



BUSINESS PAPER

Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday, 17 April 2024

Date: Wednesday, 17 April 2024

Time: 3.00 PM

**Location: Shire Chamber
Coonamble**

**Tim Horan
Mayor**

Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held in the Shire Chamber, Coonamble on Wednesday, 17 April 2024 at 3.00 PM.

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1 OPENING MEETING**2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet today, the Wailwan people and the Gamilaroi people and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and culture. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

3 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**4 APOLOGIES/APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS****5 DEPUTATION/DELEGATIONS****6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES****RECOMMENDATION**

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Coonamble Shire Council held on Wednesday, 13 March 2024 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings of the meeting.



MINUTES

**Ordinary Council Meeting
Wednesday, 13 March 2024**

**MINUTES OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COONAMBLE
ON WEDNESDAY, 13 MARCH 2024 AT 3.00 PM**

PRESENT: Mayor Tim Horan, Deputy Mayor Adam Cohen, Deputy Mayor Bill Fisher, Cr Pat Cullen, Cr Barbara Deans, Cr Terence Lees, Cr Brian Sommerville

IN ATTENDANCE: Paul Gallagher (General Manager), Bruce Quarmby (Director Corporate Services), Kerrie Murphy (Director Infrastructure), Marina Colwell (Executive Support Officer), Lesley Duncan (Manager Planning, Regulatory & Compliance), Mick Bell (Manager Parks & Urban Services), Deborah Tatton (Manager Finance & Procurement), Kylie Kerr (Manager Roads), David Levick (Manager Economic Development & Growth), Sergei Iagunkov (Manager Water & Sewage)

1 OPENING MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting at 3.06 pm, advising the attendees of the following:

The meeting is being livestreamed and/or recorded for on-demand viewing via Council's website and a person's image and/or voice may be broadcast;

- Attendance at the meeting is to be taken as consent by a person to their image and /or voice being webcast (time will be allowed by the Chairperson for people to leave the meeting before it starts);
- All speakers should refrain from making any defamatory comments or releasing any personal information about another individual without their consent;
- Council accepts no liability for any damage that may result from defamatory comments made by persons attending the meetings – all liability will rest with the individual who made the comments;
- The recording will be available on Council's website for a minimum of 12 months and retained as a Council record;
- Individuals acting in a disorderly manner can be asked by the Chairperson to leave the meeting under the Council's Code of Meeting Practice;
- The meeting must not be recorded by others without the prior written consent of the Council in accordance with the Council's Code of Meeting Practice.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet today, the Wailwan people and the Gamilaroi people and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and culture. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

3 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

MOTION

RESOLUTION 2024/33

Moved: Cr Pat Cullen

Seconded: Cr Barbara Deans

That item 10.15 be brought forward to allow for discussion in the community consultation session.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

The following residents applied to speak to Council:

1. Mr Angus Chadwick – Item 10.15 DA040/2023 - Alterations and Additions to Existing Feedlot, he explained the need for expansion for repairs and maintenance for existing yards to house the current stock at the feedlot.

10.15 DA040/2023 - ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO EXISTING FEEDLOT**RESOLUTION 2024/34**

Moved: Cr Pat Cullen

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Bill Fisher

That Council approves DA040/2023 for Alterations and Additions to an Existing Feedlot (construction of 26 new pens, extension of manure pad, ancillary infrastructure works and earthworks on Lot 113 DP754199, 701 Quambone Road subject to the following conditions:

Approved Plans and Documents

- The development being carried out in accordance with the development application and Statement of Environmental Effects except where amended by the following conditions:

Plan Title	Drawing No.	Rev.	Date
Development Application Plans prepared by Premise			
Title Sheet & Schedule of Drawings	C001	C	01/11/2023
Existing Layout Plan	C002	C	01/11/2023
Proposed Layout Plan	C003	C	01/11/2023
Bulk Earthworks Proposed Feedlot Pens Layout	C004	C	01/11/2023
Bulk Earthworks Proposed Manure Pad Extension Layout Plan	C005	C	01/11/2023
Bulk Earthworks Cut-Fill Plan	C006	C	01/11/2023
Bulk Earthworks Typical Sections	C007	C	01/11/2023
Effluent Management System	-	B	2/11/2023
Statement of Environmental Effects	-	001B	2/11/2023

Capacity

- The approved capacity of the feedlot is limited to 10,000 head of cattle as approved by DA 14/97 issued by Coonamble Shire Council on 16 March 1998.

Prior to Issue of a Construction Certificate

- Construction work with a value greater than \$25,000 or more requires payment of the NSW Governments Long Service Levy prior to release of any construction certificate. Evidence of payment must be provided to the registered certifier to allow release of any construction certificate. Payments should be made direct to the corporation at the following website <https://www.longservice.nsw.gov.au/>

Prior to Commencement of Works

4. Prior to the commencement of construction works, the Applicant is to obtain a Construction Certificate from either Council or Registered Certifier, certifying that the proposed works are in accordance with the Building Code of Australia and applicable Council Standards prior to any building works commencing.

Note: It is the responsibility of the Applicant to ensure that the development complies with the Building Code of Australia and applicable Council Standards in the case of building work. This may entail alterations to the proposal so that it complies with these standards.

5. The applicant is to submit to Coonamble Shire Council, at least two days prior to the commencement of any works, a 'Notice of Commencement of Building or Subdivision Works' and 'Appointment of Principal Certifier'.

During Construction

6. No nuisance or interference with the amenity of the area is to be created by reason of any process or operation on the premises causing the emission of noise, dust, smoke or any polluted discharge whatsoever.
7. Construction work involving the use of electric or pneumatic tools or other noisy operations shall be carried out only between 7.00 am and 6.00 pm on weekdays and 8.00 am and 1.00 pm on Saturdays. No work on Sundays or Public Holidays is permitted.
8. Throughout the course of construction operations on the land, toilet facilities are to be provided, at or in the vicinity of the work site. Toilet facilities are to be provided at a rate of one toilet for every 20 persons or part of 20 persons employed at the site.
9. All building rubbish and debris, including that which can be windblown, shall be contained on site in a suitable container for disposal at an approved Coonamble Shire Council Waste Landfill Depot. The container shall be erected on the building site prior to work commencing and shall be maintained for the term of the construction to the completion of the project.

Note: No building rubbish or debris shall be placed or permitted to be placed on any adjoining public reserve, footway or road.

Note: The waste container shall be regularly cleaned to ensure proper containment of the building wastes generated on the construction site.

Protection of Aboriginal relics

10. Should Aboriginal relics be discovered work shall cease immediately and application be made for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit under the provisions of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.

Siding Springs Observatory – Maintaining Dark Sky

11. The development shall not contain:

Outside light fittings other than shielded light fittings, or

More than 7 shielded light fittings or more than 5 such light fittings that are not automatic light fittings, and

Be likely to result in the emission of light of 50,000 lumens or more.

Outside light fitting means a light fitting that is attached or fixed outside, including on the exterior of a building.

Shielded light fitting means a light fitting that does not permit light to shine above the horizontal plane.

Prior to Occupation or Commencement of Use

12. Prior to the occupation or use of the development, an Occupation Certificate must be obtained from the Principal Certifier for the subject development and all conditions of development consent fully complied with.

Prescribed Conditions under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000

13. A development consent for development that involves any building work must be issued subject to the following conditions:

(a) that the work must be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Building Code of Australia, in force on the date of the application.

(b) in the case of residential building work for which the Home Building Act 1989 requires there to be a contract of insurance in force in accordance with Part 6 of that Act, that such a contract of insurance must be entered into and be in force before any building work authorised to be carried out by the certificate commences.

Note: This condition does not limit any other conditions to which a complying development certificate may be subject, as referred to in section 85A (6) (a) of the Act.

Note: This condition does not apply:

(a) to the extent to which an exemption is in force under clause 187 or 188, subject to the terms of any condition or requirement referred to in clause 187 (6) or 188 (4), of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000, or

(b) to the erection of a temporary building, other than a temporary structure that is used as an entertainment venue.

Note: In this condition, a reference to the Building Code of Australia is a reference to that Code as in force on the date the application for the relevant complying development certificate is made.

14. A sign must be erected in a prominent position on any site on which

building work, subdivision work or demolition work is being carried out:

- (a) showing the name, address and telephone number of the principal certifying authority for the work, and**
- (b) showing the name of the principal contractor (if any) for any building work and a telephone number on which that person may be contacted outside working hours, and**
- (c) stating that unauthorised entry to the site is prohibited.**

15. Any such sign is to be maintained while the building work, subdivision work or demolition work is being carried out, but must be removed when the work has been completed.

Note: This condition does not apply in relation to building work, subdivision work or demolition work that is carried out inside an existing building, that does not affect the external walls of the building.

Note: This condition does not apply in relation to Crown building work that is certified, in accordance with section 109R of the Act, to comply with the technical provisions of the State's building laws.

Note: This condition applies to a complying development certificate issued before 1 July 2004 only if the building work, subdivision work or demolition work involved had not been commenced by that date.

Note: Principal certifying authorities and principal contractors must also ensure that signs required by this clause are erected and maintained (see clause 227A which currently imposes a maximum penalty of \$1,100).

16. Residential building work within the meaning of the Home Building Act 1989 must not be carried out unless the principal certifying authority for the development to which the work relates (not being the council) has given the council written notice of the following information:

- (a) in the case of work for which a principal contractor is required to be appointed:**
 - (i) the name and licence number of the principal contractor, and**
 - (ii) the name of the insurer by which the work is insured under Part 6 of that Act,**
- (b) in the case of work to be done by an owner-builder:**
 - (i) the name of the owner-builder, and**
 - (ii) if the owner-builder is required to hold an owner-builder permit under that Act, the number of the owner-builder permit.**

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

MOTION**RESOLUTION 2024/35**

Moved: Cr Pat Cullen

Seconded: Cr Barbara Deans

That item 10.1 be brought forward to allow for discussion in the community consultation session.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

The list of residents below applied to speak to council on item 10.1 Sons of the Soil redevelopment - disposal of internal assets and process for development/demolition:

1. Mr John Cooper – Item 10.1 Spoke against the demolition of the SOTS.
2. Mr Steven Butler – – Item 10.1 Spoke on the Main street needing revitalising and to involve local trades/trades people, in favour of progression.
3. Mr Shane Swansborough – Item 10.1 Spoke on the main street needing revitalisation.
4. Anne Cullen – Item 10.1 Spoke for demolition of the SOTS and the main street revitalisation.
5. Andrew Crawford – Item 10.1 Spoke against the demolition of the SOTS and the need to keep the nostalgic building.

Mayor Horan gave the Councillors an opportunity to speak freely on item 10.1 Sons of the Soil redevelopment - disposal of internal assets and process for development/demolition.

Cr Sommerville – requests that it be recorded that he advocated for the purchase of the SOTS for the main street revitalisation.

10.1 SONS OF THE SOIL REDEVELOPMENT - DISPOSAL OF INTERNAL ASSETS AND PROCESS FOR DEVELOPMENT/DEMOLITION**RESOLUTION 2024/36**

Moved: Cr Pat Cullen
Seconded: Cr Barbara Deans

That Council;

1. a) **Hold a community auction of all the contents with the proceeds being dispersed to community groups via a donation or a community project.**
 - o Offer the white goods (fridge and freezers) to sporting groups within the LGA. This may also include the kitchen cutlery, crockery and glasses.
 - o Offer the bed frames, cupboard, and dressers to a local charity for disbursement to the those that may require assistance with furniture. This may also include the plates and cutlery.
2. **Receive and note the information on the development process.**
3. **Receive a further report on the demolition, partial demolition, or retention of the building costs once the RFQ has closed.**
4. **Council advise the OLG on the progress of the development of the SOTS.**
5. **That council continues to endeavour to keep the façade of the building.**

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

4 APOLOGIES/APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

Nil

5 DEPUTATION/DELEGATIONS

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION 2024/37

Moved: Cr Pat Cullen
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Adam Cohen

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Coonamble Shire Council held on Wednesday, 14 February 2024 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings of the meeting.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

7 DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr Barbara Deans declared a non-pecuniary conflict of interest with:

Item 10.15 DA040/2023 – Alterations and Additions to Existing feedlot - as her son-in-law is employed with AJF Brien & Sons, the Chadwick Family who own the Feedlot, and

Item 10.25 Tooraweenah Road Upgrade – Monthly Status Update, as her property and place of residence is on that road. She indicated that she would remain in the room and participate in the discussion on the item.

Cr Tim Horan declared a pecuniary conflict of interest with:

Item 12.1 Waste Plant – Hook Truck – as he is related to the contractor, he indicated that he will leave the room and not participate in the discussion or voting on the item.

Cr Terence Lees declared a pecuniary conflict of interest with:

Item 12.1 Waste Plant – Hook Truck – as he is employed by the contractor, he indicated that he will leave the room and not participate in the discussion or voting on the item.

Cr Brian Sommerville declared a non-pecuniary conflict of interest with:

Item 10.1 Sons of the Soil Redevelopment – disposal of internal assets and process for development/demolition, as he owns a business in the main street, he indicated that he will remain in the room and participate in the conversation and voting on the item.

8 MAYORAL MINUTE

MAYORAL MINUTE

RESOLUTION 2024/38

Moved: Mayor Tim Horan

Seconded: Cr Pat Cullen

That the report be received and noted.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

SECTION A - MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY COUNCIL**SECTION B - MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY****9 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Nil

10 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

Council breaks for afternoon tea at 4.40pm

Council returns to meeting 4.55pm

10.2 CORRESPONDENCE**RESOLUTION 2024/39**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Bill Fisher

Seconded: Cr Barbara Deans

That the report be received and noted.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.3 COUNCILLOR INDUCTION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**RESOLUTION 2024/40**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Adam Cohen

Seconded: Cr Barbara Deans

That Council

- 1. Hold candidate information sessions commencing in June 2024, and**
- 2. Engage with the Far North West Joint Organisation to prepare a common candidate information pack for member Councils, and**
- 3. Note the preliminary concepts related to the mandatory Councillor Induction, and**
- 4. Note the preliminary concepts related to the mandatory Councillor Professional Development Program, and**

Request individual Councillors to refer any further suggestions to the General Manager.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.4 COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS UPDATE

RESOLUTION 2024/41

Moved: Cr Brian Sommerville

Seconded: Cr Terence Lees

That Council notes the Council Resolution status (Annexure 1).

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.5 STATUS OF INVESTMENTS - FEBRUARY 2024

RESOLUTION 2024/42

Moved: Deputy Mayor Bill Fisher

Seconded: Cr Barbara Deans

That Council notes the list of investments from 1 December 2023 to 31 January 2024 and that these investments comply with section 625(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* and Council's Investment Policy.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.6 RATES AND CHARGES COLLECTIONS - FEBRUARY 2024

RESOLUTION 2024/43

Moved: Deputy Mayor Adam Cohen

Seconded: Cr Pat Cullen

That Council receive and note the information provided in the report.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.7 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**RESOLUTION 2024/44**

Moved: Cr Barbara Deans

Seconded: Cr Terence Lees

That Council receives and notes the information contained in this report.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.8 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & GROWTH - PROGRESS REPORT**RESOLUTION 2024/45**

Moved: Cr Pat Cullen

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Adam Cohen

That Council note the information in the report.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.9 APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER COUNCIL'S DONATIONS POLICY**RESOLUTION 2024/46**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Bill Fisher

Seconded: Cr Brian Sommerville

- 1. That Council notes the information contained within this report.**
- 2. That Council provides the following financial assistance from the Unallocated Donation vote.**
 - a. Quambone Polocrosse \$2,000.00**
 - b. Marthaguy Picnic Race Club \$4,000.00**

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.10 DRAFT LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE POLICY**RESOLUTION 2024/47**

Moved: Cr Barbara Deans

Seconded: Cr Brian Sommerville

- 1. That Council places the draft Legislative Compliance Policy, as attached to the report as Annexure 1, on public exhibition for a period of 28 days for the purpose of inviting submissions from the community.**
- 2. That Council receives a further report, together with all submissions received at the conclusion of the public exhibition period for Council's further consideration and adoption of the Legislative Compliance Policy (with or without changes) at its May 2024 Ordinary Meeting.**
- 3. That, in the event of no submissions being received within the prescribed number of days, Council formally adopts the Legislative Compliance Policy without any changes as a policy of Council.**

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.11 REVISED FRAUD AND CORRUPTION CONTROL POLICY**RESOLUTION 2024/48**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Bill Fisher

Seconded: Cr Pat Cullen

- 1. That Council places the revised draft Fraud and Corruption Control Policy, as attached to the report, on public exhibition for a period of 28 days for the purpose of inviting suggestions from the community.**
- 2. That Council receives a further report, together with all submissions received at the conclusion of the public exhibition period for Council's further consideration and adoption of the Fraud and Corruption Control Policy (with or without changes) at its May 2024 Ordinary Meeting.**
- 3. That, in the event of no submissions being received within the prescribed number of days, Council formally adopts the Fraud and Corruption Control Policy without any changes as a policy of Council.**

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.12 DRAFT CYBER SECURITY FRAMEWORK**RESOLUTION 2024/49**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Bill Fisher

Seconded: Cr Terence Lees

- 1. That Council places the draft Cyber Security Framework, as attached to the report as Annexure 1, on public exhibition for a period of 28 days for the purpose of inviting submissions from the community.**
- 2. That Council receives a further report, together with all submissions received at the conclusion of the public exhibition period for Council's further consideration and adoption of the Cyber Security Framework (with or without changes) at its May 2024 Ordinary Meeting.**
- 3. That, in the event of no submissions being received within the prescribed number of days, Council formally adopts the Cyber Security Framework without any changes as a policy of Council.**

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.13 NETWASTE TENDER FOR COLLECTION AND RECYCLING OF WASTE TYRES**RESOLUTION 2024/50**

Moved: Cr Pat Cullen

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Bill Fisher

That Council endorse the participation in the NetWaste collection and recycling of tyres contract.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.14 DRAFT LOCAL ORDERS POLICY NO 21**RESOLUTION 2024/51**

Moved: Cr Barbara Deans

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Bill Fisher

- 1. That the draft Local Orders Policy No. 21 be placed on public exhibitions for a period of 28 days and that submissions may be received for a period of 42 days.**
- 2. That Council receives a further report, together with all submissions received at the conclusion of the submission period for Council's further consideration and adoption of the draft Local Orders Policy No 21.**
- 3. That, in the event of no submissions being received within the prescribed number of days, Council formally adopts the draft Local Orders Policy No. 21 without any changes as a policy of Council.**

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.16 DRAFT COUNCIL-RELATED DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS POLICY**RESOLUTION 2024/52**

Moved: Cr Pat Cullen

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Bill Fisher

- 1. That the draft Council-related Development Applications Policy be placed on public exhibition for a period of twenty-eight (28) days.**
- 2. That Council receives a further report, together with all submissions received at the conclusion of the public exhibition period for Council's further consideration and adoption of the Council-related Development Applications Policy.**
- 3. That, in the event of no submissions being received within the prescribed number of days, Council formally adopts the Council-related Development Applications Policy without any changes as a policy of Council.**

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.17 DRAFT INFANT AND FERAL ANIMAL POLICY**RESOLUTION 2024/53**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Bill Fisher

Seconded: Cr Terence Lees

- 1. That the draft Infant and Feral Animal Policy be placed on public exhibition for a period of twenty-eight (28) days.**
- 2. That Council receives a further report, together with all submissions received at the conclusion of the public exhibition period for Council's further consideration and adoption of the Infant and Feral Animal Policy.**
- 3. That, in the event of no submissions being received within the prescribed number of days, Council formally adopts the Infant and Feral Animal Policy without any changes as a policy of Council.**

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.18 ENVIRONMENT AND STRATEGIC PLANNING PROGRESS REPORT**RESOLUTION 2024/54**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Adam Cohen

Seconded: Cr Terence Lees

That the Environment and Strategic Planning Progress Report be received and noted.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.19 QUAMBONE RESOURCES COMMITTEE - SECTION 355**RESOLUTION 2024/55**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Bill Fisher

Seconded: Cr Terence Lees

That Council

- 1. Note the provision of Resource Committee records for the last two years.**
- 2. Dissolve the Section 355 Committee and donate funds equivalent to the Committee funds subject to:**
 - (a) Provision of reconciled financial statements,**
 - (b) Review of the funds held and commitments,**
 - (c) Provision of the public funds to Council.**
- 3. Delegate to the General Manager to power to affect this decision after his analysis and satisfaction with the Committee's financial statements.**
- 4. Note that the Section 355 Committee records will be kept in perpetuity and in accordance with the Records Act by the Committee.**

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.20 OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE AND SUSPENSION ORDERS**RESOLUTION 2024/56**

Moved: Cr Pat Cullen

Seconded: Cr Barbara Deans

That Council note the Office of Local Government's publication of the Performance and Suspension Orders – Procedural Framework and the Minister's (and Office of Local Government's) powers.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.21 AUDIT, RISK & IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**RESOLUTION 2024/57**

Moved: Cr Barbara Deans

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Bill Fisher

That Council:

- 1. Note the status of the appointment of the independent members of ARIC, and**
- 2. Implement the Councillor's ARIC training and external provider for internal audits, and**
- 3. Undertake a review of the Terms of Reference in conjunction with Gilgandra Shire Council.**

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.22 WASTE AND RECYCLING FEES - SMALL MATTRESSES**RESOLUTION 2024/58**

Moved: Cr Barbara Deans

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Adam Cohen

That Council

- 1. Adopt the following fees for non-commercial disposal and recycling mattresses:**

Mattresses

Mattresses large (double and larger) \$30.00 (including GST)

Mattresses small (single and smaller) \$15.00 (including GST)

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.23 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - PROGRESS REPORT

RESOLUTION 2024/59

Moved: Deputy Mayor Bill Fisher

Seconded: Cr Terence Lees

That Council receive and note the Corporate Governance Progress Report.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.24 DRAFT OPERATIONAL PLAN ACTION ITEMS

RESOLUTION 2024/60

Moved: Cr Pat Cullen

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Bill Fisher

That Council receive and note the 2023 / 24 Operational Plan report.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.25 TOORAWEEAH ROAD UPGRADE - MONTHLY STATUS UPDATE

RESOLUTION 2024/61

Moved: Cr Pat Cullen

Seconded: Cr Barbara Deans

That the report be received and noted.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.26 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES - WORKS IN PROGRESS**RESOLUTION 2024/62**

Moved: Cr Barbara Deans

Seconded: Cr Terence Lees

That the information be received and noted.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

11 NOTICES OF MOTIONS/QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE/RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

Prior to going into Closed session:

Mayor Horan declared an interest in item 12.1 Waste Plant – Hook Truck, as he is related to the contractor. He vacated the chair and left the room for the discussion and voting; Deputy Mayor Fisher chaired the meeting.

At 6:13 pm, Cr Terence Lees declared an interest in Item 12.1 as he is employed by the contractor, he left the room for the discussion and voting.

12 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**RESOLUTION 2024/63**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Adam Cohen

Seconded: Cr Pat Cullen

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993:

12.1 Waste Plant - Hook Truck

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - d(i) 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 commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

In Favour: Crs Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 5/0

12.1 WASTE PLANT - HOOK TRUCK**RESOLUTION 2024/64**

Moved: Cr Barbara Deans

Seconded: Cr Pat Cullen

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the plant requirements for Waste and Recycling and the current status.

In Favour: Crs, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 5/0

At 6:40 pm, Mayor Tim Horan returned to the meeting and resumed as chair of the meeting.

At 6:40 pm, Cr Terence Lees returned to the meeting.

RESOLUTION 2024/65

Moved: Cr Terence Lees

Seconded: Cr Pat Cullen

That council request a report on the quarry renewal program and its

operations.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

RESOLUTION 2024/66

Moved: Deputy Mayor Bill Fisher

Seconded: Cr Pat Cullen

That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Adam Cohen, Bill Fisher, Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

The Meeting closed at 7.11pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council held on 10 April 2024.

.....
CHAIRPERSON

7 DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

8 MAYORAL MINUTE

MAYORAL MINUTE

File Number: M3
Author: Tim Horan-Mayor
Authoriser: Tim Horan, Mayor
Annexures: Nil

I am pleased to present to you the mayoral report for April 2024.

- Clean Up Australia Day 2024
 - Sunday March 3 was the day to 'Clean Up'. The community support for this event was well received. Congratulations to the organising staff.
- Waste 2 Art
 - The annual event Opening Night was on March 28 at Outback Arts, it is amazing to see the talent that is in our local community.
- Seniors Festival Luncheon 2024
 - I was honoured to attend the Seniors Lunch and activities on Thursday 14 March to celebrate Seniors Week. Congratulations to the organising staff with over 180 attendees the event was a success. This event is one of the most well attended Council run events, it brings together the community and various services.
- Country Mayors Association
 - Councillor Deans, the General Manager and I attended the Country Mayors meeting in Sydney on Friday 22 March. The meeting concentrated on policing and crime also covering 2024 NSW Government Budget submissions.
- Tour de OROC
 - Monday 18 March riders on the Tour de OROC passed through Coonamble. A fundraising dinner was held at the Terminus Hotel, the General Manager attended on my behalf. The fundraiser was for the Macquarie Home Stay based in Dubbo that services the entire Orana Region. It was a social night to meet the riders and support crew.
- Youth Week Forum
 - Youth week was launched by a forum held at the Bowling club on Thursday 12 April. A presentation by Luke Kennedy of his story of

being a drug addict and gang leader in Sydney and how he turned his life around. Gulargambone Central School supported the event with over 20 students attending. It was disappointing that Coonamble High School did not promote and encourage their students to attend the event. The forum is followed by a week of School Holiday programs catering for families from Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone.

- Coonamble Shire Library
 - The library is again running the Creative Writing Competition at the Coonamble Annual Show in May. I encourage all students to participate.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

SECTION A - MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY COUNCIL

SECTION B - MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

9 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil

10 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

10.1 CORRESPONDENCE

File Number: C20

Author: Marina Colwell-Executive Support Officer

Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager

Annexures: Nil

CORRESPONDENCE

Each month a list of correspondence is sent out in the Business Paper to Councillors to ensure that they have not missed any information since the last Business Paper was produced.

Date	Information Sent	Author	In	Out	Sent
11/03/24	Coulton’s Catch Up – M Coulton MP 11 March 24	M Coulton	✓	✓	✓
18/03/24	Coulton’s Catch Up – M Coulton MP 18 March 24	M Coulton	✓	✓	✓
26/03/24	Coulton’s Catch Up – M Coulton MP 26 March 24	M Coulton	✓	✓	✓
26/03/24	Media Release – Mark Coulton to retire at next election	M Coulton	✓	✓	✓
	Awning Inspections – Update	P Gallagher		✓	✓
	Wingadee Road Inspection	P Gallagher		✓	✓
02/04/24	Coulton’s Catch Up – M Coulton MP 2 April 24	M Coulton	✓	✓	✓
04/04/24	LGNSW – Pre-budget Submission	M Colwell		✓	✓

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

10.2 LGNSW PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION

File Number: L 10

Author: Marina Colwell-Executive Support Officer

Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager

Annexures: 1. **LGNSW Pre-Budget Submission - Local Government Priorities** [↓](#) 

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the LGNSW Pre-budget Submission for the 2024-25 State Budget NSW Local Government Priorities.

BACKGROUND

The NSW Government is projecting to achieve a surplus of an estimated \$476 million in 2024-25, with an average surplus of \$700 million forecasted over the next three years until 2026-27.

This positive trend is expected to bolster the government's capacity to respond to the budget priorities of the local government sector.

Local Government has been an essential partner of the NSW Government in tackling unprecedented challenges facing NSW in recent years such as successive natural disasters and the COVID pandemic.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

11.5 Adopt successful strategies which maximises our community's access to quality infrastructure and assets.

(b) Financial Considerations

Local Government has welcomed the assistance provided by the NSW Government and councils have effectively efficiently allocated government funding to restore local community infrastructure and services, drive recovery and foster resilience.

COMMENTARY

The 2024-25 economic landscape presents unique challenges for Local Government, compounded by the significance of this year being an election year. The attached documents explains the NSW Budget Funding recommendations for 2024-25.

List of Budget Funding Recommendations:

- Financial Sustainability
- Natural Disaster Resilience
- Water and Roads Infrastructure
- Housing Supply
- Environment
- Biosecurity & Companion Animals
- Stronger Country Communities Fund

- Rural Health Care
- Skills and Labour Shortages
- Caring and Liveable Communities

This submission outlines Local Governments funding priorities for the 2024-25 financial year and underscores the critical need for continued support from the NSW Government given the continued challenges that the sector faces.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

There are no governance or policy implications attached to this report.

(c) Legal Implications

There are no legal implications attached to this report.

(d) Social Implications

There are no social implications attached to this report.

(e) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications attached to this report.

(f) Economic/Asset Management Implications

There are no economic/asset management implications attached to this report.

(g) Risk Implications

There are no risk implications attached to this report.

CONCLUSION

The 2024-25 NSW Budget submission by LGNSW underscores the critical need for sustained support and strategic investment in the face of economic challenges and inflationary pressures. The partnership between local government and the NSW Government has been instrumental in addressing community challenges in the past demonstrating the power of collaboration in fostering community resilience. Local government is well positioned to play a major role, providing an effective conduit for delivering assistance and targeted initiatives to strengthen our communities.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the contents of this report.



LGNSW PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION

**2024-25 State Budget NSW
Local Government Priorities**

February 2024

**ONE VOICE
FOR COUNCILS**

LGNSW.ORG.AU



Local Government NSW (LGNSW) is the peak body for local government in NSW, representing NSW general purpose councils and related entities. LGNSW facilitates the development of an effective community-based system of local government in the State.

OVERVIEW OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SECTOR



Local government in NSW employs **55,000 people**



Local government in NSW is responsible for about **90% of the state's roads and bridges**



Local government in NSW looks after more than **\$177 billion** of community assets



NSW councils manage an estimated **4 million tonnes of waste** each year



Local government in NSW spends more than **\$2.2 billion** each year on caring for the environment



NSW councils own and manage more than **600 museums, galleries, theatres and art centres**



NSW has more than **350 council-run libraries** that attract tens of millions of visits each year



NSW has more than **400 public swimming and ocean pools**

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Introduction

Local Government NSW (LGNSW) is the peak body for local government in NSW, representing all NSW general purpose councils and related entities. LGNSW facilitates the development of an effective, community-based system of local government in the State.

Collectively, NSW councils:

- Employ over 55,000 people. Many of these jobs are in rural and regional NSW, where councils are often the largest single employer and underpin the local economy.
- Spend more than \$12 billion each year.
- Manage and maintain infrastructure and land assets worth more than \$180 billion.

The unique breadth of essential infrastructure and services delivered by local government to the people of NSW makes the sector a critical partner in the economic stewardship of the State. LGNSW welcomes the opportunity to present the NSW Budget priorities of the local government sector.

Please note this is a draft submission that is subject to LGNSW Board approval.

Background

The NSW economy has demonstrated resilience, sustained by population growth and a robust labour market. Despite persistent state budget deficits, the NSW Government is projected to achieve a surplus of an estimated \$476 million in 2024-25, with an average surplus of \$700 million forecasted over the next three years until 2026-27.

The economic outlook is showing signs of improvement, with forecasted declines in inflation and interest rates. This positive trend is expected to bolster the government's capacity to respond to the budget priorities of the local government sector. While economic growth may remain below trend in the short term, the anticipated easing in inflation and interest rates will create a conducive environment for a gradual return to stronger long-term economic growth. Nevertheless, geopolitical risks are increasing, particularly with ongoing conflicts, which could disrupt global supply chains and commodity markets, posing potential challenges to NSW's fiscal position.

Local government has been an essential partner of the NSW Government in tackling unprecedented challenges facing NSW in recent years such as successive natural disasters and the COVID pandemic. Local Government has welcomed the assistance provide by the NSW Government and councils have effectively efficiently allocated government funding to restore local community infrastructure and services, drive recovery and foster resilience. This partnership between local and state governments has been crucial in providing essential support to NSW communities. This submission outlines local government's funding priorities for the 2024-25 financial year and

4 LGNSW Pre-Budget Submission | 2024-25 State Budget NSW Local Government Priorities

underscores the critical need for continued support from the NSW Government given the continued challenges that the sector faces.

2024-25 – A significant year for local government

The 2024-25 economic landscape presents unique challenges for local government, compounded by the significance of this year as it an election year for the sector that may result in realignments of council policies and priorities. All levels of Government are expected to address pressing issues, including the rising cost of living, ongoing skills shortages, and the supply of affordable housing, underscoring the importance of making strategic budgetary and fiscal decisions to effectively tackle these challenges.

Like the NSW Government, councils are grappling with inflationary pressures, which are expected to continue impacting council costs. At the same time, council costs remain under the pressure of ongoing disaster recovery and resilience building efforts while infrastructure maintenance and renewal backlogs remain high. Cost shifting remains a persistent issue for the sector further amplifying the financial sustainability concerns of local government. For the 2021/2022 financial year, cost shifting represented a total of \$1.36 billion of unfunded costs passed onto councils and their communities. This represents \$461 per ratepayer per year. The impending review of the financial model for local government, presents an opportunity to address the longstanding impacts on the sector's financial sustainability are highlighted and resolved.

Despite these economic challenges, critical investment in infrastructure, including roads and water, remains one of the priorities for local government. Additionally, collaborative efforts between state and local governments are essential, encompassing climate change mitigation, public and affordable housing, waste management, and social services. These investments not only support job creation and businesses but also contribute to the public good and the attainment of state outcomes. Funding for pressing social priorities in the areas of health, including mental health, domestic violence, Aboriginal communities, building regulation and community services delivers similar benefits, while helping to prevent future remedial costs. And as councils continue to play their role in enabling housing supply, it is vitally important that the NSW Government funds the necessary infrastructure that will support greater density and growing populations.

The 2024-25 NSW Budget presents an opportunity for the state to further solidify its leadership in managing economic and social impacts, both at a state and national level. Collaborative and constructive partnerships between all levels of government will be instrumental in driving productivity, supporting job growth, and ensuring the resilience of communities. LGNSW stands ready to work alongside the NSW Government to achieve these shared objectives.

5 LGNSW Pre-Budget Submission | 2024-25 State Budget NSW Local Government Priorities

NSW Budget Funding Recommendations 2024-25

Areas of council funding need – LGNSW Priorities	Budget funding recommendation	Supporting case
<p>FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY</p>		
<p>Emergency Services Levy (ESL)</p>	<p>Fund the cost of fully removing the ESL from councils through the foreshadowed review of the ESL.</p>	<p>The levy increases for the State’s 128 councils in 2023-2024 amounts to almost \$77 million, with the total cost imposed on the local government sector increasing from \$143 million in the 2022-2023 financial year to \$219 million in 2023-2024. This represents a 53.1 per cent increase, completely dwarfing the base rate peg of 3.7 per cent, as set by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for 2023-2024.</p> <p>LGNSW has welcomed the NSW Government’s decision to undertake a broad review the ESL. It is a long-established position of LGNSW that the ESL should be removed from councils and insurance policies and replaced with a broad-based property levy which would be revenue neutral for the NSW Government and provide a fairer and more transparent mechanism to collect this sum. The NSW Budget should provision for this review.</p>
<p>Cost of local government elections</p>	<p>Commit to funding any increases in the cost of local government elections in excess of the rate peg imposed on councils.</p>	<p>The increasing cost of local government elections has resulted in greater spend by councils on their elections. Although the State Government has historically contributed to the running costs, the proportion paid by ratepayers continues to increase. It is acknowledged that this is a result of several increasing cost input factors, including venue hire and staffing costs. Given the costs increase, the NSW Government should commit to funding any increase in the cost of running the local government elections in excess of the rate peg imposed on councils.</p>
<p>Audit costs for local government</p>	<p>Provide \$30 million over four years to cover the escalating costs of local government financial audits</p>	<p>Since the NSW Audit Office became the auditor for all NSW councils in 2016, the baseline costs of audits have continued to increase. Councils are experiencing unsustainable audit fee increases well in excess of CPI and far beyond the baseline government rate peg.</p>

Areas of council funding need – LGNSW Priorities	Budget funding recommendation	Supporting case
<p>NATURAL DISASTER RESILIENCE</p>		
<p>Infrastructure betterment and resilience</p>	<p>Provide \$400 million in grant funding to councils to support infrastructure betterment to withstand future natural disasters while delivering benefits associated with improved resilience and productivity, economic and social outcomes.</p>	<p>Every local government area within NSW has experienced a natural disaster over the past 3 years and the majority of government expenditure is on clean up and recovery, not on preparedness and resilience. There is a pressing and significant need for the NSW Government to deliver pre-emptive disaster risk reduction planning, resources and investment to local councils and communities. For example, communities across NSW suffered catastrophic devastation by flood in 2022, resulting in the loss of lives and homes, businesses, livestock, grazing land, crops, machinery, and infrastructure damaged, destroyed, or lost. In line with the NSW State Disaster Mitigation Plan, the NSW Government should extend funding and support for local government, including for the betterment and improved resilience of essential community infrastructure.</p>
<p>Executive level Local Emergency Management Officers (LEMOs)</p>	<p>Commit to the funding of executive level Local Emergency Management Officers (LEMOs).</p>	<p>Over time the expectations from the State Government and the community on local government related to emergency management have increased yet there are not the resources available to meet the needs for emergency management planning, response, and recovery. Council resourcing and support of emergency management is highly variable and relies on already stretched resourcing constraints in local government.</p>
<p>WATER AND ROADS INFRASTRUCTURE</p>		
<p>Bolstering water security</p>	<p>Commit a further \$1 billion over 5 years for the renewal of the Safe and Secure Water Program (SSWP).</p>	<p>Funding provided under the SSWP has been critical in delivering reticulated water and sewerage infrastructure, and water security. Without significant further investment communities across NSW will be left vulnerable to running out of water as they did in the last serious drought from 2017-2020. Climate change and changing weather patterns are predicted to deliver larger and more frequent extreme weather events in future. As such, the continuance of funding in the SSWP program is fundamental in assisting local water utilities to provide essential water services to communities.</p>

Areas of council funding need – LGNSW Priorities	Budget funding recommendation	Supporting case
<p>Roads</p>	<p>Increased funding for the \$1.1 billion Fixing Local Roads Program and Fixing Country Bridges program to help address the estimated \$1.9 billion road maintenance and infrastructure backlog faced by councils in rural and regional NSW.</p> <p>Maintain Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund (RERRF)</p> <p>Increase Road Block Grant funding in line with current CPI rate</p> <p>Increase funding for the Regional and Local Roads Repair Program (RLRRP)</p>	<p>These road programs are substantial, and therefore a continued acceleration of program funding is required just to address road maintenance issues compounded by rising construction costs due to the current high inflation environment. This does not include funding to address upgrades needed to improve freight access on the local and regional road network. Funding should also be increased to include road and bridge upgrades to enable the transport of required infrastructure and equipment such as wind turbines to Renewable Energy Zones.</p> <p>Maintaining this funding will enable councils to continue vital repair and maintenance work from natural disasters and severe weather in the past.</p> <p>Road Block Grants remains a vital source of recurrent road funding for councils with the backlog in road maintenance on local and regional roads estimated by the NRMA to be \$2.3 billion due to the impacts of recent year floodings. Increasing the Road Block allocation by a minimum of 4.1% aligns with the current inflation rates is fully justified.</p> <p>This program is essential in assisting councils to undertake significant upgrades to the local and regional roads network deal with the growing demands of the freight task.</p>
<p>Bus services and related infrastructure</p>	<p>Adopt the recommendations of the Bus Industry Taskforce and commit to the required funding of over \$5 billion worth of recurrent and capital spending over the short-term including funding for local infrastructure to support improvements to bus services such as local road improvements, bus shelters, lay-by bus stops and other facilities.</p>	<p>Bus services are critical to the effective functioning of local communities in both metropolitan and regional areas. Current service levels are lacking and have been deteriorating for many years due to lack of investment as identified in the Bus Industry Taskforce report.</p> <p>LGNSW has consistently pressed the case that councils cannot meet the costs of the required infrastructure.</p>
<p>HOUSING SUPPLY</p>		
<p>Housing supply</p>	<p>An additional \$1 billion annually for enabling local infrastructure to support more housing and greater density in metropolitan and regional areas to meet the NSW Government’s commitments under the National Housing Accord.</p>	<p>In assisting the NSW Government to meet its commitments under the National Housing Accord, councils across NSW are required to deliver infrastructure (such as local roads, drainage, water, and sewerage that enables more housing. Access to grant funding for these projects should be made available to councils in metropolitan and regional areas through mechanisms such as the Housing Acceleration Fund (HAF) and the Housing and Productivity Contribution.</p>

Areas of council funding need – LGNSW Priorities	Budget funding recommendation	Supporting case
<p>Public and social housing</p>	<p>Invest at least \$2 billion annually for 10 years to build 5,000 additional units of public and social housing each year.</p>	<p>The Federal and State governments need to urgently increase the stock of public and social housing.</p> <p>NSW Government funding should be used alongside federal funding from the Housing Australia Future Fund to urgently deliver this public and social housing. There is also an urgent need for existing public and social housing stock to be redeveloped to meet current and future needs, right across NSW.</p>
<p>Planning Portal funding</p>	<p>\$20 million in direct grant funding to councils to support the costs incurred by councils for the ongoing implementation and operation of council systems with the NSW Planning Portal.</p> <p>Commit \$10 million towards a full review and upgrade of the Planning Portal to make it fit for purpose to support delivery of the NSW Government’s National Housing Accord commitments.</p>	<p>On 1 July 2021, councils were mandated to use the Planning Portal by the NSW Government despite previous commitments that the use of the Portal would be optional. Implementation of the portal has resulted in significant adverse cost and efficiency impacts on councils and communities and additional expense to ratepayers but has failed to generate the promised cost savings to councils in return for these expenses. Additional expenses shifted to councils for running the portal include the costs of additional staff, systems and process amendments, digital integration, maintenance, and licensing costs.</p> <p>This funding would help to relieve councils of administrative burden associated with the Planning Portal and permit them to focus their efforts on the assessment process contributing to improved processing times and assist them in expediting approvals for housing delivery.</p>
<p>ENVIRONMENT</p>		
<p>Waste Levy</p>	<p>Reinvest the waste levy in full to assist in transition to circular economy, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • funding (over and above current funding) to offset council costs of implement the Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) mandate • Increased funding for compliance (e.g., illegal dumping teams) • state-wide education campaign • priority infrastructure 	 <p>The NSW Government forecast it would collect \$873 million through the waste levy in 2022/23 and has budgeted to collect \$894 million in 2023/24. LGNSW calls on the government to fully use the waste levy for the purpose it was collected, i.e., to reduce waste and support the diversion of material from landfill back into productive use, effectively promoting a circular economy.</p> <p>For example, the implementation of the Government’s FOGO collection mandate requires considerable additional costs. A 2022 feasibility study found that implementing a FOGO service will increase the average cost of waste services by \$3.2 million per council whereas the EPA’s contestable FOGO grant program makes the equivalent of \$760,000 available per council. There is a considerable funding shortfall between what has been allocated to support the FOGO mandate.</p> <p>The NSW Auditor General found in her 2020 report that the NSW Government has collected almost \$4 billion from the waste levy in the last five years, but only about a third of this has been reinvested into waste and environmental programs.</p>

Areas of council funding need – LGNSW Priorities	Budget funding recommendation	Supporting case
<p>Asbestos</p>	<p>Make asbestos disposal simpler, cheaper, and safer through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.8 million per year for ongoing uncontested grants to all NSW councils to deliver on the ground asbestos awareness campaigns. • \$8 million per year for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of the waste levy on household quantities of asbestos. • Ongoing funding of council run householders’ asbestos disposal schemes (HADS) • NSW Government to provide portable asbestos disposal facilities (e.g., skip bins or similar) at key council locations in each LGA for use by local residents, to accept plastic wrapped asbestos products that can be relocated to an approved landfill when full, with the costs covered by the NSW Government. • \$6 million per year for council exemption from the requirement for local government to be required to pay the waste levy in circumstances where they have unwittingly received contaminated waste, or where they have undertaken a clean-up of unlawfully dumped contaminated waste such as asbestos. • Dedicated, uncontested funding to councils to remove asbestos from all council buildings over a 10-year period - \$150 million per year. 	<p>Research by the EPA has shown that illegal dumping of asbestos can be reduced by making asbestos disposal easier and cheaper. The EPA trial of a household asbestos disposal scheme across 23 councils involved waiving the waste levy and reduced tip fees, at a cost of \$781,000.</p> <p>Social research in NSW and nationally shows the community is not aware of where asbestos could be in buildings, how to identify it or how to be safe around asbestos when they do come across it. They also do not know where to source reliable information. Councils are the level of government closest to community and best placed to deliver asbestos awareness campaigns.</p> <p>Councils do not have a mechanism to raise money for asbestos removal and therefore require financial support from the NSW Government.</p>
<p>Climate change</p>	<p>Invest \$8 million annually for 3 years to complete urban tree canopy mapping and support rural and regional councils to build urban tree canopy across their urban centres.</p> <p>Invest \$8 million over 4 years to implement actions that address climate risks to improve the resilience of council’s \$178 billion worth of assets and increase the community resilience to respond to climate risks.</p> <p>Invest \$12 million over 4 years to assist councils transition to net zero emissions and drive local economies.</p>	<p>Funding is needed to undertake mapping of current urban canopy levels in rural and regional NSW councils and to focus an investment in increasing urban tree canopy. This investment will reduce urban heat, improve air quality, provide shade, and build resilience to climate change.</p> <p>Council programs supported by the Climate Change Fund are ending. Additional funding for programs such as the Increasing Resilience to Climate Change program would continue to improve the resilience of local government assets and services.</p> <p>Local governments and their communities are on the frontline when dealing with the risks and impacts of climate change. As climate change impacts will be experienced at regional and local levels, councils may be best placed to manage these risks. Local government has shown that by working in partnership with the NSW Government, they can deliver highly effective climate change projects that can reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and greatly assist the community to be better prepared and better able to adapt to future climatic conditions.</p>

Areas of council funding need – LGNSW Priorities	Budget funding recommendation	Supporting case
<p>BIOSECURITY & COMPANION ANIMALS</p>		
<p>Companion animal pound and rehoming funding</p>	<p>Increase capital and operational funding to enable upgrading of pound facilities, provision of support services to facilitate rehoming and to assist with educating the community about responsible pet ownership.</p> <p>\$50 million capital injection over 5 years plus \$20 million annual for operating, support services and education</p>	 <p>Registration fees for companion animals are pooled into the Companion Animals Fund managed by the Office of Local Government, which returns approximately 80% of fees to the council where the animal was registered. In 2018-19 approximately \$7 million was distributed to councils from the Fund to support councils in their work to regulate companion animals and encourage responsible pet ownership. This represents just 16% of the costs incurred by councils.</p> <p>There is a need for capital injection to update and increase pound and rehoming facilities, and increased support for councils to operate facilities to the community's expectations and undertake education and awareness in responsible pet ownership.</p>
<p>Biosecurity</p>	<p>\$5 million per year to increase capacity for invasive species identification and undertake widespread community education programs to increase awareness of biosecurity responsibilities, risks, and responses.</p> <p>Provide a contemporary and consistent funding stream to local control authorities (LCAs) for weed management and regulatory functions through the Weed Action Program that is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> increased to \$20 million per year indexed to inflation awarded to LCAs for a (minimum) 3-year horizon to enable forward planning. <p>Establish a Biosecurity Prosecution Fund with \$0.5 million in seed funding, to be administered by the Department of Primary Industries.</p>	<p>There is a lack of general community awareness of what the General Biosecurity Duty is, what it entails and what would constitute someone fulfilling their duty. In addition, there is poor understanding of the risks/threats posed by invasive species. More resources are needed for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broader community and land manager education and awareness, including for absentee landowners. Invasive species identification and control by all land managers. Compliance and enforcement. <p>Current funding under the Weed Action Program (WAP) has not kept pace with inflation, nor the increasing threats posed by weeds to production and the environment. For example, the cost of labour and materials continues to rise however WAP funding has remained relatively flat since 2018/19 despite the inflation rate between 2018 and 2022 totalling 12.4% (average 3% pa).</p> <p>Once successful prosecutions and recovery actions are undertaken these funds could be returned to the Fund along with penalties awarded.</p>

Areas of council funding need – LGNSW Priorities	Budget funding recommendation	Supporting case
<p>STRONGER COUNTRY COMMUNITIES FUND</p>		
<p>Stronger Country Communities Fund</p>	<p>Continue committing at least \$160 million annually towards the Stronger Country Communities Fund.</p>	<p>Regional councils have embraced and relied on grant programs such as the Stronger Country Communities Fund to provide new or upgraded social and sporting infrastructure and deliver community projects aligned to their Community Strategic Plans. Many of the projects delivered under this program assist the community both socially and economically by providing community infrastructure.</p>
<p>RURAL HEALTH CARE</p>		
<p>Greater financial support for rural and regional healthcare.</p>	<p>Establish an annual \$5 million local government rural and regional health reimbursement scheme.</p>	<p>Regional and rural councils have recognised there is more to do to attract suitably qualified health practitioners to their communities. This includes both incentives for practitioners to relocate to rural NSW, as well as ensuring medical centres are financially sustainable and maintained.</p> <p>However, this cost shifting of health responsibilities onto local government means already stretched councils are having to divert funds from much needed local infrastructure and community services.</p> <p>Council expenditure includes health infrastructure, health scholarships, subsidising running costs of medical facilities and providing housing and accommodation incentives for the medical workforce. A local government health reimbursement scheme would allow councils to invest in important community infrastructure and services.</p>

Areas of council funding need – LGNSW Priorities	Budget funding recommendation	Supporting case
<h2>SKILLS AND LABOUR SHORTAGES</h2>		
<h3>Skills and labour shortages</h3>	<p>Allocate \$20m over 3 years to a Skills Development Fund that supports education and employment in areas of skills and labour shortages in local government. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiatives such as tax incentives, housing subsidies and bonus payments, to incentivise professional staff to work in rural and regional councils. • Initiatives to increase trainee and apprentice employment across the breadth of local government operations and including early childhood education. • Creation of a dedicated pool of Smart and Skilled funding for local government to support skills development of new and existing staff in critical areas such as water, planning support, and early childhood education. 	<p>Over 90% of councils in NSW are experiencing skills shortages across professional, trades and community services roles. This is hampering the ability of councils to deliver the level of services their communities require. With its diversity of functions, councils provide many entry-level employment and training opportunities for young people, ultimately benefiting other businesses in the local community. Incentives to attract staff to work in councils and extra funding to create employment pathways into local government will drive the sustainability of councils and their communities.</p>
<h3>Domestic and family violence</h3>	<p>Invest \$12 million over four years to fund Domestic Violence prevention measures at a local government level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a grant fund for councils to implement the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Toolkit for Local Government (\$2.8 million per year for four years). • Create a dedicated Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Officer in LGNSW to build the capacity of councils across the state, in line with similar successful positions in the Victorian and Queensland Local Government Associations (\$0.2 million per year for four years). 	<p>The 2020 House of Representatives inquiry into family, domestic and sexual violence called for a dedicated domestic violence prevention officer in every state and territory local government association. As demonstrated in Victoria and Queensland, a dedicated officer in the state local government association has made an enormous difference in increasing the capacity of councils in those States to counter domestic and family violence at the local level through targeted, ongoing support. The Inquiry also recommended additional resources for local government to take a more active role in preventing and responding to family, domestic and sexual violence.</p>

Areas of council funding need – LGNSW Priorities	Budget funding recommendation	Supporting case
<p>CARING AND LIVEABLE COMMUNITIES</p>		
<p>Closing the Gap</p>	<p>Allocate \$20 million annually for four years to establish a local government Closing the Gap grant program</p>	<p>Councils have an important role in working in partnership with other spheres of government and Aboriginal communities to drive Closing the Gap outcomes. Council initiatives that are place-based and adapted to local need will be key in achieving these outcomes, but councils must be supported by the NSW Government to make this important contribution.</p> <p>In February 2024, LGNSW joined the NSW Coalition of Aboriginal Peak Organisations and the NSW Government in signing a new NSW Partnership Agreement for Closing the Gap. A grant program for councils will ensure local government can further contribute to the success of Closing the Gap and the NSW Implementation Plan.</p>
<p>Community safety and crime prevention</p>	<p>Immediately re-instate the Crime Prevention Fund and Graffiti Initiatives Fund previously administered by the Department of Communities and Justice, providing \$20 million in grant funding over four years for projects that address local crime hot spots and promote safe and inclusive use of public space</p>	<p>In recent years some councils have experienced increased crime rates. Youth crime and drug use are serious concerns for many NSW citizens, and this is especially the case in rural and regional areas where police and other youth services are critically under resourced.</p> <p>While policing is not a local government responsibility, councils have an important role to play in crime prevention when supported by the NSW Government and NSW Police Force. At a time of heightened concern about crime, it is critical that Crime Prevention Grants and the Graffiti Initiatives Fund are reinstated as a priority.</p>
<p>Dedicated funding opportunities for councils providing Early Childhood Education and Care sector</p>	<p>Establish a dedicated local government funding stream to support the continuation and growth of councils’ significant role and status in the provision of early childhood education and care.</p>	<p>The cost of care has significantly increased; administrative, regulatory, and quality assurance processes are complex and unnecessarily laborious; coordinated planning to ensure adequate supply is largely absent; and providers are struggling to attract qualified staff.</p>

Areas of council funding need – LGNSW Priorities	Budget funding recommendation	Supporting case
Funding to implement Council Disability Inclusion Action Plans	Establish a \$20 million grant program for NSW Councils that would enable councils to implement actions in their Disability Inclusion Action Plans.	Disability Inclusion Action Plans are the primary way in which councils can reduce and remove barriers for people with disability and foster more accessible and inclusive communities. Assistance from the state government in the form of a grant program would enable more councils to implement more of their actions in a timely manner and for the benefit of local communities. More than 4 million Australians, or around 18% of the population have a disability.
Funding for council-run art galleries, performing arts facilities, cultural events, and museums.	\$10 million annually for the introduction of a model of funding for council-run art galleries, performing arts facilities and museums that is similar to the NSW Library Annual Funding and Subsidy Adjustment Calculation.	<p>Local government owns and manages much of the cultural infrastructure in NSW and is a critical enabler of the cultural vibrancy of communities right across NSW. Councils own more than 600 museums and galleries as well as keeping places, theatres and performing arts centres, and must be supported with transparent and equitable funding.</p> <p>The model for public library funding in NSW uses a transparent and equitable methodology that recognises that all residents deserve access to library services wherever they live in NSW.</p> <p>The NSW Government should introduce a similar model for annual funding of council's arts and cultural facilities and events, which will make an important contribution towards ensuring that the NSW Government's new Arts, Culture and Creative Industries Policy can be activated beyond the major state-owned cultural institutions.</p> <p>\$10 million annually would ensure that each council would receive an average of \$75,000 for cultural programming and the arts, driving the visitor economy and ensuring that residents of even the smallest rural and regional communities have access to a key element of what makes communities liveable.</p>

Conclusion

The 2024-25 NSW Budget submission by LGNSW underscores the critical need for sustained support and strategic investment in the face of economic challenges and inflationary pressures. The partnership between local government and the NSW Government has been instrumental in addressing community challenges in the past, demonstrating the power of collaboration in fostering community resilience. By maintaining and expanding economic support measures, prioritising investment in critical local infrastructure, and addressing areas of previous budget neglect, the NSW Government can position itself as a leader in strong fiscal management.

LGNSW urges the government against winding down existing support and recovery programs. Instead, the NSW Budget should continue focusing on bolstering community resilience and strengthening local economies which will pave the way for a robust and sustainable local government sector. By investing in key sectors, supporting essential services, and preparing for future disruptions, the NSW Government can ensure the well-being of its citizens and position the state for long-term economic success.

Local government is well positioned to play a major role, providing an effective conduit for delivering assistance and targeted initiatives to strengthen our communities, bolster the resilience of our infrastructure, services, and systems, protect the environment and ensure the most vulnerable members of our community are supported.

LGNSW remains committed to working in partnership with the NSW Government to address the economic challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

For further information in relation to this submission, please contact:

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- Shaun McBride, Chief Economist: shaun.mcbride@lgnsw.org.au

10.3 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

File Number: C8

Author: Azita Sobhani-Community Services Manager
Raquel Pickering-Librarian
Nina Sands-Youth & Community Officer

Authoriser: Phillip Perram, Acting Director Community, Planning, Development and Governance

Annexures: Nil

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the activities within Council's Community Services section for the month of March 2024.

BACKGROUND

The Community Development section focuses on our community and our people and the support that Council offers in the delivery of positive outcomes. A short description is provided for Councillors reference for the key areas in the Community Services section as follows:

- **Youth & Community Services**

Council provides after school activities in Gulargambone and Quambone. Council also delivers school holiday programs and the Youth Week Program. Council also operates a Youth Forum/Council.

- **Library Services**

Coonamble Shire Council is a member of the Northwestern Library Service (NWLS). The Service covers four local government areas and encompasses the libraries therein, i.e. Bogan (Nyngan), Coonamble, Gilgandra and Warren (where the Manager is based).

The Coonamble Library has two satellite branches located in the villages of Gulargambone and Quambone within the Coonamble Shire Local Government Area. The Librarian purchases stock that is rotated to all libraries and participates in book exchanges with Gulargambone and Quambone seven times per year. The Gulargambone Library is run under an agreement with the Gulargambone Rural Transaction Centre Committee. The Quambone Library is run by Council staff.

- **Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Framework**

Following the adoption of the Community Strategic Plan at the 15 June 2022 meeting, updates on the IP&R Framework will now be reported back in the Community Development Report.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

Community Strategic Plan - P1 Community Services and Wellbeing

CSP1.1 – Initiate and contribute to effective and needs-based community programs which enhance engagement, cohesion, vibrancy and liveability.

(b) Financial Considerations

There are no financial considerations arising from this report.

COMMENTARY

In line with Council's 2023 / 24 Operational Plan, this report presents a summary of community service progress and activities for the month previous.

COONAMBLE SHIRE PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITY SERVICES

- Holiday Program – Coonamble & Gulargambone
- Youth Centre Gulargambone (After School & Holiday Activity)
- After School Care Quambone
- Library Services (Coonamble, Gulargambone, Quambone)
- Running events e.g. Seniors Week Luncheon
- Funding events e.g. the Interagency Resilience Day, October Wellbeing Day
- Youth Empowerment Program (First Light) – Edraak Insights

FROM COMMUNITY SERVICES TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**Interagency Meeting**

The Community Services Manager attended the April Coonamble Interagency meeting. The launch of the Youth week and its satellite of activities was unpacked for all participants comprising of the

- Youth Week initiatives for 12 years of age youth and over
- Holiday program for under 12years of age for both Gulargambone and Coonamble
- Youth Champion launch of the Youth Empowerment program

PROGRAMS / EVENTS:

FIRST LIGHT – YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM will launch its second stream of Youth Champions (> 15 years of age) on the first day of the youth Week activities. All youth in Coonamble are invited to this exciting initiative if they are interested in learning to work for the betterment of the community and be trained as “*Community Development Practitioners*”. The registered participants will be attending a three-day camp. Mornings will be devoted to “community development” concepts and afternoons to work ready skills.

The participants will then return to join a second camp organised for the Junior Youth (younger cohort of 11–14-year-olds) as placement required for their training.

First Light

Coonamble Youth Empowerment Program
Youth Champions (Ages 15-25)

Unlock your potential

First Light is a FREE program that brings together a small group of youth, aged 15-25, accompanied by an experienced facilitator who takes them through interactive training that helps build the following:

- 01 Develop**
Qualities, attitudes and skills needed to help us bring about the betterment of the community.
- 02 Upskill**
Work and life skills to improve your employability and contribute towards the wellbeing of the community.
- 03 Understand**
Analyse the needs of the community and how to best serve it.
- 04 Lead**
Guide a group of 10-15 younger youth through their program.

Register Free

To register for First Light, a parent or guardian is welcome to complete the form for those under 18 years of age. Registration is required, with limited spots available.

Build your capacity and help create a thriving generation.

For more information, please contact Azita Sobhani on 0428 271 938 or email info@edraakinsights.com.au

[firstlight.coonamble](#) [firstlight.coonamble](#)

This is an exciting strategy to raise trained human resources from within the community itself.

YOUTH WEEK AND HOLIDAY PROGRAM

The Community Development Team have spent the last month planning the upcoming Youth Week events, Youth Empowerment Camps, and Council Holiday Programs that will capture our upcoming leaders and young people in the Coonamble Shire Council.

The entire process of designing youth programs has been revisited by the new Community Development Team, resulting in the process now heavily revolving around the activities centring on imparting knowledge and increasing the skill level of participants.

Young people in Gulargambone, Coonamble and Quambone will henceforth be provided access to games, activities, workshops and excursions that will be designed through a lens of capacity building the minds of the young people Coonamble Shire caters to.

The young people in the Coonamble Shire will be able to access one of three programs over the April School Holidays and Youth Week. All of these will teach the participants a variety of positive lessons, ultimately resulting in a more wholesome and cohesive community.

Youth Week is aimed at young people aged between 12 to 24 years old and runs from Thursday 11th April - Friday 26th April 2024.

Council Youth Week Activities for 2024 will promote:

- Learning through play and having fun with peers in safe recreational settings about gender, consent and respectful relationships.
- An increased job ready capacity of participants by offering sessions centred around resume writing and mock interviews,
- Positive life relationships by exposing young people to conversations and strategies around what functional, healthy relationships are,
- Positive financial skills and an overall increased financial literacy by enlisting the services of a financial counsellor,
- Educating youths around nutrition and physical health through healthy competitions,
- An understanding of personal grooming and self-care which will lead to an

YOUTH WEEK 2024
 11TH-23RD APRIL - AGES 12+ WELCOME

THURSDAY 11th & FRIDAY 12th APRIL LAUNCH DAY!!

THURSDAY 12th: Hear the amazing story of Luke Kennedy. Once a drug addict and gang leader in Sydney, Luke worked to turn his life around and now hopes to help other young people recognise their potential to reach for something better, to become healthier and more self-aware. Luke speaks of his experiences and will work with attendees on how to build healthy relationships with the people around them and to help attendees build resilience.

FRIDAY 13th: ABOVE BOARD
 Learn about respectful relationships, what consent looks like, and the wealth of diversity that is now embraced in our lives. Learn through board games like monopoly, snap and bingo. **PRIZES AVAILABLE!!**

THESE 2 WORKSHOPS HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH LOCAL SCHOOLS. CONTENT IS RECOMMENDED FOR 15+
 VENUE: COONAMBLE BOWLING TIME: 10am - 2pm
 MORNING, AFTERNOON TEA & LUNCH PROVIDED

Monday 15th
YOUTH MASTERCHEF
 Create amazing meals, learn about what your body needs, then stuff yourself afterwards with the meal you made!
 WHERE: PAVILION
 TIME: 10AM
 LUNCH PROVIDED

Tuesday 16th
EVERYDAY SELF CARE
 Wellbeing, health and fitness. Learn to care for yourself first before caring for others.
 WHERE: PAVILION
 WHEN: 10AM
 LUNCH PROVIDED

Wednesday 17th
MY BODY, MY LIFE
 How to recognise and set boundaries for yourself and for others. It's your life. Your body. Own it.
 WHERE: PAVILION
 WHEN: 10AM
 LUNCH PROVIDED

Thursday 18th
BBQ @ MACDONALD PARK
 Join us for lunch with Rotary, bring your scooters, skateboards and balls for a great day out.
 WHERE: MACDONALD PARK
 WHEN: 11AM
 LUNCH PROVIDED

Friday 19th
DASH FOR CASH
 Want a car? Computer? Phone? Do you have enough money to buy them? Join us to learn how to save and plan for an amazing future!
 WHERE: PAVILION
 TIME: 10AM
 LUNCH PROVIDED

Monday 22nd
BOKHARA DREAMING
 Indigenous art with Hayden Wood
 WHERE: RED.I.E
 TIME: 10.30AM
 LUNCH PROVIDED

Tuesday 23rd
BLACKFIT FITNESS
 Join Josh Toole in the AM for strength and fitness then after lunch for cultural activities
 WHERE: RED.I.E
 TIME: 10AM
 LUNCH PROVIDED

CELEBRATING YOUTH WEEK IN COONAMBLE 11th-23rd APRIL 2024
 PLEASE NOTE ALL EVENTS ARE OPEN TO YOUTH AGED 12 YEARS AND OVER
 SEE SEPERATE HOLIDAY PROGRAMME FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN

REGISTER HERE

improved sense of self, and positive mental and physical wellbeing.

The Holiday Program is aimed at young people in the Coonamble Shire under 12 years old. This Holiday period runs from April 15th – Friday 26th April 2024.

Council’s Holiday Program activities will:

- Encourage the participation of young people in local ANZAC Day commemorations in Gulargambone and Coonamble,
- Promote self-expression and creativity through art sessions with local services,
- Strengthen positive social skills in children through group gatherings,
- Developing localised understanding of Wailwan and Gamilaraay culture through workshops involving art, weaving and dance,
- Promote positive mental health through official *Drumbeat* sessions,
- Encourage good physical health through offering outdoor play sessions such as the BBQ at Macdonald Park where kids are encouraged to bring their wheels – Bikes, scooters and skateboards!
- Expose children to gaining friends and forming relationships with people of

COONAMBLE APRIL 2024 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

MONDAY 15
MONDAY MOVIES
Coonamble Shire Library
10.30-12.15
WONKA
Snacks provided

TUESDAY 16
DRUMBEAT with Mission Australia
Macdonald Park
10-1pm
lunch provided

WEDNESDAY 17
TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC
MacKillop Family Services
10-12noon
snacks provided

THURSDAY 18
BRING YOUR WHEELS BBQ
Macdonald Park
11-1.30pm
FREE Rotary lunch!!

FRIDAY 19
ART FUN
MacKillop Family Services
10-12noon
snacks provided

MONDAY 22
MONDAY MOVIES
Coonamble Shire Library
10.30-12.15
TROLLS BAND TOGETHER
snacks provided

TUESDAY 23
CRAFT
Interrelate
10-12noon
snacks provided

WEDNESDAY 24
CLAY PLAY
Interrelate
10-12noon
snacks provided

THURSDAY 25
ANZAC DAY
COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL CENOTAPH
Dawn: 6am
Morning: 11am
LEST WE FORGET

FRIDAY 26
WEAVING WITH MADDI
MacKillop Family Services
10-12noon
snacks provided

COONAMBLE LIBRARY 82 CASTLEREAGH STREET
MACDONALD PARK ABERFORD STREET
MACKILLOP FAMILY SERVICES 23 NAMOI STREET
INTERRELATE 54 CASTLEREAGH STREET
REDI.E YOUTH CENTRE RAILWAY STREET

GULARGAMBONE APRIL 2024 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

MONDAY 15
FUN AT THE YOUTH CENTRE
10-3.30PM
lunch provided

TUESDAY 16
WEAVING WITH MADDI
Youth Centre
10.30-12noon
snacks provided

WEDNESDAY 17
PIZZA MAKING
Gular Youth Centre
11.30am

THURSDAY 18
DRUMBEAT with Mission Australia
Gular Youth Centre
10-1pm
lunch provided

FRIDAY 19
FUN AT THE YOUTH CENTRE
10-3.30PM
lunch provided

MONDAY 22
BLACKFIT FITNESS with JOSH TOOLE
Lions Park
10-2pm
Lunch provided

TUESDAY 23
BOKHARA DREAMING
Gular Youth Centre
10-12noon
snacks provided

WEDNESDAY 24
TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC
Gular Youth Centre
10-12noon
snacks provided

THURSDAY 25
ANZAC DAY
GULARGAMBONE
Meet @ Post Office
10.40am to march to the cenotaph
LEST WE FORGET

FRIDAY 26
FUN AT THE YOUTH CENTRE
10-3.30PM
lunch provided

GULARGAMBONE YOUTH CENTRE 37 WARRIE STREET
LIONS PARK BOURBAH STREET

UNDER 10s TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT/GUARDIAN

diverse ages and backgrounds.

The Community Service staff have also visited Gulargambone and aim to improve the services catering to youth in the Gulargambone community. Visits to Quambone will happen within the next month.

EASTER CELEBRATIONS

Lastly, Community Development Team supported Easter celebrations in Gulargambone and Quambone by supplying the children with lots of chocolate eggs from the Easter Bunny himself. It was reported that lots of fun was had by all at Quambone After School Care, plus the Gulargambone Youth Centre attendees who conducted their Easter Egg hunt at Gulargambone pool.

Thank you to all Coonamble Shire staff for supporting these initiatives and allowing our young people to enjoy these opportunities.



LIBRARY SERVICES

- **HARMONY DAY**

This year the Coonamble Pre School attended Harmony Day at the Library. 27 Children and four teachers attended, and we read *The Kindest Red* by Ibtihaj Muhammad all about what makes us different, but what also makes us the same. It also asks the children to consider what kind of world do they want to live in. After the story the children had free time and coloured, played with the sensory wall and equipment and looked at books. We thank the Pre School for attending and hope to see them again soon.



- **SENIORS LUNCHEON**

The 2024 Seniors Luncheon was held on Thursday 14 March at the Coonamble Bowling Club. Coonamble Shire Council hosts an annual Seniors Festival Luncheon, completely free of charge to any of our shire residents over 50 and their carers'. Each year we choose a theme and 2024 was the colour, Green. 2024 saw our biggest event ever with 180 people booking in. Hosting a successful seniors' day luncheon requires careful planning to ensure the comfort, enjoyment, and engagement of the attendees.

The Community Development team, liaised with several different services in Coonamble to provide an amazing day out, celebrating our seniors. Promoting the event, finding an accessible venue, transportation, an entertainer, food, and someone to produce a cake to feed the 180 attendees are just some of the challenges that surround a large event in a small rural town.

Council supplied transport from Gulargambone to Coonamble for anyone needing it and our local nursing home brought many of their residents with staff in their own bus.

The Honourable Mayor, Councillor Tim Horan opened the event, with Youth and Community Services Officer Nina Sands performing a Welcome to Country for us. This was followed by Community Development Manager Azita Sobhani highlighting the very significant contribution of Seniors to our community.

The Coonamble Neighbourhood Centre provided several free items for the seniors to take home. The amazing young ladies from the Coonamble High School National Aboriginal Sporting Chance Academy attended for the fourth year running and not only served the meals and cake, but sat with our seniors, chatting, engaging, and even getting them up dancing to our entertainer.

Councillor Adam Cohen and NASCA representative Zahlee Fernando cut our cake for us and we also had lucky door prizes and of course, Best Dressed Man Robert Steadman and Best Dressed Woman Helen Albert, who received some amazing new cheese/heat boards with our localities on them.

This event is one of the most well attended Council run events each year that helps break down barriers – age, cultural, racial, and economic – ensuring we are one vibrant community. And it brings together the community and various services in a spirit of much joy and excitement. It is an amazing day, and the Community Development Team looks forward to it each year. Thank-you letters have been sent out the various people and groups who worked with Council to make it such a success.





- **SENIORS CINEMA**

We continue to get good attendance at the First Tuesday Seniors Cinema with 8-12 people attending monthly. The Librarian is approaching Koonambil Aged Care to ascertain if they would also like to attend.

- **TRULY TRIVIAL**

Just a little library trivia for your information:

- During March the age of those who borrowed the most was 60-64 years.
- Top borrower for the month borrowed 42 books!

- **Library Statistics (25 February – 28 March 2024)**

Service	Loan	New M/ship	Wi-Fi	Internet (people)	Internet (hours)	Kids Comp (children)	Junior Visits	Adult Visits
Coonamble	464	34	68	48	243	98	143	286
Gulargambone	27	0						

- **Manual Statistics - Coonamble (numbers refer to people attending)**

Library Visits	Reference Enquiries	Technology Enquiries	Local History	VIC Enquiries
429	28	62	8	8

- **Activity Statistics - Coonamble (numbers refer to people attending)**

Senior Craft	Pre-School Visits	Housebound	Storytime	Seniors Cinema	Other
12	68	0	4	8	12

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

The delivery of community development and integrated planning functions and activities are carried out in accordance with Council's Operational Plan and Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.

(b) Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

(c) Social Implications

Council's community services section delivers a broad range of support services, activities, and opportunities to all age groups. These services assist in building social capital within the Shire.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

The economic implications of community services are positive, in that these services provide employment opportunities, delivering a service to the community and support the local business sector.

(f) Risk Implications

There are no risk implications arising from this report.

CONCLUSION

The updates provided in this report deliver information to Council on the key activities undertaken in Council's Community Development section for the months of March/April 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the information contained in this report.

10.4 STATUS OF INVESTMENTS - MARCH 2024

File Number: Investments General - I5

Author: Deborah Tatton-Manager Finance & Procurement

Authoriser: Bruce Quarmby, Director Corporate Services

Annexures: 1. Imperium Markets Portfolio Report March 2024 [↓](#) 

PURPOSE

The purpose of the report is for Councillors to note the status of its investment portfolio.

BACKGROUND

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

L1.4.10 Maintain long term financial viability.

(b) Financial Considerations

Investment levels and interest rates are currently on par with the revised estimated calculations.

COMMENTARY

The format of the report has been configured to demonstrate Council's compliance with the relevant legislative requirements along with Council's own adopted Investment Policy.

The attached Investment Report was calculated on 1 March 2024 after all maturing dates for investments had passed.

The total Capital Value of investments as of 31 March 2024 is \$27,250,000. This is a decrease of \$3,500,000 from \$30,500,000 as of 29 February 2024. The decrease is due to large creditor payments for the following expenses:

- Purchase of major Plant and Equipment.
- Contract road maintenance and renewal services.
- Re-distribution of grant funds received by Coonamble Shire, to our partner Council for the joint project currently being undertaken on the Warren Road.

AVAILABLE WORKING FUNDS

Restricted funds are set aside by Council and external parties for a particular purpose to meet future expenses. Unrestricted funds are available to be used to cover all other expenses of Council.

As at the 30 June 2023 the balance of unrestricted and unallocated cash (working funds) was \$45,000. However, it should be noted that Council is awaiting reimbursement of a substantial amount of grant funded expenditure that is currently recognised as a debtor. Once these funds have been received, Council's balance of working funds should return to a more favourable level.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

Monthly financial reporting ensures transparency of financial reporting to enable Councillors to make financially sustainable and accountable decisions.

(b) Legal Implications

All investments continue to be made in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* and Council's Investment Policy.

(c) Social Implications

Council funds are used to provide services and infrastructure to the community, and, as a result, well managed funds maximise the level of financial resources available to support the community.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

Sound economic management includes maximising Council's return on investment, and this is achieved by closely monitoring investments in line with Council's Investment Policy.

(f) Risk Implications

Sound economic management includes maximising Council's return on investment, and this is achieved by closely monitoring all investments in line with Council's Investment Policy.

CONCLUSION

Funds have been appropriately restricted to ensure all areas of Council can continue to operate in accordance with both the annual Operational Plan and the Long-Term Financial Plan. Further, all investments are continued to be made in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* and Council's Investment Policy.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the list of investments from 1 March 2024 to 31 March 2024 and that these investments comply with section 625(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* and Council's Investment Policy.



Investment Report

01/03/2024 to 31/03/2024

Portfolio Valuation as at 31/03/2024

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	06/12/2023	08/04/2024	5.0500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	32,375.34	8,578.08

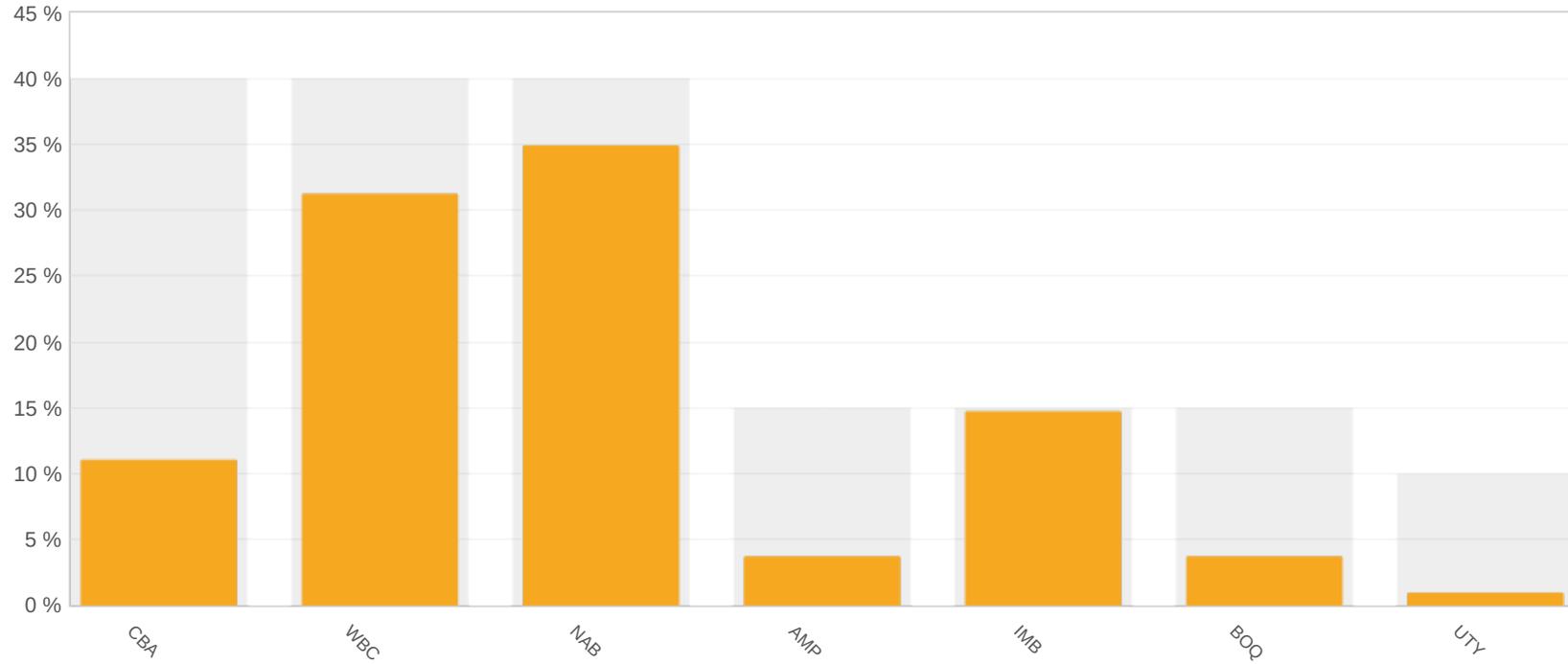
Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
AMP Bank	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	17/04/2023	16/04/2024	4.9000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	46,986.30	4,161.64
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	02/08/2023	02/05/2024	5.3900	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	35,884.11	4,577.81
Unity Bank	Unrated	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	18/11/2023	20/05/2024	4.9500	250,000.00	250,000.00	4,577.05	1,051.03
IMB Bank	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	05/12/2023	05/06/2024	5.2600	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	34,009.86	8,934.79
Commonwealth Bank	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	10/07/2023	11/06/2024	5.6800	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	41,393.97	4,824.11
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	21/08/2023	21/06/2024	5.1900	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	31,850.96	4,407.95
Commonwealth Bank	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	10/07/2023	10/07/2024	5.7100	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	83,225.21	9,699.18
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	02/08/2023	30/07/2024	5.2000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	69,238.36	8,832.88
IMB Bank	A-2	FRTD	GENERAL	Quarterly	04/08/2022	06/08/2024	4.8492	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	7,439.87	4,118.50
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	05/02/2024	06/08/2024	5.1400	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	7,886.03	4,365.48
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	14/08/2023	14/08/2024	5.2500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	33,226.03	4,458.90
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	08/11/2023	11/09/2024	5.3200	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	42,268.49	9,036.71
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	11/09/2023	11/09/2024	5.2000	1,500,000.00	1,500,000.00	43,380.82	6,624.66
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	16/10/2023	16/10/2024	5.1300	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	47,224.11	8,713.97
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	24/10/2023	24/10/2024	5.3100	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	23,276.71	4,509.86
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	03/11/2023	04/11/2024	5.4600	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	22,438.36	4,637.26
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	01/11/2023	06/11/2024	5.5400	2,500,000.00	2,500,000.00	57,676.71	11,763.01
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/12/2023	09/12/2024	5.2500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	16,684.93	4,458.90
IMB Bank	A-2	FRTD	GENERAL	Quarterly	17/01/2022	16/01/2025	4.8500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	9,965.75	4,119.18
TOTALS								27,250,000.00	27,250,000.00	691,008.98	121,873.91

Counterparty Compliance as at 31/03/2024

Short Term Investments

Compliant	Bank Group	Term	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Limit (\$)	Available (\$)
✓	Commonwealth Bank	Short	A-1+	3,000,000.00	11.01	40.00	-	7,900,000.00
✓	Westpac	Short	A-1+	8,500,000.00	31.19	40.00	-	2,400,000.00
✓	NAB	Short	A-1+	9,500,000.00	34.86	40.00	-	1,400,000.00
✓	AMP Bank	Short	A-2	1,000,000.00	3.67	15.00	-	3,087,500.00
✓	IMB Bank	Short	A-2	4,000,000.00	14.68	15.00	-	87,500.00
✓	BOQ	Short	A-2	1,000,000.00	3.67	15.00	-	3,087,500.00
✓	Unity Bank	Short	Unrated	250,000.00	0.92	10.00	-	2,475,000.00
TOTALS				27,250,000.00	100.00			

Counterparty Compliance - Short Term Investments

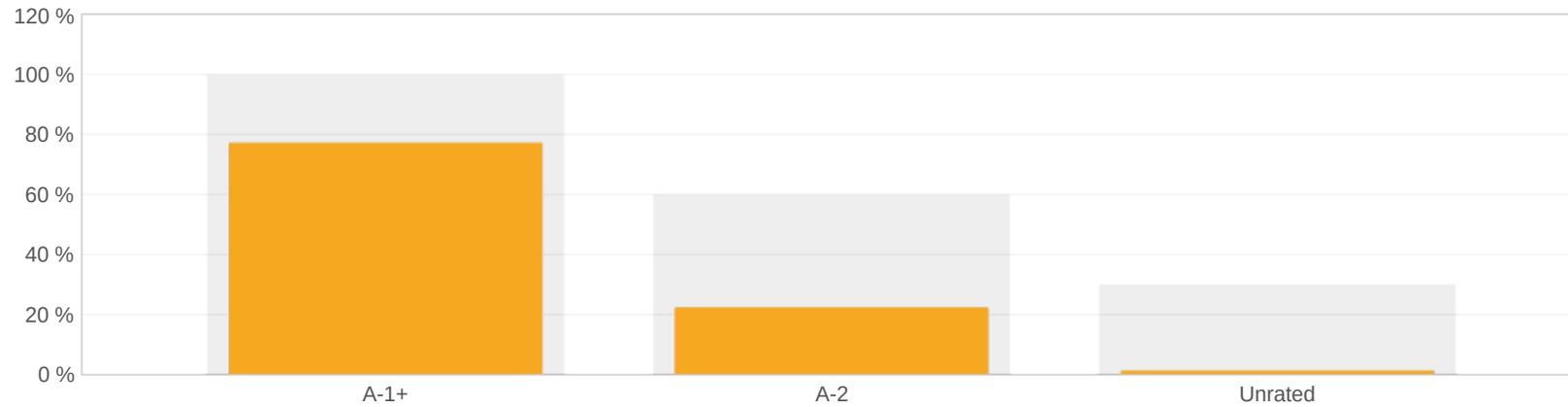


Credit Quality Compliance as at 31/03/2024

Short Term Investments

Compliant	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	A-1+	21,000,000.00	77.06	100.00	6,250,000.00
✓	A-2	6,000,000.00	22.02	60.00	10,350,000.00
✓	Unrated	250,000.00	0.92	30.00	7,925,000.00
TOTALS		27,250,000.00	100.00		

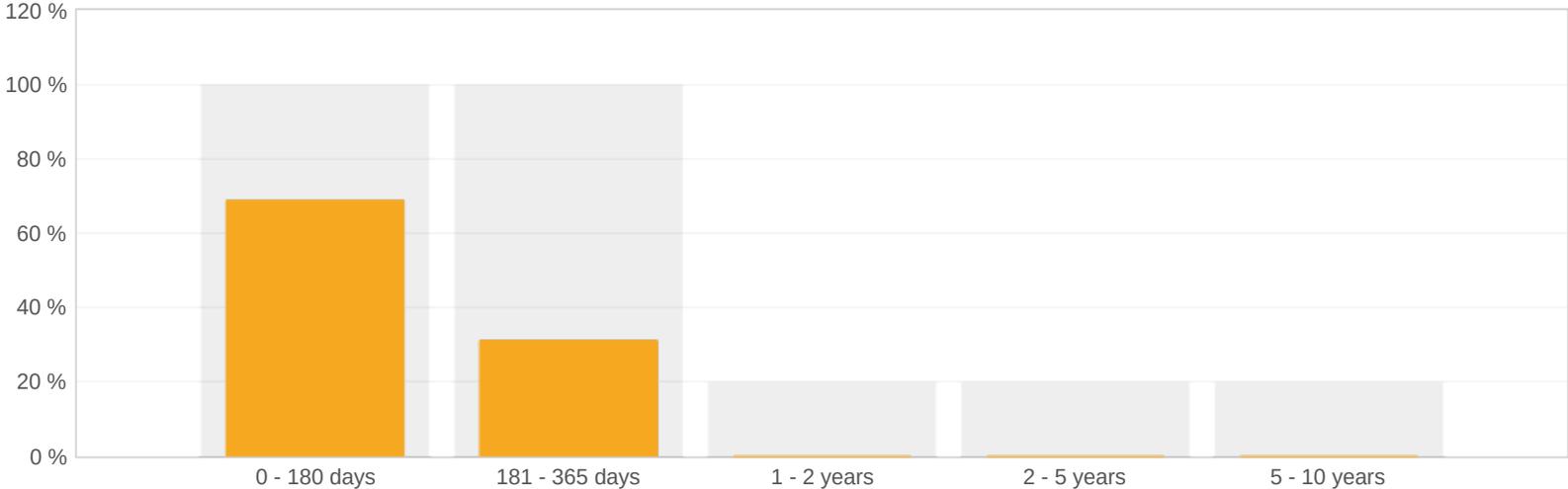
Credit Quality Compliance - Short Term Investments



Maturity Compliance as at 31/03/2024

Compliant	Term	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Min Limit (%)	Max Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	0 - 180 days	18,750,000.00	68.81	0.00	100.00	8,500,000.00
✓	181 - 365 days	8,500,000.00	31.19	0.00	100.00	18,750,000.00
✓	1 - 2 years	-	0.00	0.00	20.00	5,450,000.00
✓	2 - 5 years	-	0.00	0.00	20.00	5,450,000.00
✓	5 - 10 years	-	0.00	0.00	20.00	5,450,000.00
TOTALS		27,250,000.00	100.00			

Maturity Compliance



Trades in Period

From: 01/03/2024 To: 31/03/2024

New Trades

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Value (\$)	Reference
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No entries for this item

Sell Trades

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Selling Date	Yield/Margin (%)	Face Value (\$)	Gross Value (\$)	Capital Value (\$)	Reference
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No entries for this item

Matured Trades

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Value (\$)	Reference
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	02/08/2023	04/03/2024	5.0500	2,000,000.00	
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	13/12/2023	13/03/2024	5.1000	1,500,000.00	
TOTALS								3,500,000.00	

10.5 RATES AND CHARGES COLLECTIONS - MARCH 2024

File Number: Rates - General - R4

Author: Kylie Fletcher, Revenue Officer

Authoriser: Bruce Quarmby, Director Corporate Services

Annexures: Nil

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to be updated with the most recent information pertaining to its rates and charges collections – as applicable to the month of March 2024.

BACKGROUND

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

The annual rate charges are set out within Council’s 2023 / 24 Operational Plan.

(b) Financial Considerations

The annual rate charges are set out within Council’s 2023 / 24 Operational Plan.

	31 March 2024	28 March 2023
Rates and Charges	\$3,025,688.52	\$2,417,437.84
Water Consumption	\$464,269.37	\$394,374.79
Total	\$3,489,957.89	\$2,811,812.63

COMMENTARY

Rates and Charges

	31 March 2024	28 March 2023
Rates and charges in arrears as at 30 June 2023	\$1,173,804.02	\$1,020,037.33
Rates/charges levied & adjustments for 2023/24	\$8,017,915.36	\$7,495,098.26
Pension Concession	-\$103,966.48	-\$105,319.77
Amounts collected as at 31 March 2024	-\$6,062,064.38	-\$5,992,377.98
Total Rates and Charges to be Collected	\$3,025,688.52	\$2,417,437.84

The amount levied for rates and charges for 2023 / 24 includes the current year’s annual rates and charges and any interest added since the date the rates notices were issued. The amount received as of 31 March 2024 includes receipts for both arrears and the current year’s amounts outstanding.

It should be noted that the rates and charges 2023 / 24 levied amount is reduced by the pensioner concession of \$103,966.48; reducing the amount of income derived

from these rates and charges. Of this concession, Council’s contribution is 45%, which represents an amount of \$46,784.91.

The rates and charges as of 31 March 2024 represent 32.92% of the total annual rates and charges levied and outstanding (compared with 28.39% on 28 March 2023).

Water Consumption Charges

	31 March 2024	28 March 2023
Water Consumption Charges and arrears as at 30 June 2023	\$393,023.85	\$329,760.33
Water Consumption charges & adjustments 2023 / 24 year to date	\$782,055.98	\$410,995.33
Amounts collected as at 31 March 2024	-\$710,810.46	-\$346,380.87
Total Water Consumption Charges to be Collected	\$464,269.37	\$394,374.79

The water consumption charges as at 31 March 2024 represents 39.51% of the total water consumption charges outstanding (compared to 53.24% on 28 March 2023).

Council will note that the main factor contributing to the variation when comparing the two percentages is the Water consumption charges levied year to date for each of the respective years.

Debt Recovery Agency

During March 2024 Council staff have continued to liaise with Council’s debt recovery agency with a view to continuing Council’s process outlined within Council adopted Debt recovery policy.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

Council staff comply with the directions provided by Council’s suite of policies that govern this function of Council.

(b) Legal Implications

The collection of rates and water charges does impact on the community. For this reason, Council is always willing to negotiate payment terms with outstanding debtors. Debtors are afforded several opportunities to contact Council regarding these matters.

(c) Social Implications

The collection of rates and water charges does impact on the community. For this reason, Council is always willing to negotiate payment terms with outstanding debtors. Debtors are afforded several opportunities to contact Council regarding these matters.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report. However, it needs to be acknowledged that the additional increase in the

cost of living could have an impact on Council's ability to collect its rates and charges.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

If Council's rates and charges collection fall behind, it will have an impact on Council's ongoing ability to meet its operational costs and making adequate funding available for necessary asset maintenance and renewal projects.

(f) Risk Implications

As was stated above, the increase in living expenses, has impacted on Council's ability to collect its rates and charges as demonstrated by the increase in Council rates, annual charges, interest, and extra charges outstanding percentage. Strategies have been put in place to mitigate the risk of the further deterioration of this ratio. Council has been working closely with its Debt Collection agency to reduce the amount of debt outstanding from rates and water charges.

CONCLUSION

The rates and charges as at 31 March 2024 represent 32.92% of the total annual rates and charges levied and outstanding from previous years by Council (compared with 28.39% on 28 March 2023). The water consumption charges as of 31 March 2024 represent 39.51% of the total water consumption charges outstanding from previous years (compared to 53.24% on 28 March 2023).

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the information provided in the report.

10.6 2023-2024 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURE RETURNS

File Number: Policies - P15

Author: Bruce Quarmby-Director Corporate Services

Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager

Annexures:

1. **Related Party Disclosures Policy** [↓](#) 
2. **Related Party Disclosure - KMP Form - Attachment A** [↓](#) 
3. **Related Party Disclosure - Privacy Collection Notice - Attachment B** [↓](#) 

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to convey Councillors and designated persons, the requirement to lodge Disclosure by Key Management Personnel forms with the General Manager.

BACKGROUND

Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2016, Council must disclose certain related party relationships and related party transactions together with information associated with those transactions in its general-purpose financial statements, in order to comply with *Australian Accounting Standard AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures July 2015 (AASB 124)*.

Related parties include Council's Key Management Personnel (KMP), their close family members, and any entities that they or any of their close family members control or jointly control.

A related party transaction is any transaction (whether a transfer of resources, services or obligations) between the reporting local government and any of the related parties, whether monetary or not.

If there is a related party transaction with Council applicable to a reporting financial year, AASB 124 requires Council to disclose in the financial statements the nature of the related party relationship and information about the transaction, including outstanding balances and commitments associated with the transaction. Disclosure in the financial statements may be in the aggregate and/or made separately, depending on the materiality of the transaction.

Each KMP must provide a Related Party Disclosure, in the approved form, notifying any existing or potential related party transactions between Council and any related parties of the KMP, to the Director Corporate Services by no later than the following periods during a financial year:

- 30 days after the commencement of the application of this policy.
- 30 days after a KMP commences their term or employment with Council.
- 30 November (each year); and
- 30 June (each year).

Who are KMPs?

KMPs are persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of Council, directly or indirectly.

For Council, KMPs include the:

- Mayor.
- Councillors.
- General Manager.
- Directors.
- Public Officer.

Who are close family members of a KMP Person?

Close family members, or close members of the family of a KMP, are family members who may be expected to influence, or be influenced by that person in their dealings with Council and include:

- (a) That person’s children and spouse or domestic partner.
- (b) Children of that person’s spouse or domestic partner.
- (c) Dependants of that person or that person’s spouse or domestic partner.

Under AASB 124, close family members could include extended members of a family (such as, without limitation, a parent, grandparent, siblings, etc) *if* they could be expected to influence, or be influenced by, the KMP in their dealings with Council.

The following table may assist you in identifying your close family members:

Definitely a close family member	Maybe a close family
Your spouse/domestic partner	Your brothers and sisters, if they could be expected to influence, or be influenced by, you in their dealings with Council.
Your children	Your aunts, uncles, and cousins, if they could be expected to influence, or be influenced by, you in their dealings with Council.
Your dependants	Your parents and grandparents, if they could be expected to influence, or be influenced by, you in their dealings with Council.
Children of your spouse/domestic partner	Your nieces and nephews, if they could be expected to influence, or be influenced by, you in their dealings with Council.
Dependants of your spouse/domestic partner	Any other member of your family if they could be expected to influence, or be influenced, by you in their dealings with Council.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

L1.4.4. Governance is open and transparent.

(b) Financial Considerations

There are no direct financial considerations for Council, however, the policy and subsequent declarations required are necessary to ensure Council’s compliance with the accounting standard AASB 124.

COMMENTARY

Given the nature of information disclosed in the return, Council acknowledges that the returns may contain personal information about the person concerned, and, about third parties such as family members.

Whilst the report provides an overview of the subject, further information regarding the completion of the disclosure of KMP return has been provided to Council in the annexures to this report.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

Provision of the requested information is in accordance with Council's adopted Related Party Disclosure Policy.

(b) Legal Implications

The obligation to submit returns is with Councillors and other Key Management Personnel. It is known that the annual audit of Council's financial statements will include an audit of Councillors compliance with this requirement.

(c) Social Implications

There are no social implications directly attached to this report.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications directly attached to this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

There are no economic/asset management implications directly attached to this report.

(f) Risk Implications

The requirement for Councillors and other Key Management Personnel to complete and lodge a Related Party Disclosure assists as an important risk mitigation strategy. It assists with the identification and management of potential conflicts of interest that may arise in the operations of Council.

CONCLUSION

Councillors and designated persons must provide a duly completed related party disclosure in the form set out in Attachment A, notifying any existing or potential related party transactions between Council and either themselves, their close family members, or entities controlled or jointly controlled by them, or any of their close family members.

RECOMMENDATION

That all Councillors and designated persons provide the General Manager with their duly completed "Related Party Disclosure by Key Management Personnel" forms by the end of July 2024.

1. BACKGROUND

Related party relationships are a normal feature of commerce and business. Council is committed to responsible corporate governance, including compliance with laws and regulations governing related party transactions.

2. PURPOSE

This Policy has been developed to provide guidance in complying with the *Local Government Act 1993*, section 413(3), which requires Council to prepare its General-Purpose Financial Statements in compliance with Australian Accounting Standards. The relevant standard for the purpose of this Policy is *AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures*, July 2015 (AASB 124).

3. POLICY OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Policy is to ensure that the existence of certain related party relationships, related party transactions and information about the transactions, necessary for users to understand the potential effects on the Financial Statements are properly identified, recorded in Council's systems, and disclosed in Council's General Purpose Financial Statements in compliance with AASB 124, the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* [PPIPA] and the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* [GIPAA].

4. LEGISLATION

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the following:

- *Australian Accounting Standards AASB124 Related Party Disclosures.*
- *Australian Accounting Standards AASB10 Consolidated Financial Statements.*
- *Local Government Act 1993.*
- *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*
- *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (PPIP Act)*
- *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act)*

5. APPLICATION/SCOPE

This policy relates only to relationships with persons and entities identified as Related Parties under the definitions provided within this policy. As such this policy shall be applied in:

- Identifying related party relationships; related party transactions, and ordinary citizen transactions concerning Key Management Personnel [KMP], their close family members and entities controlled or jointly controlled by any of them.
- Identifying information about the related part transaction for disclosure.
- Establishing systems to capture and record related party transactions and information about those transactions.
- Identifying the circumstances in which disclosure of the of related party relationships and related party transactions is required.
- Determining the disclosures to be made about those items in Council's General Purpose Financial Statements for the purpose of complying with *AASB124*.

6. POLICY

6.1 ETHICS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Officers shall refrain from personal activities that would conflict with the proper execution and management of Council's Related Party Disclosure Policy. Council's Code of Conduct provides guidance for recognising and disclosing any conflicts of interest.

6.2 PRIVACY OBLIGATIONS

The following information is classified as confidential and is not available for inspection by or disclosure to the public, including through a GIPAA application:

- (a) Information (including personal information) provided by a KMP in a related party disclosure; and
- (b) Personal information contained in a register of related party transactions.

6.2.1 When Consent is Required.

Except as specified in this Policy, Council and other permitted recipients will not use or disclose personal information provided in a related party disclosure by a KMP or contained in a register of related party transactions for any other purpose or to any other person except with the prior written consent of the subject KMP.

6.2.2 Permitted Recipients.

The following persons are permitted to access, use and disclose the information (including personal information) provided in a related party disclosure or contained in a register of related party transactions for the purposes specified in Section 6.2.3:

- The General Manager.
- The Responsible Accounting Officer, Executive Leader of Corporate and Sustainability, Manager of Finance and Procurement.
- An Auditor of Council (including an Auditor from the NSW Auditor General's Office).
- Other Officers as delegated by the General Manager.

6.2.3 Permitted Purposes.

A person specified in Section 6.2.2 may access, use and disclose information (including personal information) in a related party disclosure or contained in a register of related party transactions for the following purposes:

- To assess and verify a notified related party transaction.
- To reconcile identified related party transactions against those notified in a related party disclosure or contained in a register of related party transactions.
- To comply with the disclosure requirements of AASB 124.
- To verify compliance with the disclosure requirements of AASB 124.

An individual may access their personal information provided by a KMP in a related party disclosure or contained in a register of related party transactions in accordance with *Council's Privacy Management Plan*.

6.2.4 Government Information (Public Access) (GIPA) Status.

The following documents are not open to or available for inspection by the public:

- Related party disclosure provided by a Key Management Personal.
- The register of related party transactions.

This is in accordance with the provisions set out within Section 14 Public interest considerations against disclosure of *the GIPA Act*.

6.3 AASB 124 DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

6.3.1 Disclosures.

To comply with AASB 124, for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2016, Council will make the following disclosures in its General-Purpose Financial Statements:

- (a) Relationships between Council and its subsidiaries, irrespective of whether there have been transactions between them.
- (b) Key Management Personnel (KMP) compensation in total and for each of the following categories:
 - (i) Short-term employee benefits.
 - (ii) Post-employment benefits.
 - (iii) Other long-term benefits; and
 - (iv) Termination benefits.
- (c) Amounts incurred by Council for the provision of KMP services that are provided by a separate management entity.
- (d) The information specified in Section 1.2 for related party transactions with the following persons during the periods covered by the Financial Statement:
 - (i) Council subsidiaries.
 - (ii) Entities who are associates of Council or of a Council subsidiary.
 - (iii) Joint ventures in which Council or a Council subsidiary is a joint venture party.
 - (iv) Council's KMP.
 - (v) Other related parties, comprising:
 - (a) A close family member of a KMP of Council.
 - (b) Entities controlled or jointly controlled by a KMP of Council.
 - (c) Entities controlled or jointly controlled by a close family member of a KMP of Council.
 - (d) Other entities as specified in AASB 124, paragraph 9(b)(iii), (iv), (v) and (viii),

6.3.2 Disclosed Information.

For each category of related party transactions specified in section 6.3.1 (d), Council will disclose the following information in Council's General Purpose Financial Statements:

- The nature of the related party relationship.
- The amount of the transactions.
- The amount of outstanding balances, including commitments, and:
 - their terms and conditions, including whether they are secured, and the nature of the consideration to be provided in settlement; and
 - details of any guarantees given or received.
- Provisions for doubtful debts related to the amount of outstanding balances; and
- The expense recognised during the period in respect of bad or doubtful debts due from related parties.

6.3.3 Disclosed in Aggregate or Separate Information.

For each related party category specified in section 6.3.1(d), Council will disclose information specified in section 6.3.2 for related part transactions of a similar nature in aggregate, except when separate disclosure is necessary for an understanding of the effects of related party transactions on the General-Purpose Financial Statements of Council, having regard to the following criteria:

RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURE POLICY – JULY 2021

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- The nature of the related party relationship.
- The significance of the transaction (individually or collectively) in terms of size or value (including where the materiality arises due to the fact that no consideration for the transaction is given or received by Council).
- Whether the transaction is carried out on non-arm's length terms.
- Whether the nature of the transaction is outside normal day-to-day business operations, based on the factors and thresholds determined by the Responsible Accounting officer in consultation with the Executive Leader of Corporate and Sustainability, the General Manager and Council's external auditor.

6.4 IDENTIFYING COUNCIL RELATED PARTY RELATIONSHIPS AND TRANSACTIONS

6.4.1 Identification.

The Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for identifying Council subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures (incorporated and unincorporated) from the Related Entities Register, a document which is prepared to substantiate Note 19 of the Financial Statements "Interests in Other Entities".

6.4.2 Control or Joint Control.

To determine whether Council has control or joint control of an entity, the Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for applying Australian Accounting Standards AASB 10 Consolidated Financial Statements and AASB 11 Joint Arrangements.

6.4.3 Associate or Joint Venture.

To determine whether an entity is an associate of, or in a joint venture with, Council or a Council subsidiary the Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for applying AASB 128 investments in associates and joint ventures.

6.4.4 Electronic Investigation.

The Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for investigating through Council's business system whether any identified Council subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures have an existing related party transaction with Council.

6.4.5 Information Extraction.

The Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for identifying and extracting information specified in Section 6.3.2 against each existing related party transaction in Council's business systems for the purpose of recording the related party transactions and associated information in a register of related party transactions.

6.4.6 Manual Investigation and Recording of Information.

For related party transactions that are not captured by Council's business systems, the Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for manually reviewing the transactional documentation and record the information specified in Section 6.3.2 for the subject transaction in the register of related party transactions.

6.5 IDENTIFYING RELATED PARTY TRANSACTION WITH KMP AND THEIR CLOSE FAMILY MEMBERS

6.5.1 Related Party Disclosures.

KMP must provide a related party disclosure in the form set out in Attachment A, notifying any existing or potential related party transactions between Council and either themselves, their close family members or entities controlled or jointly controlled by them or any of their close family members, subject to Section 3.5, to the Executive Leader of Corporate and Sustainability by no later than the following periods during a financial year (specified notification period):

- 30 days after the commencement of the application of this Policy.
- 30 days after a KMP commences their term or employment with Council.
- 30 November each year.
- 30 June each year.

6.5.2 Related Party Disclosure Form.

At least 30 days before a specified notification period, the Executive Support Officer will provide each KMP with a Related Party Disclosure Form (Attachment A) and a Privacy Collection Notice (Attachment B).

6.5.3 Suspected Related Party Transaction.

If a KMP suspects that a transaction may constitute a related party transaction, the KMP should provide a related party disclosure to the Executive Leader of Corporate and Sustainability for consideration and determination.

6.5.4 Other Notification.

The notification requirements in Section 3 are in addition to the notifications a KMP must make to comply with:

- Council's adopted Code of Conduct; and
- The disclosure of interests in a written return pursuant to section 450A of the Local Government Act 1993 and Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

6.5.5 Exclusions.

The notification requirements in Section 3 do not apply to:

- Related party transactions that are ordinary citizen transactions not assessed as being material as determined under Section 4; and
- The Mayor and Councilors' expenses incurred, and facilities provided during the financial year under Council's Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Mayor and Councilors' Policy, the particulars of which are contained in Council's Annual Report pursuant to the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, clause 217.

6.5.6 Information Extraction.

The Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for identifying information specified in Section 1.2 against each notified related party transaction in Council's business systems for the purpose of recording the related party transactions and associated information in the register of related party transactions.

6.5.7 Other Sources of Information.

To ensure all related party transactions are captured and recorded, the Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for reviewing, if required, other sources of information held by Council including, without limitation:

- A prior year register of related party transactions.
- The minutes of Council and committee meetings.
- Council's Contracts Register.

6.5.8 Manual Investigation and recording of Information.

For notified related party transactions that are not captured by Council's business systems, the Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for manually reviewing the transactional documentation and record the information specified in Section 6.3.2 for the subject transaction in the register of related party transactions.

6.6 ORDINARY CITIZEN TRANSACTIONS

6.6.1 Non-material in Nature.

A KMP is not required to notify in a related party disclosure and Council will not disclose in its Financial Statements, related party transactions that are ordinary citizen transactions assessed to be not material in nature.

6.6.2 Material in Nature.

A KMP is required to notify in a related party disclosure and Council will disclose in its Financial Statements in accordance with Section 6.3, related party transactions that are ordinary citizen transactions assessed to be material in nature.

6.6.3 Materiality Assessment.

The Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for reviewing and assessing the materiality of related party transactions that are ordinary citizen transactions to determine whether the disclosure of such transactions are necessary for an understanding of the effects of the related party transactions on the Financial Statements having regard to the criteria specified in Section 6.3.3.

As a general rule, Council will utilise \$10,000 as the threshold for materiality.

6.6.4 Information Extraction.

The Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for identifying information specified in Section 6.3 against each notified related party transaction that is an ordinary citizen transaction assessed as being material in nature in Council's business systems for the purpose of recording the related party transactions and associated information in a register of related party transactions.

6.7 REGISTER OF RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**6.7.1 Maintain a Register**

The Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for maintaining and keeping up to date a register of related party transactions that captures and records the information specified in Section 6.3.2 for each existing or potential related party transaction (including ordinary citizen transactions assessed as being material in nature) during a financial year.

6.7.2 Contents of Register.

The contents of the register of related party transactions must detail for each related party transaction:

- The description of the related party transaction.
- The name of the related party.
- The nature of the related party's relationship with Council.
- Whether the notified related party transaction is existing or potential.
- A description of the transactional documents the subject of the related party transaction.
- The information specified in Section 6.3.2.

The Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for ensuring that the information specified in Section 6.3.2 is disclosed in Council’s Financial Statements to the extent, and in the manner stipulated by AASB 124, subject to Section 6.3.3.

7 DEFINITION

Term	Definition
Act	<i>Local Government Act 1993.</i>
Council	Coonamble Shire Council.
Arm’s length terms	Terms between parties that are reasonable in the circumstances of the transaction that would result from: (a) Neither party bearing the other any special duty or obligation; and (b) The parties being unrelated and uninfluenced by the other; and each party having acted in its own interest.
Associate	In relation to an entity (the first entity), an entity over which the first entity has significant influence.
Close family member or close members of the family	In relation to a KMP, family members who may be expected to influence, or be influenced by that KMP in their dealings with Council will include: (a) That person’s children and spouse or domestic partner. (b) Children of that person’s spouse or domestic partner; and (c) Dependants of that person or that person’s spouse or domestic partner. For the purpose of AASB 124, close family members could include extended members of a family (such as, without limitation, parents, siblings, grandparents, uncles/aunts or cousins) if they could be expected to influence, or be influenced by, the KMP in their dealings with Council.
Control	Control of an entity is present when there is: (a) Power over the entity; and (b) Exposure or rights to variable returns from involvement with the entity; and (c) The ability to use power over the entity to affect the amount of returns received as determined in accordance with AASB 10 Consolidated Financial Statements,

	Paragraphs 5 to 18, Appendices A (Defined Terms) and B (Application Guidance).
Joint control	The contractually agreed sharing of control of an arrangement, which exists only when decisions about the relevant activities require the unanimous consent of the parties sharing control.
Joint venture	An arrangement of which two or more parties have joint control and have right to the net assets of the arrangement.
Joint venture party	A party to a joint venture that has joint control of that joint venture.
Key management personnel (KMP)	Person(s) having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of Council. Specifically, KMP of Council are the: (a) Mayor. (b) Councillors. (c) General Manager. (d) Executive Leaders. (e) Public Officer.
KMP Compensation	All forms of consideration paid, payable or provided in exchange for services provided and may include: • Short-term employee benefits, such as wages, salaries and social security contributions, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, profit sharing and bonuses (if payable within 12 months of the end of the period) and non-monetary benefits (such as medical care, housing, cars and free and subsidised goods or services) for current employees. • Post-employment benefits such as pensions, other retirement benefits, post-employment life insurance and post-employment medical care. • Other long-term employee benefits, including long service leave or sabbatical leave, jubilee or other long service benefits, long-term disability benefits and, if they are not payable wholly within 12 months after the end of the period, profit sharing, bonuses and deferred compensation. • Termination benefits; and • Share-based payment.
Materiality	The assessment of whether the transaction, either individually or in aggregate with other transactions, by omitting it or misstating it

	could influence decisions that users make on the basis an entity's financial statements.
Ordinary citizen transactions	<p>Transactions that an ordinary citizen would undertake with Council, which are undertaken on arm's length terms and in the ordinary course of carrying out Council's functions and activities.</p> <p>Examples of ordinary citizen transactions assessed to be not material in nature are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Paying rates and utility charges. (b) Using Council's public facilities after paying the corresponding fees.
Ratepayer	The person liable for payment of Rates and Charges for the property in accordance with <i>section 560 of the Local Government Act, 1993</i> .
Related party	<p>A person or entity that is related to Council pursuant to the definition contained in AASB 124, Paragraph 9. Examples of related parties of Council are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Council subsidiaries. (b) KMP. (c) Close family members of KMP. (d) Entities that are controlled or jointly controlled by KMP or their close family members.
Related party transaction	<p>A transfer of resources, services or obligations between the Council and a related party, regardless of whether a price is charged.</p> <p>Examples of related party transactions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Purchases or sales of goods. (b) Purchases or sales of property and other assets. (c) Rendering or receiving of services. (d) Rendering or receiving of goods. (e) Leases. (f) Transfers under licence agreements. (g) Transfers under finance arrangements (example: loans). (h) Provision of guarantees (given or received). (i) Commitments to do something if a particular event occurs or does not occur in the future. (j) Settlement of liabilities on behalf of Council or by Council on behalf of that related party.

<p>Related party disclosure</p>	<p>A document entitled Related Party Disclosure by Key Management Personnel in the form set out in Attachment A.</p>
<p>Significant influence</p>	<p>The power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of another entity but is not control or joint control of those policies, as determined in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 128 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures, Paragraphs 3, 5 and 6.</p>

Title: Related Party Disclosure Policy		
Department: Corporate and Sustainability		
Version	Date	Author
1	February 2017	B Quarmby
2	July 2021	B Quarmby
Review Date: 2024		
Amendments in the release:		
Amendment History	Date	Detail
Included: Statement of Ethics Update: Position Titles following organisational restructure	July 2021	
Annexure Attached: Attachment A – Related Party Disclosure Attachment B – Related Party Disclosure KMP		
Hein Basson General Manager		



Attachment A – Related Party Disclosure by Key Management Personnel

Private and Confidential	
Related Party Declaration by Key Management Personnel (KMP)	
Name of Key Management Person:	
Position of Key Management Person:	
<p>List details of close family member, entities that are controlled/jointly controlled by you and entities that are controlled/jointly controlled by close family members</p> <p><i>(Please refer to definitions in Related Party Disclosures Policy and consider the additional guidance provided in the Privacy Collection notice for KMP)</i></p>	
Name of person or entity	Relationship
<p>I <i>(insert full name)</i>, <i>(insert position)</i> declare that that the above list includes all my close family members and the entities controlled, or jointly controlled, by myself or my close family members. I make this declaration after reading the Council's Related Party Disclosures Policy which details the meaning of the words 'close family members' and 'entities controlled, or jointly controlled, by myself or my close family members'.</p>	
Declared at:	<i>(insert place)</i>
on the	<i>(insert date)</i>
Signature of KMP :	



Attachment A – Related Party Disclosure by Key Management Personnel

RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

NOTIFICATION BY

KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

Name of Key Management Person: _____

Position of Key Management Person: _____

Please read the Related Party Disclosure Policy which explains what a related party transaction is and the purposes for which Council is collecting, and will use and disclose, the related party information provided by you in this notification.

Please Complete either Section 1 or Section 2

Section 1 (Please tick if applicable)

No related party transactions have been carried out in the past 6-month period and I am not aware of any related party transactions anticipated in the future.

Section 2

Please complete the table attached for each related party transaction with Council that you, or a close member of your family, or an entity related to you or a close member of your family:

- a) has previously entered into and which will continue in the future, or
- b) has entered into, or is reasonably likely to enter into, in the future.

Notification

I, (Name) _____, (Position) _____ notify that, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, as at the date of this notification, the above list and attachments, if any, includes all existing and potential related party transactions with Council involving myself, close members of my family, or entities controlled or jointly controlled by me or close members of my family, relevant to the reporting period.

I make this notification after reading the Related Party Disclosure Policy provided by Coonamble Shire Council, which details the meaning of the words "related party", "Related party transaction", "close members of the family of a person" and, in relation to an entity, "control" or "joint control" and the purposes for which this information will be used and disclosed.

I permit access to this information for the purpose of compliance with Council's legal obligations and disclosure.

Signature: _____

Date: _____



PRIVACY COLLECTION NOTICE
RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES BY KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL
Attachment B

Purpose of Collection, Use and Disclosure

Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2016, Council must disclose certain related party relationships and related party transactions together with information associated with those transactions in its general-purpose financial statements, in order to comply with *Australian Accounting Standard AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures July 2015 (AASB 124)*.

Related parties include Council's Key Management Personnel (KMP), their close family members, and any entities that they or any of their close family members control or jointly control.

A related party transaction is any transaction (whether a transfer of resources, services or obligations) between the reporting local government and any of the related parties, whether monetary or not.

If there is a related party transaction with Council applicable to a reporting financial year, AASB 124 requires Council to disclose in the financial statements the nature of the related party relationship and information about the transaction, including outstanding balances and commitments associated with the transaction. Disclosure in the financial statements may be in the aggregate and/or made separately, depending on the materiality of the transaction.

For more information about Council's disclosure requirements under AASB 124, please refer to Council's Related Party Disclosure Policy.

Notifications by Key Management Personnel

To comply with AASB 124, Council has adopted a policy that requires all members of its KMP to periodically provide notifications to the Executive Leader Corporate and Sustainability of any existing or potential related party transactions between Council and any of their related parties during a financial year, and any changes to previously notified related party relationships and transactions relevant to the subject financial year.

To this end, each KMP must provide a Related Party Disclosure, in the approved form, notifying any existing or potential related party transactions between Council and any related parties of the KMP, to the Executive Leader Corporate and Sustainability by no later than the following periods during a financial year:

- 30 days after the commencement of the application of this policy.
- 30 days after a KMP commences their term or employment with Council.
- 30 November (each year); and
- 30 June (each year).

Note, these related party disclosure requirements are in addition to the notifications KMPs are required to make to comply with Council's adopted Code of Conduct.

This includes disclosures relating to Conflicts of Interest (Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary) and Gifts and Benefits. Council's Auditors may audit related party information as part of the annual external audit.



For privacy and right to information status of this information, please refer to Council’s Related Party Disclosure Policy.

Who are KMPs?

KMPs are persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of Council, directly or indirectly.

For Council, KMPs include the:

- Mayor.
- Councillors.
- General Manager.
- Executive Leaders.
- Public Officer.

Who are close family members of a KMP Person?

Close family members, or close members of the family, of a KMP are family members who may be expected to influence, or be influenced by, that person in their dealings with Council and include:

- (a) that person’s children and spouse or domestic partner.
- (b) children of that person’s spouse or domestic partner; and
- (c) dependants of that person or that person’s spouse or domestic partner.

Under AASB 124, close family members could include extended members of a family (such as, without limitation, a parent, grandparent, siblings, etc) *if* they could be expected to influence, or be influenced by, the KMP in their dealings with Council.

The following table may assist you in identifying your close family members:

Definitely a close family member	Maybe a close family member
Your spouse/domestic partner	Your brothers and sisters, if they could be expected to influence, or be influenced by, you in their dealings with Council.
Your children	Your aunts, uncles, and cousins, if they could be expected to influence, or be influenced by, you in their dealings with Council.
Your dependants	Your parents and grandparents, if they could be expected to influence, or be influenced by, you in their dealings with Council.
Children of your spouse/domestic partner	Your nieces and nephews, if they could be expected to influence, or be influenced by, you in their dealings with Council.
Dependants of your spouse/domestic partner	Any other member of your family if they could be expected to influence, or be influenced, by you in their dealings with Council.

What is an entity that I, or my close family member, control or jointly control?

Entities include companies, trusts, incorporated and unincorporated associations such as clubs and charities, joint ventures, and partnerships.

**Control**

You control an entity if you have:

- (a) Power over the entity.
- (b) Exposure, or rights, to variable returns from your involvement with the entity; and
- (c) The ability to use your power over the entity to affect the amount of your returns.

Example of control

Fred is the Mayor of Sunny Shire Council and owns 100% of the ordinary shares in Sunny Development Company Pty Ltd (the company). The ordinary shares are the only shares in the company that have voting rights.

Fred controls the company because he has the power to affect the company's decisions and the return that he will get from the company.

Fred will need to include the company on his related party disclosure.

Joint control

To jointly control an entity there must be contractually agreed sharing of control of the entity, which exists only when decisions about the relevant activities require the unanimous consent of the parties sharing control.

Example of joint control

Fred is the Mayor of Sunny Shire Council and owns 50% of the ordinary shares in Sunny Development Company Pty Ltd (the company). Fred's brother Stan owns the other 50% of the ordinary shares. Fred and Stan are the only Directors of the company and have equal voting rights on the board.

Fred and Stan have joint control of the company because any decisions require the unanimous consent of them both.

Fred will need to include the company on his related party disclosure and the entity's related party relationship with Fred and Stan.

In some cases, it will be obvious that you or a family member control or have joint control over an entity. In other cases, it will be less clear.

If you are unsure whether you, or a close family member, has control or joint control of an entity then you should contact the Responsible Accounting Officer for a confidential discussion.

[End of Privacy Collection Notice]

10.7 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & GROWTH - PROGRESS REPORT

File Number: D5
Author: David Levick-Manager Economic Development and Growth
Authoriser: Barry Broe, Director Community, Planning, Development and Environment
Annexures: Nil

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on recent activities and the progress of projects which contribute to the economic development and growth of the Local Government Area (LGA).

BACKGROUND

The Economic Development and Growth function is tasked with providing effective and efficient delivery of a broader economic base for the LGA, enhancing business prospects, growth, and development. The function facilitates the development of programs and activities that will stimulate economic development by assisting growth and retention of businesses, as well as aiming to reduce barriers and attract diverse, sustainable, and responsible new industry development and improve the profile of the Coonamble LGA to attract investment, industry, new residents, and tourism.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

ED1.2 Develop our economy, including the visitor economy.

I1.5 Adopt successful strategies which maximise our community’s access to quality infrastructure and assets (I1.5.2 – Coonamble Livestock Regional Market).

(b) Financial Considerations

Activities undertaken as described by this report are within approved operational budget allocations for tourism and economic development activities and capital projects or are funded through grant monies.

COMMENTARY

Economic Development and Growth

This year is the year in which many seasons of infrastructure, program and event planning by Council are yielding their harvest. The following summarise key highlights.

Infrastructure Projects

Coonamble Riverside Holiday Park

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- Move public dump point and provide improved access

- Water tank removed to create another four powered sites
- Geotech work and service location completed
- Camp Kitchen construction completed (due end of April)
- Resealing of current internal road work (as park usage permits)
- Construction of new road behind the amenities block (tender advertised)

Coonamble's Main Street Enhancement

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- Weight/load capacity for awnings in Coonamble's main street determined
- Integrity of awnings in Coonamble's main street determined
- Building owners advised of outcomes of inspections
- Immediate remedial actions taken, where advised
- Paint scheme colour palette received for awning painting project
- Lighting determined to highlight Art Deco streetscape
- Three-phase power installed for improved market capability
- CBD Precinct Masterplan developed

Footpath projects

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- Concrete laid for the walking loop around Coonamble Sportsground
- Concrete laid for the Limerick Street footpath
- Seating delivered to Coonamble Depot
- Lighting purchased for Limerick Street footpath
- Lighting and seating installed along Limerick Street footpath
- Seating installed around Coonamble Sportsground walking loop
- Design work completed for Showground Link footpath

Coonamble and Gulargambone Sportsground amenities

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- Preliminary designs for Women's Changerooms (Coonamble) prepared
- Preliminary designs for upgraded changerrooms (Gulargambone) prepared
- Tender prepared for both projects
- Tender advertised for both projects
- Upgrades to current amenities, Coonamble, (due end of April)

Housing Development

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- Obtain grant funding to develop a Regional Housing Strategy
- Prepare a council-funded Regional Housing Strategy
- Undertake a coordinated approach to Gray’s Estate, Yarran Street and Jane Cant Park property development
- Undertake detailed surveying work for levels of the proposed housing sites
- Install a sewage pumping station at the corner of Yarran and Reid Streets to service that proposed subdivision and development

House-keeping land re-zonings

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- Rezoning determined for more industrial land and for improved alignment of zoning to current usage across Coonamble township
- Prepare Planning Report for the Department of Planning to adjust zonings

Clean up of Industrial Land in Hooper Drive, Coonamble

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- Identify work required to clean up remaining three Council-owned industrial blocks at the end of Hooper Drive, Coonamble
- Call for quotations to carry out clean-up work
- Assess quotations
- Award work
- Work completed

Youth Crisis Accommodation

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- Advertise call for quotations for design-only and design-and-construct of the youth crisis accommodation units at Coonamble and Gulargambone
- Build Youth Crisis Accommodation in Coonamble & Gulargambone

Coonamble Artesian and Cultural Experience

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- Take ownership of site
- Complete Geotech and soil contamination studies
- Prepare a concept and business plan for the current site

'Real Country' Regional Tourism Collaboration

- Real Country Destination Strategic Plan adopted
- Real Country project, Warrena Creek Reserve development business case adopted in principle
- Real Country infrastructure works incorporated into Warren Creek Reserve Plan of Management
- Community consulted on the draft Plan of Management for Warrena Creek Reserve, incorporating proposed Real Country developments

Grants

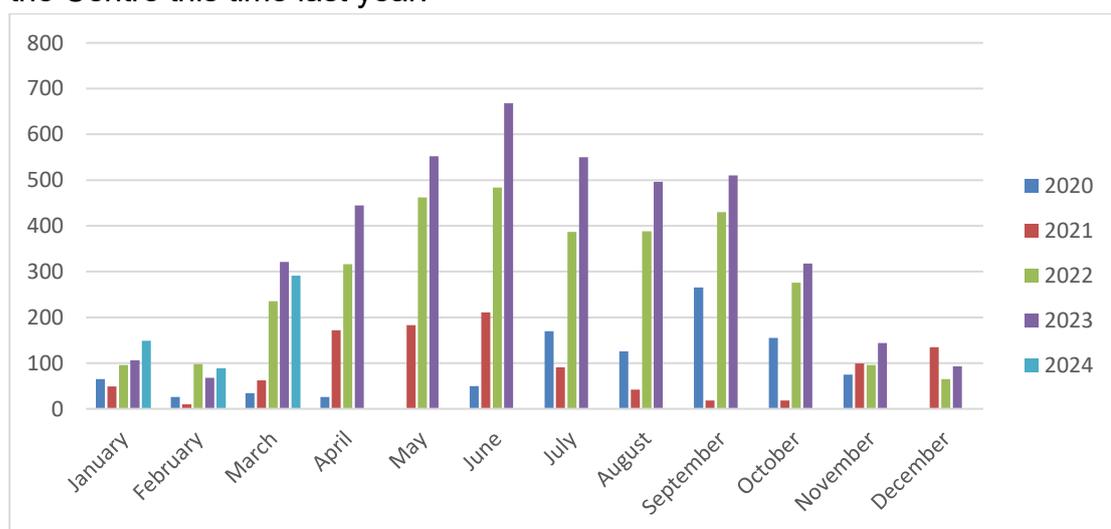
Council has applied for grant funding through the following opportunities:

- Open Streets Program for \$150,000 to host a Country Music Extravaganza in Coonamble’s main street during the October long weekend to complete other activities that weekend.
- Illegal Dumping Prevention for \$19,080 to develop baseline data on the extent of illegal dumping in Coonamble Shire.
- Holiday Break Program for \$14,000 to contribute to the offering of the July and September holiday programs across the Shire.

Tourism and Visitation

- Coonamble Information and Exhibition Centre

Between 29 February and 31 March 2024, the Information and Exhibition Centre welcomed 291 visitors to Coonamble Shire. This is an increase from 90 visitors last month, however, it is marginally less than the number of visitors to the Centre this time last year.



On 18 March, the Centre was flooded with 38 cyclists and support crew participating in the Toyota Tour de OROC. Beginning in Dubbo, this 6-day biennial bicycle ride raises funds for Macquarie Home Stay, an emergency accommodations facility that accommodates those away from home while they receive medical care. A facility that benefits residents of the Coonamble Shire.

Tourism and Events staff supported the event through advertising and promotion, including designing, printing and distributing posters, managing the online ticket sales for the fundraising dinner, and providing an afternoon itinerary for the visitors after the official welcoming to town at the Information and Exhibition Centre. This included a private tour of the Museum Under the Bridge.



On 22 March, 17 travellers stopped in Coonamble as part of their bus tour from Penrith. Coonamble was included in their tour itinerary to Lightning Ridge.

On 26 March, 30 Students and three Teachers from Chatswood Public School visited the Information and Exhibition Centre joined by 13 Students and three Teachers from Coonamble Public School. Chatswood Public School is the sister school for

Coonamble Public, which facilitated their trip. Their itinerary included several school-based activities and cultural workshops, a visit to Nakadoo farm and museum, a tour around Coonamble, lunch at Smith Park and after an overnight stay, their next stop was the Warrumbungle's. Each visiting student received a gift bag, which included a magnet from the District Store.



Museum Under the Bridge

Since last report, there have been four visitors tour the Museum. Following an assessment of required structural work on 20 March, the museum will be closed until further notice.

Events

Completed events:

- 22 March, Coonamble Shire Events Summit

The Coonamble Shire boasts an impressive range and number of events each year. Residents who are involved in organising events of any kind were invited to come together for the Coonamble Shire Events Summit. Twelve representatives from businesses, community groups, committees and service organisations were in attendance, many in multiple capacities.

The agenda included inviting attendees to add to the large printed annual calendar, demonstrating how to add events to the events calendar on Councils website, and its extended value, as well as highlighting the value of the community directory pages as many events are run by volunteer organisations that can always benefit from greater support. This was received very positively by attendees and was considered to have great value, with many expressing they would make it a priority to complete it in the future. Local media identified the benefit they would receive by being able to review upcoming events in one location to either support non-profits with free advertising or approach events with customised advertising packages.

It was exciting to showcase the changes coming soon to the "Visit" pages of the website and the substantial user benefits by showing case studies of similar applications. Those in attendance felt that the user benefits were substantial and an effective tool.

A draft contents page of the Events Planning Guide currently in development was distributed. This resource is a collaborative project between Tourism and Events staff, the Planning, Regulatory & Compliance team and Parks and Urban Services and Risk/Work Health and Safety. Attendees indicated they

were impressed with the level of detail and comprehensive nature that the guide will address.

There was a good level of open discussion when it came the challenges faced by local event organisers. The Events Planning Guide was determined to be a valuable resource when it comes to succession planning within events organising committees. Detailed examples of how to extend the scope and process of booking Council facilities were a primary and productive topic.

There has already been a marked improvement in the communication with Council regarding upcoming events. While inviting community members to attended there was a positive response, which further opened communication while also providing a foundation for more events such as this to continue to build a collaborative approach to events delivery in the Shire.



28 March, Waste 2 Art Exhibition Opening

Waste 2 Art is project by Netwaste, supported by Outback Arts and the Coonamble Shire Council. This regular event attracts professional and emerging artists and is open to all residents in the Coonamble Shire. It engages the community, tasking them with creating artwork and giving new life to items that are traditionally considered waste. The exhibition opening saw several entrants and their artworks recognised, who will go on to represent the Coonamble Shire at the Regional Netwaste Exhibition in Parkes later this year.



Upcoming events:

- 25 April, Anzac Day
- 11 May, Marthaguy Picnic Races
- 14-15 May, Coonamble Show
- 18 May, Gulargambone Show
- 7-10 June Coonamble Rodeo & Campdraft
- 16 June, Coonamble Jockey Club Cannonball Race Meeting

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

Policies relevant to activities reported here include the Community Consultation Policy.

(b) Legal Implications

There are no legal implications directly associated to this report.

(c) Social Implications

Projects and initiatives described in this report are undertaken with the objective of delivering social benefits to the Coonamble LGA.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications directly associated to this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

Development of the projects proposed for funding through available grants are initiatives to meet objectives of the Community Strategic Plan 2022-32, Delivery Program 2022-2026, Coonamble Shire Masterplan 2020, the Economic Development Strategy 2021 and the Coonamble Destination Management Plan 2020.

(f) Risk Implications

Regular reporting to Council provides an opportunity to communicate and manage any ongoing or unexpected related risks that may emerge.

CONCLUSION

Economic Development and Growth activities continue to progress according to the Economic Development Strategy 2021. Tourism activities and projects continue to progress according to the Economic Development Strategy 2021, and work towards achieving the goals of the Coonamble Destination Management Plan 2020.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the information in the report.

10.8 PLANNING, REGULATORY & COMPLIANCE PROGRESS REPORT

File Number: E5

Author: Lesley Duncan, Building & Compliance Manager

Authoriser: Barry Broe, Director Community, Planning, Development and Environment

Annexures: Nil

PURPOSE

To provide information on the activities within Council's Environmental Services section and Strategic Planning information for the month. This progress report considers town planning and strategic land use planning, compliance and regulation, environmental management and public health.

BACKGROUND

The Planning, Regulatory & Compliance Services section focuses on all town and environmental planning requirements including regulation and compliance, public health requirements, waste management, and environmental management considerations.

Strategic Land Use Planning refers to updates to Council's planning instruments and are also included. This report provides a summary of activities undertaken during March 2024.

The following topics will be included into the Council Report where there is relevant information to report on. For the purposes of the new Council, a short description is provided for reference:

- Compliance and Regulation

The *Local Government Act 1993*, *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* ('EP&A Act') and *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* are the main legislations providing provisions around environmental management. Compliance and regulation enforce individuals, organisations and businesses to comply with the relevant act or regulation. Environmental management can include, but is not limited to, atmosphere, built environment, heritage, land, and water.

- Development Application Information

Information on development applications lodged in the Coonamble local government area, however, the consent authority relates to another authority and not Council or its delegated staff/contractors. This can include the:

- Independent Planning Commission for state significant development,
- Regional planning panel for regionally significant development, or
- Public authority (other than council) depending on the type of development declared with an environmental planning instrument.

These types of development applications are rare.

Strategic Land Use Planning

Matters relating to the potential amendments to Council's planning instruments such as the Coonamble Local Environmental Plan or Council's Development Control Plans. Council staff also attend forums, committees and workshops around strategic land use planning, and this will be provided to Council for information.

- Sustainability and Environmental Management

Opportunities exist for Council to promote ecologically and environmentally sustainable land use and development, initiatives, and programs. Information under this topic will be reported when opportunities present itself and can come from government agencies, community groups and environmental champions.

- Ranger's Monthly Report

This report provides a summary of companion animals (cats and dogs) impounded and other animals. This includes information of how many animals were rehomed and euthanised. Information on dog attacks is also provided.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

P3.1.2. Inspection of Food Premises.

I3.3.1. Implementation Waste Management recommendations.

EN1.1.1. Enforcement of environmental regulations.

EN.1.1.2. Continue to review Local Environmental Plan.

EN.1.1.3. Ensure compliance with NSW Building Certification.

EN.1.1.4 Provide quality over counter, telephone, and email advice to customers.

EN.1.1.5 Approvals completed within timeframe required.

P2.2.4 Controlling straying animals.

(b) Financial Considerations

There are no direct financial considerations with this report.

COMMENTARY

Development Applications Issued Under Delegated Authority

Information provided in this section of the report, provides Council information on what has been determined for the month and not subject to the Council's endorsement or approval.

Individual development applications that require the elected Council's approval will be under its own separate Council business paper report with the recommendation to determine the application as approved or refused.

Under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (GIPA Act), information in the form of Development Applications and its associated information is prescribed as 'open access information' by Clause 3 of Schedule 1 of the GIPA Act. This also includes staff's development assessment report that is written prior to an application's determination. This provides a high level of transparency.

Under delegated authority, the following is a summary of applications approved in February 2024.

March 2024			
Application Number	Description of Works	Address of Proposed Works	Approved Date
Development Applications			
DA043/2023	Alterations & Additions to Rural Supplies (Detached Warehouse and installation of combustible container)	85-87 Aberford Street, Coonamble	14/03/2024
DA007/2024	Storage Shed	64D Aberford Street, Coonamble	27/3/2024
Local Government Approvals			
LA018/2023	Install Septic Tank	302 Carinda Road, Coonamble	12/3/2024
LA044/2023	Install Septic Tank	1095 Nelgowrie Road Coonamble	12/3/2024
LA005/2024	Alter Drain Connected to a Septic	100 Box Ridge Road Gulargambone	13/3/2024
Building Information Certificates			
BIC001/2024	Building Certificate – Part Dwelling	100 Box Ridge Road Gulargambone	13/3/2024

Update on Activities – Planning and Regulatory Matters

Overgrown Vegetation

Seven (7) properties were inspected regarding overgrown vegetation during March 2024.

Emergency Orders

One (1) Emergency Orders was issued during March 2024 to install supports to awning in Castlereagh Street and

Saleyards

The cattle sale scheduled for March was cancelled. The sale is proposed to be held on Wednesday, 10 April 2024.

Companion Animals

The Ranger's report is provided for March 2024. The following is a summary of companion animal statistics.

CORRESPONDENCE		Year to Date 2023/2024 Total
Infringements (Animals)	0	0
Infringements (Other)	0	0
Change of Details	4	28
Microchipped dogs	17	90
Registrations	2	50
Nuisance dog declaration	0	0
Dangerous dog declaration	0	5
Menace dog declaration	0	0
Notice of Possession	0	8

Impounded animals

During the month of March 2024, a total of 25 dogs and 13 cats were impounded.

The following provides a breakdown:

February	Dogs	Cats
Returned to owners	10	0
Rehomed	7	11
Euthanised	3	0
Still in Pound	4	2

Dog attacks

No dog attacks were reported during March 2024 in Coonamble.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

The report provides Council with opportunities to understand governance and policy implications in the environment and strategic land use planning. There may be risk implications depending on the nature of the enquiry.

(b) Legal Implications

Whilst not yet formally received by Council, the EPA has indicated its intention to serve Council both a Clean-up and Prevention Notice in accordance with the provisions contained within the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*.

(c) Social Implications

Providing information that is open and transparent to the community will provide positive social implications for the community to understand the work that Council does.

(d) Environmental Implications

The progress report allows for environmental management to be an area of focus for Council and subsequently providing positive environmental benefits. This specifically relates to the area of public health, environmental sustainability, and waste management.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

There may be risk implications depending on the nature of the enquiry.

(f) Risk Implications

There may be risk implications depending on the nature of the enquiry.

CONCLUSION

The Planning, Regulatory & Compliance Progress Report has considered town planning and strategic land use planning, compliance and regulation, and environmental management and health since the last meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Environment and Strategic Planning Progress Report be received and noted.

10.9 SECTION 7.11 DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS PLAN**File Number:** T-5-4**Author:** Lesley Duncan-Building & Compliance Manager**Authoriser:** Barry Broe, Director Community, Planning, Development and Environment**Annexures:** 1. Draft Section 7.11 Developer Contributions Plan [↓](#) **PURPOSE**

To seek Council's approval to adopt the draft Section 7.11 Developer Contributions Plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Adoption of the draft Section 7.11 Contribution will enable Council to receive a monetary contribution to meet the cost of maintaining haul routes in the Coonamble Local Government Area (LGA). The draft Plan relates to mines, extractive industries and other developments that result in increased numbers of laden trucks that may cause pavement damage on rural roads managed by Council.

BACKGROUND

Heavy vehicles can cause significant damage to roads, leading to a reduced lifespan and increased need for reconstruction work. Although major roads and highways can handle the weight of heavy vehicles, local council roads have lower design standards that make them more vulnerable to damage.

It is the responsibility of councils to maintain the roads and ensure they remain safe and usable. However, development projects that involve heavy vehicle movements, such as quarries or rural industries, can accelerate pavement deterioration and increase maintenance costs.

To cover the additional expenses of maintaining affected roads, councils may require monetary contributions from such projects. These contributions can be based on the cost of bringing forward the need for repairs or the increased cost of maintaining the road. The funds will be allocated to the specific haul roads impacted by the development.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

The draft Section 7.11 Developer Contributions Plan relates to Goal 7 – our road network makes it possible for our economy, industries and community to prosper and Goal 11 – our community has confidence in our strategic land use planning framework of the Community Strategic Plan.

(b) Financial Considerations

Levies will be required to be collected all developments in the local government area where the development is a mine, extractive industry or other development that result in increased numbers of laden trucks.

Council is also required to consider the impacts of development in accordance with section 8B of the *Local Government Act 1993* to ensure that the integrity of Council's assets.

COMMENTARY

Council can require payment of a monetary contribution where it is satisfied that development is likely to require the provision of or increase in the demand for public services and public amenities within the local government area.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

The draft Plan was exhibited for a period of 28 days in accordance with the Coonamble Shire Community Participation Plan. No submissions were received.

(b) Legal Implications

When implemented Council will be required to maintain the contributions register in accordance with Section 7.11 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979*.

(c) Social Implications

There are no social implications directly relating to this report.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications directly relating to this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

The draft Plan will enable to Council to collect a levy to be used for the maintenance of rural roads where they are impacted by traffic generating development.

(f) Risk Implications

There is a risk that should the draft Plan not be implemented that Council will not be in a financial position to carry out road maintenance activities as a result of the additional demand on the rural road network.

CONCLUSION

The draft Section 7.11 Developer Contributions Plan was exhibited for a period of 28 days in accordance with the Coonamble Shire Community Participation Plan. No submissions were received.

The implementation of the draft Section 7.11 Developer Contributions Plan will ensure that developments that have the potential to adversely impact Council's rural road network are compensating Council for the increased road maintenance costs.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council adopt the draft Section 7.11 Developer Contributions Plan.**

COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL

Section 7.11

Developer Contributions Plan

SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION

Under Section 7.11 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act), a consent authority has the power to approve a development with a condition that requires the applicant to offer a monetary contribution to the local council. The contribution is intended to fund public amenities and services that are necessary or requested as a result of the development. A prerequisite for imposing such a condition is that it aligns with a contributions plan authorised by the local council.

The objective of this plan is to enable Coonamble Shire Council and other consent authorities to require that land developers within Coonamble Shire make contributions towards specific public amenities and services in the area.

The types of developments and amenities covered by this plan are shown in Table 1.

Table 1 Contributions required under this plan	
Development	
Contribution required and the amenities to be provided.	
(a)	Mines, extractive industries and other developments that result in increased numbers of laden heavy vehicles causing pavement damage on rural roads managed by Council
	A monetary contribution will be required to meet the cost of Council maintaining the haul routes

Outlined below are the contents of the Contributions Plan:

- Comprehensive details on the public amenities and services that the Council will provide. A schedule of contribution rates that correspond to different classes of development as per the plan.
- Information on how the contribution rates were determined.
- The policies of the Council regarding how and when developers can fulfill their contribution obligations, which includes the opportunity for developers to provide land and works 'in kind'.

1.1 How to use this plan

For easy navigation by Council staff, developers, and private certifiers, this plan has been divided into the following sections:

- **Section 2 – Plan Summary**
 - This section specifies the development that the plan applies to, as well as the corresponding contribution rates.
- **Section 3 – How are the contribution rates calculated?**
 - This section explains how contributions will be calculated and how it relates to the expected infrastructure that will be provided.

- **Section 4 – How and when will contributions be imposed on development?**
 - This section explains how conditions of consent will be used to collect contributions levied under this plan and provision to index the contributions payable to reflect changes in construction costs.
- **Section 5 – How and when a contribution requirement can be settled?**
 - This section explains how consent conditions requiring the payment of contributions can be settled.
- **Section 6 – Other administration matters**
 - This section outlines other administrative arrangements surrounding the operation of this plan, including a dictionary of terms used in this plan.
- **Appendices**
 - This section includes information supporting the body of this plan.

DRAFT

SECTION 2 PLANNING SUMMARY

2.1 Name and commencement of plan

This plan is called Coonamble Shire Council Section 7.11 Contributions Plan 2023.

This plan commences on the date on which public notice was given under clause 214 (4) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021* or the date specified in that notice if it is a different date.

2.2 What is this plan's purpose?

The primary purpose of this plan is to authorise the Council, when granting consent to an application to carry out development to which this plan applies, or Section 7.11 contributions are necessary to provide, extend, or enhance public amenities and services that are essential to the development or were established in anticipation of, or to facilitate such development.

Other purposes of this plan are as follows:

- To provide a clear and transparent basis for levying contributions under the provisions of section 7.11 of the EP&A Act.
- To provide the framework for the efficient and equitable determination, collection and management of section 7.11 contributions.
- To establish the relationship between the expected development and the public amenities and services included in this plan, to demonstrate the required contributions are reasonable.
- To allow for the provision of the required public amenities and services by alternative means where this is acceptable to the developer and the Council (for example, through a planning agreement).
- To ensure that the broader Coonamble Shire community is not unreasonably burdened by the provision of public amenities and services required as a result of development affected by this plan.

2.3 What land and development does this plan apply to?

This plan applies to all land in the Coonamble Local Government Area.

This plan applies to mines, extractive industries and other development that result in increased numbers of laden heavy vehicles using Council's road network.

2.4 What development is exempt?

This plan **does not** apply to the following types of development:

- Development proposed by or on behalf of the Council.
- Development exempt from section 7.11 contributions by way of a direction made by the Minister for Planning under section 7.17 of the EP&A Act.

2.5 What public amenities and services will be provided under this plan?

The public amenities and services which are covered by this plan:

- Pavement damage to rural roads caused by mines, extractive industries and other 'heavy haulage' developments.

More details on the public amenities and services, and their relationship with the expected developments are included in Part 3 of this plan.

2.6 What are the contribution rates?

Table 2 summarises the contribution rates for public amenities and services in this plan.

Table 2 Contribution Rates	
Development	Contribution Rate
(a) Mines, extractive industries and other developments that result in increased numbers of laden heavy vehicles using Council's road network	<p>\$0.31 per Equivalent Standard Axle (ESA) per km of haul road</p> <p>or</p> <p>\$0.053 per tonne of hauled material per km of haul road</p>

DRAFT

SECTION 3 HOW ARE THE RATES CALCULATED?

This part of the plan prescribes the development that will demand the public amenities and services required under this plan and explains how each of the contribution rates were calculated.

3.1 Rural Roads Pavement Damage

3.1.1 Overview

This plan authorises a contribution rate of either 5.3 cents/tonne/kilometre of hauled material, or \$0.31 cents/ESA/kilometre.

The contribution rate enables the Consent Authority in any particular case, to impose a *contribution amount* on a development relating to the length of local and regional roads that will be used by heavy vehicles for the haulage of material.

The consent condition will contain both a contribution rate and an assumed haul road length. The consent condition will require the development to make periodic payments to Council based on tonnage or ESA returns in the preceding quarter.

3.1.2 What is the nexus between the expected types of development and the demand for public amenities and services?

Heavy vehicles cause significant damage to roads, reducing their lifespan and increasing the need for frequent reconstruction work. While major roads and highways can accommodate heavy vehicles, local council roads have a lower design standard and are more vulnerable to damage. Councils are responsible for maintaining roads to ensure they remain safe and trafficable. Development involving heavy vehicle movements, such as quarries or rural industries, can accelerate pavement deterioration and increase maintenance costs. Councils may require monetary contributions from such developments to cover the additional costs of maintaining the affected roads. The contributions can be based on the cost of bringing forward the need for works or the increased cost of maintaining the road. Councils will allocate the funds to the particular haul roads affected by the development.

3.1.3 Calculation of the contribution rate

The contribution rates that will be applied to developments that cause pavement damage to rural roads are based on the methodologies applied by other NSW council on such development.¹

The methodology used is to determine the ratio of the cost to replace the asset to the design traffic loading, which give a replacement cost per ESA. This ratio forms the basis of further calculations to determine loss of road life in dollar per tonne of material hauled.

The following steps were followed for determining the contribution rates:

1. Determine design ESA
2. Estimate the cost to reconstruct/maintain 1 lane-km for the above ESA
3. Calculate the contribution rate in \$/ESA/km

¹ Contributions levied by Coonamble Shire Council under Coonamble Shire Section 7.11 – Fixed Contributions Plan 2024.

At this point the ESA contribution rate is known. To determine the tonnage contribution rate the following additional two steps are undertaken:

4. Calculate \$/typical vehicle ESA
5. Calculate \$/tonne/km

Table 3 summarises the calculations that were performed to determine the contribution rates for a sealed rural road with a medium level of traffic of 1,000 vehicles per day per lane. In Coonamble it is most likely that there would be lower levels of traffic on both sealed and unsealed roads. However, use of these road types in the methodology yielded higher contribution rates. The medium traffic sealed road contribution is more conservative and has been adopted by Coonamble Shire Council for the purposes of this plan.

Step	Workings for sealed road with medium traffic²
Determine design ESA	Treat damage to pavement and damage to wearing course separately: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design life of pavement: 873,743 ESAs over 30 years • Pavement spray seal: 262,795 ESAs over 10 years
Estimate the cost to reconstruct/maintain 1 lane-km for the above ESA	Pavement reconstruction: \$200,000 per lane per km Surfacing spray seal: \$20,000 per lane per km
Calculate the contribution rate in \$/ESA/km	Pavement = $\$200,000/873,743 = \0.23 per ESA per km Spray seal = $\$20,000/262,795 = \0.08 per ESA per km Total = $\\$0.23 + \\$0.08 = \\$0.31$ per ESA per km
Calculate \$/typical vehicle	The typical vehicle assumed to be a 'class 4 + dog trailer' No. of ESAs per typical vehicle = 2.6 Contribution per typical vehicle = $\$0.31 \times 2.6 = \0.80 per vehicle
Calculate \$/tonne/km	The typical load in a typical vehicle is assumed to be 15 tonnes Contribution = $\$0.80/15 = \0.053 per tonne per km

3.1.4 Calculation of the quarterly contribution payment

The process for calculating and collecting the contribution will generally be as follows:

1. Identify the length of local and regional road (i.e. haul routes) that the development's laden heavy vehicles will utilise. Classified roads that are the sole maintenance responsibility of the NSW Government are excluded from consideration. The length of haul route(s) in kilometres will be determined from information submitted by the applicant with the development application. Any development application for mines, extractive industries or other developments involving the haulage of materials or goods by heavy vehicles on any land in Coonamble LGA must include details of haul routes.

² 1000 per day per lane with a growth rate of 1% per annum

2. Consent authority imposes a development consent condition requiring payment based on:
 - a. The \$ rate per tonne per km, or the \$ rate per ESA per km (from this plan)
 - b. The total length of all haul routes (from 1. above), and
 - c. The amount of material hauled (in tonnes), or the volume of vehicles accessing the site (in ESAs) over the preceding quarter.
3. No later than twenty-eight (28) days after the end of March, June, September and December over the life of the development, the operator of the development:
 - a. Submits to Council independently verified tonnage (or ESA) returns for the development over the preceding quarter, and
 - b. Pays the roads maintenance contribution to Council reflecting the \$ rate per tonne (or per ESA) and total haul route length contained in the development consent.

Worked Example

For example, where in a development application it is stated that a development's haul trucks will utilise 3.5 kilometres of public roads in the LGA, and that estimate of haul route use is considered by the consent authority to be a reasonable estimate, then the contribution amount that would be imposed on the development consent would be:

$$\begin{aligned} & 3.5 \times 5.3 \text{ cents per tonne per kilometre} \\ = & 18.55 \text{ cents per tonne of haulage material, calculated quarterly and indexed} \\ & \text{quarterly in accordance with the Producer Price Index described in Section 6.3.} \end{aligned}$$

Then, after the first full quarter of operations, the operator submitted an independently verified statement showing that there had been 7,100 tonnes of extractive material transported from the development. The Council in response would issue to the operator a tax invoice showing the following details and payment amount:

$$\begin{aligned} & 18.55 \text{ cents per tonne} \times 7,100 \text{ tonnes} \\ = & \$1,317.05 \end{aligned}$$

3.1.5 Application information to be relied on

In cases where the length or lengths of roads to be used by laden heavy vehicles in development are uncertain, it can be challenging to determine the appropriate contribution amount. In these instances, the council will evaluate the information submitted with the development application to determine the length or lengths of road that will be charged. The applicant is responsible for providing precise and adequate information on the expected haul route usage during the application process.

3.1.6 Matters to be addressed during the operation of the development

The consent will identify the haul route length and the contribution rate applicable to the development. Council acknowledges that the haul routes used by a development may change over the life of the development. To address this the consent will include a condition that requires the proponent to prepare a statement of haulage routes at least every three years. The statement will identify the local and regional roads that are used by heavy vehicles

transporting material and goods to/from the development, as well as the proportion of the development's total heavy vehicles using each road length.

The contribution rate in the consent will be automatically adjusted in accordance with annual movements in the Producer Price Index: Road and Bridge Construction New South Wales (Catalogue No. 6427.3101) as published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Where an ESA-based contribution rate is imposed on the development, the following matters shall be addressed by way of conditions of consent to be implemented at the start of, and throughout the development's life:

- A traffic classifier is to be installed (at the applicant's cost) at a suitable location to classify and count the number of loaded heavy vehicles that enter or exit the development site over each quarter. The purpose of the classifier is to record the number of ESAs that are subject to contributions.
- Responsibility for keeping the traffic classifier in good working order throughout the life of the development will rest with the operator.
- Council officers are to be provided access to the traffic classifier data on a regular (i.e. at least quarterly) basis.
- In the event of the traffic data being corrupted, then the Council at its discretion may determine the ESAs and therefore the contribution amount for the preceding period.

3.1.7 Roadworks may be required to be undertaken in addition to contributions required under this plan

The Shire's local and regional road network has been constructed and is maintained by Council as necessary to ensure an acceptable standard of service.

It is possible that some of these roads may not be able to accommodate additional heavy vehicle loading generated by mines and extractive industries without immediate upgrade. There may be upgrades to roads or traffic facilities that are directly required by a development and without which, the development could not or should not reasonably occur. New roads, or upgrades to sections of the existing road network, including ongoing maintenance, may be required to accommodate the additional heavy vehicle loading.

Where a development requires works to the road network to be undertaken, the requirement will be by way of a condition imposed on the development consent under section 4.17 (1) (f) of the EP&A Act. This will be in addition to road maintenance contributions for haul routes imposed under this plan.

SECTION 4 HOW AND WHEN WILL CONTRIBUTIONS BE IMPOSED ON DEVELOPMENTS?

4.1 Monetary Contributions

This plan authorises the Council when determining an application for development, and subject to other provisions of this plan, to impose a condition requiring a contribution under section 7.11 of the EP&A Act on that approval for:

- The provision, extension or augmentation of public amenities and services to be provided by Council, and/or
- The recoupment of the previous costs incurred by Council in providing existing public amenities and services.

4.2 Latest rates to be used

The section 7.11 contribution imposed on a development will reflect the latest, indexed contributions rates authorised by this plan.

The monetary section 7.11 contribution rates shown in Section 2.6 reflect the contribution rates at the date that this plan commenced. The rates are regularly adjusted for inflation (see Section 6.3)

Applicants should inquire at the Council for information on the latest contribution rates.

4.3 Variation to contributions authorised by this plan

The Council may, after considering a written application, reduce the section 7.11 contribution otherwise calculated in accordance with the provisions of this plan.

A developer's request for variation to a contribution calculated in accordance with this plan must be supported by written justification included with the development application. Such a request will be considered as part of the assessment of the application.

SECTION 5 HOW AND WHEN CAN A CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENT BE SETTLED?**5.1 Timing of payments**

A monetary contribution required to be paid by a condition imposed on the development consent in accordance with this plan is to be paid at the time specified in the condition.

At the time of payment, it will be necessary for monetary contribution amounts to be updated in accordance with the relevant indexes (see Section 6.3).

5.2 Are there alternatives for paying the contribution?

Applicants may propose an alternative contribution rate that more accurately reflects the likely road impacts of the particular development. Any alternative contribution rate must be agreed to by Council prior to the due date for a contribution payment or the commencement of any works as part of that alternate payment method.

Applicants may also propose alternative arrangements to the payment of a periodic contribution to Council for excessive road wear and tear. This could include, for example, reconstruction of the road pavement up-front and no ongoing maintenance contribution.

Justification of any alternative must be addressed in a transport study on the proposed development. The study should address all of the relevant matters listed in Appendix A.

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SECTION 6 OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

6.1 Relationship of this plan to other contribution plans

This plan does not affect any other contribution plan adopted by the Council.

6.2 Savings and transitional arrangements

This plan applies to a development application submitted after the date on which this plan took effect.

A development application that was submitted, but not yet determined, on or before the date on which this plan took effect, shall be assessed under the contributions plan or plans that applied at the date of submission of the application.

6.3 Adjustment of contributions to address the effects of inflation

To ensure that the value of contributions for the construction and delivery of infrastructure is not eroded over time by inflation, this plan authorises that contribution amounts included in consents will be adjusted over time.

6.3.1 Contribution rates in this plan

Council will, without the necessity of preparing a new or amending plan, make changes to the contribution rates set out in this plan to reflect annual movements in the value of land acquisition and works.

The Producer Price Index: Road and Bridge Construction New South Wales (Catalogue No. 6427.3101) as published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, will be used to update the contribution rates in this plan.

6.3.2 Contribution amounts in consents

A monetary contribution amount required by a condition of development consent imposed in accordance with this plan, will be indexed between the date of the grant of the consent and the date on which the contribution is paid in accordance with annual movements in the Producer Price Index: Road and Bridge Construction New South Wales (Catalogue No. 6427.3101) as published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

6.4 Pooling of contribution funds.

The plan authorises monetary contributions paid for different purposes in accordance with development consent conditions authorised by this plan and any other contributions plan approved by Council to be pooled and applied progressively for those purposes.

6.5 Accountability and access to information

In accordance with the EP&A Act and EP&A Regulation, a contributions register will be maintained by Council and may be inspected upon request.

The register will be maintained at regular intervals and will include the following:

- Particulars sufficient to identify each development consent for which contributions have been sought
- Nature and extent of the contribution required by the relevant condition of consent
- Name of the contributions plan under which the condition of consent was imposed
- Date the contribution was received, for what purpose and the amount

Separate accounting records will be maintained for each contribution type in this plan and published every year in Council's financial accounts. They will contain details concerning contributions received and expended, including interest for each service or amenity to be provided. The records are held at Council's Administration Office and may be inspected upon request.

6.6 Dictionary

Consent Authority has the same meaning as in the EP&A Act

Council means Coonamble Shire Council

EP&A Act means the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

EP&A Regulation means the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*

ESA means the equivalent standard axle.

LGA means local government area.

DRAFT

10.10 DRAFT RURAL LANDS STRATEGY

File Number: T-5-4

Author: Lesley Duncan-Building & Compliance Manager

Authoriser: Barry Broe, Director Community, Planning, Development and Environment

Annexures:

1. Draft Rural Lands Strategy [↓](#) 
2. Submission [↓](#) 

PURPOSE

To seek Council's approval to adopt the draft Rural Lands Strategy.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The adoption of the Rural Lands Strategy will facilitate the finalisation of the Planning Proposal submitted to the Department of Planning in August 2022.

Coonamble Shire Council lodged a planning proposal to amend the Coonamble Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2011 in August 2022 with funding provided by NSW Planning. The funding was provided to rectify an anomaly in the LEP. It appears that Council took the opportunity to make additional minor housekeeping amendments to the planning proposal.

The proposed amendments are as follows:

- Reducing the minimum lot size for the erection of a dwelling on land zoned RU1 Primary Production from 1000 hectares to 600 hectares
- Insert Clause 4.1B – Boundary Adjustments of land in certain rural and residential zones. This clause allows for adjustments of boundaries with consent provided each of the affected lots comply with the minimum lot size requirements for the land use zone.
- Insert Clause 4.1C – Minimum subdivision lot size for certain split zones. This clause will provide for the subdivision of land with more than one zone providing at least one of the lots will meet the minimum lot size.
- Remove Clause 4.2A(3)(b) as the clause inadvertently makes the development for the purposes of a dwelling-house remains permissible with consent on any vacant lot of any size provided a number of conditions are met. The proposed removal of this clause was funded by NSW Planning.
- Include additional prohibited development types within the RU5, B2 and B6 land use zones noting that recent changes to employment zones may have partly resolved this matter.
- Spot rezoning for Lots 25, 26 and 27 DP1159279 to rectify a mapping error creating a split zone across the subject lots (note that this matter has been resolved).

The NSW Department of Primary Industries have previously advised that a reduction in the minimum lot size without a supporting rural study or strategy.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

The draft Rural Lands Strategy relates to Goal 11 of the Community Strategic Plan – our community has confidence in our strategic land use planning framework.

(b) Financial Considerations

There are no financial considerations arising from this report.

COMMENTARY

The draft Rural Lands Strategy was publicly exhibited for a period of 28 days in accordance with the Coonamble Shire Community Participation Plan. One submission was received in relation to the proposal.

The main point raised in the submission is the need for small rural lifestyle block on the edge of Coonamble.

The draft Strategy does not specifically address rural residential development although it is acknowledged that a demand for this type of development does exist.

(c) Governance/Policy Implications

The adoption of a Rural Lands Strategy will inform future strategic land use planning decisions relating to agricultural land.

(d) Legal Implications

There are no legal implications directly relating to this report.

(e) Social Implications

There are no social implications directly arising from this report.

(f) Environmental Implications

The draft Rural Lands Strategy contains actions that aim to protect productive agricultural land and areas of high environmental value.

(g) Economic/Asset Management Implications

There are no economic/asset management implications directly relating to this report.

(h) Risk Implications

There is a risk that by not adopting the draft Rural Lands Strategy agricultural land may not be adequately protected.

CONCLUSION

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to adopt the draft Rural Lands Strategy. Once adopted, Council staff will undertake the relevant actions to provide the strategic context required to progress the Planning Proposal lodged in August 2022.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Draft Rural Land Use Strategy.

COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL

Rural Lands Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The agricultural sector is facing significant challenges, including shifting economic conditions and growing pressure from urban settlement. This strategy aims to address these challenges and to provide a strategic framework moving forward.

Highlighting the significance of protecting agricultural land, the Central West Orana Regional Plan 2041 identifies it as a critical objective. The protection of rural land demonstrates provides opportunities for diversification while supporting regional economic growth.

The purpose of the Rural Lands Strategy is to:

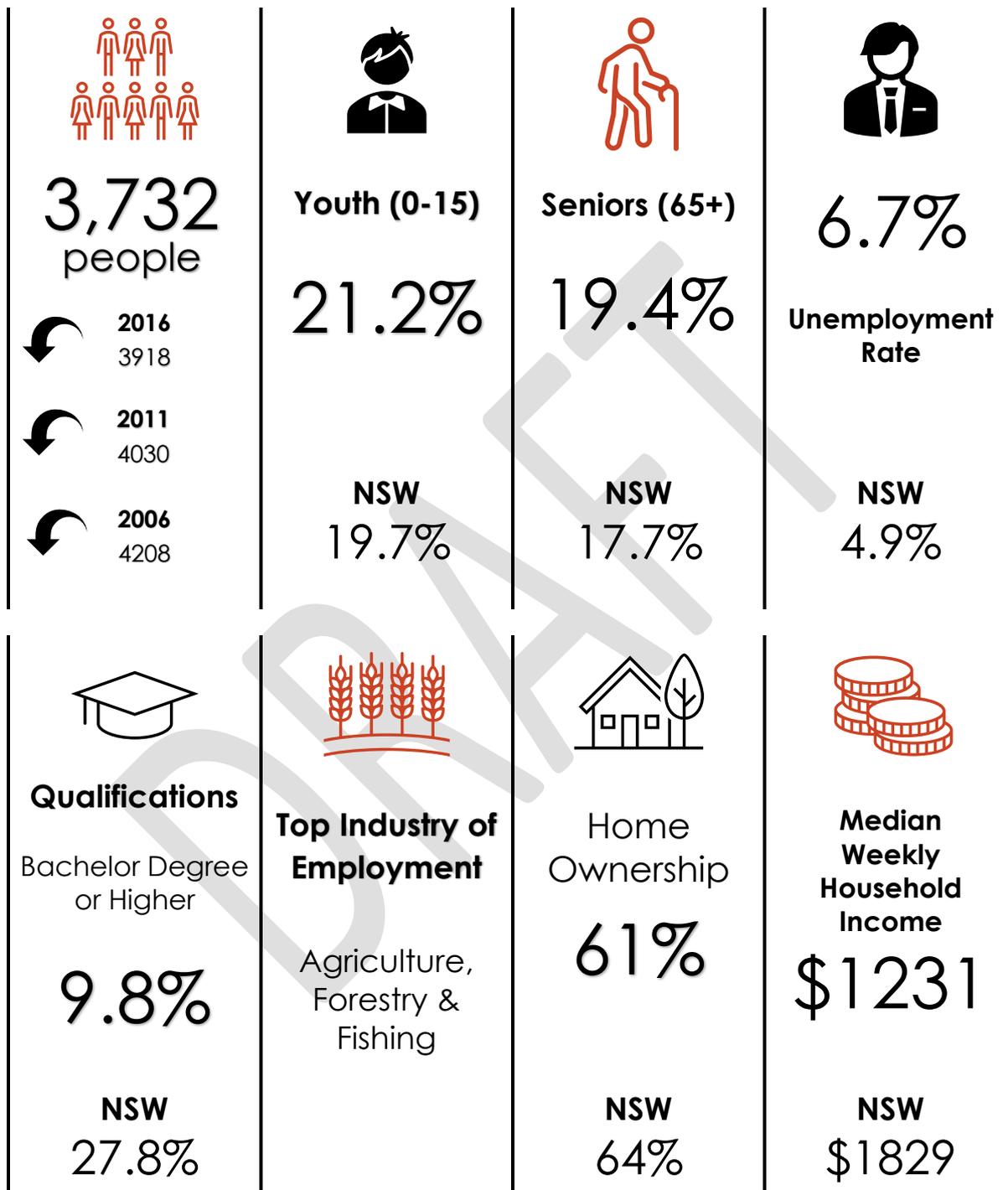
- Provide strategic direction and policy to facilitate a coordinated approach to use and development of rural land
- Underpin the Coonamble Local Environmental Plan 2011
- Support the implementation of local, regional and State Government strategic plans.

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Figure 1 – Coonamble LGA



Coonamble LGA Demographic Snapshot – 2021 Census



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics – Census Data

Coonamble Shire is a rural local government area with a population of just under 4,000 people located on the Castlereagh Highway and Castlereagh River.

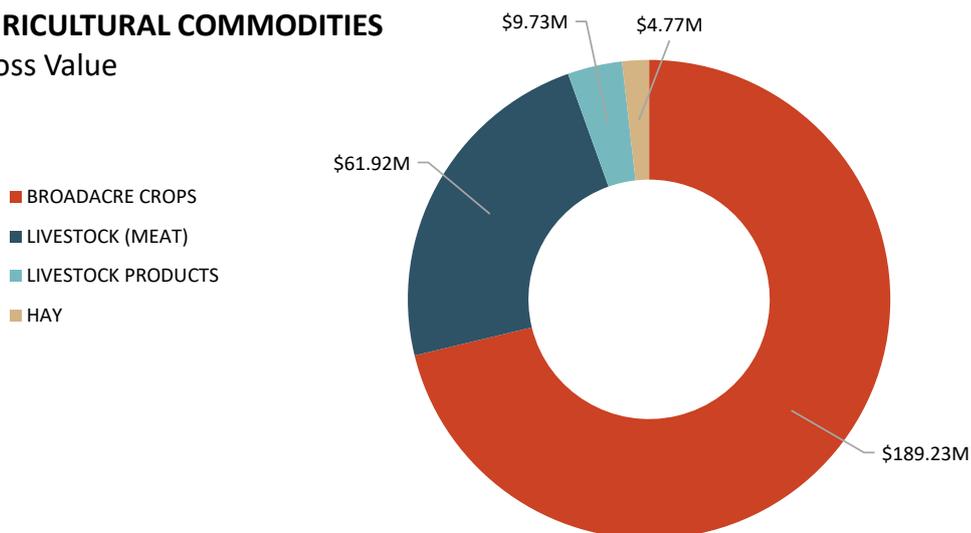
The LGA had a 2022 Estimated Resident Population (ERP) of 3825 (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2023). The town of Coonamble is the largest population centre with a population of 2,533 in the 2021 Census, other significant settlements include the villages of Gulargambone and Quambone with populations of 351 and 128, respectively.

Grain-Sheep or Grain-Beef Cattle farming is the primary industry of employment in the Coonamble Local Government Area, employing 8.9 per cent of the labour force.

Coonamble Shire Council generated a gross value of agricultural commodities of \$266.17 million in 2020/2021. The Coonamble Local Government Area produces 18 agricultural commodities that can be broadly categorised into four categories: broadacre crops, livestock (slaughtered meat), livestock products and hay.

AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES

Gross Value



STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Central West and Orana Regional Plan (CWORP) 2041

The strategy is consistent with the CWORP released in December 2022 by the NSW Government. The CWORP sets the priorities and objectives for the region.

Central West and Orana Regional Plan		
Part 1 Region-shaping Investment		
Objective	Relevance to Rural Lands	
1	Deliver the Parkes Special Activation Precinct and share its benefits across the region	This objective relates to the Parkes SAP that will create freight and logistic employment opportunities. It is estimated that the Parkes SAP may generate up to 3000 jobs by 2041. It is not anticipated that this objective will be of particular benefit to Coonamble Shire Council.
2	Support the State's transition to Net Zero by 2050 and deliver the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone.	Coonamble Shire offers opportunities for renewable energy projects which are predominantly located on rural land. Projects can be compatible with agricultural uses however sites comprising valuable agricultural land should be avoided. The objective also aims to the deliver the Central-West Renewable Energy Zone (REZ). Coonamble Shire is not located in the Central-West Orana REZ.
3	Sustainably manage extractive resource land and grow the critical minerals sector	This objective underlines the State's commitment to supporting the growth of the mining sector. In Coonamble Shire, open cut mining and extractive industries are permissible with consent in the RU1 Primary Production zone.
4	Leverage inter-regional transport connections	This objective related to the Inland Rail. Part of the Inland Rail will cross Coonamble Shire and may impact agricultural land.

Part 2 A Sustainable and Resilient Place		
Objective		Relevance to Rural Lands
5	Identify, protect, and connect important environmental assets	<p>The aim of this objective is to identify areas of environmental significances by high environmental value mapping and biodiversity mapping. It also aims to protect biodiversity corridors at regional, sub-regional, local and site level.</p> <p>The objective is relevant to rural lands as impact on biodiversity is assessed during the development assessment process and the Macquarie Marshes are located on rural land</p>
6	Support connected and healthy communities	<p>The objective aims to maintain access to quality public open spaces. This includes providing recreational activities on Western NSW rivers while managing the competing demand for water required for agricultural land uses.</p>
7	Plan for resilient places and communities	<p>The objective seeks to address vulnerability and risk to natural disasters early in the development assessment process by ensuring that strategic and local planning is consistent with NSW policy and guidelines.</p> <p>It also seeks to ensure that strategic planning and waste management strategies align with the NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041 and the NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy: A guide to future infrastructure needs.</p> <p>Energy efficient building design and practices and carbon reduction initiatives in strategic planning and local plans is encouraged.</p> <p>The objective is relevant to rural land as natural hazard policy is likely to affect primary production.</p>

<p>8</p>	<p>Secure resilient regional water resources</p>	<p>The objective seeks to improve the quality and security of the regions water supply ensuring that needs are met for residential and industrial lands.</p> <p>The objective also seeks to protect the Macquarie Marshes and Lachlan Catchment Wetlands by implementing strategies to improve knowledge of conservation, management, and use of the region's wetlands to inform consideration of wetland protection.</p> <p>The outcome of this objective may impact rural land as the Macquarie Marshes are located on rural zoned land.</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Ensure site selection and design embraces and respects the region's landscapes, character, and cultural heritage.</p>	<p>The objective seeks to maintain rural landscapes by protecting views and cultural heritage.</p> <p>This may impact rural land by the development of strategies to protect scenic landscapes and the protection of cultural heritage.</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Protect Australia's first Dark Sky Park</p>	<p>The objective aims to minimise light pollution to protect the observing conditions at the Siding Springs Observatory through the implementation of the Dark Sky Planning Guideline.</p> <p>The Dark Sky Planning Guideline will be applicable to development in rural zones.</p>

Part 3 People, centres, housing, and communities		
Objective		Relevance to Rural Lands
11	Strengthen Bathurst, Dubbo, and Orange as innovative and progressive regional cities	<p>This objective relates to the economic development and local housing strategies of the region's cities.</p> <p>The objective will not significantly impact rural land in Coonamble Shire.</p>
12	Sustain a network of healthy and prosperous centres	<p>This objective relates to the connectivity between regional cities, strategic centres, and regional communities.</p> <p>It also seeks to strengthen connectivity within town centres by improving walking, cycling and public transport.</p> <p>The objective will not significantly impact rural land in Coonamble Shire.</p>
13	Provide well located housing options to meet demand.	<p>The aim of this objective is to ensure that there is an adequate and timely supply of housing.</p> <p>The objective will not significantly impact rural land in Coonamble Shire.</p>
14	Plan for diverse, affordable, resilient, and inclusive housing	<p>The aim of this objective is to improve housing diversity in strategic and local planning.</p> <p>The objective will not significantly impact rural land in Coonamble Shire.</p>
15	Manage rural residential development	<p>The aim of this objective is to ensure orderly development of rural residential land that is cost effective and avoids areas zoned for primary production and mineral resources.</p> <p>This objective may impact rural land if rural residential land encroaches into areas where agriculture is undertaken.</p>
16	Provide accommodation options for seasonal, temporary, and key workers	<p>This objective encourages both strategic and statutory planning to provide flexible planning controls and sufficient capacity of infrastructure.</p>

		<p>The objective also requires that large-scale development applications should be supported by a workforce accommodation strategy.</p> <p>This objective may be relevant to rural lands as part of development of large-scale agricultural industries that require workers accommodation.</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>Coordinate smart and resilient utility infrastructure</p>	<p>This objective aims to utilise strategic and local planning to achieve efficient provision of infrastructure.</p> <p>This objective may impact rural land where new utility infrastructure is proposed.</p>

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Part 4 Prosperity, productivity, and innovation		
Objective		Relevance to Rural Lands
18	Leverage existing industries and employment areas and support new and innovative economic enterprises	The objective aims to protect employment lands from encroachment of incompatible development and to create sustainable, localised supply chains through emerging advanced manufacturing.
19	Protect agricultural production values and promote agricultural innovation, sustainability, and value-add opportunities.	<p>The objective aims to identify and enable emerging opportunities for higher-value agriculture. It also seeks to maintain and protect the productive capacity of agricultural land in the Central West – Orana Region.</p> <p>The objective reinforces the consideration of the quality of land for agriculture and the scarcity of productive agricultural land in the region when making decisions about rural land.</p>
20	Protect and leverage the existing and future road, rail and air transport networks and infrastructure	<p>This objective aims to utilise strategic and local planning to achieve efficient provision of infrastructure.</p> <p>This objective may impact rural land where new transport infrastructure is proposed.</p>
21	Implement a precinct-based approach to planning for higher education and health facilities	<p>The objective aims to support mixed use precincts in strategic and local planning.</p> <p>The objective will not significantly impact rural land in Coonamble Shire.</p>
22	Support a diverse visitor economy	<p>The objective aims to enhance open spaces and develop spaces for cultural activities.</p> <p>This will be relevant to rural land where tourism activities are proposed.</p>
23	Supporting Aboriginal aspirations through land use planning	The objective aims to support LALCs by reflecting Aboriginal aspirations and to embed cultural knowledge and values in land use planning decisions.

Part 5 Local Government Priorities	
Coonamble Shire Council	
Priority	Relevance to Rural Lands
Existing Settlements	Minimal impact on rural lands.
Economic and tourism development including the new Visitor Information Centre, Coonamble Riverside Caravan Park and potential artesian spa, and sealing Tooraweenah Road to the Warrumbungle National Park	This priority may impact rural lands where tourism development is proposed.
Coonamble's main street, CBD	No impact on rural lands.
Agribusiness, including value-add manufacturing, transport and logistics, and associated businesses	This priority will impact rural lands by providing additional opportunities for diversification of agricultural enterprises.
Coonamble Shire's cultural and historic character	This priority will have minimal impact on rural lands.
The local road network, to guarantee effective transport routes for local produce	This priority will have minimal impact on rural lands.
Protecting agricultural land from residential development	This priority will provide certainty for agricultural enterprises to undertake primary production activities.

Local Strategic Planning Statement

A Local Strategic Planning Statement sets the framework for Coonamble Shire's economic, social and environmental land use needs over the next 20 years. It outlines clear planning priorities describing what will be needed, where these are located and when they will be delivered.

The Coonamble Local Strategic Planning Statement has three (3) themes, nine (9) priorities. Each priority contains a number of actions. The relevance to rural lands is discussed below:

THEME: COMMUNITY AND PLACE

Enhance Community wellbeing and quality of life within safe neighbourhoods

Priority 1: Promote and enhance the identity and unique character of Coonamble and the villages of Gulargambone and Quambone		
Action		Relevance to Rural Lands
1	Investigate the need to prepare a heritage inventory and reflect any significant items in the Coonamble LEP 2011	There is no specific relevance to rural lands.
2	Scope the need to undertake a dry-river-bed tourism and access strategy	There is no specific relevance to rural lands.
3	Develop master plans for Quambone and Gulargambone	The development of a master plan will not significantly impact rural lands.
4	Collaborate with DPIE to develop predictive mapping to recognise the likelihood of areas containing items cultural significance	The development of predictive mapping will not significantly impact rural lands.
5	Undertake a review of the Coonamble CBD Revitalisation Project undertaken in 2008 and produce a new Coonamble Shire Masterplan incorporating the Coonamble CBD.	This action is not relevant to rural lands.
6	Engage with surrounding LGAs in discussions on reviewing the Western Subregional Land Use Strategy.	This action is relevant to rural lands.
7	Identify suitable locations for future and rural residential housing development.	This action may be relevant to rural lands

Priority 2: Encourage a connected, active and healthy community		
Action		Relevance to Rural Lands
8	Improve walking and cycling connectivity along the Castlereagh River areas and into Coonamble through connected open space corridors	There is no specific relevance to rural lands.
9	Investigate a business case to operate or expand an integrated holistic age care service in Coonamble to improve aging in place options.	There is no specific relevance to rural lands.
10	Develop an urban tree strategy that will identify areas and species	There is no specific relevance to rural lands.
11	Investigate the need for an Aboriginal Cultural Centre and interpretive signage and heritage trails.	This may be relevant to rural land but is unlikely to have significant impact.
Priority 3 – Provide contemporary services and local infrastructure for the community to thrive		
Action		Relevance to Rural Lands
12	Identify opportunities for delivery of complimentary investments and infrastructure to leverage off the Inland Rail Project development.	This action may be relevant to rural lands
13	Work with Transport for NSW to promote active transport, including undertaking a revised pedestrian, access and mobility plan (PAMP) to identify active transport opportunities and identify and protect active transport corridors.	This action is unlikely to impact on Rural Lands.

Theme: Environment

Promote a sustainable balance between development and commercial interests while protecting the environment

Priority 4 – Protect and promote the importance of the Macquarie Marshes		
Action		Relevance to Rural Lands
1	Investigate current land use zoning of lands surrounding the Macquarie Marshes to manage environmental risks and to support adjoining and nearby landowners to manage their lands.	The Macquarie Marshes is located land zoned RU1 Primary Production. This action may impact rural lands.
2	Investigate ways to better connect the Macquarie Marshes through to Coonamble and Quambone	This action may be relevant to rural lands as the Macquarie Marshes are located on rural land.
3	Work with private landowners of the Macquarie Marshes to develop environmental components for public access and tourism activities.	The Macquarie Marshes is located land zoned RU1 Primary Production. This action may impact rural lands.
4	Develop a Quambone village master plan to capitalise on the Macquarie Marshes tourism potential.	This action may impact rural lands.
Priority 5 – Protect and manage natural areas and natural resources, particularly water security and waste management.		
Action		Relevance to Rural Lands
5	Investigate the need to amend the Coonamble LEP to provide buffers for existing and proposed water infrastructure and water reservoirs to protect urban water supply and industry access.	This action is unlikely to impact on Rural Lands.
6	Undertake a review of the Coonamble DCP to include guidance and controls on water sensitive urban design.	This action is unlikely to impact on Rural Lands.

7	Investigate the need to review the Coonamble DCP to incorporate best practice waste management practices at all stages of a development process; construction, operation, and demolition/reuse.	This action may be relevant to rural lands
8	Investigate the potential for biodiversity stewardship sites on Council owned land.	This action may be relevant to rural lands
Priority 6 – Be responsive and adaptive to climate change		
Action		Relevance to Rural Lands
9	Incorporate controls into the Coonamble DCP for enhanced environmental outcomes such as energy efficiency, rain water tanks, and 'green star communities'	This action may be relevant to rural lands
10	Update the delivery program and operational plan to include further enhancements to public space that better protect the community from heat, storms and flooding.	This action is unlikely to impact on Rural Lands.

Theme: Economy

A strong and diverse economy with development and employment opportunity, supporting a diverse population

Priority 7 – Leverage opportunities for increased tourism from surround natural landscapes.		
Action		Relevance to Rural Lands
1	Undertake development of a local tourism strategy to incorporate the strategic directions of this planning priority.	The Real Country Project identifies Agri-tourism experiences as a medium term outcome.
2	Augment the pedestrian access and mobility plan (PAMP) to investigate appropriate access for tourists to move between key tourist destinations.	This action may be relevant to the rural lands depending on the location of key tourist destinations.
3	Investigate further improvements required to better connect Coonamble to the Warrumbungles via the Tooraweenah Road as well as access through to the Macquarie Marshes.	This action may be relevant to rural lands only in that Tooraweenah Road transverses rural land.
Priority 8 – Promote business and development opportunities		
Action		Relevance to Rural Lands
4	Investigate opportunities to increase CBD employment through the adaptive reuse of vacant building space or appropriate community facilities for business hot desking or entrepreneurial startup businesses – also in association with existing businesses.	This action is not relevant to rural lands as it relates to land within the Coonamble township commercial precinct.
5	Work with Government agencies and key stakeholders to develop actions and to oversee and coordinate activities relating to employment opportunities.	This action may be relevant to rural lands where employment activities are planned.

6	Work with key stakeholders to support investment in targeted skills-based training to meet the needs of major infrastructure projects and local communities.	This action may be relevant to rural lands where infrastructure is located on rural zoned land.
7	Undertake a housing strategy to locate new rural residential areas close to existing urban settlements to maximise the efficient use of existing physical, social and community infrastructure and services, avoiding the unnecessary fragmentation of productive agricultural land.	This action is relevant to rural lands when seeking to locate new residential areas.
8	Undertake investigations into Aboriginal and Council land ownership and the potential land use opportunities.	This action may be relevant to rural lands where these opportunities are located on rural land.
Priority 9 – Capitalise on the Coonamble Airport Infrastructure and future land uses		
Action		Relevance to Rural Lands
9	Prepare a Coonamble Airport Masterplan to investigate improvements and employment opportunities	This action may be relevant to rural lands only in that the Coonamble Airport is located on rural zoned land.
10	Update the Coonamble LEP 2011 to protect the Coonamble Airport and implement any recommendations made from an Airport Master Plan	This action may be relevant to rural lands only in that the Coonamble Airport is located on rural zoned land.

The current legislative framework requires local planning instruments to deliver on the CWORP. Agribusiness, mining, tourism, transport and logistics are the key opportunities for economic development in terms of rural land.

STATE GOVERNMENT POLICIES

NSW Department of Primary Industries

Maintaining land for Agricultural Industries

The purpose of this policy is to guide the planning system in providing certainty and security for agricultural enterprises over the long term and to enable these

enterprises to respond to future market, policy, technology and environmental changes. Key elements are:

- Land with the best combination of soil, climate, topography and water for agricultural production is a limited resource in New South Wales and should be maintained for future generations.
- Agricultural land should not be alienated directly through lands being used for non-agricultural purposes and indirectly by incompatible developments on adjacent land restricting routine agricultural practices, and
- Agricultural industries are a fundamental asset to the state of NSW as they provide a long term means of providing employment, raw materials and fresh safe secure food while supporting regional communities.

The policy hinges on four (4) pillars:

1. Environmental Planning Instruments should be structured to:
 - a. Promote the continued use of agricultural land for commercial agricultural purposes, where that form of land use is sustainable in the long term.
 - b. Avoid land use conflicts.
 - c. Protect natural resources used by agriculture.
 - d. Protect other values associated with agricultural land that are of importance to local communities, such as heritage and visual amenity.
 - e. Provide for a diversity of agricultural enterprises, including specialised agricultural developments, through strategically planning locations to enhance the scope for agricultural investment in rural areas.
 - f. Allow for value adding and integration of agricultural industries into regional economies.
2. Conversion of land
The conversion of land used by agricultural enterprises to other uses should only take place where fully justified in the strategic planning context.
3. Minimum size of holdings for dwelling entitlement

The criteria in environmental planning instruments to determine the minimum lot size of holdings necessary for a dwelling entitlement in rural areas needs to be based on sustainable productive agriculture.

The minimum area for a dwelling entitlement and other provisions in Environmental Planning Instruments to regulate subdivisions should take into account:

- a. The agricultural productivity and suitability of the land in question
- b. The nature and requirements of agricultural industries in the area being considered.
- c. The risk of creating land use conflict
- d. The current distribution of property sizes and the agricultural industry they support.
- e. The trends in size of properties engaged in agriculture; and

- f. Cumulative impacts e.g. gradual subdivision of agriculture becomes rural residential zone.

4. Minimising land use conflict

Councils should also consider other approaches to achieving the goal of minimising conflict in agricultural production zones so that farms can operate without unnecessary restrictions.

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Right to Farm Policy

In 2015 the NSW Government adopted the Right to Farm Policy. The policy has been given a statutory reference by inclusion as an objective in the revised s9.1 Directions for Rural Lands (Direction 9.2) as part of the Primary Production focus area and accompanying planning framework.

The policy highlights the importance of planning for agricultural industry development and maintain access to agricultural resources including land. It emphasises the need for appropriate zoning and permissible land uses that are compatible with agricultural activities and supports local strategies that guide land use and minimise conflict.

The Right to Farm policy brings together a collection of actions including:

- Reinforcing rights and responsibilities
- Establishing a baseline and ongoing monitoring and evaluation of land use conflicts
- Strengthening land use planning
- Ensuring ongoing reviews of relevant environmental planning instruments include consideration of options to ensure best land use outcomes and to minimise conflicts
- Improving education and awareness on management of land use conflicts
- Considering potential future legislative options, should additional Government intervention be required.

The inclusion of the Right to Farm Policy in the Ministerial Direction for Rural Land will mean that the broad actions identified above will need to be considered when any rural land is proposed to be affected by a planning proposal.

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

The Codes SEPP provides a pathway for low impact development to be carried out without consent, referred to as Exempt Development. Other straightforward, low impact residential, commercial and industrial development that does require approval may be considered Complying Development under this SEPP. Where the proposal meets specific standards and land requirements a Complying Development Certificate may be sought from Council or a registered certifier and can be issued with a much shorter timeframe, such as 20 days.

Exempt Code

Examples of exempt development (provided the criteria are strictly adhered to) that may provide benefit to rural landowners include:

- Farm buildings
- Stock yards (not saleyards)
- Grain silos and bunkers
- Fuel tanks and gas storage
- Rainwater tanks
- Windmills

Typically these developments are restricted in terms of their floor area, height, setbacks to boundaries and distance to important environmental features, and other development standards, but are nonetheless a useful pathway for rural land holders to build rural infrastructure without requiring a development application.

Inland Code

The Inland Code permits some development within inland local government areas to be carried out as Complying Development and applies to the Coonamble LGA. This code predominantly applies to the construction of dwelling houses (where a dwelling entitlement exists) and farm buildings over and above what is permitted as exempt development. Each of the above codes contained within the Codes SEPP supports rural land holders to carry out agricultural development on their land.

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RURAL LANDS STRATEGY

The Rural Lands Use Strategy provides a framework to guide growth and development of rural land. The Strategy responds to the diversity in rural land and established rural industries such as agriculture and highlights the need to better address mining, encourage diversity in agriculture, and support economic development. The strategy also aims to manage development in the vicinity of the Macquarie Marshes to ensure that risk of environmental harm is minimised.

The Strategy seeks to:

Promote and protect sustainable agriculture – identify objectives for the protection of agriculture based on an understanding of the existing and potential land use, managing key threats, and recognising opportunities.

Manage land use conflict – recognise that encroachment of incompatible land uses on existing agricultural uses to minimise adverse impacts on agricultural productivity.

Support rural economic development – providing a land use framework that supports long term investment in agriculture, enables agribusiness and value-adding to the agricultural sector.

Manage development on the Castlereagh River – identify the value of the resource that is the Castlereagh River and consider opportunities for more intensive agricultural land uses in line with subdivision provisions for agricultural lots.

Support mining – recognise the importance of mining and provide direction as to the suitability of mining in particular locations.

Protect environmental values and manage threats including climate change – protect and preserve key environmental attributes. Recognise climate change and build resilience into planning controls.

Review of Minimum Lot Size Provisions – review current 1000 hectare minimum lot size applied to the RU1 Primary Production zone and determine an appropriate agricultural holding size.

Protection of the Macquarie Marshes – review strategic local planning includes consideration of conservation measures, management and wetland protection.

1.1 Promote Sustainable Agriculture

Protection of agricultural land is an objective that underpins the CWORP and is key in the long-term sustainability of rural communities. Coonamble Shire supports a diverse range of agricultural industries from broadacre dryland cropping, grazing to intensive livestock agriculture all with varying land area and water demands.

The Regional Plan includes specific priorities for Coonamble in relation to protecting **agricultural land from residential development**. The DPI have prepared draft State Significant Agricultural Land Mapping which includes large areas of agricultural land in the Coonamble Shire identified as State Significant Agricultural Land. It is unclear what the intention of the mapping is and what the palling implications of it will be at the current time.

A comprehensive set of policy guidelines underpin the protection of agricultural land including the aims of State Environmental Planning Policy (Primary Production) 2021.

The DPI have a policy to maintain land for agricultural industries that recommends that environmental planning instruments are structured to:

- (a) Promote the continued use of agricultural land for commercial agricultural purposes, where that form of land use is sustainable in the long term.
- (b) Avoid land use conflicts
- (c) Protect natural resources used by agriculture
- (d) Protect other values associated with agricultural land that are of importance to local communities, such as heritage and visual amenity
- (e) Provide for a diversity of agricultural enterprises, including specialised agricultural developments, through strategically planned locations to enhance the scope for agricultural investment in rural areas; and
- (f) Allow for value adding and integration of agricultural industries into regional economies.

The Rural Land Strategy should continue to support the objectives of the State Significant Agricultural Land and the DPI Policy framework and provide a land use planning framework that is consistent with these objectives.

1.2 Land Use Conflict

Land use conflict occurs when a land use or activity is incompatible with the views, expectations and/or values of other people living in the area. This is high-lighted in the peri-urban fringe areas of towns and villages as well as within the urban areas themselves. An unresolved dispute can have an impact on health and community wellbeing.

Changes in rural land use, increases in the number of non-farmers and hence a lack of understanding of farming practices can create tension between neighbouring landowners both having the right to enjoy their land.

A key outcome of land use policy is to minimise the potential land use conflicts, both through planning policy and land use decisions that reflect the part accumulation of knowledge.

ACTION: Ensure that the four pillars of the DPI's Right to Farm Policy is incorporated into Council's plans and strategies.

ACTION: Review land use tables in the RU1 Primary Production zone to ensure that they facilitate rural economic development and include rural industries and visitor accommodation and temporary uses.

ACTION: Review minimum lot size for the RU1 Primary Production zone to ensure that the MLS provides a balanced approach that caters to genuine farming interests to live and work on farms and that provides opportunities for diversification.

1.3 Agritourism

The economic benefits of Agritourism has been highlighted by recent inclusions to Local Environmental Plans. Rural-based tourism development and activities are seen as an opportunity to value-add and diversify the economy where the productive capacity of agricultural land is not reduced. This is particularly the case post COVID-19 with the increased interest in local tourism likely to continue. The Coonamble Destination Management Plan identifies key growth opportunities for a sustainable tourism industry.

ACTION: Planning controls should be reviewed to ensure that they are aligned with DPIE policy and cater for temporary events, provide opportunities for tourism accommodation, and encourage low impact development within the RU1 Primary Production zone.

1.4 Mining

Mining is a key economic driver and provides significant opportunity for the growth of businesses and industry that support mining operations as well as the provision of accommodation for a proportion of the permanent workforce.

Ensuring that there is an adequate supply of services industry land and urban land with good access to transport should be a priority. Often mining applications are State Significant Development, which limits Council's role in this process.

Council also has a role in managing potential conflicts between mining, agricultural and other more sensitive uses such as tourism and to foster and maintain healthy relations between the various parties.

ACTION: Review transport routes throughout the Shire to ensure that good access to major transport routes and the township of Coonamble can be facilitated.

ACTION: Review the supply of urban and employment lands to ensure there is adequate supply to meet the needs of mining development should the opportunity arise.

1.5 Workforce Accommodation

Accommodation needs of the workforce to both attract full time workers and seasonal work in the agricultural sector, mining and other major projects is a challenge for regional communities across NSW.

ACTION: Investigate the inclusion of temporary workers accommodation in the Coonamble LEP.

1.6 Protection of Macquarie Marshes

The Macquarie Marshes are one of the largest remaining inland semi-permanent wetlands in south eastern Australia as well as an internationally significant breeding site for waterbirds. Approximately 22,000 ha within the Macquarie Marshes Nature Reserve is listed under the Ramsar Convention, along with two areas of private land (Wilgara Wetlands and 'UBlock').

ACTION: review permissible land uses and identify tourism opportunities in collaboration with State agencies and land owners.

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Coonamble.NSW.2829.

13.03.2024.

Mr. Paul Gallagher,
 CEO,
 Coonamble Shire,
 Coonamble .NSW. 2829.

Dear Mr. Gallagher,

After discussions with your staff re the upcoming Local Environmental Plan they convinced me to make a submission in writing re lot sizes.

An LEP can either make or break a town and in the case of Coonamble the past Local Environment Plans have been detrimental with a negative effect to the progress of the town.

Towns are a business, no different to shops, garages, farms etc., they all rely on people and as the tables below show they need growth to survive and by that you need houses.

Sydney survives on housing, it can not exist without continual housing, Port Macquarie has no Industry but is continually expanding through houses, Lismore and Ballina have no Industry but they are still expanding and it is all down to building houses that create jobs and residents.

If you go back to the period around 1963/64 the four major inland towns in NSW all who have a river, good farming country and on major highways etc. all had a population of around 12500 people.

If you study the figures from the 2001 and 2021 Census three have increased population and productivity by approx. 25,27,and 36 percent with Dubbo lagging behind with approx. 22 percent due to its position of not allowing private subdivisions so that intended buyers have to buy Council owned land.

In the early seventies Tamworth had a very smart capable team of local Business people on the Council and they could see what was happening in Mudgee and followed suit. Mudgee had a population of 8603 in 2001 and at 2021 had a population of 11563, an increase of approx. 25 per cent. and is still forging ahead.

Coonamble 2001 pop. approx. 4567

2021 pop. Approx. 3732.....a loss of approx. 18 %

Tenterfield, a town with the same area as Coonamble, on a highway and no Industry except cattle and trees had an increase of 7 % due to a more realistic LEP. That puts Coonamble behind 25%. If you look at today's figures it makes it much worse.

		2001.	2021.			
Tamworth	approx.	40741	63070	increase of	approx	36.5%
Wagga Wagga	"	50439	67609	"	"	27 %
Albury/Wodonga	"	74278	99346	"	"	25 %
Dubbo	"	34148	43516	"	"	22 %

The existing 1000 hectares required to subdivide is a joke and the 600 hectares is exactly the same.

600 hectares is close to 1500 acres and on todays prices of land near town making from \$1500 to \$2000 per acre I can not see anyone paying from \$ 2.4 million to \$ 3 million to build a house on the edge of Coonamble.

If Council cannot come up with realistic size parcels of land they may as well forget the change all together and save their time and energy.

Contrary, if Council looked at what size blocks town people prefer on the edge of town in a price range that they can afford Coonamble would stop going backwards and be a viable place to live. If you talked to all the residents and farmers who have moved to Dubbo and Tamworth to retire they would tell you that they would have preferred to stay in Coonamble if there were suitable blocks available but alas there are none.

One only has to get on the internet and look at the large number of available house and land packages at Tamworth and Mudgee and even Orange and then look at Dubbo where there is none due to their own landbank and head in the sand attitude to subdivision.

Seven years ago I was attending auction sales up to 27 klms north of Albury where you could still subdivide 100 acre blocks into 4 x25 acres.

Best regards,




10.11 WASTE REPORT**File Number:** G1-1**Author:** Janelle Whitehead-Manager Waste, Recycle & Employment**Authoriser:** Barry Broe, Director Community, Planning, Development and Environment**Annexures:** Nil**PURPOSE**

To provide information on the activities within Council's Waste, Recycling and Employment Opportunities Section for the month of March 2024.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report advises of before and after updates, community engagement, compliance reporting and coordination of contract management of facilities.

BACKGROUND

Council is continuing to operationally enhance the three Solid Waste Facility sites.

COMMENTARY

March continued to be very busy with the three sites transitioning to industry best practice management and operational to align with relevant regulations and compliance.

Quambone

The Quambone community has engaged into Councils solid waste operation and management principles currently being implemented.

The facility has continued to be open for three hours on Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday.

Additional to this service Council has offered the community free access to hook lift bins placed in strategic locations, this has assisted and actively encouraged community members to aesthetically improve their homes and shared streetscapes.

The site has been extensively cleaned with litter removal, mowing, brush cutting and clearing works being completed by Councils staff. Additional to these works Council has engaged a local contractor to rehabilitate and reshape internal roads and drains to ensure sound site functionality.

Council did engage the local contractor to also complete weekly waste push up and compaction works, this decision was made as Councils plant was not suited to completing these specialised works.

Coonamble

Mattress stockpile clearance works have been completed this is an extremely good outcome as there was large backlog of mattresses onsite, moving forward Council

will manage the removal of these components to ensure there are no more than six tonnes onsite at any given time.

A new Cell has been constructed in line with the Long Term Strategic Operational Plan for the site. The new Cell is one hundred metres long by twenty metres wide and six metres deep, demand analysis has estimated this Cell will have eighteen months capacity.



Negotiations have been formalised with Molycop in relation to tyre removals from the site, these negotiations have seen a commitment made from Molycop to supply a cage to Council to house the tyres. Once the tyre cage is full Molycop will remove from site via the loading of the cage and a reinstatement of an empty cage this sees Council not needing to pay any loading costs.

Windblown litter is continually being managed via weekly emu picks of the site along with roadsides in proximity to the site and on key routes to the site.

Reuse and Recycling Shed

The shed floor has been concreted and replacement roller doors are to be fitted in April 2024.

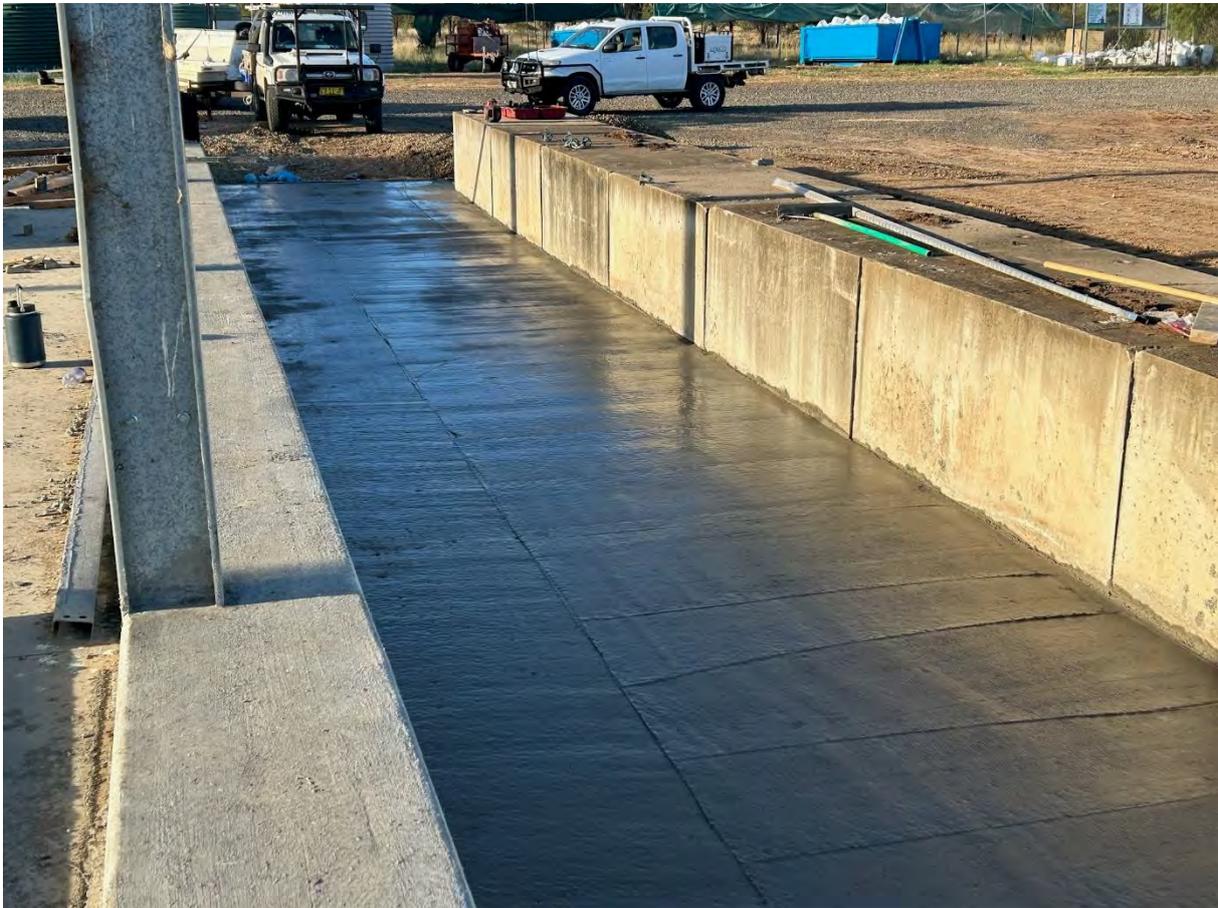


Transfer Station

The transfer station has been completed and is now fully operational.

The works completed on this station included:

- Concreting,
- Bunker construction to house hook lift bins,
- Earthworks,
- Drainage works,
- Road works,
- Shed alterations, and
- Shed bracing.





Gulargambone

Operation and utilisation of the forty cubic metre orange bin has seen operations far more streamlined in Gulargambone.

The site has been extensively cleaned up and it now strongly represents as a transfer station.

It has been envisaged that when the site is completely functional as a pure transfer station site only that site security will improve because essentially there will be no enticement for scavengers and looters to enter the site.

The Gulargambone site does require a shade structure to be erected out the front of the storage container for staff utilisation, this is to be completed in April 2024.

CONCLUSION

The key activities of the Waste Section for March have again been extensive.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the March Waste report.

10.12 TOORAWEEAH ROAD UPGRADE - MONTHLY STATUS UPDATE**File Number: R-8-32-1****Author: Kylie Kerr-Roads Manager****Authoriser: Kerrie Murphy, Director Infrastructure Services****Annexures: Nil****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors a status update on the Tooraweenah Road Upgrade Project.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Work over the last month has focused on the redesign works including flood modelling and reviewing specification. Key activities have included:

- Preparation and review of design and construction specifications for inclusion in the tender documents.
- Reviewing the 50% detailed design drawing set.
- More detailed investigation of the four major flood location along the unsealed section with one location being more challenging to design.
- Developing a set of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for the public.
- Preparing for a community consultation meeting to be held in early May.

Staff have inspected the condition of the unsealed section of Tooraweenah Road over the past month and resources have been allocated to address the worst sections, ensuring the road remains trafficable between now and when the construction work commence later this year.

BACKGROUND

Tooraweenah Road is the most direct route from the town of Coonamble to the Warrumbungle National Park.

The section of road to be upgraded commences on the eastern outskirts of the Coonamble township and continues to the boundary with Gilgandra Shire Council.

The 56.8 km road currently consists of 30.1 km with a sealed pavement of varying width, followed by 26.7 km of unsealed earthen formation with an average width of 7m. The unsealed section includes two short-sealed sections that total 1.3km.

Most of the existing sealed length requires rehabilitation or heavy patching, however, some of the sections of the sealed pavement are in a serviceable condition and will be retained. It is unlikely that the existing sealed will be improved under this project now as construction costs have increased dramatically over the past few years. Unsealed sections of Tooraweenah Road will be upgraded and sealed.

The project originally aimed to provide 56.8 km of sealed road with a 9.9m wide pavement and 7.5m wide seal with guideposts, centreline, and edge marking. The focus is now on the unsealed section.

Council has resolved to complete the project in the shortest possible timeframe, preferably within a 12-month period from the time of project approval. This original timeframe was not met due to numerous reasons. The project is now expected to be completed by the end of 2025.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

I1.1.5 Complete the Tooraweenah Road upgrade project, on time and on budget.

(b) Financial Considerations

The capital cost of the project is funded by the Federal Government's Roads of Strategic Importance (ROSI) Program. The funded budget is \$22.96M.

COMMENTARY

Council has inspected the condition of the unsealed section of Tooraweenah Road over the past month and it has deteriorated, in some sections, to an unacceptable level. Resources have been allocated to address the worst sections, ensuring the road remains trafficable between now and when the construction work commence later this year. These repairs are funded from the unsealed maintenance budget and where applicable the natural disaster restoration funds.

Delays to the critical path for the project over the past months continued in March which and now the Tender will be released towards the end of May. The delays were unavoidable as additional flooding models needed to be run as the original flooding modelling demonstrated that it was financially impossible to design to the AEP 1% flooding events. The additional the flood modelling means additional design work is required.

Work over the last month has again primarily focused on the redesign works including flood modelling, reviewing specification to be included in the tender and preparing documentation for tender exemption and time extension requests. Key activities have included:

- Preparation and review of design and construction specifications for inclusion in the tender documents. The draft has been forwarded by our Project Management Consultant to Council for our review.
- 50% detailed design drawing set has been received from the design consultant. This has been reviewed by Council and our Project Management Consultants and comments forwarded back to the design consultant.
- More detailed investigation of the four major flood location along the unsealed section with one location being more challenging to design.
- Set of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) that will be available for the public is in the draft stage.
- A community consultation meeting is being organised for early May and will be held on site.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

10.13 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES - WORKS IN PROGRESS**File Number: R6****Author: Kerrie Murphy-Director Infrastructure Services****Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager****Annexures: 1. Monthly Works Report - April**  **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with information on the works in progress within Council's Infrastructure Directorate.

BACKGROUND**(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework**

I1.1 Employ a strategic approach to the management of our critical road network.

I1.2 Strengthen our strategic approach to the management of our water infrastructure and services.

I1.3 Improve our strategic approach to the management of our sewerage infrastructure and services.

I1.4 Strengthen our strategic approach to the management of our urban drainage infrastructure and services.

I1.5 Adopt successful strategies which maximises our community's access to quality infrastructure and assets.

P3.1 Provide support to our sporting, recreation and community organisations which drives improved sporting and recreational opportunities for our community.

P3.2 Improve the quality of our parks, open spaces, sporting, and recreational facilities, including the MacDonald Park Masterplan Precinct.

(b) Financial Considerations

Provision is made within the 2023 / 2024 Operational Plan and Budget to fund the associated works and programs listed in this report.

COMMENTARY

This report aims to inform Councillors of the works in progress in the Infrastructure Directorate. Updates are provided for each Departmental area which includes Roads, Water and Sewer and Urban Services. Please note that the attachment is in an updated format with a view to provide additional information to that provided previously. The projects in this report will increase as time goes on, and more valuable information will be provided at that time.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

Maintenance of Council's infrastructure assets is carried out in accordance with Council's adopted management plans.

(b) Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

(c) Social Implications

Maintenance works are programmed where practical, to minimise social impacts.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

Works are scheduled in accordance with Council's adopted 2023 / 24 Operational Plan and Budget.

(f) Risk Implications

Maintenance works are programmed to minimise the risk to Council and the public.

CONCLUSION

This report provides updated information on the projects and planned works within the Infrastructure Department for Council's information.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received and noted.

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Road and recreational area users are to proceed with caution at all work sites and observe signage to ensure safety.
Speed zones are enforceable with possible short delays.
For all enquiries, please contact Council’s Infrastructure Services Department on 6827 1900.

CAPITAL WORKS

ROADS - URBAN – COONAMBLE, GULARGAMBONE AND QUAMBONE

Project	Funding Source	Budget (\$)	Budget Variation (\$)	Total Budget (\$)	Expenditure YTD (\$)	Committed (\$)	Total YTD (\$)	% Completion	Comment
Bertram Street Reconstruction	Loan	350,000	-	350,000	113,808.21	16,016.00	129,824.21	100	Complete

ROADS - RURAL – UNSEALED ROAD NETWORK

Project	Funding Source	Budget (\$)	Budget Variation (\$)	Total Budget (\$)	Expenditure YTD (\$)	Committed (\$)	Total YTD (\$)	% Completion	Comment
Rural Resheeting	Council	150,000	-	150,000	67,308.55	5786.19	73,094.74	65	Carinda, Walla Walla, Merri Merri

ROADS - RURAL – SEALED ROAD NETWORK

Project	Funding Source	Budget (\$)	Budget Variation (\$)	Total Budget (\$)	Expenditure YTD (\$)	Committed (\$)	Total YTD (\$)	% Completion	Comment
Warren Road Upgrade	ROSI/FCR/Council	3,161,943	-	3,161,943	1,340,502	171,991	1,512,493	48	Construction has commenced with 4.4km completed
Box Ridge Road Reconstruction	LRCI	1,859,636	-	1,225,140	175,443	27,747	203,190.43	10	Preparation works have commenced and minor works completed
Carinda Road Heavy Patching and Culvert upgrades	FLR	2,265,840	-	2,265,840	870,149	846,471	1,710,357	90	The works are completed except for linemarking.
Carinda Road Heavy Patches	RLRRP	709,155	151,000	860,155	359,405	149,136	859,859	100	Complete – budget increased in accordance with increase in grant funding
Billeroy Road	RLRRP	45,876	-	45,876	-	-	-	-	Postponed to next financial year
Quambone Road	RLRRP	738,957	-	738,957	48,689.03	3,142.69	51,832	-	Completed
Pilliga Road	RLRRP	588,750	100,000	688,750		93,013	862,578	100	Work completed for 2023/2024
Baradine Road	RLRRP	481,307.84	-	481,307.84	368,504	32,914	401418	95	Works completed for this year
Warren Road	RLRRP		-		143,096	5,770	148,867	-	Completed
Gulargambone Road	RLRRP	311,406.16	-	311,406.16	4,419-	-	4,419	-	Preliminary work has commenced
Flood Damage – REPA AGRN987	DRFA	≈7,800,000	-	≈7,800,000	2,020,012	807,567.41	2827580	27	Work to date includes Aiden’s Lane, Bramble, Nelgowrie, Conimbia, Gulargambone, Gadsens, Haydens Lane, Beanbah, Quabathoo, Emby, Pilliga, Merri Merri, Goorianawa, Bramble, Gilgooma, Mungery, Yarranville, Conimbia, West Point, Walla Walla, Keewong, Tooloon South, Quandong, Sandy Camp, Back Gular, Talegar, Toora, and Wattle Creek Roads
Tooraweenah Road Upgrade	ROSI	22,962,000	-	22,962,000	2,614,808	384,584	2,999,392	15	Additional flood models at 20% and 10% have been completed in the last month and the data is currently being analysed.

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WATER									
<i>Project</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Budget (\$) (2023-24)</i>	<i>Budget Variation (\$)</i>	<i>Total Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Expenditure YTD (\$)</i>	<i>Committed (\$)</i>	<i>Total YTD (\$)</i>	<i>% Completion</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Coonamble Mains Replacement	Council	525,993*	-	525,993	198,327.56	134,048.93	332,376.49	63	* - included Broad street budget from 22/23. Broad street completed. Tooloon street – expected to be completed in 1-2 weeks by Contractor . Previous budget hasn't included services replacement despite a lot of service fails. Services replacement included into Contract.
Gulargambone Mains Replacements	Council	119,000	-	119,000	-	3,016	3,016	10	Proposed streets for replacement thoroughly reviewed. Not enough funding on individually chosen streets due to previous year money withdraw to other works. Proposals made for budgeting this programme in 2024/25 FY.
Quambone Mains Replacement	Council	90,000	-	90,000	-	-	-	10	Proposed streets for replacement thoroughly reviewed. Not enough funding on individually chosen streets due to previous year money withdraw to other works. Proposals made for budgeting this programme in 2024/25 FY.
SSWP244-Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy (IWCM)	Grant/Council	199,165	-	303,900	-	178,562.80	178,562.80	60	Draft Issues paper under review with stakeholders. Meetings with stakeholders every fortnight continues. 72 Hr Quality and Inflow monitoring in preparation.
Coonamble Bulk Flowmeter – Reservoir 5	Grant 90%/ Council 10%	84,750	(-22,250)	62,500	69,134.18	-	69,134.18	100	Works completed. Leftovers from grant are to be spend on telemetry connection of bulk flowmeters. DCCEEW approved this work. Contractor to commence works.
Gulargambone Reservoir Bulk Flowmeter	Grant 90%/ Council 10%	84,750	(-22,250)	62,500	34,894.71	-	34,894.71	100	Works completed. Leftovers from grant are to be spend on telemetry connection of bulk flowmeters. DCCEEW approved this work. Contractor to commence works.
Advanced Operational Support Program	DCCEEW Grant	150,000	-	-	-	-	-	25	Funding Deed for \$150000 has been signed and executed by DCCEEW. Invoice sent to DCCEEW for Milestone 1. Meeting with DCCEEW conducted onsite. Draft work program being finalised with DCCEEW.

SEWER									
<i>Project</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Budget Variation (\$)</i>	<i>Total Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Expenditure YTD (\$)</i>	<i>Committed (\$)</i>	<i>Total YTD (\$)</i>	<i>% Completion</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Coonamble Mains Relining	Council	250,000	-	250,000	-	-	-	5	Planning underway. Program will be carried forward in 2024/2025 FY
Gulargambone Mains Relining	Council	100,000	-	100,000	-	-	-	5	Planning underway. Program will be carried forward in 2024/2025 FY
Coonamble STP Upgrade – Concept Design	Council	250,000	-	250,000	-	182,704.50	182,704.50	30	Options study draft report has been issued. Meeting with DCCEEW and PWA conducted to discuss report.
Coonamble SPS1 Convert to wet well configuration	Council	300,000	-	300,000	-	267,897.32	267,897.32	15	Contractor visited site for pre-start inspection and discussion. Procurement of inlet valves underway. Works to commence 11 th June.
Coonamble SPS2 Convert to wet well configuration	Council	300,000	-	300,000	5,546.80	260,778.15	266,324.95	80	Main works completed and PS commissioned. During the works internal wall in wet well was discovered to prevent fully utilise plant capacity. Contractor to return and drill the holes in wall to get PS in full capacity.

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URBAN SPACES									
<i>Project</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Budget Variation (\$)</i>	<i>Total Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Expenditure YTD (\$)</i>	<i>Committed (\$)</i>	<i>Total YTD (\$)</i>	<i>% Completion</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Footpaths Reconstruction	Council	75,000	-	75,000	-	-	-	-	Condition Assessment complete. Program being drafted from this information.
Street Tree Replacement Program	Council	50,000	-	50,000	-	6,651.96	6,651.96	40	Planter boxes and Bougainvillea have been ordered for placement at the main street corners and out the front of the Gymnasium. Replacement trees for Memorial drive have been ordered. Irrigation line has been installed in McCullough Street and trees have been ordered. waiting on line-marking of street. Concrete has been repaired in front of the Gym and trellis is to be installed for the Bougainvillea. Plants and materials have been ordered for Mungie Street in Quambone (School to Pool)
Coonamble Showground Upgrades	Council	25,000	-	25,000	27,343.68	-	27,343.68	80	New grandstand has arrived waiting on assembly
Brigidine Nuns garden area Main Street	Council	40,000	-	40,000	18,053.43	19,234.76	37,288.16	85	Waiting on installation of stone benches and screens, wall to still be painted.
McDonald Park upgrades	LRCI4	223,229	-	223,229	28,863.77	26,437.75	55,301.52	45	Gazebo and Water tank have been installed; carpark design is being done
Water efficiency projects	LRCI4	97,000	-	97,000	63,930.96	25,194.58	89,125.54	95	Quambone Park irrigation being finalised
Coonamble Sportsground establish additional fields	Council	165,000	46,000	211,000	60,437.86	173,654.38	234,092.24	100	Works complete
Gulargambone Oval Irrigation upgrades	Council	45,000	-	45,000	41,120.44	-	41,120.44	100	Works complete
Quambone resurface Tennis Courts	Council + Community funds	45,000	-	45,000	-	46,176	-	10	Purchase order raised waiting on contractor due in April 2024

SWIMMING POOLS									
<i>Project</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Budget Variation (\$)</i>	<i>Total Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Expenditure YTD (\$)</i>	<i>Committed (\$)</i>	<i>Total YTD (\$)</i>	<i>% Completion</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Swimming Pool Upgrades	LRCI4	466,957	-	466,957	307,038.68	187,876.51	494,915.19	33	Coonamble pool has been painted and joints resealed, Gulargambone and Quambone pools have been booked to be done in April 2024
Upgrades to Swimming pools	Council	111,740	-	111,740	98,254.00	-	98,254.00	100	Works complete

AERODROME									
<i>Project</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Budget Variation (\$)</i>	<i>Total Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Expenditure YTD (\$)</i>	<i>Committed (\$)</i>	<i>Total YTD (\$)</i>	<i>% Completion</i>	<i>Comment</i>

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CEMETERIES									
<i>Project</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Budget Variation (\$)</i>	<i>Total Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Expenditure YTD (\$)</i>	<i>Committed (\$)</i>	<i>Total YTD (\$)</i>	<i>% Completion</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Cemetery Improvement Program	Council	20,000	52,000	72,000.00	32,971.29	38,428.00	71,399.29	100	Works complete
New Columbarium	LRCI4	52,632	-	52,632				20	Design done, sourcing bricklayer to construct

**11 NOTICES OF MOTIONS/QUESTIONS WITH
NOTICE/RESCISSION MOTIONS**

Nil

12 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

RECOMMENDATION

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993:

12.1 Variation to Contract for Operational services at Coonamble Pool

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.

12.2 Drought Resilience Plan - Request for Project Timeline extension and Contractor selection

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.

12.3 Expression of Interest to Lease Land for the Purpose of Farming Grazing.

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.

12.4 Coonamble Water Mains Replacement Program Update - Tooloon Street mains replacement project variation

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - c and d(i) 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 and commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING