditure for the Tourist Information Centre</u>

TOURISM 2021/22	Original Budget	Amended Budget March QBR	Actual YTD 30 June 2022	Remaining Budget	Anticipated 30 June 2022	YTD Actual	
REVENUE							
Fees	\$2,000	\$5,000	\$4,859	\$0	\$4,859	100.0%	
Rental	\$19,000	\$19,000	\$14,181	\$0	\$14,181	100.0%	
Tourist Info Centre -Souvenir Sales	\$60,200	\$40,000	\$45,550	\$0	\$45,550	100.0%	
Commissions	\$500	\$500	\$90	\$0	\$90	100.0%	
Other Revenue	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$1,672	\$0	\$1,672	100.0%	
Reimbursements - Electricity	\$0	\$3,000	\$2,868	\$0	\$2,868	100.0%	
Donations - Discovery Centre	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$2,380	\$0	\$2,380	100.0%	
Operational Grants	\$0	\$0	\$15,441	\$0	\$15,441	100.0%	
Transfer from External Restriction - Unexpended Oprational Grant - Small Business Week	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	100.0%	
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	\$88,700	\$71,500	\$92,041	\$0	\$92,041	100.0%	
	+00,100	4. 1,000	402,011	***	402,0 11	100.070	
EXPENDITURE							
Salaries	\$126,790	\$168,000	\$168,169	\$0	\$168,169	100.0%	
Tourism -Medical Expenses	\$200	\$200	\$142	\$0	\$142	100.0%	
Training	\$1,700	\$1,700	\$212	\$0	\$212	100.0%	
Recruitment Expenses	\$0	\$200	\$187	\$0	\$187	100.0%	
Advertising	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$6,687	\$0	\$6,687	100.0%	
Security Monitoring	\$550	\$1,000	\$802	\$0	\$802	100.0%	Account for last
Merchant & Bank Fees	\$750	\$750	\$765	\$0	\$765	100.0%	quarter to 30 June
Cleaning	\$3,700	\$6,600	\$6,317	\$0	\$6,317	100.0%	still to be received.
Electricity	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$6,301	\$3,699	\$10,000	63.0%	Still to be received.
General Expenses	\$1,500	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0		
Insurance	\$9,500	\$9,500	\$9,500	\$0	\$9,500	100.0%	
Administration Fees	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	100.0%	
Postage	\$600	\$500	\$402	\$0	\$402	100.0%	
Printing and Stationery	\$1,200	\$500	\$411	\$0	\$411	100.0%	
Special Events	\$13,500	\$13,500	\$10,334	\$0	\$10,334	100.0%	
Rates & Charges on Council Property	\$2,750	\$2,750	\$2,750	\$0	\$2,750	100.0%	
Repairs and Maintenance	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,220	\$0	\$30,220	100.0%	
Subscriptions	\$2,000	\$1,200	\$800	\$0	\$800	100.0%	
Journals & Publications	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$1,818	\$0	\$1,818	100.0%	
Telephone	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,108	\$0	\$1,108	100.0%	
Internet Expenses	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$1,933	\$0	\$1,933	100.0%	
Conferences & Seminars	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$1,295	\$0	\$1,295	100.0%	
Software & Licencing	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$583	\$0	\$583	100:0%	Jnl for Depreciation
Seminars & Workshops	\$1,000	\$500	\$0		\$0	100.070	still to be posted.
Souvenirs	\$30,000	\$20,000	\$25,785	-\$0	\$25,785	100.0%	-
Interest on Loans	\$39,700	\$39,700	\$40,311	\$0	\$40.311	100.0%	
Depreciation	\$9,504	\$9,504	\$19,800		\$19,800	100.0%	
Operational Grant expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$20,055		\$20,055	100.0%	
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	\$325,744	\$356,404	\$376,687	\$3,699	\$380,386	99.0%	
						00.070	
NET OPERATING SURPLUS/DEFICIT	-\$237,044	-\$284,904	-\$284,646	-\$3,699	-\$288,345		
Capital Revenue							
Grants	\$950,000	\$950,000	\$0	\$950,000	\$950,000	0.0%	
Total Capital Revenue	\$950,000	\$950,000			\$950,000	0.00%	
Capital Expenditure							
Joint Organisation Discovery Centre Complex	\$950,000	\$950,000	\$99,580	\$850,420	\$950,000	10.5%	
Total Capital Expenditure	\$950,000	\$950,000	\$99,580	\$850,420	\$950,000	0.00%	
Net Capital Surplus/ (Deficit)	\$0	\$0	-\$99,580	\$99,580	\$0		
Net Result Surplus/ (Deficit)	-\$237,044	-\$284,904	-\$384,226	\$95,881	-\$288,345		

TOURISM 2021/22	Original Budget	Amended Budget March QBR	Actual YTD 30 June 2022	Remaining Budget	Anticipated 30 June 2022
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	\$88,700	\$71,500	\$92,041	\$0	\$92,041
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	\$325,744	\$356,404	\$376,687	\$3,699	\$380,386
NET OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	\$237,044	\$284,904	\$284,646	\$3,699	\$288,345
Total Capital Revenue	\$950,000	\$950,000	\$0	\$950,000	\$950,000
Total Capital Expenditure	\$950,000	\$950,000	\$99,580	\$850,420	\$950,000
Net Capital Surplus/ (Deficit)	\$0	\$0	\$99,580	\$99,580	\$0
Net Result Surplus/ (Deficit)	\$237,044	\$284,904	\$384,226	\$95,881	\$288,345

7 Outstanding Debtors as at 30 June 2022

No. of Accounts	Current	30 days	60 days	90 days	Reference
6	\$19,394.29				
7		\$10,553.10			
0			0		
16				\$86,782.65	1
Grant Funds			\$257,815.50	\$348,710.70	2
TOTAL	\$19,394.29	\$10,553.10	\$257,815.50	\$435,493.35	

Reference

- 1. The 90 day outstanding balance is made up of:
 - \$18,490.00 Payment plan in place renegotiation currently underway
 - \$15,402.26 Currently under debt collection
 - \$11,573.16 Currently under negotiation to recover
 - \$15,511.63 Part of a grant project, investigation undergoing with Engineering
 - \$12,037.94 Contact has been made with customer and arrangements being discussed
 - And a number of smaller debts all either under debt collection or in process of collection by Council.
- 2. Grants Funds outstanding balance is made up of:

- 348,710.70 SCCF Grant Milestone 2 following up requirements due to status of grant
- 257,815.50 SCCF Grant Milestone 3 following up requirements due to status of grant.

8 Grants

See Separate Report

9 Statement of Currency of Work within the Finance Section of Council

This report has been prepared to advise the Council that basic financial processes have been undertaken as per Councils resolution in October 2021

A review has been undertaken of Council's monthly financial statements and actions.

I advise that I have discussed with staff and reviewed processes and certify that the following has been undertaken:

- Bank Reconciliations (see 2 above) have been balanced to the General Ledger
- Rates tasks, including all supplementary valuations and sales transfers, are up to date. Rates and Charges notices for 2022/23 are ready to print and will be sent out prior to 31 July 2022 as required under the LG Act 1993.
- Net arrears of all rates, annual charges and user charges at 30 June 2021 was \$305,735.04. This amount was reduced to \$289,830.06 at 30 June 2022, even though the total receivable increased to 30 June 2022, due to Rate pegging and SRV increase of 10% and increases in access and user charges.
- Outstanding Rates (including interest & Legal charges) is 4.09%. The benchmark for rural councils is 10% so to achieve such a low percentage in the current economic climate is testament to Ratepayers adhering to payment plans and the collection processes of the Rates officer Janelle Dalton throughout the year.
- Debt collection process are being followed for outstanding amounts. Amounts over \$1000, which are not subject to a current payment arrangement, are to be referred to a Debt Collection agency for legal action to commence. There is currently approximately \$50,000 being pursued by Council's Debt Collection agency. When these amounts are resolved and paid in full, it will further improve Council's outstanding amount as a % of total receivable.
- Water billing is up to date Accounts for usage readings for the period up to 30 June 2022 to be raised and sent out by the end of July.
- Payroll is up to date
- Plant hire input is up to date. An annual Plant Operational and Utilisation report for 2021/22 has been completed and forwarded to the General Manager and Exec Manager Engineering for perusal and any follow up action in respect to setting new plant rates, and plant fleet considerations.
- Creditors are being processed fortnightly and there is no evidence of aged invoices
- Creditors invoice postings for 2021/22 have been closed off as from 15 July to assist in EOY processing
- Debtor invoices for general works and services are being raised in a timely manner
- Outstanding debtor accounts are continuing to be followed up.
- Loan repayments are up to date
- Investments Council now complies with its policy and the Minister's Investment Order (see 1 above)
- Investment register has been updated with interest earned on a monthly basis for reporting to Council from 1 July 2022, not just recording and reporting interest

- earned upon maturity as has happened in the past. See comments in Investments (see 1 above)
- Journals are up to date and authorised by the finance consultants appointed by Council
- Stores issues and processes to be reviewed. Stocktake as at 30 June 2022 has been completed and posted.
- Operational Plan incorporating Financial Budget for 2022/23 has been adopted May CM
- Statement of Revenue Revenue Policy and the proposed fees and charges for 2022/23 have been adopted – May CM
- Long Term Financial Plan 2022/23 to 2032/32 and estimate of External and Internal Restrictions have been adopted – May CM
- Interim audit by external auditors was completed by auditors in mid June with no new significant issues identified. Staff worked extremely hard to ensure that the auditors had all required documentation in order and available for audit and were complimented by the auditors on their efforts.
- Valuation of all classes of assets has been completed by APV and a final report has been received and discussions held in relation to valuations for some assets.
 Valuations for all classes of assets will be utilised in compiling the 2021/22 financial reports whilst depreciation rates on these new asset valuations will be effective as from 1 July 2022.
- Creation of centralised Grants Register is underway and a report on Grants is included in the CM agenda for this month.
- Finance team meetings are being held on a regular basis each month to monitor progress in respective areas of responsibility. The external Finance Consultants, and the Finance Contractor sit in on these meetings.
- The Finance Consultants have circulated a timetable and a schedule of tasks and responsibilities for staff, to assist in completion of the 2021/22 Financial Statements and Reports in accordance with OLG requirements. At this stage staff and consultants are working to the required schedule and progress will be further analysed as at 30 July. A detailed progress report will then be compiled for the August CM
- Revenue streams and subsidy payments for the Bidgee Haven Hostel are continuing to be reviewed by the Administration Officer to ensure correct payments for subsidy claims are received. The review has seen continued improvement in the bottom line of operations for the Hostel.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

Item 8 Reference 2 – Loss of interest on investment from non receipt of Grant payments (currently \$49.85 per day) whilst outstanding.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATION

The Local Government Act 1993
The Local Government (General) Regulation 2005
Ministerial Investment Order (Gazetted 11 February 2011)

POLICY IMPLICATION

Council's Investment Policy (Adopted October 2021)

RISK RATING

Low

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

12.2 TOURISM & DESTINATION MARKETING QUARTERLY REPORT - APRIL TO JUNE 2022

File Number: D22.68751

Reporting Officer: Connie Mallet, Tourism, Communications, & Events

Coordinator

Responsible Officer: Jeff Sowiak, General Manager

Operational Plan Objective: Pillar 6: Our Leadership - A community that values and

fosters leadership, lifelong learning, innovation and good

governance.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Council with an update on Tourism activity and provide the quarterly report on statistics and activities that took place in the Tourism, Communications and Events department during the reporting period.

REPORT - KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE QUATER

This quarter was a very busy and active one with great results across all aspects of the Tourism, Events & Communications space as per our statistics for the quarter.

Key highlights of the quarter included:

- Our successful and well attended Easter events being the Easter Egg Hunt and the Easter Twilight Market
- Successful marketing of the Easter events which played a key role in bring visitors to the events
- The filming and photography shoot of the Discovery Centre precinct as part of a Tourism Australian and Destination NSW initiative
- Visitor Services' Small Business Video shoots which featured small business across the shire. This video will be released in late July
- Attendance at the Destination & Visitor Economy Conference which took place in Orange in May. This provided a wonderful opportunity to connect and network with LGAs and agencies in our tourism network with commitments made to meet regularly for regional product development initiatives and support.
- Another highlight to finish off the quarter was the announcement that the tourism team made a profit of \$19,765 on souvenir sales at the Visitor Information Centre for 2021/22

With the ongoing development of the new look "Discover Balranald & Surrounds" tourism website that took place during the latter part of the quarter, we are looking forwards to some upscale marketing activities to take place in the next quarter.

Statistics

Medium	Results/Total this Quarter	%Change to last Quarter
VIC Walk In	4530	97% Increase
Interpretive Pavilion Walk In	3498	150% increase
Merchandise Sales	\$23,8190	100% Increase
Bookings & Enquiries (Phone, emails, web)	211	2% decrease

Social Media – Facebook	Results/Total this Quarter	%Change to last Quarter
People Reach	238,069	87% increase
People Engagement with Posts (Comments, likes, shares)	25,857	70% increase
Video Stories (organic views)	1,350	38% increase
Discover Balranald & Surrounds Website (launched Aug 2016)	Results/Total this Quarter	%Change to last Quarter
Website Visits As at 30-06-2022	111,038	7% Increase

Content & Activities for the Quarter

Medium/Activity	Content	Results/Comments
Media Releases	 2 Media Releases were released during the quarter: Easter events in Balranald Balranald Discovery Centre being eligible for the National Experience Content Initiative (NECI), a Tourism Australia project delivered in collaboration with Destination NSW. 	As a result of the media releases the local & regional newspapers picked up the stories as editorials.

Social Media Content	Promotional posts and organic video stories for the quarter included the following Lake Benanee Easter in Balranald Shire series of events (shire wide) Easter Egg Hunt Easter Twilight Market Mungo National Park Success Story of the Easter Egg Hunt event Success Story of the Easter Twilight Market The Homebush Rodeo ANZAC Day The Art Gallery	The total results of these posts and video stories can be viewed in the statistics

Medium/Activity	Content	Results/Comments
Social Media Content	 The Southern Cross Exhibition "All Creatures Great & Small" promoting our amazing wildlife The Military Commemorative Trail Majestic River Red Gums at Yanga National Park Stunning Sunset over Euston 	
Community Social Media Pages	Weekly posts and communications are posted on all community pages including Euston/Robinvale. Posts included monthly calendar of events, happenings, announcements, specific events, openings etc.	30 individual posts were posted on each community page for the quarter
Print Media	We ran a series of print media advertisements for our Easter events. All print media adverts and flyers have a QR code linked to the website so we can measure call to action to our website and effectiveness of the adverts.	Spikes in website traffic to our events calendar page can be sited and measured during the release period of the print media adverts.
Destination & Visitor Economy Conference in Orange Tuesday 17 th May — Thursday 19 th May	There were a number of inspirational speakers, topics and workshops which included: • Using influencers for marketing activities • Art, culture and heritage development • The future of EV's and tourism • The role of local government in tourism and the visitor economy • A variety of site visits with particular themes – This provided a lot of town/village development ideas and product development ideas. These were also great examples of collaboration between local government, industry, community and	The conference produced a lot of product development ideas and opportunities for both the region and locally. It also provided an opportunity to connect with a number of government agencies responsible for either managing or supporting tourism/cultural/events related grant funding. Connecting with staff from surrounding LGAs in the tourism space was also a key outcome of

small businesses

There was also had a dinner organised by Destination Riverina Murray for all the LGA's in that network. This was a great networking evening with commitments made for regular regional workshops to develop regional products.

There was also a dinner for all attendees and was another great opportunity for networking. the conference. There is a much greater awareness and commitment towards collaborations and regional product development.

orientation for use on websites

Medium/Activity	Content	Results/Comments
Events & Events related activities	 Events that Council either staged and/or supported during the quarter included: The Easter Egg Hunt The Easter Twilight Market The Homebush Rodeo Little Wings Puppet We also promoted a series of community events via our monthly events calendar and social media posts on various community social media pages. During the quarter we acquitted 3 Council grant funded events/activities including Australia Day grant funding Small Business Month grant The Festival of Place – Summer Night Fund which funded lights and activities for our Easter Twilight Market 	Events were very well attended with many visitors committing to return next year. The promotions of the Easter events created high traffic and engagement on our social media platforms which created a big boost for brand (Discover Balranald & Surrounds) awareness and what the Shire has to offer.
Filming & Photography of the Discovery Centre Precinct	The Balranald Discovery Centre precinct was identified as being eligible for the National Experience Content Initiative (NECI), a Tourism Australia project delivered in collaboration with Destination NSW. The NECI is part of the continued COVID-19 recovery efforts and Tourism Australia's new visual content creation program is at supporting tourism operators to drive a product-led recovery campaign in attracting travellers back to Australia. This is the most significant content initiative that Tourism Austral has embarked on in New South Wales. Tourism Australia engaged NSW production teams to capture	 This project will deliver the following: A selection of new hero images and footage (via hard drive of all the assets), including an edited one-minute video to use on your social media, website and other promotional channels. The images and videos will be published on the Tourism Australia and Destination NSW image and video galleries for all to access, including media and trade 200 images minimum per operator provided. 40 enhanced and retouched images per operator. Mixture of portrait and landscape

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photography and video footage of the

experiences so that we are able to share our content on our digital and print media platforms. The images and video will also be published on the Tourism Australia and Destination NSW image and video galleries for all to access including media and trade.	 and social media. Mixture of wide and tight shots Minimum of 10 minutes of b-roll footage for our own editing/purposes etc.` A one-minute edited video of the best footage per operator to showcase the experience.
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Medium/Activity	Content	Results/Comments
Small Business Video (Shire-wide)	This project took place in June and was funded by a Small Business Grant. The project involved the filming of all Balranald Shire visitor services' small businesses including retailers, eateries, accommodation venues, vehicle services etc.	 We will be developing a video channel on YouTube for this video and all other videos we are planning to develop regularly featuring key attractions, events, happenings and visitor services The video will be used across a number of digital and social media platforms.
New "Discover Balranald & Surrounds" website development	During the quarter we began developing the new revised/updated tourism website which will incorporate new features, content etc. and will be more aligned with planned marketing and promotional activities.	The new website will play a key role in integrated marketing strategies that is planned for the latter part of 2022 onwards. The launch is planned for mid to late August. It will also be launched simultaneously with the re-launching of our Instagram account which will feature high-resolution imagery and videos.
Community Support	During the quarter we supported various community groups and committees for a variety of activities, events and projects. Groups supported included: The Southern Cross Exhibition The Balranald Anglican Church The Men's Shed The Art Gallery The Murrumbidgee Classic Committee The Beautification Committee	The community support and engagement really helps to build rapport, trust and collaboration with Council. It also helps to deliver great outcomes and opportunities for the community for the good of the community.

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Objectives for the next Quarter

- Continue to increase our Page Likes on our Facebook social media page to increase our organic engagement and optimise value of organic posts and video stories. We also plan to do a series of paid activities in boosting Page Likes to help support promotional posts on the page.
- Launch our new look Instagram account to align with Facebook posts and messages and part of our integrated marketing activities with the new look website
- Update Tourism website to align with current trends and content and planned destination marketing activities
- Development of Council's Destination Management Plan
- Organise capacity building workshops with business operators to develop products/packages for visitors as incentives to promote longer stay and spend
- Begin promotions of upcoming key/signature events that will be taking place in the later part of the year such as the 5 Rivers Outback Festival and the Euston Salami Festival

POLICY IMPLICATION

Nil

RISK RATING

Moderate - High Community Interest in the operation of Tourism activities

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

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13 INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT REPORTS

13.1 INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

File Number: D22.68752

Reporting Officer: Fiona Scoleri, Executive Assistant

Responsible Officer: Kerry Jones, Executive Manager - Engineering

Operational Plan Objective: Pillar 5: Our Infrastructure – A community that maintains

and strengthens its natural and built environment.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Council with an update on Infrastructure works currently in hand and in planning, updated to 12 July 2022.

REPORT

REPORT

1. ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

1.1 Construction

Regional roads

No change since last report.

Local roads

a) Marma Box Creek Road

Further works on hold until full reassessment of scope of works and budget is carried out.

b) Weimby Kyalite Road

New chevron signs have been ordered to complete signage plan on the new section of road.

c) Reconstruction and Seal of 2km of Tapalin Mail Road

Construction works completed. Plan to seal in Sept/Oct when weather is warmer.

d) Taylor Road, Leslie Drive, Kilpatrick Road Tender

Tender RFT 21/22-03 Construction of Shoulder Widening of Taylor Road and Leslie Dive and Pavement Rehabilitation of Kilpatrick Road, Euston closed on 31 May 2022.

It was determined at the Works Committee meeting on 1 July 2022 to not accept any tender submission, but enter into negotiations with Harril Pty Ltd trading as Coburns Earthmoving to undertake part of the works as permitted by the budget.

1.2 Unsealed road maintenance

- a) Turlee Leaghur Road reshape and maintenance grading with improved drainage carried out on full length of road.
- b) Abbotts Tank Road maintenance grading completed.
- c) Tronox have agreed to carry out gravel works on D Block Road, and Magenta Wampo Road, where they plan to run worker bus transport.

1.3 Sealed road maintenance

No change since last report

1.4 Supplier Panel for the Hire of Plant and Equipment

Tender RFQ 21/22-05 Plant and Equipment Hire for 2022/23 closed on 14 June 2022.

It was resolved at the Works Committee meeting on 1 July 2022 to establish a Supplier Panel for the hire of Plant and Equipment for the 2022/2023 financial year, comprising the companies responding to the above Request for Quotations.

WATER, SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

2.1 Balranald and Euston Filtered Water Towers (Reservoirs)

Report received subsequent to diving inspection carried out on 8 June.

Significant deterioration has occurred inside the Balranald Filtered Water tower over the past 5-6 years. Recommended repairs to be carried out within 1-2 years. Project to be scoped & costed.

2.2 Integrated Water Cycle Management (IWCM) Plan

No change since the last report.

2.3 Balranald Sewerage Program

Tender RFT 21/22-07 Relining and Repair of Gravity Sewer Mains and Associated Structures closed on 5 July 2022.

The results of this tender assessment will be presented in a separate report.

2.4 Balranald Water Network

Balranald Raw Water System switchboard upgrade:

Essential Energy will carry out electrical isolation works in 2-3 weeks, to enable switchboard upgrade by a contractor.

2.5 Balranald Drainage

Quotes have been received for kerb and gutter works on Church and Harben Streets.

2.6 Euston Sewerage Program

Euston Sewer Pump Station switchboard upgrade: As for 2.4

2.7 Euston Water Network

Replacement of old 25mm raw water meters in Euston Township is completed.

2.8 Kyalite Water Supply

No change since the last report.

3. CIVIC ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS

3.1 Village Master Plans for Euston and Balranald

Designs and plans have been received and are in the process of being presented to various Committees for comment.

3.2 Riverfront Precinct - Balranald

Concrete slab for BBQ has been constructed, with power and water connections, for a barbecue at Riverbend Reserve

3.3 Euston Recreation Reserve

a) Design plans for Euston Recreation Reserve have been completed.

- b) Installation of a low chain mesh fence has been completed
- c) Planning is underway for works funded by Stronger Country Community Funds Round 4:
 - New inclusive netball changing rooms / public toilet building at Euston
 - 200 lux LED outdoor sport lighting for Balranald and Euston netball courts
- d) Quotes have been received for the planned upgrade of Euston netball court to a multicourt with shade structure. This project has been delayed by review of the Work Schedule for LRCI Phase 3.

3.4 Euston Outdoor Gym Project

This project has been completed.

3.4 Euston Town Approaches

New highway signage with tourism icons for Euston has been approved by TfNSW. The signs have been manufactured and are ready to be installed.



3.5 Balranald Lions Park

Suggestions and comments from advisory committees and members of the public regarding the draft design plans for the "Everyone Can Play" Balranald Lions Park have been collated and will be taken into consideration as the design process continues. The extensive wish list will need to be balanced against the available budget.

Planning is now underway to proceed with the next stages.

Alternative quotes and designs for the play space will be sought from companies who specialise in play equipment and have experience in accessible play spaces.

3.6 Kyalite Riverside Reserve

Steps completed as previously reported. Handrail still to be installed.

4. BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

4.1 Balranald Discovery Centre (Visitor Information Centre)

Plans are underway for development application and detailed building specifications.

4.2 Euston Courthouse

A conservation management plan has been commissioned. The results of this plan will help to determine future conservation and renovation works on the building.

4.3 Football Club

Works completed

4.4 Theatre Royal

No change since the last report.

4.5 Sealing of Off-Street Parking Areas (Balranald Tennis Courts and Balranald Gallery) Sealing of parking areas has been delayed by recent rainfall.

4.6 C.W.A. Building

No change since last report

4.7 Aerodrome

Installation of new animal exclusion fencing has been completed, including the removal of Rubbish left by the contractor, removed by the contractor.

4.8 Balranald & Euston Waste Management

a) Tender RFT 21/22-04 Contract for Waste Collection Services for Balranald and Euston closed on 14 June 2022.

A single, non-conforming tender was received.

It was resolved at the Works Committee meeting on 1 July 2022 to cancel the tender and enter into negotiation with BDS Automotive.

b) Tender RFT 21/22-06 Contract for Site Management Services for Balranald Waste Facility closed on 5 July 2022.

The results of this tender will be presented in a separate report.

c) Tip Fees

The subject of reintroduction of tip fees at Balranald and Euston will be presented in a separate report.

4.9 Balranald Cemetery Masterplan

No change since last report.

5. TOWN MAINTENANCE WORKS

5.1 Balranald town maintenance

The Operations team continue to work in keeping the town looking good with routine town maintenance tasks and specific works as required. A number of trees have been removed and/ or pruned around the town.

5.2 Euston Village maintenance

The Operations team continue to work in keeping the village looking good with routine town maintenance tasks and specific works as required.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

As per individual project authorised budgets.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATION

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATION

Applicable policies are based on an individual project basis.

RISK RATING

Projects based risks are individually assessed.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

13.2 PLANNING ADMINISTRATION

File Number: D22.68991

Reporting Officer: Ray Mitchell, Health & Development Coordinator

Nikkita Manning-Rayner, Administration Officer - Health &

Development

Responsible Officer: Jeff Sowiak, General Manager

Operational Plan Objective: Pillar 5: Our Infrastructure – A community that maintains

and strengthens its natural and built environment.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Council of activities in the Planning area

REPORT

The following Notices of Determination, Construction Certificates, Complying Development Certificates, Section 68 Certificates, Subdivision Certificates, Subdivision Works Certificate and / or Occupation Certificates have been issued under delegated authority since the June meeting of Council.

Application	Owner/Applicant	Locality	Description
DA 34/2022	Noelene Hatt	Crown Land on the Southern Bank of the Murray River, Ryan Road, Robinvale	Single Vessel Mooring
DA 35/2022	Decentralised	51965 Sturt	Transportable Dwelling
	Demountables Pty Ltd for	Highway, Euston	& Onsite Sewage
	Valerie Berrett		Management System
DA 37/2022	Andrew Curphey for Daniel	79 Church Street,	Shed
	Snow & Kenneth Johnson	Balranald	
DA 38/2022	Martin Gerkens for Martin &	57 Market Street,	Demolish Existing Shed
	Leanne Gerkens	Balranald	& Construct New Shed
DA 41/2022	Barry Anderson for Barry &	135 Ballandella	Demolition of Dwelling
	Lita Anderson	Street, Balranald	
DA 43/2022	Peter & Sue Murphy for	123 Ballandella	Carport
	Ernest Jacka	Street, Balranald	
CC 16/2022	Andrew Curphey for Daniel	79 Church Street,	Shed
	Snow & Kenneth Johnson	Balranald	
CC 01/2023	Peter & Sue Murphy for	123 Ballandella	Carport
	Ernest Jacka	Street, Balranald	
		1	

CC 02/2023	Martin Gerkens for Martin & Leanne Gerkens	57 Market Street, Balranald	Shed
SDC 08/2022	Rocky Lamattina for APJ Brothers Pty Ltd	Garreffa Parade, Euston	17 Lot Subdivision
OC 16/2022 (certificate of completion)	Leyland Brougham for Adam Griffiths	11 Tayla Court, Euston	Sanitary plumbing for dwelling
OC 17/2022	Teina Lusty for John & Sonia Jolliffe	81-83 Piper Street, Balranald	Swimming Pool
OC 18/2022 (certificate of completion)	Patrick Gluyas (TTS Built) for Tronox Limited	Magenta Wampo Road, Balranald	Sanitary plumbing for 30 accommodation units
OC 19/2022 (certificate of completion)	David McKenzie for Danielle & Nicholas Osborne	14 Tayla Court, Euston	Sanitary plumbing for dwelling
OC 20/2022	Hinton Building Pty Ltd for Thai Dang & Trang Nguyen	153 Boynton Street, Balranald	Dwelling, Alfresco & Garage

The following numbers of certificates relating to conveyancing have been issued since the June meeting of Council.

Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979	7
Planning Information Certificates (10.7)	
Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979	0
Building Certificates (6.24)	
Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979	1
Outstanding Orders (121ZP)	
Local Government Act 1993	1
Outstanding Orders (735A)	
Local Government Act 1993	4
Drainage Diagram	
Biosecurity Act 2015	0
Outstanding Orders (Noxious Weeds)	

The following Section 4.6 Variations have been issued under delegated authority since the June meeting of Council.

Application	Owner/Applicant	Locality	Description
Nil	-	-	

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

Nil

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATION

Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979

State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008

Local Government Act 1993

Biosecurity Act 2015

Conveyancing Act 1919

POLICY IMPLICATION

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

14 NOTICE OF MOTION / QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

15 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Nil

16 CLOSURE OF MEETING