



ANNEXURES

**Ordinary Council Meeting
Under Separate Cover
Wednesday, 10 December 2025**

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PLANNING PROPOSAL

Reclassify Land from Community to Operational
40 Calga Street & 34 - 46 Hickey Street
Coonamble

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PRELIMINARY

Introduction

The purpose of this planning proposal is to reclassify certain Council owned land from 'community' to 'operational' land under the *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act). The reclassification is required to facilitate the development of new housing in Coonamble.

The parcels of land proposed for reclassification are located at 40 Calga Street, and 34-46 Hickey Street, Coonamble as shown below in Table 1. Lot 1 DP1118478 is a closed road that was previously part of Calga Street. The land has frontage to Limerick Street, with Lot 1 DP1118478 dissecting the land as shown in Figure 1, 2 and 3.

Table 1: Parcels Subject to Planning Proposal		
40 Calga Street, Coonamble		
Lot 10 DP238281	Lot 11 DP238281	Lot 1 DP4230
Lot 2 DP4230	Lot 3 DP4230	Lot 4 DP4230
Lot 5 DP4230	Lot 6 DP4230	Lot 7 DP4230
Lot 8 DP4230	Lot 9 DP4230	Lot 10 DP4230
Lot 11 DP4230		
34-46 Hickey Street, Coonamble		
Lot 4 DP4918	Lot 5 DP4918	Lot 6 DP4918
Lot 7 DP4918	Lot 10 DP4918	Lot 11 DP4918
Lot 14 DP4918	Lot 15 DP4918	
Closed Road		
Lot 1 DP1118478		

The land covers an area of approximately 4.2 hectares and is currently zoned R1 General Residential under the *Coonamble Local Environmental Plan 2011* (CLEP 2011).

The planning proposal does not seek changes to existing zoning or minimum lot size and has been prepared in accordance with Section 3.33 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

Figure 1: Land Proposed to be reclassified – 20-40 Calga Street, Coonamble



Figure 2: Aerial View of Land to be reclassified – 20-40 Calga Street, Coonamble



Figure 3: Zoning of Land to be reclassified



PART 1: OBJECTIVES OR INTENDED OUTCOMES

The objective of this planning proposal is to facilitate the residential development on the land and provide homeownership opportunities to the local community.

The land is currently vacant, and Coonamble Shire Council is the owner of the land.

PART 2: EXPLANATION OF PROVISIONS

Coonamble Shire Council purchased 20-40 Calga Street, Coonamble on 19 December 2023 and the classification of the site defaulted to 'community' land under the *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act).

The planning proposal seeks to reclassify the subject land from 'community' to 'operational' to allow for future development and sale of the land. This will be achieved by amending *Coonamble Local Environmental Plan 2011* to include the subject land in Part 1 of Schedule 4 (no interests changed) of the plan. The proposal does not seek to change any trusts, estates, interests, dedications, conditions, restrictions, or covenants on the land.

Consistent with the provisions of clause 5.2(2) of the CLEP 2011, this will have the effect of reclassifying the land as intended.

PART 3: JUSTIFICATION STRATEGIC AND SITE-SPECIFIC MERIT

Section A: Need for the Planning Proposal

Is the planning proposal a result of an endorsed local strategic planning statement (LSPS), strategic study or report?

No. The planning proposal is considered to be of local significance only and will require both exhibition under the LG Act and the EP&A Act.

Is the planning proposal the best means of achieving the objectives or intended outcome or is there a better way?

In accordance, with Section 31 (2) and (2A) of the LG Act, the Council may resolve to classify acquired land as 'community' or 'operational' either prior to or within three months after acquisition. Land that remains unclassified after this period is automatically deemed to be classified as 'community' under the LEP. Council in this instance did not resolve to classify the land in the required timeframe.

Accordingly, this planning proposal to amend the LEP is the only mechanism that allows for reclassifying the subject land from 'community' to 'operational'.

Section B: Relationship to Strategic Planning Framework

Will the planning proposal give effect to the objectives and actions of the applicable regional, or district plan or strategy (including any exhibited draft plans or strategies)?

The planning proposal aligns with Objective 14 of the *Central West Orana Regional Plan 2041*, which aims to plan for diverse, affordable, resilient and inclusive housing. The planning proposal is the first step in developing the land for future housing needs.

NSW Government's Framework – LEP Practice Note

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) has also previously published *LEP Practice Note PN 16-001: Classification and Reclassification of public land through a local environmental plan*. This practice note provides guidance on additional matters to be addressed in planning proposals that seek to classify or reclassify public land.

The table below addresses these matters and identifies where matters are addressed in the planning proposal.

No	Requirement	Comment
1	The current and proposed classification of the land.	The subject land is currently classified as community land and is proposed to be reclassified to operational land under the provisions of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> .
2	Whether the land is a 'public reserve' (defined in LG Act).	<p>The site is not identified as a 'public reserve' under the provisions of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>. The property came into Council's ownership on 19 December 2023 following Council's purchase of the land from a private landowner.</p> <p>Following Council's acquisition of the subject land, it should have been classified as 'operational' land within three months, however, this was an oversight at the time and the site was classified as 'community' land by default.</p>
3	The strategic and site specific merits of the reclassification and evidence to support this	The planning proposal is to address the one-off reclassification of the land. The reclassification will allow for future development of the land.

4	Whether the planning proposal is the result of a strategic study or report.	The planning proposal is not a result of strategic study or report.
5	Whether the planning proposal is consistent with Council's community plan or any other local strategic plan.	The planning proposal is not inconsistent with Council's community strategic plan or any other local strategic plan.
6	<p>A summary of Council's interest in the land including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How and when the land was first acquired (e.g. was it dedicated, donated, provided as part of a subdivision for public open space or other purposes, or a developer contribution) • If Council does not own the land, the landowner's consent • The nature of any trusts, dedications etc 	The subject parcels of land were purchased from a private landowner by Council on 19 December 2023 (settlement date). The land is currently still owned by Council. There are no known trusts, dedications, or interests that existing on the land.
7	Whether an interest in the land is proposed to be discharged, and if so, an explanation of the reason why.	There are no interests attached to the land.
8	The effect of the reclassification (including, the loss of open public space, the land ceases to be a public reserve or particular interests will be discharged).	The reclassification will allow for future sale of the land for residential development.
9	Evidence of public reserve status or relevant interests, or lack thereof applying to the land (e.g. electronic title searches, notice in Government Gazette, trust document).	The subject land does not have public reserve status. The title and deposited plans are attached in Appendix A.
10	Current use(s) of the land, and whether uses are authorised or unauthorised.	The current use of the land is vacant residential land.
11	Current or proposed lease or agreements applying to the land, together with their duration, terms and controls.	There is no current or proposed lease on the land. It is Council owned land.
12	Current or proposed business dealings, (e.g. agreements for the sale or lease of the land, the basic details of any such agreement and if relevant,	Council intends to provide a parcel of land to for the construction of a core and cluster development to provide support to victims of domestic

	when Council intends to release its assets, either immediately after rezoning/reclassification or at a later time)	violence. This is to occur immediately after reclassification.
13	Any rezoning associated with the reclassification (if yes, need to demonstrate consistency with an endorsed Plan of Management or strategy)	The planning proposal does not propose to rezone the subject land.
14	How Council may or will benefit financially, and how these funds will be used.	Initially, Council will not benefit financially. Future sale of the land may generate additional revenue.
15	How will Council ensure funds remain available to fund proposed open space sites or improvements referred to in justifying the reclassification, if relevant to the proposal.	This planning proposal does not commit funds to any proposed open space or specific improvements.
16	A Land Reclassification (part lots) Map, in accordance with the standard technical requirements for special datasets and maps, if land to be reclassified does not apply to the whole lot.	Not relevant. The reclassification will apply to the whole of each lot.
17	Preliminary comments by the relevant government agency, including any agency that dedicated the land to Council, if applicable.	The land is owned by Council. No formal consultation has been undertaken at this stage. However, consultation will be undertaken with State and Commonwealth agencies in accordance with the Gateway determination, if required.
18	The concurrence of the land owner must be obtained, where the land is not owned by the Planning Proposal Authority (PPA)	The land is owned by the Planning Proposal Authority (Coonamble Shire Council).
19	Does the planning proposal deliver a public benefit?	The planning proposal seeks to provide land that will provide a service to the community and provide a future supply of residential land.
20	Have the implications for the open space in the LGA in relation to current and future open space needs been considered and will there be a net gain to open space?	The implications for open space in Coonamble have been considered. The site is not defined as a 'public reserve' under the provisions of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> . The

	proposal does not affect the current and future open space.
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Is the planning proposal consistent with a Council Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) that has been endorsed by the Planning Secretary or Greater Sydney Commission (GSC), or another local strategy or strategic plan?

The Coonamble Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) together with the Community Strategic Plan have identified the need for additional residential land that can provide a diverse range of housing types. It is considered that the location of the land in an existing residential area makes it suitable for further development. The land is zoned R1 General Residential which supports a range of housing types.

Priority 2 is relevant to this planning proposal:

Encourage a connected, active and healthy community that gives effect to Planning Policy 3 -Encourage a range of housing options, including affordable housing, housing for older people and family housing.

Goal 11 of the Coonamble Community Strategic Plan is relevant to the planning proposal:

Our community has confidence in our strategic land use planning framework that strengthen the balance of competing land use interests and minimises risks to our community including the availability of suitable residential land and adequate affordable housing.

Is the planning proposal consistent with any other applicable State and Regional Studies or Strategies?

State or regional study or strategy	Comment
Future Transport Strategy 2056	The proposal is consistent with the strategy
Net Zero Plan	The proposal is consistent with the plan
Water Resource Plans	The proposal is consistent with the plans
State Infrastructure Strategy	The proposal is consistent with the strategy
A 20 year Economic Vision for Regional NSW	The proposal is consistent with the vision

Is the planning proposal consistent with applicable State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs)?

The following Statement Environmental Planning Instruments (EPI) have been considered in the preparation of this planning proposal.

SEPP	Relevant	Comments
State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021	No	The SEPP applies to Coonamble Shire Council (CSC). The planning proposal will not affect the operation of this SEPP.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008	No	The SEPP applies to CSC. The planning proposal will not affect the operation of this SEPP.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021	No	The SEPP applies to CSC. The planning proposal will not affect the operation of this SEPP.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Industry and Employment) 2021	No	The SEPP applies to CSC. The planning proposal will not affect the operation of this SEPP.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021	No	The SEPP applies to CSC. The planning proposal will not affect the operation of this SEPP.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts – Central River City) 2021	No	This SEPP is not applicable to CSC.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts – Eastern Harbour City) 2021	No	This SEPP is not applicable to CSC.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts – Regional) 2021	No	This SEPP is not applicable to CSC.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Western Parkland City) 2021	No	This SEPP is not applicable to CSC.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Primary Production) 2021	No	The SEPP applies to CSC. The planning proposal will not affect the operation of this SEPP.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021	No	The SEPP applies to CSC. The planning proposal will not affect the operation of this SEPP.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Resources and Energy) 2021	No	The SEPP applies to CSC. The planning proposal will not affect the operation of this SEPP.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Sustainable Buildings) 2022	No	The SEPP applies to CSC. The planning proposal will not affect the operation of this SEPP.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021.	No	The SEPP applies to CSC. The planning proposal will not affect the operation of this SEPP.

Is the planning proposal consistent with applicable Ministerial Directions (section 9.1 Directions) or key government priority?

The following relevant Local Planning Directions under Section 9.1 have been considered in the preparation of this planning proposal:

Direction		Planning Proposal Consistency
Focus Area 1: Planning Systems		
1.1	Implementation of Regional Plans	<p>This direction applies to a relevant planning authority when preparing a planning proposal for land to which a Regional Plan has been released by the Minister for Planning. The planning proposal must be consistent with this regional plan.</p> <p>Coonamble falls under the Central West Orana Regional Plan 2041 Regional Plan. As outlined above in this section of the report, the planning proposal is consistent with the intent of the regional plan, the overall vision, goals, directions and actions.</p>

1.2	Development of Aboriginal Land Council Land	This direction applies to all land identified on the Land Application Map in chapter 3 of the SEPP (Planning Systems) 2021. There are no areas in the Coonamble LGA mapped on the Aboriginal Cultural Significance Map.
1.3	Approval and Referral Requirements	This direction applies to planning proposals and aims to ensure LEP provisions encourage the efficient and appropriate assessment of development. The direction requires consent authorities minimise the requirement for concurrence, consultation or referral of development applications to a minister or public authority. The anticipated impacts resulting from the Planning Proposal are considered to be of minor significance.
1.4	Site Specific Provisions	This direction requires that a planning proposal must not contain or refer to drawings that show details of the proposed development. It is considered that this planning proposal is consistent with this direction.
1.4A	Exclusion of Development Standards from Variation	<p>The aim of this direction is to maintain flexibility in the application of development standards by ensuring that exclusions from the application Clause 4.6 of a Standard Instrument Local Environmental Plan.</p> <p>The Planning Proposal does not seek to introduce or alter an existing exclusion to Clause 4.6.</p>
Focus Area 1: Planning Systems – Place-based		
1.5	Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.
1.6	Implementation of North West Priority Growth Area Land Use and Infrastructure Implementation Plan	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.
1.7	Implementation of Greater Parramatta Priority Growth Area Interim Land Use	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.

	and Infrastructure Implementation Plan	
1.8	Implementation of Wilton Priority Growth Area Interim Land Use and Infrastructure Implementation Plan	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.
1.9	Implementation of Glenfield to Macarthur Urban Renewal Corridor	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.
1.10	Implementation of the Western Sydney Aerotropolis Plan	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.
1.11	Implementation of Bayside West Precincts 2036 Plan	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.
1.12	Implementation of planning principles for the Cooks Cove Precinct	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.
1.13	Implementation of St Leonards and Crows Nest 2036 Plan	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.
1.14	Implementation of Greater Macarthur 2040	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.
1.15	Implementation of the Pyrmont Peninsula Place Strategy	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.
1.16	North West Rail Link Corridor Strategy	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.
1.17	Implementation of the Bays West Place Strategy	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.
1.18	Implementation of the Macquarie Park Innovation Precinct	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.
1.19	Implementation of the Westmead Place Strategy	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.
1.20	Implementation of the Cameillia-Rosehill Place Strategy	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.
1.21	Implementation of South West Growth Area Structure Plan	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.
1.22	Implementation of the Cherrybrook Station Place Strategy	Not applicable to Coonamble LGA.
Focus Area 2: Design and Place		
At the time of writing this focus area was blank.		
Focus Area 3: Biodiversity and Conservation		
3.1	Conservation Zones	The subject land is not located in an environmentally sensitive area or environmental protection zone and therefore this direction is not applicable to the planning proposal.

3.2	Heritage Conservation	<p>This direction aims to conserve items, areas, objects and places of environmental or indigenous heritage. As outlined in this report there are no items of cultural heritage significance on the subject site or in the vicinity listed under the CLEP 2011 and there are no objects or places of Aboriginal heritage identified in an AHIMS search for the subject site. Accordingly, it is considered that it is unlikely that the planning proposal will impact on items, areas, objects, or places of environmental, cultural or Indigenous heritage.</p> <p>The proposal is consistent with this direction.</p>
3.3	Sydney Drinking Water Catchments	This direction is not applicable to the Coonamble Shire Council LGA.
3.4	Application of C2 and C3 Zones and Environmental Overlays in Far North Coast LEPs	The subject site is not zoned C2 or C3 and therefore this direction is not applicable.
3.5	Recreation Vehicle Areas	<p>The subject site is not located within a conservation area, near a beach or dune area.</p> <p>The proposal is consistent with this direction.</p>
3.6	Strategic Conservation Planning	This direction applies to areas of high biodiversity value that are mapped as avoided land or land that is within a strategic conservation area in <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation 2021)</i> . The subject land is not mapped as avoided land and is not within a strategic conservation area. Therefore this direction is not applicable.
3.7	Public Bushland	This direction does not apply to the Coonamble LGA.

3.8	Willandra Lakes Region	This direction does not apply to the Coonamble LGA.
3.9	Sydney Harbour Foreshores and Waterways Area	This direction does not apply to the Coonamble LGA.
3.10	Water Catchment Protection	The subject site is not located in a drinking water catchment area, accordingly this direction does not apply.
Focus Area 4: Resilience and Hazards		
4.1	Flooding	Flood modelling completed as part of the West Coonamble Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan (Jacobs 2021) indicates that part of the subject land may be flood affected. The proposal to reclassify the land is not inconsistent with the direction as future development can be designed to meet the requirements of the <i>Floodplain Development Manual 2005</i> .
4.2	Coastal Management	The subject site is not in a coastal zone.
4.3	Planning for Bushfire Protection	The subject site is not mapped as bushfire prone land in the Coonamble Shire.
4.4	Remediation of Contaminated Land	The subject site is not identified as contaminated land.
4.5	Acid Sulfate Soils	There are no Acid Sulfate Soils in the Coonamble LGA.
4.6	Mine Subsidence and Unstable Land	The subject land is not located in mine subsidence area within the meaning of the <i>Coal Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 2017</i> .
Focus Area 5: Transport and Infrastructure		
5.1	Integrating Land Use and Transport	This direction requires all planning proposals which will create, alter or remove a provision relating to urban land including land zoned for employment uses.

		<p>This direction requires consistency to the aims, objectives and principles of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Improving Transport Choices – Guidelines for planning and development (b) The Right Place for Business and Services – Planning Policy <p>The planning proposal is consistent with this direction.</p>
5.2	Reserving Land for Public Purpose	The land is not defined as a public reserve.
5.3	Development Near Regulated Airports and Defence Airfields	No relevant to the proposal.
5.4	Shooting Ranges	There are no shooting ranges located in proximity to the subject land.
Focus Area 6: Housing		
6.1	Residential Zones	The subject land is currently zoned R1 General Residential and it is not proposed to rezone the land .
6.2	Caravan Parks and Manufactured Home Estates	The proposal does seek to amend provisions relating to caravan parks or manufactured home estates (MHEs). Caravan Parks and MHEs are prohibited in the E4 General Industrial zone.
Focus Area 7: Industry and Employment		
7.1	Employment Zones	This direction requires all planning proposals which will affect land within and existing or proposed employment zone. The planning proposal does not seek to rezone land.
7.2	Reduction in non-hosted short-term rental accommodation period	This direction is only applicable to Byron Shire Council.
7.3	Commercial and Retail Development along the Pacific Highway, North Coast	This direction applies to land within North Coast LGAs that are traversed by the Pacific Highway.

Focus Area 8: Resources and Energy		
8.1	Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries	Not relevant to this proposal.
Focus Area 9: Primary Production		
9.1	Rural Zones	Not relevant to this proposal.
9.2	Rural Lands	This direction is not relevant to the planning proposal.
9.3	Oyster Aquaculture	The Coonamble LGA is not located within a 'Priority Oyster Aquaculture Area'.
9.4	Farmland of State and Regional Significance on the NSW Far North Coast	This direction is not applicable to the Coonamble LGA.

Section c – Environmental, Social and Economic Impact

Is there any likelihood that critical habitat or threatened species, populations or ecological communities, or their habitats, will be adversely affected because of the proposal?

The land subject to the planning proposal has not been identified as containing critical habitat or threatened species, populations or ecological communities, or their habitats.

Are there any other likely environmental effects of the planning proposal and how are they proposed to be managed?

Flood modelling completed as part of the West Coonamble Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan (Jacobs 2021) indicates that part of the subject land may be flood affected. As such, any proposed development should consider the requirements of the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water's guidelines detailed in Section 9.1 (2) Local Planning Direction 4.1 Flooding.

Has the planning proposal adequately addressed any social and economic effects?

Part of the subject land to be reclassified is to be developed as a core and cluster development for to support victims of domestic violence.

Section D – Infrastructure (Local, State and Commonwealth)

Is there adequate public infrastructure for the planning proposal?

The subject land is in an existing residential within Coonamble. Utility services are available to the land including water and sewer. Any additional services required for future development will be assessed at the development application stage.

Section E – State and Commonwealth Interest

What are the views of state and federal public authorities and government agencies consulted in order to inform the Gateway determination?

Consultation with public authorities will be undertaken in accordance with the Gateway determination received for the planning proposal.

PART 4 – MAPS

No mapping is required to support the planning proposal.

PART 5 – COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The planning proposal is required to be exhibited for a minimum period of 28 days. At the conclusion of the public exhibition period, a public hearing will also be held as required by the *Local Government Act 1993*.

PART 6 – PROJECT TIMELINE

Stage	Anticipated Timeline
Prepare planning proposal	February 2025
Report to Council	March 2025
Gateway Determination	June 2025
Agency Consultation	July 2025
Public Exhibition	July-August 2025
Public Hearing	August 2025
Report to Council including consideration of submissions	September 2025
Parliamentary Counsel Opinion	October 2025
Plan finalised by Minister (or delegate)	November 2025

APPENDIX A

Title and Deposited Plans

PUBLIC HEARING: RECLASSIFICATION OF LAND

Chairperson:	Melissa Ward, Ward Planning and Consulting
Council:	Coonamble Shire Council
Date:	6 November 2025
Venue:	Coonamble Shire Council Chambers
Time:	12.30pm – 2pm (1.5 hour drop in session)

Persons in attendance:

Karen Churchill (interested community member)

River McCrossan (Coonamble Times representative)

Lesley Duncan (Acting Director, Community, Planning, Development and Environment, Coonamble Shire Council)

Overview of land classification

An overview of a reclassification and the process involved was given by the Chairperson and Council's Lesley Duncan. The information given was as follows:

Under the *Local Government Act 1993* all public land (land owned by Council or the Crown) must be classified as community or operational.

Community land is public land that a council must look after for the community's use and benefit. It can't be sold or developed freely, and it must stay available for public purposes.

Community land is:

- **Owned by council, held for the public.**
Examples: parks, sports fields, playgrounds, reserves, community halls.
- **Cannot be sold or leased long-term without special processes.**
There are strict rules to protect it from being misused or locked away from the public.



Public hearing: land reclassification Calga/Hickey Streets Coonamble, community to operational

- **Must be managed according to a “plan of management.”**

This plan sets out what the land can be used for—recreation, conservation, community buildings, etc.

- **Purpose is community access and use.**

Council has to make sure it remains open, safe, and used in ways that benefit the whole community.

Operational land is Council-owned land that can be used, sold, or developed like normal property.

- Things like depots, car parks, offices, vacant blocks intended for development.
- **Council can sell or lease it without the strict rules** that apply to community land.
- Doesn't need a Plan of Management.
- Managed more flexibly—similar to private property ownership.

Council, when acquiring the land, did not resolve within 3 months of purchase that the land be classified operational. When this occurs the only method of changing the classification is via an LEP amendment, hence why this process is underway.

Land in question

The land is described as:

40 Calga Street, Coonamble:

Lot 10 DP238281, Lot 11 DP238281, Lot 1 DP4230, Lot 2 DP4230, Lot 3 DP4230, Lot 4 DP4230, Lot 5 DP4230, Lot 6 DP4230, Lot 7 DP4230, Lot 8 DP4230, Lot 9 DP4230, Lot 10 DP4230, Lot 11 DP4230

34-46 Hickey Street, Coonamble:

Lot 4 DP4918, Lot 5 DP4918, Lot 6 DP4918, Lot 7 DP4918, Lot 10 DP4918, Lot 11 DP4918, Lot 14 DP4918, Lot 15 DP4918, Lot 1 DP1118478 (closed road)



Public hearing: land reclassification Calga/Hickey Streets Coonamble, community to operational



Advertisement

The public hearing was advertised in the Coonamble Times on 29/11/2025 and in. As the Coonamble Times is the town's only newspaper, this was considered adequate. The notice was also advertised on Council's website.

The advertisement noted that the land was proposed to be reclassified – no mention of rezoning.



Public hearing: land reclassification Calga/Hickey Streets Coonamble, community to operational

Notes from speakers

- Karen Churchill (resident)
Concerned the zoning may be changing. Clarified that the zoning isn't changing. Karen wanted to understand the difference between community and operational land and why it needs to change. The difference was explained & Lesley advised that before Council is able to develop or sell the land, it needs to have its classification changed to operational.
- River McCrossan (Coonamble Times)
River asked questions also clarifying the process. No opinions for or against were offered.

Discussions also clarified that the proposed core and cluster development on Limerick St cannot go ahead without this reclassification from community to operational land, to enable the land to be sold.

Conclusions

The public hearing was held in an informal manner to encourage attendance and interest.

Questions and discussions were focused on the process involved and why rather than objections to the reclassification.

Based on the results of the public hearing, it is recommended that the reclassification proceed. No changes are recommended to the Planning Proposal nor proposed reclassification.

Melissa Ward

Independent Chairperson

Public hearing: land reclassification Calga/Hickey Streets Coonamble, community to operational



**Confident leadership.
Effective governance.
Stronger communities.**

About Locale Learning

We are a trusted professional development partner in the local government sector. To date, we have worked with over 30 local councils across NSW to support their councillor's training and development needs.

We're leading a growing movement of organisations who focus on elevating ethical, mindful and effective civic & political leadership.

Our mission is to support local councillors to reach their leadership potential. And in turn, create strong and high-performing councils. We know that councillors and the organisations thrive, communities thrive too.

localé learning

Professional development package: 2026

Empowering councillors to lead with purpose, impact, and accountability

Package: in-brief

Our professional development package is designed for regional and rural councillors in NSW who want practical, high-impact online learning.

It's ideal for councils seeking to invest in quality, cost-effective training that genuinely strengthens local leadership and decision-making.

The package includes four curated learning intensives that equip councillors with the mindsets, skills, and tools to govern effectively and deliver outcomes for their communities.

It is centered on our civic leadership philosophy - leading inwards, leading outwards and leading forwards.

Benefits at a glance

- **Practical and applicable:** Grounded in the realities of local government & directly addressing challenges councillors face every day
- **Flexible and accessible:** Online delivery with recordings means councillors can learn at their own pace, from anywhere & without the hassle of travel to the city
- **Peer learning and networking:** Encourages collaboration, with councillors learning from peers across NSW
- **Leadership that lasts:** Builds personal sustainability and creates collective impact

Who is it for?

Mayors and Councillors at any stage of their term who are:

- Wanting to build on their induction training and foundational knowledge
- Seeking to sharpen their civic leadership skills and know-how with fresh perspectives and tools

Targeted leadership support

Intensive One: Getting stuff done on your Council

- Aligning your purpose, values and ideas with your civic role & the system of local government
- Nailing your Notice of Motion to achieve positive change for your community
- Understanding what makes a Council resolution unlawful

Intensive Two: The conflict clinic

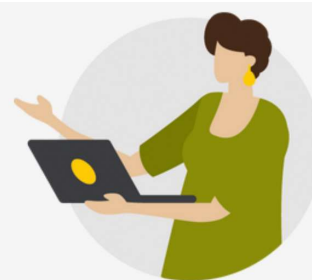
- Understanding your approach to conflict management & the conflict arc in councils
- Minimising the risks & maximising the rewards of social media
- Building social licence for council projects when outrage emerges & sets in

Intensive Three: Good governance in action

- Walking the talk and being accountable for your behaviour and actions
- Exploring the Code of Conduct in action with a real life case study
- Understanding how recent legal decisions impact your governance responsibilities & civic duties

Intensive Four: Commanding the Chamber

- Keeping an open mind with your decisions & bringing presence and calm to the Chamber
- Speaking your mind with grace - both in the Chamber and after the meeting finishes
- Mastering the technical details of recission motions



How it works

1

Four learning intensives

Over 2026 councillors will access four learning intensives (two hours online) focused on a core element of their civic leadership. Opportunity to engage in Q&A and peer discussions.

2

Recording for catch up

Councillors are busy people! After each intensive, the recording will be available to watch on demand via our online portal

3

Practical resources

Every session includes a comprehensive & digestible mastery guide, plus practical tools and templates to support ongoing learning.

Dates

23 March 2026 / 16 June 2026
16 September 2026 / 19 November 2026

Annual investment per council: \$4,650(+gst)

Plus a complimentary all access pass to our Political Wellbeing Summit for all councillors
And membership to our exclusive Brains Trust Circle

Ready to partner with us?

Reach out today for a confidential chat to see how our professional development package can strengthen the governance and leadership of your council.

localé learning

T: 0421 180 881

W: www.locallearning.com.au

E: contact@locallearning.com.au

MEETING
RESULTING ACTIONS

Meeting Date	Item Number	Subject	Resolution	Target Date	Responsible Officer.	Comments
9/07/2025	10.3	Notice of Motion - 2025/26 Quambone and Gulargambone Transfer Station Operational Hours	<p>RESOLUTION 2025/186</p> <p>Moved: Cr Margaret Garnsey Seconded: Cr Paul Wheelhouse</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reinstate the Gulargambone and Quambone 2024/25 waste transfer station service levels until 31 December 2025. 2. Fund the provision of these services by transferring \$7,000 from the Bulk Waste Kerbside Budget. 3. Place on public exhibition a clear and concise explanation of the proposed Gulargambone and Quambone Transfer Stations reduced hours and report back to Council in September. <p>Against: <u>In Favour:</u> Crs Daniel Keady,</p>	10/09/2025	Duncan, Lesley	<p>15 Jul 2025 4:52pm Colwell, Marina - Target Date Revision Target date changed by Colwell, Marina from 23 July 2025 to 10 September 2025 - Additional report to Council at the September ordinary meeting</p> <p>29 Jul 2025 4:07pm Colwell, Marina - Reallocation Action reassigned to Duncan, Lesley by Colwell, Marina - For your action</p>

			<p>Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey and Paul Wheelhouse</p> <p><u>Against:</u> Cr Phillipa Goldsmith</p> <p>CARRIED 7/1</p>			
15/05/20 25	10.15	Youth Accommodation Project	<p>RESOLUTION 2025/124</p> <p>Moved: Cr Paul Fisher Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Receives and notes the status of the youth accommodation project. 2. Request the operating plan and funding implications be bought back to Council at the June meeting. <p>CARRIED</p>	29/05/2025	Duncan, Lesley	<p>30 Sep 2025 11:25am Tatton, Deborah - Reallocation</p> <p>Action reassigned to Duncan, Lesley by Tatton, Deborah - Acting Director</p>
12/03/20 25	10.13	Signage Update	<p>RESOLUTION 2025/58</p>	26/03/2025	Duncan, Lesley	<p>30 Sep 2025 11:26am Tatton, Deborah - Reallocation</p>

			<p>Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Receives and notes the information in the signage update report. 2. Rationalise and remove redundant signage across the Local Government Area. 3. Commission a wayfinding and interpretation audit and develop a package to optimise active travel and tourism opportunities, as identified by the Coonamble Shire Masterplan, to be funded in the 2025-26 budget. 4. Continue in the interim to improve the Shire Local boundary signs and clean up the town entry signs. <p><u>In Favour:</u> Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh</p>			<p>Action reassigned to Duncan, Lesley by Tatton, Deborah - Acting Director</p>
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			<p>and Paul Wheelhouse</p> <p><u>Against:</u> Nil</p> <p>CARRIED 8/0</p> <p>At 11:02am, Cr Paul Fisher left the meeting.</p> <p>At 11:04am, Cr Paul Fisher returned to the meeting prior to voting on item 10.13</p>			
9/04/2025	10.13	Coonamble Shire Masterplan	<p>RESOLUTION 2025/93</p> <p>Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh</p> <p>Seconded: Cr Karen Churchill</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That a further workshop be held to allow Council to review all the actions in the Coonamble Shire Masterplan and decide on which actions should remain a priority. 2. That the agreed priority actions of the Coonamble Shire Masterplan be incorporated into the draft Delivery Program 2025-2028. 3. That the draft 	23/04/2025	Duncan, Lesley	<p>30 Sep 2025 11:25am Tatton, Deborah - Reallocation</p> <p>Action reassigned to Duncan, Lesley by Tatton, Deborah - Acting Director</p>

			<p>Operational Plans and Budgets for FY25-26, FY26-27 and FY27-28 include funding for the development of business plans and costings for priority actions of the Delivery Program 2025-2028.</p> <p>4. That Council pursues grant funding for preparation of business plans and costings for significant priority actions of the Coonamble Shire Masterplan. These priorities will be recommended to Council in a further report for approval.</p> <p><u>In Favour:</u> Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse</p> <p><u>Against:</u> Nil</p> <p>CARRIED 9/0</p>			
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13/11/2024	11.3	Notice of Motion - Heritage Study 2008-2010 (Cr Churchill)	<p>RESOLUTION 2024/268</p> <p>Moved: Cr Karen Churchill Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey</p> <p>That:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engages a suitably qualified consultant in line with Council's procurement processes to review the Coonamble Shire Community Based Heritage Study 2008-2010 with the aim of amending the Local Environmental Plan to reflect the recommendations of a contemporary Heritage Study. 2. Writes to the property owners regarding the recommended heritage status of their property based on the findings of the revised Heritage Study. 3. Notes that owners of historic buildings of State significance have an option to register their property with the State. <p><u>In Favour:</u> Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen</p>	05/11/2025	Duncan, Lesley	<p>28 Nov 2024 9:08am Broe, Barry - Target Date Revision Target date changed by Broe, Barry from 27 November 2024 to 05 November 2025 - This is subject to funding being allocated in the 25/26 budget, Grant application for \$25,000 has been submitted, as suggested at the December Council meeting</p> <p>25 Mar 2025 4:56pm Broe, Barry We await the decision on our grant application</p> <p>29 Jul 2025 4:50pm Duncan, Lesley The Heritage Grant application was successful.</p> <p>25 Aug 2025 3:02pm Duncan, Lesley Request for quotations have been sent out and close on 5 September 2025.</p> <p>30 Sep 2025 11:26am Tatton, Deborah - Reallocation Action reassigned to Duncan, Lesley by Tatton, Deborah - Acting Director</p> <p>23 Oct 2025 9:30am Duncan, Lesley A consultant has been appointed with work to commence in November.</p>
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			<p>Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad Karanouh</p> <p><u>Against:</u> Nil</p> <p>CARRIED 8/0</p>			
12/11/2025	9.4	REQUEST FOR ADOPTION OF ROAD ASSETS HIERARCHY REPORT	<p>RESOLUTION 2025/311</p> <p>Moved: Cr Paul Wheelhouse Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey</p> <p>That Council adopt the Roads Hierarchy without changing Merryoula Road (SR27) from its current hierarchical; level 6 (Service Track).</p> <p><u>In Favour:</u> Nil</p> <p><u>Against:</u> Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Paul Wheelhouse</p> <p>LOST 0/8</p>	26/11/2025	Lloyd, Stuart	<p>26 Nov 2025 2:08pm Lloyd, Stuart</p> <p>Roads Hierarchy has been amended - (SR27) Merryoula Road has been reclassified from level 6 (Service Track) to level 5 (Local Access). Roads Hierarchy excel file has been uploaded into MagiqCloud. Document id is 25728</p>

			<p>RESOLUTION 2025/312</p> <p>Moved: Cr Margaret Garnsey Seconded: Cr Paul Wheelhouse</p> <p>1. That Council adopt the Roads Hierarchy, noting the amended change in classification for Merryoula Road (SR27) from a level 6 to a level 5 within the hierarchy.</p> <p>2. That Council notes that there is no funding allocated within its adopted operational budget for the upgrade or maintenance of Merryoula Road (SR27) as a level 5 road.</p> <p><u>In Favour:</u> Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Paul Wheelhouse</p> <p>Against: Nil</p> <p>CARRIED 8/0</p>			
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12/11/2025	9.3	PROPOSED PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE OF PUBLIC ROADS	<p>RESOLUTION 2025/310</p> <p>Moved: Cr Paul Wheelhouse Seconded: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith</p> <p>That Council note that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An application form has been forwarded to the applicant. 2. The procedure required for the consideration of the permanent closure of McGlynns Road (Shire Road 89) and Fishers Road (Shire Road 90). 3. That Council place the proposed permanent road closure permanent closure of McGlynns Road (Shire Road 89) and Fishers Road (Shire Road 90) on public exhibition for a period of 28 days for the purpose of inviting submissions from the community. 4. That a further report be presented to Council, with all submissions received, for Council's further consideration of the proposed road closures of 	26/11/2025	Lloyd, Stuart	<p>26 Nov 2025 2:32pm Lloyd, Stuart</p> <p>Polices and procedures drafted up and to be tabled at December 2025 Council meeting., Proponent has been emailed application form for permanent closure of Council public roads (SR89) McGlynns Road, and (SR90) Fishers Road. Awaiting payment so that proposal can be publicly exhibited for 28-day period.</p>
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			<p>McGlynns Road (Shire Road 89) and Fishers Road (Shire Road 90).</p> <p><u>In Favour:</u> Crs Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Paul Wheelhouse</p> <p><u>Against:</u> Nil</p> <p>CARRIED 7/0</p>			
12/11/2025	9.2	Delegations of Authority to the General Manager	<p>RESOLUTION 2025/309</p> <p>Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith</p> <p>Seconded: Cr Adam Cohen</p> <p>That:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Council notes the contents of the report on Delegations of Authority to the General Manager. The Instrument of Delegation for the General Manager of Coonamble Shire be noted. The Instrument of 	26/11/2025	Maundrell, Jenni	

			<p>Delegation be provided to Greg Hill effective from 1 December 2025 to 1 December 2030 unless revoked or amended.</p> <p><u>In Favour:</u> Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Paul Wheelhouse</p> <p><u>Against:</u> Nil</p> <p>CARRIED 7/0</p>			
15/05/2025	10.2	Notice of Motion - Tooraweenah Road	<p>RESOLUTION 2025/111</p> <p>Moved: Deputy Mayor Steven Butler Seconded: Cr Paul Wheelhouse</p> <p>That Council:</p> <p>1. Receives a briefing in June from the Project Manager consultant (Projence) engaged by Council on the project delivery plan which will include but not limited to:</p>	29/05/2025	Murphy, Kerrie	<p>03 Jun 2025 1:16pm Colwell, Marina - Reallocation Action reassigned to Murphy, Kerrie by Colwell, Marina - Assigned to Director for Update</p> <p>05 Jun 2025 10:46am Murphy, Kerrie Workshop to be held with Councillors on 11 June 2025, which will involve presentations by Project Manager (Projence) and Business Principal of Access Environmental (Accredited Biodiversity Assessor).</p> <p>25 Jun 2025 11:16am Murphy, Kerrie Items 1, 2 and 4 complete.</p>

			<p>a) Methodology</p> <p>b) Procurement</p> <p>c) Project budget and forecasts</p> <p>d) Key risk</p> <p>2. Receives a briefing from the ecologist in June regarding the REF to discuss the threatened Ecological Communities (Weeping Myall Woodlands, hollow bearing trees, blaze trees, large and old trees that have historical significance and scarred trees across the project site.</p> <p>3. Receives a bi-monthly workshop to be conducted with council by the Project Manager (Projence) and relevant expert as required (eg: ecologist) for a briefing on the progress of the project.</p> <p>4. Continues to receive a monthly progress report on the Tooraweenah Road project.</p> <p>5. The report from the Project Manager consultant (Projence) be</p>		<p>03 Sep 2025 8:45am Murphy, Kerrie Councillor Workshop held 13 August 2025.</p> <p>17 Sep 2025 8:56am Murphy, Kerrie Items 3 and 5 on hold pending resolution 2025/236 from the September meeting.</p> <p>23 Oct 2025 1:56pm Murphy, Kerrie Items 3 and 5 on hold pending resolution 2025/236 from the September meeting.</p> <p>01 Dec 2025 2:57pm Colwell, Marina Tenders have closed - evaluation committee currently carrying out assessments, with engagement of probity consultants.</p>
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			<p>presented to ARIC with respect to managing the risks associated with the project.</p> <p>6. The Gateway reviews be considered as part of each stage of the project.</p> <p><u>In Favour:</u> Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse</p> <p><u>Against:</u> Nil</p> <p>CARRIED 9/0</p>			
14/06/2023	10.12	Management of Crown Reserve 96390 - Lot 244 DP44910	<p>RESOLUTION 2023/109</p> <p>Moved: Cr Pat Cullen Seconded: Cr Terence Lees</p> <p>1. That Council notes the information contained within this report.</p> <p>2. That Council resolves to formally request that the Department of Crown Lands formally</p>	28/06/2023	Quarmby, Bruce	<p>25 Aug 2023 11:52am Quarmby, Bruce</p> <p>Letter written to crown lands seeking appointment as crown reserve manager. Public works to be engaged to acquire the land</p> <p>18 Mar 2024 8:02pm Quarmby, Bruce</p> <p>Council has been appointed Crown Land Manager , acquisition of land to proceed.</p> <p>04 Jul 2024 9:25am Quarmby,</p>

			<p>appoint Coonamble Shire Council as the Crown Reserve Manager for the Reserve 96390.</p> <p>3. That Council resolves that as the purpose for the Crown Reserve is for the provision of Emergency Services, that the Reserve is to be classified as Operational Land.</p> <p>4. That following the appointment of Council as the Crown Reserve Manager for the Reserve 96390. That Council resolves to proceed with the compulsory acquisition of the Reserve 96390, being Lot 244 DP 44910 for the purpose of the provision of emergency services in accordance with sections 186 and 187 of the Local Government Act 1993 and in accordance with the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991.</p> <p>5. That Council makes an application to the</p>			<p>Bruce NSW Public Works have been approached to handle the acquisition of the land 17 Jan 2025 10:20am Quarmby, Bruce Made follow up contact with Public works to progress the issue. 25 Apr 2025 9:46pm Quarmby, Bruce Following advice of staffing changes at the NSW Public Works, management have been in contact with NSW Public Works to restart/progress the required works. 03 Jun 2025 6:26pm Quarmby, Bruce Further contact has been made with the NSW Public Works. From these discussions the process has been restarted with Council staff following recommended course of action. For Council's information this action focuses on finalising the proposed road closures currently sitting with the NSW Public Works. 31 Aug 2025 11:18am Quarmby, Bruce Discussions remain ongoing with Public Works and Crown Lands.</p>
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			<p>Minister and the Governor for approval to acquire the land described as part Lot 244 by compulsory process under section 186(1) and 187 of the Local Government Act 1993 of provision of emergency services in accordance with the requirements of the <i>Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991</i>.</p> <p>6. That Council does not acquire the mineral rights over the land to be acquired.</p> <p>7. That Council resolves that the land is to be classified as operational land in accordance with section 31 (2) of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>.</p> <p>8. That Council resolves for the purposes of section 30 of the <i>Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991</i>, that Council</p>			
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			<p>agrees to the land being acquired for compensation, set at the market value of the land, as agreed by the General Manager and the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Crown Lands.</p> <p>9. That Council resolves.</p> <p>a) to delegate to the General Manager or his delegate the power to do anything further as necessary to give effect to the compulsory acquisition including obtaining any necessary approvals and publishing any necessary notices in the Gazette.</p> <p>b) That authority be granted to the General Manager to affix the Common Seal of the Council to any documentation required to give effect to this resolution.</p> <p><u>In Favour:</u> Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen,</p>			
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			<p>Pat Cullen, Barbara Deans, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville</p> <p><u>Against:</u> Nil</p> <p>CARRIED 9/0</p>			
15/05/2025	10.1	Notice of Motion - Water and Sewer	<p>RESOLUTION 2025/110</p> <p>Moved: Deputy Mayor Steven Butler</p> <p>Seconded: Cr Paul Wheelhouse</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undertake the process for the water and sewerage infrastructure asset revaluation and condition rating through 2025 / 26 financial year in accordance with industry best practice and financial reporting for water and sewerage. 2. Note that the process takes 12 months to undertake the revaluation and condition rating and will be required for the 2025 / 26 financial audit and reporting. 3. Note that the revaluation is based on a sample of 	29/05/2025	Quarmby, Bruce	<p>03 Jun 2025 1:14pm Colwell, Marina - Reallocation</p> <p>Action reassigned to Murphy, Kerrie by Colwell, Marina - Assigned to Director for Update</p> <p>05 Jun 2025 10:47am Murphy, Kerrie</p> <p>Quotations are being sought for the revaluation of the water and sewer assets. Manager Utilities is not available to attend the June Meeting. A draft presentation has been prepared and will be finalised upon the Manager's return to work. The Acting General Manager is working with the Mayor to co-ordinate the timing of the presentation.</p> <p>29 Jun 2025 6:58pm Murphy, Kerrie</p> <p>Quotations are being sought for the revaluation of the water and sewer assets. A draft presentation has been prepared and will be finalised upon the Manager's return to work. The Interim General Manager is working with the Mayor to co-</p>

			<p>the assets across various conditions and not the entire network due the cost.</p> <p>4. Hold a workshop once the revaluation and condition assessment process are completed.</p> <p>5. Request the General Manager to give approval for the Manager Water and Sewer to attend the June Ordinary Meeting to be available to answer any questions and give any updates.</p> <p><u>In Favour:</u> Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse</p> <p><u>Against:</u> Nil</p> <p>CARRIED 9/0</p>			<p>ordinate the timing of the presentation.</p> <p>29 Jul 2025 10:25am Colwell, Marina - Reallocation Action reassigned to Quarmby, Bruce by Colwell, Marina - for budget comments</p> <p>29 Jul 2025 10:26am Colwell, Marina - Reallocation Action reassigned to Quarmby, Bruce by Colwell, Marina - For budget comment</p> <p>31 Aug 2025 11:20am Quarmby, Bruce In line with Council's procurement policy , additional quotes are being sought for the valuation of Water and Sewer Assets. Works are continuing on the revision of the asset management plans for these classes</p> <p>28 Oct 2025 1:21pm Quarmby, Bruce Progress on completing the procurment process has been delayed whilst staff finalise its end of financial year reporting responsibilities. Council staff are also reviewing the scope of works to ensure adequate information is gathered during this process.</p>
8/10/2025	2.1	Applications for Financial Assistance under Council's Donations Policy	<p>RESOLUTION 2025/277</p> <p>Moved: Cr Ahmad</p>	22/10/2025	Quarmby, Bruce	<p>28 Oct 2025 1:18pm Quarmby, Bruce Council's ESO has contacted</p>

			<div>Karanouh Seconded: Cr Paul Wheelhouse</div> <div>That Council:</div> <div>1. Notes the information in this report.</div> <div>2. Provide financial assistance in accordance with the recommendations from the Donations Committee as follows:</div> <div>(a) Coonamble- Castlereagh Landcare \$ 3,000.00</div> <div>(b) Coonamble Neighbourhood Centre – Hosting of luncheon for people with disabilities \$ 4,000.00</div> <div>(c) Gulargambone Working Dogs \$ 3,000.00</div> <div>(d) St Barnabas Anglican Parish \$</div>			<div>community organisations to confirm their payment details to allow for the transfer of funds via EFT.</div>
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			<div>2,000.00</div> <div>(e) 2829 Gathering</div>			
			<div>\$ 1,000.00</div> <div>(f) Coonamble Local Aboriginal Lands Council \$ 1,000.00</div> <div>In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse</div> <div>Against: Nil</div> <div>CARRIED 8/0</div>			



Investment Report

01/11/2025 to 28/11/2025

Portfolio Valuation as at 28/11/2025

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	04/06/2025	04/12/2025	4.3500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	42,427.40	6,673.97
Suncorp Bank	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	18/06/2025	19/01/2026	4.4100	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	39,629.59	6,766.03
Suncorp Bank	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	12/06/2025	12/02/2026	4.3300	500,000.00	500,000.00	10,083.56	1,660.82
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	28/08/2025	27/02/2026	4.1400	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	21,096.99	6,351.78
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	02/09/2025	02/03/2026	4.1400	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	9,981.37	3,175.89
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	20/08/2025	20/03/2026	4.1000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	11,345.21	3,145.21
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	11/09/2025	13/04/2026	4.2000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	18,180.82	6,443.84
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	17/07/2025	17/04/2026	4.2000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	15,534.25	3,221.92
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	25/09/2025	25/05/2026	4.2500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	15,136.99	6,520.55
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	28/10/2025	29/06/2026	4.1100	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	3,603.29	3,152.88
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	31/07/2025	31/07/2026	4.1700	2,500,000.00	2,500,000.00	34,559.59	7,997.26
Regional Australia Bank	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	06/08/2025	06/08/2026	4.1500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	13,075.34	3,183.56
IMB Bank	A-2	FRTD	GENERAL	Quarterly	06/08/2024	06/08/2026	4.2000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	2,646.58	2,646.58
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/10/2025	07/08/2026	4.2500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	6,171.23	3,260.27
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	29/09/2025	31/08/2026	4.3000	1,500,000.00	1,500,000.00	10,779.45	4,947.95
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	20/11/2025	19/11/2026	4.3600	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	2,150.14	2,150.14
IMB Bank	BBB+	FRTD	GENERAL	Quarterly	16/01/2025	17/01/2028	4.2700	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	5,147.40	3,275.62
Commonwealth Bank	A-1+	CASH	GENERAL	Annual	28/11/2025	28/11/2025	3.6000	1,500,000.00	1,500,000.00	443.84	443.84



Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
TOTALS								26,000,000.00	26,000,000.00	261,993.01	75,018.08

Portfolio by Asset as at 28/11/2025

Asset Type: CASH

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
Commonwealth Bank	A-1+	CASH	GENERAL	Annual	28/11/2025	28/11/2025	3.6000	1,500,000.00	1,500,000.00	443.84	443.84
CASH SUBTOTALS								1,500,000.00	1,500,000.00	443.84	443.84

Asset Type: TD

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	04/06/2025	04/12/2025	4.3500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	42,427.40	6,673.97
Suncorp Bank	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	18/06/2025	19/01/2026	4.4100	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	39,629.59	6,766.03
Suncorp Bank	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	12/06/2025	12/02/2026	4.3300	500,000.00	500,000.00	10,083.56	1,660.82
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	28/08/2025	27/02/2026	4.1400	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	21,096.99	6,351.78
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	02/09/2025	02/03/2026	4.1400	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	9,981.37	3,175.89
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	20/08/2025	20/03/2026	4.1000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	11,345.21	3,145.21
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	11/09/2025	13/04/2026	4.2000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	18,180.82	6,443.84
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	17/07/2025	17/04/2026	4.2000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	15,534.25	3,221.92
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	25/09/2025	25/05/2026	4.2500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	15,136.99	6,520.55
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	28/10/2025	29/06/2026	4.1100	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	3,603.29	3,152.88
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	31/07/2025	31/07/2026	4.1700	2,500,000.00	2,500,000.00	34,559.59	7,997.26

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
Regional Australia Bank	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	06/08/2025	06/08/2026	4.1500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	13,075.34	3,183.56
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/10/2025	07/08/2026	4.2500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	6,171.23	3,260.27
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	29/09/2025	31/08/2026	4.3000	1,500,000.00	1,500,000.00	10,779.45	4,947.95
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	20/11/2025	19/11/2026	4.3600	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	2,150.14	2,150.14
TD SUBTOTALS								22,500,000.00	22,500,000.00	253,755.21	68,652.05

Asset Type: FRTD

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
IMB Bank	A-2	FRTD	GENERAL	Quarterly	06/08/2024	06/08/2026	4.2000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	2,646.58	2,646.58
IMB Bank	BBB+	FRTD	GENERAL	Quarterly	16/01/2025	17/01/2028	4.2700	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	5,147.40	3,275.62
FRTD SUBTOTALS								2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	7,793.97	5,922.19



Portfolio by Asset Totals as at 28/11/2025

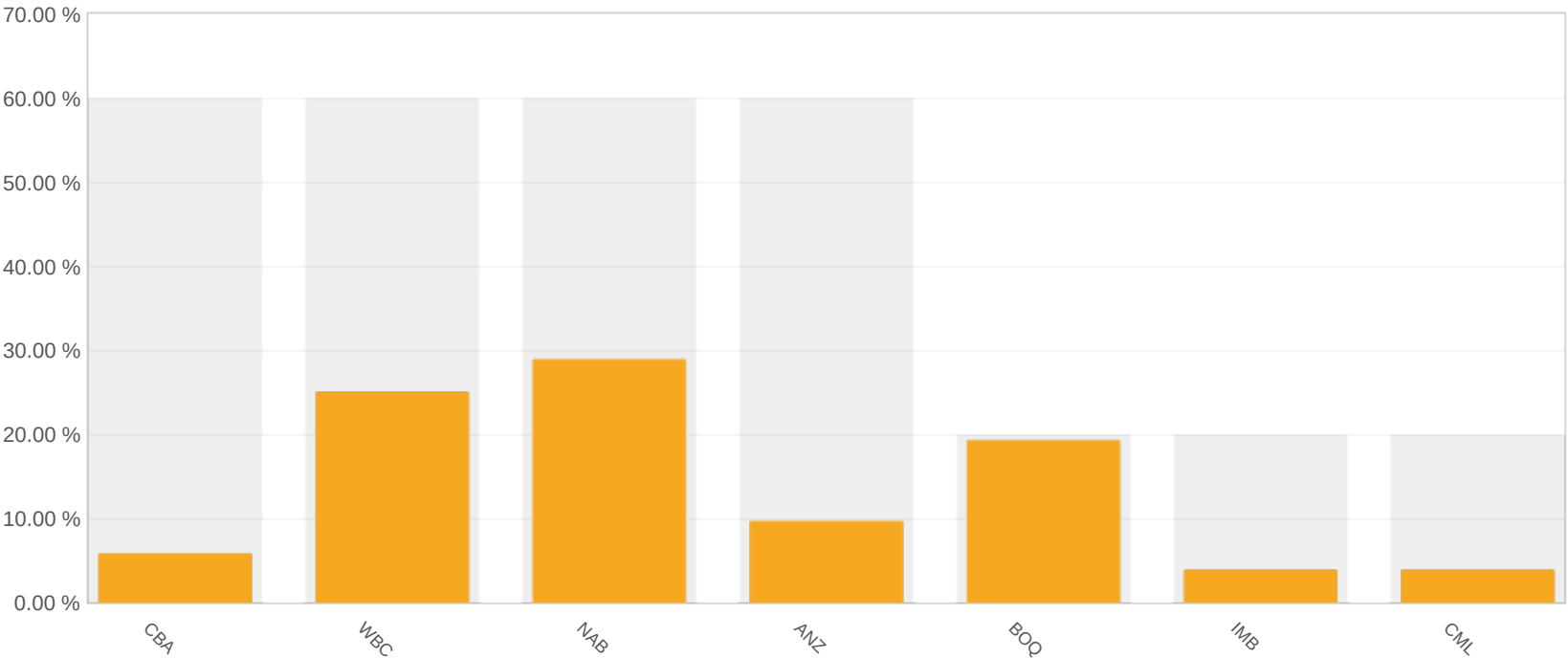
Type	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
CASH	1,500,000.00	1,500,000.00	443.84	443.84
TD	22,500,000.00	22,500,000.00	253,755.21	68,652.05
FRTD	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	7,793.97	5,922.19
TOTALS	26,000,000.00	26,000,000.00	261,993.01	75,018.08

Counterparty Compliance as at 28/11/2025

Short Term Investments

Compliant	Bank Group	Term	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Limit (\$)	Available (\$)
✓	Commonwealth Bank	Short	A-1+	1,500,000.00	5.77	60.00	-	14,100,000.00
✓	Westpac	Short	A-1+	6,500,000.00	25.00	60.00	-	9,100,000.00
✓	NAB	Short	A-1+	7,500,000.00	28.85	60.00	-	8,100,000.00
✓	ANZ Bank	Short	A-1+	2,500,000.00	9.62	60.00	-	13,100,000.00
✓	BOQ	Short	A-2	5,000,000.00	19.23	20.00	-	200,000.00
✓	IMB Bank	Short	A-2	1,000,000.00	3.85	20.00	-	4,200,000.00
✓	Regional Aust Bank	Short	A-2	1,000,000.00	3.85	20.00	-	4,200,000.00
TOTALS				25,000,000.00	96.15			

Counterparty Compliance - Short Term Investments





Long Term Investments

Compliant	Bank Group	Term	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Limit (\$)	Available (\$)
	IMB Bank	Long	BBB+	1,000,000.00	3.85	15.00	-	2,900,000.00
TOTALS				1,000,000.00	3.85			



Counterparty Compliance - Long Term Investments



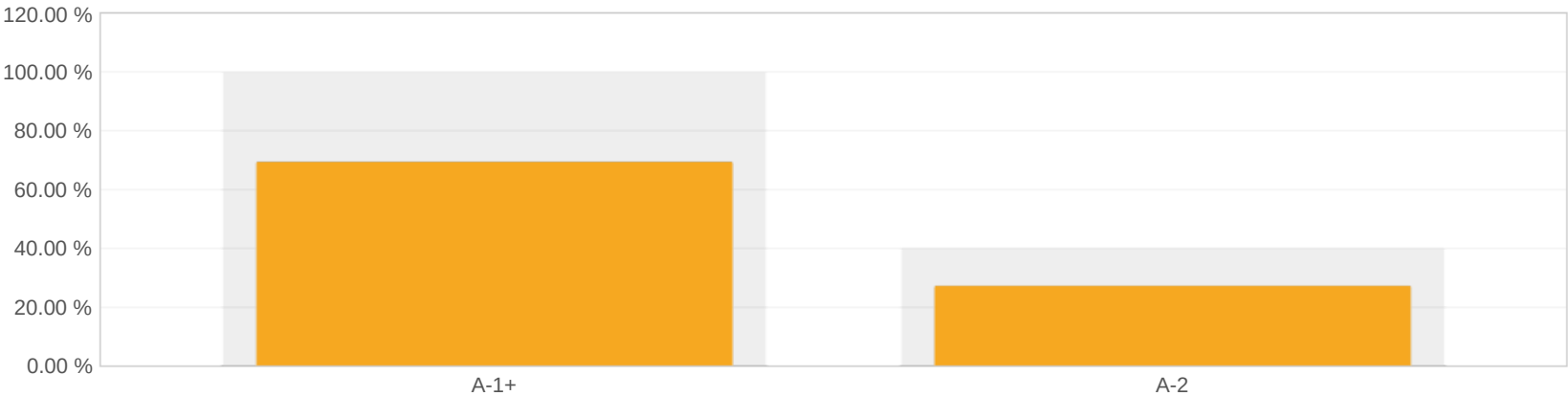


Credit Quality Compliance as at 28/11/2025

Short Term Investments

Compliant	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	A-1+	18,000,000.00	69.23	100.00	8,000,000.00
✓	A-2	7,000,000.00	26.92	40.00	3,400,000.00
TOTALS		25,000,000.00	96.15		

Credit Quality Compliance - Short Term Investments

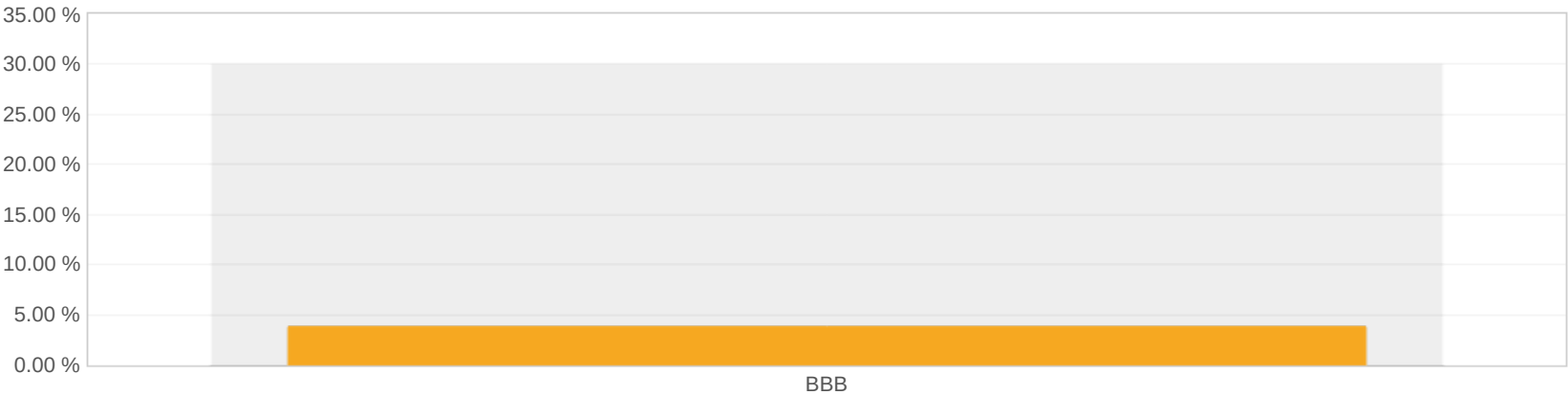




Long Term Investments

Compliant	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	BBB	1,000,000.00	3.85	30.00	6,800,000.00
TOTALS		1,000,000.00	3.85		

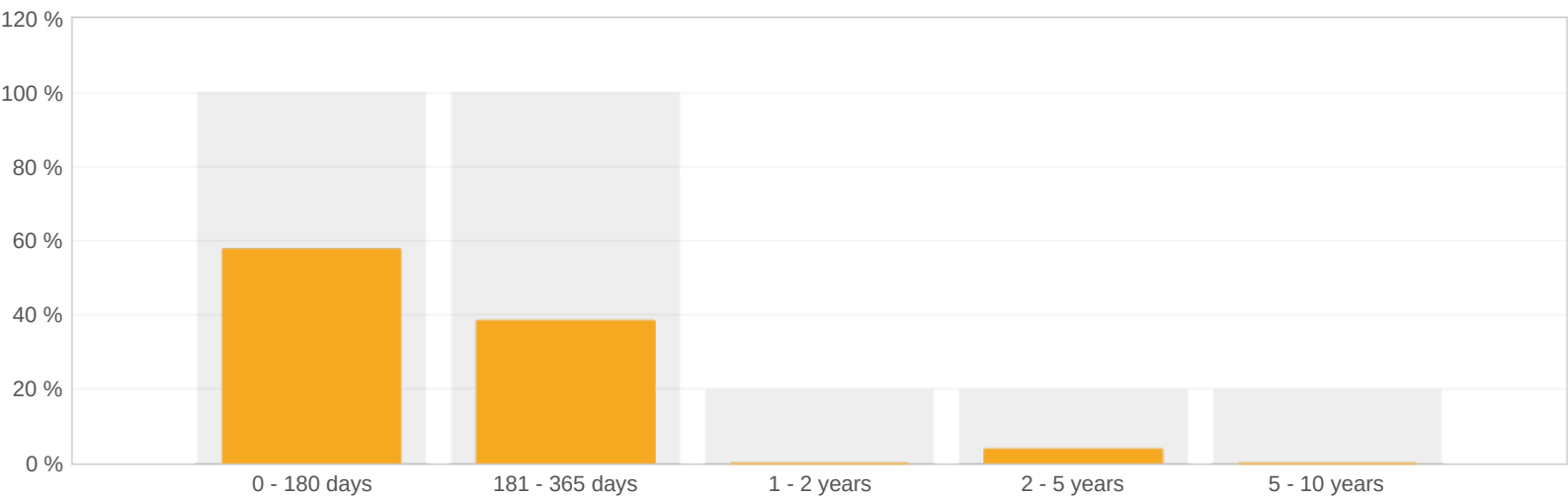
Credit Quality Compliance - Long Term Investments



Maturity Compliance as at 28/11/2025

Compliant	Term	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Min Limit (%)	Max Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	0 - 180 days	15,000,000.00	57.69	0.00	100.00	11,000,000.00
✓	181 - 365 days	10,000,000.00	38.46	0.00	100.00	16,000,000.00
✓	1 - 2 years	-	0.00	0.00	20.00	5,200,000.00
✓	2 - 5 years	1,000,000.00	3.85	0.00	20.00	4,200,000.00
✓	5 - 10 years	-	0.00	0.00	20.00	5,200,000.00
TOTALS		26,000,000.00	100.00			

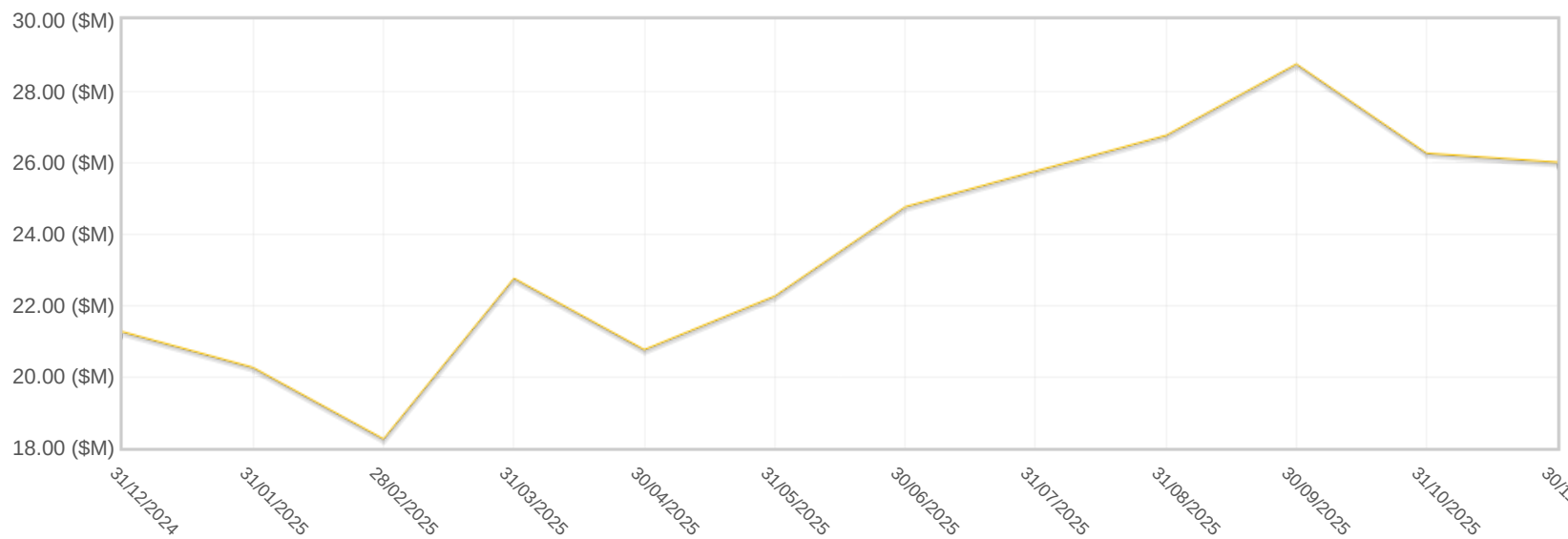
Maturity Compliance





Historical Portfolio Balances as at 28/11/2025

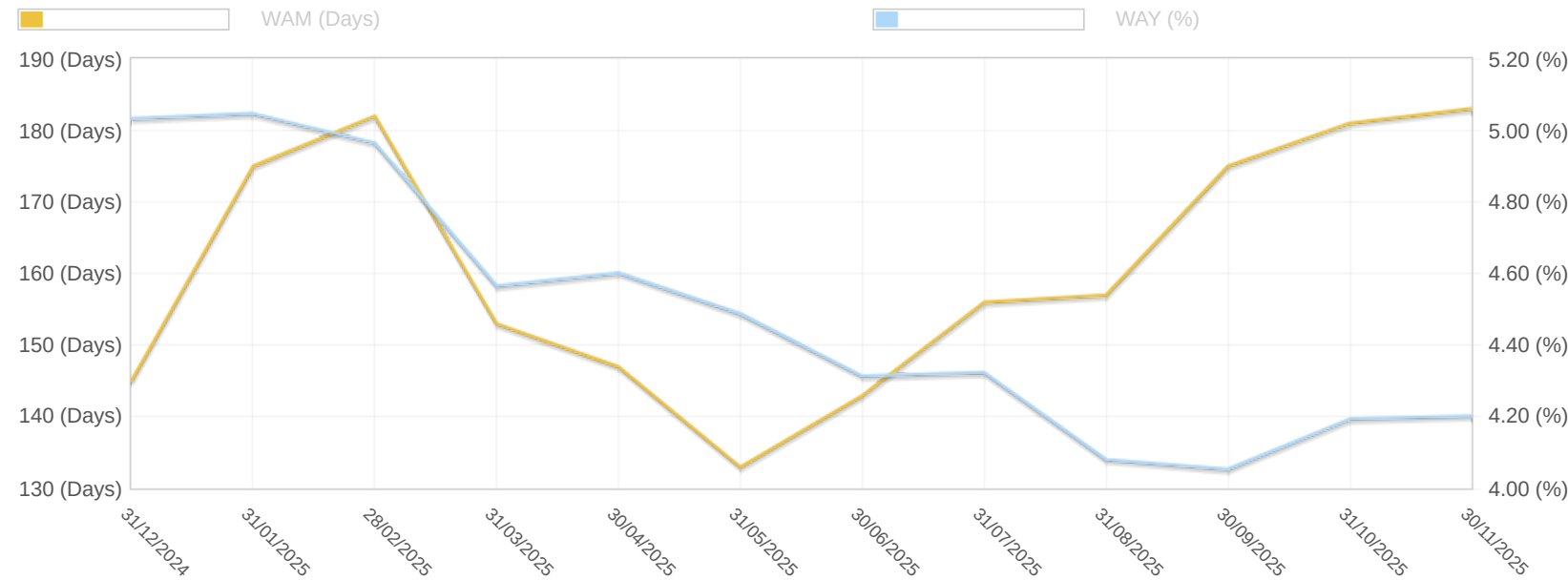
31/12/2024	31/01/2025	28/02/2025	31/03/2025	30/04/2025	31/05/2025	30/06/2025	31/07/2025	31/08/2025	30/09/2025	31/10/2025	30/11/2025
21.25	20.25	18.25	22.75	20.75	22.25	24.75	25.75	26.75	28.75	26.25	26.00





Historical Ratios as at 28/11/2025

	31/12/2024	31/01/2025	28/02/2025	31/03/2025	30/04/2025	31/05/2025	30/06/2025	31/07/2025	31/08/2025	30/09/2025	31/10/2025	30/11/2025
WAM (Days)	145	175	182	153	147	133	143	156	157	175	181	183
WAY (%)	5.0332	5.0467	4.9647	4.5656	4.6023	4.4882	4.3143	4.3241	4.0813	4.0543	4.1943	4.2031





DONATIONS POLICY 2025

1. BACKGROUND

It is Council's policy to ensure that its community service obligations concerning the granting of donations to community groups are met in an open, fair and transparent manner and that the administration work in considering donations is streamlined as much as possible.

2. PURPOSE

Each year Council receives numerous requests for donations. These requests can broadly be classified into three (3) categories namely: 1. Local Organisations 2. Community Organisations 3. Council list of organisations to which donations are made categorised as:

- a) Pre-approved donations
- b) Non pre-approved donations
- c) Mayoral donations.

3. POLICY

Local Organisations

Due to the large number of requests for donations from non-local organisations, Council will generally only make donations to local organisations with the exception of the Pre-approved Donations listed in Section 3 a) of this policy.

Donations to this category should be limited to \$100.00 per year per organisation

Community Organisations

Council will only make donations to community organisations, not individuals. This will remove any public perception that may exist concerning Council favouring one (1) individual over another.

Council list of Organisations to which donations are made

a) Pre-approved Donations

This section contains a list of organisations that Council will make an annual donation to without the need for the organisation to apply to Council for the donation. The following organisations have been included in this section:

• Royal Flying Doctor Service	\$100
• St Vincent de Paul	\$100
• Salvation Army	\$100
• Cancer Council	\$100
• National Heart Foundation	\$100
• Coonamble Hack & Pony Club	\$250

- Annual Presentation of Awards
 - Coonamble High School \$100
 - Coonamble Public School \$100
 - Gulargambone Central \$100
 - St Brigid's School \$100
 - Quambone School \$100
 - Doug Moppett Memorial Prize
 - Coonamble High \$125
 - Quambone School \$125

b) Non Pre-approved Donations

Council will place an advertisement in the Coonamble Times inviting local not-for-profit community groups to submit their requests to Council for consideration of a donation. The request for submissions will be made in:

- ~~▲ December (for consideration at the February Meeting)~~
- ~~▲ May (for consideration at the June Meeting)~~
- ~~▲ September (for consideration at the October Meeting)~~
- December (Submissions can be made until 31 January for consideration at the **March** Meeting).
- April (Submissions can be made until 30 April for consideration at the June Meeting)
- August (Submissions can be made until 31 August for consideration at the October Meeting)

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Following closure of the time allocated for receipt of requests a Council committee comprising of the Mayor, two (2) other Councillors and the General Manager or his/her delegate will consider all requests and make an appropriate recommendation to Council.

Applications under this category may include requests for Council to donate the value of the community group's annual general-purpose rates, if applicable. Requests for the donation of the value of rates will be considered in the same manner as other donations.

All applications must be on the Coonamble Shire Council's Application form which lists the Application Guidelines and eligibility criteria.

If required supporting documentation is not submitted at the time of the application, the submission will be deemed an invalid application and not considered by Council.

Successful applicants are required to complete a Community Donation Report and return it to Council by the end of the financial year in which the donation was given within six(6) months from the date the donation was paid.

If a Community Donation Report is not received by Council on the due date, future applications for donations may be declined.

c) Operational Plan Funding

Council acknowledges that the following annual cultural activities, events and festivals will be funded on a recurrent basis through the Operational Plan. No further requests for these mentioned activities, by way of donation, will be considered by Council:

- ANZAC Day
- Australia Day
- Naidoc Day
- Easter/Christmas Celebrations and Street Decorations
- Buy Local Campaign
- Coonamble Show
- Coonamble Campdraft
- Coonamble Rodeo.

In the occurrence, that due to unforeseen circumstances the event/festival does not go ahead, the donation will be foregone for that financial year. If the donation was prepaid prior to the cancellation, the event/festival will forgo the donation in the next financial year with the amount reallocated into the Operational Plan.

d) Mayoral Donations

Mayoral Donations may be up to \$250 per donation for a maximum of \$5,000.00 in any one (1) financial year. Council's total donations each year will not exceed 1.5% of the rate levy (which currently accounts for around \$76,000).

Implementation / Communication.

The Executive Assistant for the General Manager will arrange for the processing and payment of the Pre-approved Donations listed in Section 3(a) of this policy.

The Executive Assistant for the General Manager will also communicate the information contained within this policy to customer service officers and organisations / members of the public requesting a donation from Council and arrange for advertisements to be placed in the Coonamble Times and information to be placed on Council's web site and Facebook page, inviting community groups to apply for donations.

Title: Donation Policy		
Department: Corporate Services		
Version	Date	Author
1.0	14 August 2019	Bruce Quarmby
1.1	11 December 2019	Bruce Quarmby
1.3	10 August 2022	Deborah Tatton
1.4	10 December 2024	Deborah Tatton
1.5	10 December 2025	Deborah Tatton
Amendment History		
Adopted	14 August 2019	Resolution 2019/4461
Amended and Adopted	11 December 2019	Resolution 2019/4626
Amended and Adopted	10 August 2022	Resolution 2022/191
Amended and Adopted	12 March 2025	Resolution 2025/74
Minor Amendment	10 December 2025	
Review Date: November 2027		
Annexure Attached: Application for Donation		
<u>Paul Gallagher</u><u>Greg Hill</u> General Manager		

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**Coonamble Shire Council
ARIC Committee Meeting**

Thursday 9 October 2025
Coonamble Shire Council Administration Building
Meeting Room
11:30am

Present

Chair – Graeme Fleming PSM (Chair - via videoconference), Meredith Caelli (Independent Member - via videoconference), Director Corporate Services – Bruce Quarmby, Director Infrastructure – Kerrie Murphy, Manager Finance and Procurement – Deborah Tatton, Executive Manager Corporate Governance – Jenni Maundrell (minutes)

Acknowledgement of Country

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

Apologies

General Manager – Phillip Perram (for first part of meeting)

Declarations of interest

Chair Graeme Fleming – has a Standing Declaration of Potential Interest as an occasional provider of consultancy services to local government and as Chair of Lachlan, Warren and Gilgandra Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees.

Meredith Caelli – has a Standing Declaration of Potential Interest as a member of an Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee chaired by Council's Internal Audit provider, Paul Quealey of Lambourne Partners.

Meredith Caelli – has a standing Declaration of Potential Interests as an independent member of Weddin Shire Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.

Draft Financial Statements 2024/25

- Issues raised by auditors
 - Flood damage receivables – allowed a reduced component of income

- Works program extended to 2027. Some impacts of funding administration movements.
- Desktop revaluation process caused delay in finalisation – sought clarification on some figures
- Going through audit process now
 - Asked for validation of data provided on flood damage
- Proposed actions
 - Employee costs creeping up – control actions include fortnightly overtime report to ELT.
 - Income from grants is down – heavily reliant on grants. FAGs prepaid ratio dropped from 85% to 50%
 - Started discussions with councillors about difficult decisions ahead, including levels of resourcing, staff and services.
 - Asset management plans – regular review of assumptions to ensure relevance and accuracy; bringing process forward next year (improvement measure); improving information flow with Infrastructure to better capture data.
 - Outstanding Rates – review Sale of Land for Overdue Rates & debt collection arrangements.
 - Potentially looking at seeking a special rate variation.
 - Comment from Chair: ARIC must understand and support Council in its actions to meet financial sustainability requirements.
- Comment from Cr: financial statements reflect wider challenges.
- Comment from Meredith: can use Business Impact Analysis (BIA) and Critical Services Review to recruit against critical positions first, then prioritise.
- BQ: exploring different methods of delivering services.
- MC: include some narrative about FAGs in the financial statements to educate the community about the conditions Council is working in.
- PG: that needs to extend to councillors.
- BQ: will change notation in the statements to reflect changes in FAG.

Questions from the Chair:

- Comfortable with outstanding grants?
 - Grant program will be run again this year.
 - Flood damage – the organisation has improved its process, with more involvement from Finance
- Any issues with acquittals and outstanding receivables?
 - None at this time, have made significant headway in bringing them down.

- Quarry – small surplus?
 - Correct. Outstanding diesel rebate being collected contributed to position.
- What's the future of the quarry?
 - Reopening for sales on 14 October from voluntary suspension. Regulator happy with Council's actions at the quarry. Blasting contractor identified locations for next blast. Notification that Regulator not taking any further action against Council in respect of incident at quarry in 2023. ISO audit and EPA at quarry next week.
 - Refer ISO audit result to ARIC

General Manager – Phillip Perram joined the meeting

- MC: return on capital at quarry is higher than for other activities (water, sewerage) – why was that?
 - Overall result and value of assets, which are significantly less at quarry than for water and sewer assets. Non-current assets for water = 22m, non-current assets at quarry = 2.5m. Lower base equates to higher return on capital.
- GF: interest on investments: comfortable with level of unrestricted cash?
 - Unrestricted cash and internal reserve reviewed in June. Comfortable with unrestricted cash, despite decline in ratios.
- Internal and external restrictions – external related to grant funds?
 - Contract liabilities form bulk of external restrictions.
 - Pre-paid grants eg bore baths
 - Carry over projects eg RERF
- MC: where there is an opportunity to provide an explanation, it's better practice to include those explanatory remarks. Going forward, will need to look at environmental sustainability and how to report on it.
- GF: OLG KPIs?
 - Advice from Audit Office is that if they are included, Council will be asked to take them out. They are not in the Code.
 - First year recognised remediation value for the waste facility.
- Need to address issues in water fund going forward?
 - Significant work between Infrastructure and Finance.
 - PP: water, sewer and waste need to be key focus due to aging infrastructure, then fund it and include in LTFP.
- ARIC recommends retaining OLG KPI information in report for ARIC, Council and community.
- Other financial matters?

- PP workshop on waste yesterday, significant exposure in that area going forward. Need an exemption from FOGO, need to revisit recycling noting some closing service due to lack of viability.
 - Report to Council – what is the process going forward?
 - Subject to audit being completed, report to Council in November.
 - PP – suggest holding finance workshop with councillors
- RECOMMENDATION moved MC, seconded GF – that Council hold a financial workshop with councillors examining various aspects of operations, SRVs, and understanding the financial statements.

General Business

Greg Hill appointed as GM, starting 1 December.

On site visit proposed 27 November.

- Gilgandra in morning (early),
- Coonamble afternoon (working lunch from 1pm)
- Include meeting with Councillors on agenda
- Would like to look at quarry, waste depot, a major project, bore baths, any major risks identified by staff, Yarran St housing development, Castlereagh Street, proposed industrial park.

Conclusion of the Meeting:

The meeting Closed at 12:42pm

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Chairperson

**Coonamble Shire Council
ARIC Committee Meeting**

Thursday 27 November 2025
Coonamble Shire Council Administration Building
Meeting Room
2:10pm

Present

Chair – Graeme Fleming PSM (Chair), Meredith Caelli (Independent Member), Ross Earl (incoming Independent Member – via videoconference), Phillipa Goldsmith (Councillor Member), General Manager – Phillip Perram, Director Corporate Services – Bruce Quarmby, Executive Manager Corporate Governance – Jenni Maundrell (Minutes), Manager Finance and Procurement – Deborah Tatton (via videoconference).

Acknowledgement of Country

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

Apologies

Director Infrastructure – Kerrie Murphy
Acting Director Community, Planning, Development & Environment – Lesley Duncan
Internal Auditor – Paul Quealey

Moved: M Caelli
Second: R Earl

Declarations of interest

Chair Graeme Fleming – has a Standing Declaration of Potential Interest as an occasional provider of consultancy services to local government and as Chair of Lachlan, Warren and Gilgandra Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees.

Meredith Caelli – has Standing Declarations of Potential Interest as a member of an Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee chaired by Council's Internal Audit provider, Paul Quealey of Lambourne Partners, and as an Independent Member of Weddin Shire Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.

Minutes of previous meeting

Amendment required in Minutes of the meetings of 28 August 2025 and 9 October 2025 to reflect Cr Pip Goldsmith's presence at the meetings.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee, subject to amending attendance to reflect presence of Cr Phillipa Goldsmith:

1. Confirms the minutes of the Coonamble Shire Council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on Thursday 28 August 2025.
2. Confirms the minutes of the Coonamble Shire Council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on Thursday 9 October 2025.

Moved: M Caelli

Second: R Earl

Business arising

The Chair requested an updated action report be presented to the next meeting.

Action: Ensure action report is included in agenda.

Report 7.1 – Internal Audit

RECOMMENDATION: That the Committee:

1. Note the Internal Audit Assurance Map and the Internal Audit Charter remain current and do not require amendments.
2. Note the internal audit on waste management has commenced, with scoping completed and fieldwork scheduled to commence in December 2025.
3. Instructs that the Internal Audit Plan be amended to bring forward the audit on staff attraction and retention to March 2026, noting the audit on procurement will consequently be held in November 2026.
4. Note progress with Asset Management Plans in relation to water, sewer, transport infrastructure and buildings, and request an updated report to the next ARIC meeting.

Moved: M Caelli

Second: R Earl

Action: Prepare a report for the March 2026 ARIC meeting on progress with Asset Management Plans.

Report 7.2 – Risk Management

RECOMMENDATION: That the committee:

1. Note the quarterly update on risk management activities, including a SafeWork investigation.
2. Endorse continued implementation of WHS priorities and monitoring of organisational risks.
3. Requests a report on key strategic and operational risks, with a view that once the committee has assessed risk registers, reporting will be by exception.

Moved: R Earl

Second: M Caelli

Action: Prepare a report for the March 2026 ARIC meeting on key strategic and operational risks.

Report 7.3 – Financial Management

RECOMMENDATION: That the Committee note:

1. Council's financial position after the quarterly budget review has deteriorated from an original operational budget surplus of \$5,845 to an anticipated operational deficit of \$1,253,248. Conversely, Council's position after non-operating expenditure has improved to a \$1,916,222 return of working funds. The deterioration is predominantly attributable to accounting treatment for the prepaid portion of the 2024/25 Financial Assistance Grant.
2. The unqualified 2024/25 audit opinions and overall satisfactory audit outcome.

Moved: M Caelli

Second: R Earl

Report 7.4 –Corporate Compliance Calendar

RECOMMENDATION: That the committee note Council's full compliance with the OLG Calendar of Reporting and Compliance for 2024/25.

Moved: R Earl

Second: M Caelli

Report 7.5 – Draft Local Preference Purchasing Policy

Comments/discussion included:

- The scale of local discount begins at a high level (10%).
- The Statement of Business Ethics should be added to the policy as an associated document.
- ICAC recommendations should be cross-referenced before the draft policy progresses to Council.

RECOMMENDATION: That the committee:

1. Endorse the draft Local Preference Purchasing Policy, subject to the inclusion of reference to the Statement of Business Ethics.
2. Support progression of the amended policy to Council for approval to place the policy on public exhibition.
3. Strongly suggest proactive communication to the community of the adopted policy.

Moved: R Earl

Second: M Caelli

Report 7.6 – Annual Review of Council’s Disaster Recovery Planning

RECOMMENDATION: That the committee note the annual report on Council’s IT Disaster Recovery Planning, including appropriate governance arrangements, clear roles and responsibilities, robust internal controls, and alignment with best practice standards for business continuity and IT resilience.

Moved: M Caelli

Second: R Earl

Report 7.7 – Status Report – Compliance with OLG Guidelines

RECOMMENDATION: That the Committee:

1. Note Council’s compliance with implementation of the Office of Local Government’s Risk Management and Internal Audit Guidelines.

2. Request a report to the next meeting to determine scheduling of a quality assurance improvement program (QAIP) provided by an external provider to meet compliance with requirement for review of the effectiveness of the Internal Audit (ARIC) on conformance with the International Professional Practice Framework.

Moved: M Caelli

Second: R Earl

Action: Prepare a report for the March 2026 ARIC meeting to determine scheduling of a quality assurance improvement program to meet compliance with the requirement for review of the effectiveness of the Internal Audit on conformance with the International Professional Practice Framework.

General Business

1. Introduction of incoming Independent Member, Ross Earl.
2. **RECOMMENDATION:** That the committee request a report to the March 2026 ARIC on how AI is currently being used across the Council and the potential uses in the future for audit, risk and improvement processes.

Moved: G Fleming

Second: M Caelli

Actions:

- a) Conduct staff survey on the use of AI in business practices.
- b) Conduct SWOT analysis on the use of AI in business practices.
3. Request that internal audit reports be shared between Coonamble and Gilgandra councils.
4. Request that internal audit scopes be reported to ARIC.

Action: Prepare a report for the March 2026 ARIC meeting on the scope of the internal audits on waste management (November 2025) and staff attraction and retention (scheduled for March 2026).

5. **RECOMMENDATION:** That the committee note the increasing level of maturity and after consideration of:
 - Committee's responsibilities under s428A (2):

- (a) compliance,
- (b) risk management,
- (c) fraud control,
- (d) financial management,
- (e) governance,
- (f) implementation of the strategic plan, delivery program and strategies,
- (g) service reviews,
- (h) collection of performance measurement data by the council,
- (i) any other matters prescribed by the regulations;
- Council's external auditor;
- Strategic audit plan;
- Risk based internal audits;
- Staff reports;
- Committee deliberations;
- Meeting with Coonamble Shire Council councillors;
- On site inspections;
- Attestation Statement; and
- ARIC workplan,

and regular feedback and review at various ARIC meetings with input from the Mayor and councillors, staff and ARIC members that ARIC is assessed as performing better than satisfactorily.

Moved: G Fleming

Second: M Caelli

Next meeting

- Wednesday 4 March 2026, 11:30am

Conclusion of the Meeting:

The meeting Closed at 3:05pm

.....

Chairperson



AGENDA FOR ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, 27th November 2025

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to clause 7 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice that the Council Meeting of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council will be held at the **Coonamble Shire Council Chambers** on **27th November 2025** commencing at **10:30am** to discuss the items listed in the Agenda.

Please Note: The Council Meeting is audio recorded

Michael Urquhart
GENERAL MANAGER

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

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*Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting***1. OPENING OF MEETING**

Time: _____am

2. AUDIO RECORDING OF MEETING

Please note that today's meeting, other than any confidential sessions, are being recorded and will be placed on Council's website. All in attendance should refrain from making defamatory statements. Council takes all care when maintaining privacy, however members of the public gallery and those addressing Council should be aware that you are being recorded.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land we gather upon today and pay respect to the Elders both past, present and emerging.

4. LEAVE OF ABSENCE**Leave of Absence****Recommendation:**

That the leave of absence received from _____ is accepted and a leave of absence is granted.

Moved:

Seconded:

*Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting***5. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Members and senior staff are reminded of their obligation to declare their interest in any matters listed before them.

In considering your interest you are reminded to include pecuniary, non-pecuniary and conflicts of interest as well as any other interest you perceive or may be perceived of you.

Members may declare an interest at the commencement of the meeting, or alternatively at any time during the meeting should any issue progress or arise that would warrant a declaration.

Members must state their reasons in declaring any type of interest.

Member	Item No.	Pecuniary/ Non-Pecuniary	Reason

6. MEMBER OATH/AFFIRMATION

INFORMATION: Statement of Ethical Obligations (3.23 of the Code of Meeting Practice)
Members are reminded of their oath or affirmation under S.233A Local Government Act 1993.

Oath: "I, [name of councillor] swear that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of [name of council area] and the [name of council] and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment".

Affirmation: "I [name of councillor] solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of [name of council area] and the [name of council] and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment."

*Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting***7. PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

SPEAKER	TOPIC
Dr Andrew McConnachie – Senior Research Scientist	10:35am Hudson Pear
Brett Hanger – Partner, Nexia Australia Manuel Moncada – Director, Financial Audit	11:05am Presentation of the 2024/25 Audited Financial Statements

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda – 27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING

ITEM 8.1 MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 27th OCTOBER 2025

Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 27 th October 2025
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That the minutes of the ordinary Council meeting held 27th October 2025, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>

Attachments:

Meeting Minutes – 27th October 2025

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

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CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL
HELD AT COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COONAMBLE ON MONDAY 27th
OCTOBER 2025 COMMENCING AT 10:34AM**

PRESENT: Member D Batten, Member N Kinsey, Member P Fisher, Member M Gamsey, Member M Cooke, Member D Bell, Member G Whiteley, Member G Peart, Member Z Holcombe, and Member G Rummery

ABSENT:

STAFF MEMBERS: M. Urquhart (General Manager), A. Fletcher (Senior Biosecurity Officer) and R Wilson (Minute Secretary)

WELCOME: Meeting was opened at 10:34am and Chairman Member Batten, welcomed all Members and staff to the meeting.

Member Batten welcomed Ms. Penny Heuston of Warren Shire Council, attending the meeting as an observer.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

Public Presentation – Todd Pallister

Todd Pallister from LLS – Coordinator for the Hudson Pear Programme, provided Council with a comprehensive update on the Hudson Pear Control Programme. The presentation included details of the 24/25 operations and achievements, as well as 25/26 operations and results to date.

It was suggested by CMCC Councillors that the presentation be shared with Walgett Shire Council for information purposes. It was agreed that Member Greg Rummery would arrange an invitation via the Walgett Shire Council Mayor, for Todd to present to Walgett Shire Council.

Member Kinsey requested that a copy of the presentation be forwarded to each constituent Council to be shared for information purposes. Mr Pallister agreed to do this. It was also agreed to that the presentation be shared with Lightning Ridge Opal Reserve Trust, following suggestion from the General Manager.

05/25/01 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 27th August 2025

Resolved:

That the minutes of the ordinary Council meeting held 27th August 2025, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Member Kinsey

Seconded: Member Cooke

Carried

27th October 2025

Ordinary Council Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

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<p>05/25/02 Reports of Committees</p> <p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the ARIC Meeting Agenda for 28.08.2025 be received and noted and' 2. the CMCC ARIC Annual Report for 2024-25 be accepted. <p>Moved: Member Kinsey Seconded: Member Holcombe</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Carried</p>
<p>05/25/03 Council's Decision Action Report – October 2025</p> <p>Resolved:</p> <p>That the Resolution Register for October 2025 be received and noted.</p> <p>Moved: Member Gamsey Seconded: Member Whiteley</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Carried</p>
<p>05/25/04 Circulars Received from the NSW Office of Local</p> <p>Resolved:</p> <p>That the information contained in the following Departmental circulars 25-18 to 25-21 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.</p> <p>Moved: Member Peart Seconded: Member Holcombe</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Carried</p>
<p>05/25/05 Cash and Investment Report – 31st August 2025 & 30th September 2025</p> <p>Resolved:</p> <p>That the investment report for 31st August 2025 and 30th September 2025 be received and noted.</p> <p>Moved: Member Rummery Seconded: Member Gamsey</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Carried</p>

27th October 2025

Ordinary Council Meeting

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

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The General Manager noted that a full report for the working funds would be presented to the November 2025 meeting.

05/25/06 Delegates, Representatives and/or Members of Committees, Reference Groups and External Bodies – Terminating September 2026

Resolved:

That members, representatives and delegates be appointed to the committees, reference groups and external organisations as outlines in the scheduled for the period terminating September 2026.

*North-West Regional Weeds Committee – Member Greg Rummery
Central West Regional Weeds Committee – Member Noel Kinsey
Western Region Unincorporated Area – Member Doug Batten*

Moved: Member Kinsey

Seconded: Member Cooke

05/25/07 First Quarter Operational Plan 2025/2026

Resolved:

That Council accepts the progress made on the 2025/2026 Operational Plan as at 30th September 2025.

Moved: Member Peart

Seconded: Member Whiteley

Carried

05/25/08 Payment of Expenses & Provision of Facilities to Councillors - Policy

Recommendation:

That:

1. the General Managers report be received
2. Council having not received any submissions during the public exhibition period, now formally adopts the "Payment of Expenses & Provision of Facilities to Councillors' policy as tabled.

Moved: Member Kinsey

Seconded: Member Rummery

Carried

27th October 2025

Ordinary Council Meeting

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05/25/09 Pecuniary Interest Returns
<p>Resolved:</p> <p>That the General Manager's report be received and noted.</p> <p>Moved: Member Whiteley Seconded: Member Fisher</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Carried</p>

05/25/10 Adoption of Model Code of Meeting Practice
<p>Resolved:</p> <p>That;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council receives the Model Code of Meeting Practice documents 2. The Code of Meeting Practice be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days calling for comment from the public. <p>Moved: Member Peart Seconded: Member Bell</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Carried</p>

27th October 2025

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05/25/11 Ordinary Council Meetings – Time, Dates and Venue for 25/26
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council endorse the below dates for the 2025/2026 Ordinary Council Meetings to be held at the Coonamble Council Chambers commencing at 10:30am; <p>27 November 2025 23 February 2026 27 April 2026 22 June 2026 24 August 2026 26 October 2026 30 November 2026</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Council advertise on Councils website the meeting schedule for the 2025-2026 meetings including the time, date and place as stated above. 3. An Ordinary meeting of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council be held at each constituent Councils meeting chamber during the current term. <p>Moved: Member Rummery Seconded: Member Garnsey</p>

05/25/12 Important Dates for Members - Upcoming Meetings & Events
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That Council receive and note the list of upcoming meetings and events.</p> <p>Moved: Member Whiteley Seconded: Member Rummery</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Carried</p>

Following Councillors interest in conducting and participating in a weeds tour, it was agreed that the General Manager was to organise a tour for 2026.

27th October 2025

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

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05/25/13 Quarterly Biosecurity Report
<p>Resolved:</p> <p>That the report be received and noted.</p> <p>Moved: Member Holcombe Seconded: Member Kinsey</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Carried</p>

Member Batten noted the installation of the electronic sign boards in the Gilgandra Shire for public information. It was suggested that these boards could be utilised for high priority weeds alerts. It was noted by the Senior Biosecurity officer.

It was requested by Members that the General Manager write to Bio Security Commissioner and Local Member Mr Roy Butler extending an invitation to meet with CMCC Members to discuss current bio security matters of concern.

Date of the next CMCC Council Meeting to be Thursday 27th November 2025 in Coonamble

Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 12:05pm

Chairman

General Manager

27th October 2025

Ordinary Council Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

9. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Reports of Committees

Recommendation:

That the reports of the following committees be received and noted.

- Macquarie & Lachlan Valleys Weeds Committee General Meeting Minutes – 12.08.2025
- Macquarie & Lachlan Valleys Weeds Committee Annual General Meeting – 12.08.2025
- Macquarie & Lachlan Valleys Weeds Committee General Meeting Minutes – 23.10.2025
- Hudson Pear Taskforce Meeting Minutes – 13.05.2025
- Harrisia Cactus Taskforce Meeting Minutes – 13.05.2025

Moved:**Seconded:**

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

ITEM 9.1 MACQUARIE & LACHLAN VALLEYS WEEDS COMMITTEE – GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 12.08.2025



Macquarie & Lachlan Valleys Weeds Committee

CHAIRMAN	SENIOR VICE CHAIRMAN/TREASURER	JUNIOR VICE CHAIRMAN	SECRETARY
Benjamin Mott Mobile: 0409 256 779		Jaime Elms Mobile: 0428 154 692	Melissa Brennan Phone: 02 6393 8057 Mobile: 0419 612 448

Minutes of General Meeting
Western Plains Cultural Centre, Dubbo
Tuesday 12 August 2025

Meeting commenced at 10.00am

Present

Name	Organisation
Kane Davison	Cabonne Council
Melissa Brennan	Orange City Council
David Dickerson	Orange City Council
Ron Milne	Parkes Shire Council
Glenn Sloane	Parkes Shire Council
Shannon Hodge	Forbes Shire Council
Duncan Fox	Forbes Shire Council
Jaime Elms	Weddin Shire Council
Tanya Muccillo	Central West LLS
Matt Croft	Dubbo Regional Council
Ben Mott	Hilltops Council
Matt Lane	Central West LLS
Archie Harding	Narromine Shire Council
Grahame McCubbin	Bland Shire Council
Joel Christie-Johnston	LLS
Brad Webb	Cabonne Council
Craig Buckley	Cabonne Council
Craig Venables	Lachlan Shire Council
Kellie Frost	Weddin Shire Council
Melissa Munro	Mid-Western Regional Council
Sean Costigan	Mid-Western Regional Council
Mick Wicks	Orange City Council
Jon Cleary	Narromine Shire Council
Kelvin Scott	Dubbo Regional Council
Mark Holmes	Bland Shire Council
Mitchell Townsend	Cabonne Council

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

The Chairman welcomed everyone to Dubbo and thanked those who had travelled for today's meeting.

The Chairman called for apologies.

Name	Organisation
Andrea Fletcher	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
Peta Holcombe	Dept of Climate Change, Energy, the environmental & water.
James Cleasby	Narromine Shire Council
Andrew Cole	Orange City Council
Daniel Berwick	Dubbo Regional Council
Katrina Underwood	Mid-Western Regional Council
Matt Tiffen	Dubbo Regional Council
Damian Wray	Bogan Shire Council
Jodie Lawler	Dept of Primary Industries & Regional Development
Chloe Jones	Cabonne Council
Dianne Pearce	Mid-Western Regional Council
Corey Clark	Weddin Shire Council
Julie Richards	Crownland
Andrew Cosier	Crownland
Jason Neville	NPWS
Andrew McConnachie	NSW DPI
George Hammond	Life member
Stephen Johnson	DPI
Glenn Neyland	Bland Shire Council
Marita Sydes	DPI
Tina Smart	Cowra Shire Council
Teizha Fletcher	Cowra Shire Council
Richard Brittingham	Crownland
Andrew Francis	Parkes Shire Council

Confirmation of previous meeting minutes on 13 May 2025 at Forbes

Moved David Dickerson

Seconded Archie Harding

Carried

Business arising from previous meeting held at Forbes on 13 May 2025

There were none

Chairman's report

Has been an interesting year and a mixture of plenty happening at work and quite a bit of leave has led to me not finishing as many tasks for the committee as I would have hoped but plenty are nearing completion now. A new commercial in an animated fashion is nearing completion and should be ready to go for our spring tv run, the bank account is operational although we are still awaiting the transfer of some funds from Orange Council, plans for wrapping of the trailers to update our logos and the look of them is in place and the first will hopefully be wrapped next month with committee support, and the website will be hopefully looking fresher by Christmas after some false starts with people to help us out on that front. A trip to Lightning Ridge planned again for next May and some more on that in general business too.

The WAP once again for me personally at least was quite time consuming and painful and with another 12-month run on the horizon hopefully plans for the 4 years after to be one

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

application give us some hope that some better times may be ahead. I feel Jodie understands the challenges we face and is working towards helping us out from the DPI side now.

I'd like to take the chance, for both me personally and on behalf of the committee to thank Tom Pickering and Laurie Thompson. Tom has been my offside, and we started at Council in the same intake nearly 10 years ago and I appreciate his efforts and mateship and for his valuable contribution to our committee and his drive to see it maintained and grown. Laurie was a real character and a constant in the committee for no doubt a long time and unfortunately, I can't accurately say how long but members like Laurie who have maintained the committee and seen it stay not only active but relevant are vital and a driving force for me personally and no doubt the rest of the newer faces. So, thank you Tom and Laurie and all the best for the future.

Lastly, thanks to Mel Brennan for her impeccable organisation of our meetings and keeping everything flowing so smoothly it's unbelievable and so appreciated and it wouldn't run this well without her and to everybody else thanks for their support and friendship throughout the year. The advice, mateship and support are why I love this group and look forward to another successful 12 months ahead.

*Moved Benjamin Mott
Seconded Shannon Hodge
Carried*

Correspondence
There were none.

Financial report
The Chairman talked about Macquarie & Lachlan Valley funds rolling over into Commonwealth Bank

*Moved Benjamin Mott
Seconded Kellie Frost
Carried*

Training

Committee will send out an email for feedback on what training we would like in the future; there was a discussion around side by side & 4WD training.

Update from other organisations etc (DPI, LLS's)
Tanya Muccillo from Central West LLS talked about the weeds space, waiting to see what happens, councils reporting at the moment, achieving goals toward the plans and make sure our committees are supported.

Verbal Delegate Reports
Parkes

- Spraying Boxthorn & Tiger Pear
- Property inspections, targeting Blackberry
- Complaints about cactus species
- Sticky nightshade issues

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Lachlan

- In the process of employing new staff
- Show coming up soon
- Tackled Wild Radish

Weddin

- Attended the weeds conference last week.
- Sort out with finance about WAP
- Corey – Bridal Creeper
- Need more biological controls for Bridal Creeper and Blackberry, have spoken to Andrew McConnachie about this.
- Corey and Jaime have finished assignments

Cabonne

- Problems around WAP – financial cost of it all
- Battling Serrated Tussock
- Dealing with Chilean Needle Grass
- Nursery with cochineal for Tiger Pear going really well
- Attended training with water weeds & cacti
- Found Prickly Pear and took a sample to the Weeds Conference
- Found Scottish Broom in cold areas like Cadia

Orange

- Spraying Tussock
- Cutting Privet
- Attended water weeds identification course
- Tiger Pear cochineal available

Mid-Western

- Have a full team now.
- Trying to get inspections up
- Field days numbers have been down this year compared to previous years
- Congratulated David Dickerson, Ben Mott and Katrina Underwood on their awards at the Weeds Conference.
- Found a Bunny ears cactus in a pot.
- Battling Coolatai
- Sean had to do Traffic control training in May
- Found Sticky nightshade along the Turon

Forbes

- Trying to get of Coolatai Grass
- Boxthorn control
- Found Yellow water lily in a farm dam

Dubbo

- Boxthorn control
- Patches of Mother of Millions
- Still low on staff
- Probably Kelvins last meeting

Hilltops

- Found a mesquite plant
- Reporting
- Recruiting for Toms position still (restructure of job)
- Have 3 sprayers retiring

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Bland

- Sucker spraying on side of road & town village
- Have more training coming up
- Working with bio control agents, cochineal on 10 sites currently.
- Have been working with Ben Mott on the trailers
- Enjoyed the weeds conference overall.

Narromine

- Thanks & congratulations on the weeds conference
- Busy with Wild Radish & Boxthorn
- Sprayed 6 different weeds on one road
- Would like to organise a pop-up shop in Narromine
- Narromine show at the end of the month
- Found a patch of Mother of Millions
- Spraying

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

- Sending a big congratulations to Ben Mott for taking home 2 amazing awards, The NSW Biocontrol Award, and the Buerckner Award what an achievement. Always fantastic to be acknowledged for the hard work and dedication that is done, and I know Tom would be very proud too. Hard working and humble.

New Weed Incursions

Cabonne found some Prickly Pear

Mid-Western found Mother of Millions & Parrots of Feather Weed.

Forbes found Yellow Water Lily

Castlereagh Macquarie Council found some Sticky Florestina

Weeds Advertising

Going to change the TV ad for this year's weeds advertising. New commercial in the planning.

Committee happy to allow Chair and Secretary to decide.

General Business

Discussion around the May meeting being in Lightning Ridge next year.

Discussion on weeds trailers and updating the logo and weeds, revamping it to look more appealing.

David Dickerson had a discussion with the committee regarding vests with biosecurity written on the vest, as they look more professional and noticeable out in the field. Ben Mott and David to talk about and take to Councils.

Committee acknowledged Tom Pickering with his new position at LLS and Happy retirement to Laurie Thompson.

Next Meeting Venue

23 October 2025 – Orange


10 February 2026 – Cabonne

May 2026 – Lightning Ridge

The meeting closed at 11.50am.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

ITEM 9.2 MACQUARIE & LACHLAN VALLEYS WEEDS COMMITTEE – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 12.08.2025



**Macquarie &
Lachlan Valleys
Weeds Committee**

CHAIRMAN	SENIOR VICE CHAIRMAN/TREASURER	JUNIOR VICE CHAIRMAN	SECRETARY
Benjamin Mott Mobile: 0409 256 779		Jaime Elms Mobile: 0428 154 692	Melissa Brennan Phone: 02 6393 8057 Mobile: 0419 612 448

Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Western Plains Cultural Centre, Dubbo
Tuesday 12 August 2025

Meeting commenced at 11.50am

Present

Name	Organisation
Kane Davison	Cabonne Council
Melissa Brennan	Orange City Council
David Dickerson	Orange City Council
Ron Milne	Parkes Shire Council
Glenn Sloane	Parkes Shire Council
Shannon Hodge	Forbes Shire Council
Duncan Fox	Forbes Shire Council
Jaime Elms	Weddin Shire Council
Tanya Muccillo	Central West LLS
Matt Croft	Dubbo Regional Council
Ben Mott	Hilltops Council
Matt Lane	Central West LLS
Archie Harding	Narromine Shire Council
Grahame McCubbin	Bland Shire Council
Joel Christie-Johnston	LLS
Brad Webb	Cabonne Council
Craig Buckley	Cabonne Council
Craig Venables	Lachlan Shire Council
Kellie Frost	Weddin Shire Council
Melissa Munro	Mid-Western Regional Council
Sean Costigan	Mid-Western Regional Council
Mick Wicks	Orange City Council
Jon Cleary	Narromine Shire Council
Kelvin Scott	Dubbo Regional Council
Mark Holmes	Bland Shire Council
Mitchell Townsend	Cabonne Council

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

The Chairman welcomed everyone to today's meeting.

The Chairman called for apologies.

Name	Organisation
Andrea Fletcher	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
Peta Holcombe	Dept of Climate Change, Energy, the environmental & water.
James Cleasby	Narromine Shire Council
Andrew Cole	Orange City Council
Daniel Berwick	Dubbo Regional Council
Katrina Underwood	Mid-Western Regional Council
Matt Tiffen	Dubbo Regional Council
Damian Wray	Bogan Shire Council
Jodie Lawler	Dept of Primary Industries & Regional Development
Chloe Jones	Cabonne Council
Dianne Pearce	Mid-Western Regional Council
Corey Clark	Weddin Shire Council
Julie Richards	Crownland
Andrew Cosier	Crownland
Jason Neville	NPWS
Andrew McConnachie	NSW DPI
George Hammond	Life member
Stephen Johnson	DPI
Glenn Neyland	Bland Shire Council
Marita Sydes	DPI
Tina Smart	Cowra Shire Council
Teizha Fletcher	Cowra Shire Council
Richard Brittingham	Crownland
Andrew Francis	Parkes Shire Council

Confirmation of minutes from the previous AGM held at Parkes on Tuesday 13 August 2024

Moved Kane Davison

Seconded Sean Costigan

Carried

Business arising from previous minutes

There was none.

Chairman's report

Has been an interesting year and a mixture of plenty happening at work and quite a bit of leave has led to me not finishing as many tasks for the committee as I would have hoped but plenty are nearing completion now. A new commercial in an animated fashion is nearing completion and should be ready to go for our spring tv run, the bank account is operational although we are still awaiting the transfer of some funds from Orange Council, plans for wrapping of the trailers to update our logos and the look of them is in place and the first will hopefully be wrapped next month with committee support, and the website will be hopefully looking fresher by Christmas after some false starts with people to help us out on that front. A trip to Lightning Ridge planned again for next May and some more on that in general business too.

The WAP once again for me personally at least was quite time consuming and painful and with another 12-month run on the horizon hopefully plans for the 4 years after to be one application give us some hope that some better times may be ahead. I feel Jodie understands the challenges we face and is working towards helping us out from the DPI side now.

I'd like to take the chance, for both me personally and on behalf of the committee to thank Tom Pickering and Laurie Thompson. Tom has been my offside, and we started at Council in the same intake nearly 10 years ago and I appreciate his efforts and mateship and for his valuable contribution to our committee and his drive to see it maintained and grown. Laurie

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was a real character and a constant in the committee for no doubt a long time and unfortunately, I can't accurately say how long but members like Laurie who have maintained the committee and seen it stay not only active but relevant are vital and a driving force for me personally and no doubt the rest of the newer faces. So, thank you Tom and Laurie and all the best for the future.
Lastly, thanks to Mel Brennan for her impeccable organisation of our meetings and keeping everything flowing so smoothly it's unbelievable and so appreciated and it wouldn't run this well without her and to everybody else thanks for their support and friendship throughout the year. The advice, mateship and support are why I love this group and look forward to another successful 12 months ahead.

Moved Benjamin Mott
Seconded Shannon Hodge
Carried

Financial Report and setting of Membership Fees

The Chairman mentioned that he was happy with the financials for 2025 and include memberships fees and Weeds TV advertising campaign onto one invoice.

The membership fees will stay as they are.

Moved Benjamin Mott
Seconded Kane Davison
Carried

Review Terms of Reference

The Chairman was happy that nothing needs to be updated.

General Business

The Chairman voted to move a motion that for 2026 and that can be reviewed again in the future that meetings will be only 3 times a year instead of 4 starting next year with the months being February, May and October. The yearly AGM will now be moved to the October meeting.

Moved Ben Mott
Seconded Craig Buckley
Carried

Election of Office Bearers

As Tom Pickering had already vacated his position we had to re-elect another Senior Vice Chairman.

Senior Vice Chairman

Melissa Munro was nominated by Sean Costigan
Seconded by Benjamin Mott
Carried

Melissa Munro was elected Senior Vice Chairman unopposed

Before closing the meeting, we had a special request from an old member Kevin Nelligan, to have a minute's silence for Peter Gray who passed away on 27 May 2024. Peter Gray was the equivalent of Phil Blackmore, he's knowledge of the Noxious Weed Act 1993 was endless, a true gentleman, happy to share his knowledge & very easy to talk to. Peter leaves behind his wife Annette, 4 sons Mark, Ian, Phillip and Luke and 8 grandchildren. Peter is fondly remembered by those that worked with Peter, Kevin Nelligan, Glenn Neyland, Kel Frost and Roger Smith to name a few.

Meeting closed at 12.10pm.

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ITEM 9.3 MACQUARIE & LACHLAN VALLEYS WEEDS COMMITTEE – GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 23.10.2025



Macquarie & Lachlan Valleys Weeds Committee

CHAIRMAN	SENIOR VICE CHAIRMAN/TREASURER	JUNIOR VICE CHAIRMAN	SECRETARY
Benjamin Mott Mobile: 0409 256 779	Melissa Munro Mobile: 0438 030 766	Jaime Elms Mobile: 0428 154 692	Melissa Brennan Phone: 02 6393 8057 Mobile: 0419 612 448

Minutes of General Meeting

Gallery – West Room, Orange City Council
Thursday 23 October 2025

Meeting commenced at 10.05am

Present

Name	Organisation
Benjamin Mott	Hilltops Council (Chairman)
Pete Turner	NSW DPIRD
Melissa Munro	Mid-Western Regional Council (Vice Chairman)
Ian Harding	Narromine Shire Council
Jon Cleary	Narromine Shire Council
Andrew Cole	Orange City Council
Damien Wray	Bogan Shire Council
Craig Buckley	Cabonne Council
Glenn Stone	Parkes Shire Council
Lloyd Kimber	Hilltops Council
Daniel Berwick	Dubbo Regional Council
Glenn Neyland	Bland Shire Council
Mark Holmes	Bland Shire Council
Grahame McCubbin	Bland Shire Council
Gregory Spark	Cowra Shire Council
Tina Smart	Cowra Shire Council
Brad Webb	Cabonne Council
Eliza Hurst	Cabonne Council
Mitchel Townsend	Cabonne Council
Jaime Elms	Weddin Shire Council (Junior Vice Chairman)
Craig Venables	Lachlan Shire Council

The Chairman welcomed everyone to Orange and thanked those who had travelled for today's meeting.

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The Chairman called for apologies.

Name	Organisation
Michael Chambers	Parke Shire Council
Jason Neville	DCCEEW
Andrew Francis	Parke Shire Council
Andrew McConahie	DPIRD
Andrew Mulligan	LLS
Melissa Brennan	Orange City Council (Secretary)
Julie Richards	Crown Lands
George Hammond	Life Member
Katrina Underwood	Mid-Western Regional Council
Andrea Fletcher	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
Kane Davidson	Cabonne Council
Shannon Hodge	Forbes Shire Council
Kellie Frost	Weddin Shire Council
Corey Clark	Weddin Shire Council
Cr Stacey Bohm	Narromine Shire Council
Carolyn Crain	Bourke Shire Council
Richard Brittingham	Crownland
Phil Cranney	LLS
Matt Lane	LLS

Confirmation of previous meeting minutes on 12 August 2025 in Dubbo

Moved Jon Cleary

Seconded Craig Buckley

Carried

Business arising from previous meeting held at Dubbo on 12 August 2025

There was none

Chairman's report

It's great to see that the Facebook Page is gaining traction.

Weeds trailers have new logos, the Macquarie trailer is currently having brake work done. New advertisement on the air for weeds tv ad campaign). Channel7 getting back to Ben with another quote

WesternWeeds.org is updated, any suggestions for what could be on the webpage are welcome. Ben would like to thank everyone for their support.

Ben would also like to thank Pete Turner and his team for all the work they have done with the WAP this year.

We need to brainstorm some ideas about how to track community engagement and positive change in what MLVWC does, as this will support applications for future applications in the NSW Environmental Trust to support the committee. All suggestions are welcome.

Possibility of doing a new voiceover for existing weeds videos, which are currently displayed on the website. New tabs will be added for members and executives and awards.

Potential committee collaboration for working alone safety policies

Thank you to Pete for the feedback and support

Guest Speaker: Pete Turner, DPIRD

Pete noted that MLVWC is an important committee for networking and training.

Pete spoke about the four weeds teams in his department:

- Rod Ensbeys Team: Weed Responses and Programs
- Jodie Lawler: Weeds Action Program
- Andrew McConahie: Biological Control Team
- Weed Risk Responses and Management Team
- Training Team

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Any questions about these teams and/or what they cover can be directed to DPIRD and they will be happy to work together to help.

- The WIDX website has changed. Officers are encouraged to take a look.
- There's a weed biosecurity policy outlining the role and scope of the biosecurity teams: dpi.nsw.gov.au → Home → Biosecurity → Invasive Plants and Animals → Weeds → Publication Library → Policy, plans, and strategy → Biosecurity Policy - Weed Management.
- The state weed committee may be reformed as an Invasives Committee.
- A biosecurity committee was formed about a month ago made up of government agencies
- Below that there will likely be both a pest and weeds committee.
- Dr Katherine Cliff is now the Independent NSW Biosecurity Commissioner
- There is an action in the WAP for the biosecurity compliance team to help regional committees as well as individual biosecurity officers as well. This will be implemented going forward.
- The minister spoke about the weeds/biosecurity ads that she saw on television, feedback was positive.
- The regional pest and weed management plan and the NSW invasive species plan need to be updated through consultation.
- The MLVWC committee is an important training committee in terms of community awareness and teaching community how to report.
- In order to fund awareness raising activities such as ads, it is a committee wide effort.
- Training under 4.3 – Note attendance of Macquarie Valley Weeds committee as training, as it is a networking and knowledge-sharing activity. Ensure when applying through WAP, meetings are listed as training.
- LCA biosecurity offices are funded by DPI now through WAP, not LLS.
- WAP Funding Deed Section 5 – there needs to be flexibility when it comes to events such as biosecurity emergencies- drop an activity/vary the funding agreement to ensure DPI can utilise biosecurity officer functions where needed.
- Reporting: 20% of funding is held back for a check-in during February to ensure flexibility- this ensures funds are released when projects and goals/properties are on track with the option for DPI to keep the funds if there has been a change in the plans- ie. If the LCA is down a biosecurity officer etc.
- WAP is confidential.
- DPI will be updating their research strategy.
- Weeds of National Significance Program – WONS, working together nationally, gets a better outcome. It's to encourage a national approach.
- Weed Issues of National Significance may assist, once established, to fill the gaps in the research into chemical control.
- Thank you for coming Pete Turner

Correspondence

The Chairman read through the incoming and outgoing correspondence.

NSW Environmental Trust Grant – how do we prove what change we made- need to figure out how to address this

ACFEC – Had a few cancellations, we may reach out after garnering interest and secure regional training. We will keep an eye on what options are coming up.

Received information from DPI about grant and changes

Financial report

The Chairman went through the Macquarie & Lachlan Valleys bank statements advising the committee of the available funds.

MLVWC now has own bank account and \$36,310 was transferred over from Orange Council.

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Trailers re-stickered and magnets were made up, they're looking really good, we can keep updating and adding some new weeds every 12 months or so. This cost about \$4840 Service NSW \$57 fee for registration of our organisation.
Current bank balance is \$31, 408 as of September 30th as we spent \$2800 was the for advertising.
There will be a fee to be paid in the mandatory process of ensuring the content of the advertisement is appropriate to be put on television – this will cost approximately \$120.

The Chairman called for any questions.
There were none.

Training

The committee would like to look into doing some more training, Ben will enquire about machinery hygiene, opuntia and waterweeds.
Committee members asked to send suggestions to Ben so he can make enquiries.

Update from other organisations etc (DPI, LLS's)

There was none.

Presentation of Awards

Tom Knowles Award

Cabonne Council Biosecurity Weeds Officer Brad Webb the proud recipient of the 2025 Macquarie Lachlan Valley Weeds Committee Tom Knowles award. The Tom Knowles Award is an annual award given to the "Quiet Achiever" and was implemented by Macquarie Valley in 2013 to recognize Tom for the efforts that he put into the Macquarie Valley Weeds Committee and his work in the rural community. Congratulations Brad, thank you for your contributions to the field of Biosecurity and to the Macquarie Lachlan Valley Weeds Committee.

John Ryan Award

Bogan Shire Council Biosecurity Weeds Officer Damian Wray is the proud recipient of the 2025 Macquarie Lachlan Valley Weeds Committee John Ryan Award. The John Ryan Award is an innovation award which was implemented by Lachlan Valley originally to recognize John for the efforts that he put into the Lachlan Valley Weeds Committee and his work in the rural community. Congratulations Damian, thank you for your contributions to the field of Biosecurity and to the Macquarie Lachlan Valley Weeds Committee.

Verbal Delegate Reports

Cowra

- Teizha has a temp to fill her position during maternity leave
- Control continuing of African Boxthorn, Coolatai Grass, and Serrated Tussock
- Targeted community compliance for Sticky Nightshade– Drone surveillance will commence, and directions will be given if not controlled. This is the main focus this year. 150 properties will receive letters. Hobby blocks tend to receive the most weeds notices.
- There has been some success before November deadline with contractors called to properties.

Bland

- Tree sucker spraying, shoulder spraying, slashing
- Boxthorn and Coolatai control.
- Lots of work with biocontrol agents, 13 sites with cochineal and cactoblastis. They are working very well on Bland's Opuntia infestations.
- Scotch Thistle biocontrol is working well.
- Weed Stand successful with community engagement at the West Wyalong Show.
- Silverleaf Nightshade control– Sentry (granular herbicide for GM crops) with Lontrel is extremely effective on Silverleaf Nightshade. The Small-scale Trial Permit: PER7250
- Mark has done small motors course and machinery hygiene course.

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- New trainee will be starting soon, interviews to commence shortly.

Dubbo

- Control of Boxthorn, and Sticky Nightshade found behind new railway yard being constructed, about 10 plants.

Lachlan

- Craig attended the show and ran a competition to raise interest, consulted with community and provided information and answered questions.
- Red posts, Sticky Nightshade, Blue Heliotrope.
- Communications with a landowner with Sticky Nightshade who is making progress.
- Road inspections, came across cactus garden with Bunny Ear cactus and Rope Pear and possibly Aaron's beard- (suspected Aaron's beard sample sent to Herbarium for ID confirmation)
- Hopefully new staff will be employed to assist Craig in the near future.

Narromine

- Getting dry at this time of year, Pop-Up shop/stall will be organised to distribute flyers and pamphlets.
- Harrisia Cactus (found by Chalky) reinspected, and the farmer is actively spraying to control and reduce infestation.
- The show didn't have as many attendees this year because of dual scheduling with sporting events.
- Spraying the land that Narromine Shire is leasing for construction project for Inland Rail.
- Ant control (meat ants)
- A bit of control around town to ensure safety when snake season starts.
- Blue Heliotrope control will start soon.
- Snake awareness session was held in Gilgandra.

Bogan Shire

- Mapping Tiger Pear from the boundary of Lachlan and Warren Shire, using pins on Google Maps. Already completed about 17 Kms from Buddabada bridge on the Bogan River to Mudal reserve on Cockies Rd
- Bridge to This is to assist with stock routes - Biocontrol and spraying will be used.
- Coolatai Grass – reduced by 50% over 3 years in some places.
- Spare sprayer treating mother of millions on crown reserves and woody weeds on the roads.
- Sprayer controlling Mother of Millions
- Private property inspections
- A landowner wanted to know the ID of a cactus, advice was given.
- Cobar – weeds trailer requested for Festival of the Miner's Ghost, will be good because miners will be there and Come Clean, Go Clean can be pushed.

Orange

- Things have been busy, completed private property inspections for this period, high risk pathway spraying, compliance over busy season, CRNs been thick and fast. Boys been chasing developers and rezoning, moving forward developing biosecurity plans, assessments, collecting comments, inquiring about funding for some areas that have containment level plants
- Biocontrol has been a focus
- Biodiversity and Conservation Trust have joined in and assisted Orange
- Sticky Nightshade Education Program with vineyards, there was some historical stuff around, but the landowner is now engaged thanks to the education around sticky nightshade.
- The field days are now underway.

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Cabonne

- Inspections from Bateman's Bridge up to Canowindra- more infestations found near Canowindra
- Back on Boxthorn, council required shoulder work and ryegrass control. Sports ovals were also done.
- Bridal Creeper has been tidied up. Inspections. Tree planting with Environmental Officer Eliza. Service requests for customers, looking after nursery for cochineal in Yeoval. It's rotating stock and it's going well.
- Eliza was covering for Kane while he was off.
- New infestation of Gorse, which needs to be excluded in the area.
- Spraying for serrated tussock, Cape broom has exploded, especially in Cadia area.
- Attended biocontrol course.

Parkes

- Property Inspections- found Black Locust trees. After getting eye in, started to see more infestations everywhere, especially along the roadside. Honey Locust control also occurred.
- Stickyleaf Nightshade has slowed down at the sub-station that was discussed in the previous minutes.

Mudgee

- Katrina is away, Di is in the office, there's heaps on.
- Sticky nightshade focus, after targeted work, has shown promising results as inspections show that infestations are waning.
- Mother of millions- also good results, will continue inspections until sure it is eradicated, landholders are on board.
- Spraying Fireweed and working with landowners on the boundary of the Hunter. Fireweed was reduced due to loss of stock and the winter, but it does seem to appear to tolerate Mudgee climate better and better. But there has been a reduction.
- Tiger pear biocontrol
- Scotch broom biocontrol: gall mite
- Getting new vehicles and changing them over, getting ready to do high risk pathways with vehicles.
- David, Selina, and Mel did Prohibited Matter course in Tamworth.
- African Olive basal barking.

Hilltops

- New officer induction training next week
- Involved in community engagement through council via BBQ at small villages, the biosecurity is the focal point and management from council comes also.
- Ben has been training up Lloyd in the role who is learning to get his eye in.

Weddin

- Corey moved into Yardman role temporarily; Weedon has no dedicated sprayer at this time.
- Working on removing 'not working alone' arrangement and implementing adequate safety measures to ensure control and inspections can be done if one staff member is away or completing admin.
- Business case submitted to encourage permanent sprayer position in structure, with flexibility to help with highway, parks and gardens, and biosecurity.
- Private property inspections undertaken, heavy infestations of blackberry in Bumbaldry, seeking biocontrol to help manage.
- Working on new 'get your eye in' campaign to educate public on weeds, their biosecurity duty, and biocontrol agents
- Opuntia booklet completed and awaiting printed copies to share with staff

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- Castlereagh Macquarie County Council have been doing aerial surveillance and control for Parkinsonia on the Narran River Walgett and Brewarrina, Barwon River Walgett and Moree and have eradicated Parkinsonia on the Namoi.
- We are setting up a Hudson Pear monitoring site on Stephens Creek in the unincorporated area Broken Hill in November and continuing with inspections in the area.
- We were successful applicants with the Good Neighbour Program to tackle Harrisia in the Warren Shire.
- We are continually on the lookout for Sticky Florestina. An article stated that Forbes saleyards had received a large shipment of sheep out of QLD, so be on the lookout.

New Weed Incursions

Gorse has proliferated across the central west due to favourable conditions.

Weeds Advertising

Negotiating with Chanel 7 about new plan – ideas for follow-on ad with photographs, a step-up from the initial animation advertisement.

Pete Rowlands is working in Good Neighbours program, and we can talk with them about assistance with the advertising and education.

General Business

Week commencing 11 May: 14 May 2026 locked in for cross regional meeting at Lightning Ridge. We will work on that date.

Members received a copy of their subscriptions, and this includes the TV commercial

Next Meeting Venue

Cabonne 10 February 2026

Lightning Ridge May 2026

The meeting closed at 12:40pm

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ITEM 9.4 HUDSON PEAR TASKFORCE MEETING MINUTES – 13th MAY 2025

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
Local Land Services



Minutes

Hudson Pear Taskforce – 13 May 2025

Details

Location: Barriekneal Community & Housing
Language Room
Lot 8 Opal Street, Lightning Ridge

Date/time: 13 May 2025
09.15am

Chairperson: Pete Dawson – NW LLS

8. Todd Pallister – North West LLS
9. Claire Bergin – North West LLS (via Teams)
10. Rachael Turner – North West LLS
11. Joel Christie-Johnstone – Central West LLS
12. Andy McKinnon – Western LLS
13. Pete Turner – NSW DPIRD
14. Marita Sydes – NSW DPIRD
15. Andrew McConnachie – NSW DPIRD
16. Bill Davidson – NSW DPIRD
17. Skye Phelps – BSC
18. Deb Bancroft – Landcare

People present

1. Chairperson: Pete Dawson - North West LLS
2. Andrea Fletcher – CMCC
3. Mathew Savage – CMCC
4. Michael Urquhart – CMCC (via Teams)
5. Cr Doug Batton – CMCC (via Teams)
6. Cr Greg Peart – CMCC (via Teams)
7. Hugh Leckie – North West LLS

Apologies

1. David Sullivan - LRAOR
2. Victoria Lugovoy - LRAOR
3. Matt Davidson - NW LLS
4. Jarrod Smith – Crown Lands
5. Michael Mullholand – NPWS
6. Josh Biddle – NPWS
7. Geof Riley – ISC
8. Royce Holtkamp – Horizon Environmental

Actions

No	Action	Responsible	Status
1	Good News stories from the Taskforce to let people know about the work that is going on and include them as articles for the Walgett Shire	LLS & CMCC	On-going
2	A small group of key stakeholder members be formed to review the Terms of Reference and how best to maintain momentum including NWLLS, NW CCC, CMCC, NSW DPI.	RWC & Chair	Completed
3	Write to Member for Barwon Mr Roy Butler, sourcing funding for the grading works to form breaks.	Michael Urquhart	Withdrawn
4	Follow up with emergency services and support services entering Hudson Pear infested areas and provide them with the Take 5 regarding Hudson Pear.	Rachael Turner	Completed
5	Amend Hudson Pear Action Plan Objectives	Hugh Leckie	Completed

PUBNN/MMMMM

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6	Write to Regional Weeds Committee requesting a review of the eradication ranking for Hudson Pear in the Action Plan	Geoff Wise	Completed
7	Get details out to landholders regarding AQF3 training.	Rachael Turner	Completed
8	Hugh to work on data sharing between LLS and NPWS Agencies.	Hugh Leckie	Completed
9	LLS to Investigate Biosecurity Act to gain access for spraying of Western Lease Land and Mining Leases.	Hugh Leckie	Completed
10	Hugh to liaise with Clare to get contact list.	Hugh Leckie	Completed
11	Hugh to put a calendar to together of responses/inspections.	Hugh Leckie	WIP
12	Hugh to find out if Colrose TSR will be fenced and when.	Hugh Leckie	Completed

This Meeting:

No.	Agenda Item
1	Welcome
2	Apologies As noted above
3	Conflicts of Interest Nil
4	Correspondence Report from Victoria Lugovoy - LRAOR
5	Minutes <i>Moved by Pete Turner and Seconded by Matt Savage</i>
6	Business Arising Actions list updated. AQF3 training was held with 8 participants attending. All 8 are now accessing the free landholder chemical program. Action: Matt Savage to liaise with Todd and Rachael as to when Tafe are holding AQF3 course in Lightning Ridge. Pete Turner advised that NPWS now have access to BIS data. Work is progressing to get the NPWS PWIS data into BIS.
7	NW Hudson Pear Program Todd Pallister provided an overview of the program. Refer Appendices 1 .

HPTF/13 May 2025

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Matt Savage: Compliance on properties outside of the core is ongoing and will ramp up once the contractor program finishes.

Todd Pallister: Angledool site is approx. 200Ha. We are still finding small plants. The landholder is to manage the site.

Matt Savage: CMCC sprayed the original incursion and released biocontrol. It is in thick scrub and plants are hard to locate. We have been spraying plants when we are inspecting. This is a mining area and miners have been digging the plants out and throwing them into the mines. We have more inspections to do. At the current time Tasmania is the only state which doesn't have Hudson pear.

Andrea Fetcher-Dawson: Compliance to start once the Hudson Pear Program is complete.

Pete Turner: We need to start with education before PINS. We will gladly help. It would be good to get a list of who has been provided with chemical for CMCC to then follow up with inspections.

Todd Pallister: Seven plants were found near Hebel in Qld the location of these plants was passed onto Balonne Shire Council to treat.

Greg Peart: Can we add an agenda item 'Budget' for the Hudson Pear Control Program.

Action: Hugh to add Budget to the Agenda for November 2025 and beyond.

Hugh Leckie – North West LLS

Provided an overview of the budget.

Financial Year	Budget	Coordination, Engagement and Inspection	On Ground Component
2024/25	\$500,000	\$320,000	\$180,000
2025/26	\$500,000	\$315,000	\$185,000

Pete Dawson: The HPC Program will conclude on 30 June 2027. Contractors are working on containment around the core infestations. Todd and Rachael undertake rapid responses to new incursions outside of the core, improving the mapping data

Action Plan

Objective 1: All outlier infestations of Hudson pear are mapped to establish containment lines.	
1.1 Identify containment line around core infestations.	Ongoing Todd collection information and updating map.
1.2 Infestations are spatially represented.	Ongoing Mapping was established at broad scale. Contract spraying is being mapped accurately. Todd and Rachael are updating mapping as properties are inspected.
Objective 2: All outlier infestations of Hudson Pear are continuously controlled during the life of the plan.	
2.1 Continuously control all outlier infestations.	Ongoing Education and communication

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2.2 Implement property inspection program.	CMCC inspecting properties, advising landholders of infestations, tracking landholders work.
2.3 Maintain regular communication with state and cross regional contacts.	Meetings occurring with neighbouring regions being invited.
2.4 Consider the use of new technologies for surveillance of high-risk sites and pathways.	Andrew McC: we still have the 200,000Ha of aerial imagery. Original AI did not work. Additional funding required to have a new attempt using AI. 1 year project requiring \$50-\$60K to train new AI.
2.5 Report new infestations within 5 working days.	CMCC adding new data to BIS when found.
2.6 Undertake delimiting surveys of new incursion sites.	Occurring
Objective 3: Core areas of Hudson Pear are contained within their current areas during the life of the plan.	
3.1 Create a buffer zone around the core areas as defined on the attached maps.	Ongoing. Todd and Rachael are improving the mapping. Good to have time series data.
3.2 All roads and tracks continually controlled.	Miners Association and Crown lands are undertaking control works. Expansion of Opal Mining with OPM4 opening sometime. Surveying already underway. No notification with potential to spread Hudson pear. Action: Reach out to MEG to get communication occurring around the release of OPM4.
Objective 4: Hudson Pear within core areas is strategically managed during the life of the plan for the benefit of all landholders.	
4.1 Seasonal control programs are implemented by landholders/mangers.	Ongoing
4.2 Hudson pear treated in mining areas within the core areas.	Ongoing
Objective 5: An ongoing multi-media public awareness campaign is run to provide sustained awareness and information to the public on all aspects of Hudson pear and its integrated control methods.	
5.1 Reduction in spread and movement caused by human and machinery vectors.	CMCC have allowed NWLLS to take over education and awareness. There has been media around the Quanda incursion.

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5.2 Identify and engage stakeholders to practice hygiene protocols.	Hygiene posters (Come Clean Go Clean), new coaster has been developed and provided to clubs.
5.3 Improve understanding of social factors influencing implementation of biosecurity practices.	Surveys occurring within LLS.
Objective 6: Insuring and maintaining biocontrol agents for Hudson pear	
6.1 Maintain mass-rearing capability of Lightning Ridge facility.	Repairs to occur in June to the damaged skin of the facility.
6.2 Maintain scientific monitoring of Hudson pear cochineal.	Ongoing. Each quarter monitoring is undertaken.
Objective 8: Monitoring and Evaluation	
8.1 Ongoing monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement (MERI) and adaptive management across programs.	Important for LLS and to monitor / measure good value for future.
<p>8 Biocontrol Update</p> <p>Andrew McConnachie – NSW DPIRD</p> <p>We have 8 years of quarterly monitoring data. There is talk that we may not have <i>Cylindropuntia pallida</i>. DPIRD shared the Biocontrol with South Africa and it did not work. South Africa went back to Mexico and got new Biocontrol which did work. Further work is needed to confirm this.</p>	
<p>9 Delegate Reports</p> <p>Andy McKinnon – Western LLS</p> <p>Good Neighbours Project for the Hudson pear on Stephen's Creek. Contract works to undertake major knockdown. Survey of extent by CMCC. Properties Eureka and Kars will be mapped by a contractor in June.</p> <p>Ark sites to be set up as nurseries for Cochineal. These sites will be fenced to prevent animals entering.</p> <p>Darton Weeds Officer inspecting site since mechanical removal and has been treating some small plants found.</p> <p>Matt Savage – CMCC</p> <p>Biocontrol is doing well even with the wet weather. The distribution is looking good and we are looking at doing another 150 tubs. The Skin of the Mass Rearing facility was damaged in a storm and will be replaced in June under insurance.</p> <p>Andy Fletcher-Dawson – CMCC</p> <p>Stephen's Creek biocontrol release is doing well, the Hudson pear has spread over some 100,000Ha due to rain events and flooding.</p>	

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The Cobar incursion was inspected by air and found to be some 50 acres. Todd Pallister has supplied the property owner with chemical to treat the incursion.

There is room for more education out in Western. Broken Hill is full of all sorts of different Cacti species.

Action: Hugh to share the Hudson pear Action Plan with Andy McKinnon and Marita Sydes for their use.

Deb Bancroft – Northern Slopes Landcare

Severn NP

Another inspection completed with more very small plants found using a blower to lift and move the tea tree leaves. Also, a single large piece was found which leads to most likely a larger plant somewhere in the area. A further inspection is required to locate this large plant or another site in the area.

Andy Fletcher-Dawson – CMCC

Colrose Road TSR has now been fenced. 23 Plant found at the last inspection.

LRAOR report refer to Appendices 2.

Joel Christie-Johnstone – Central West LLS

Quanda inspection had 18 people and small plants were found which have been sprayed.

Narromine incursion has been sprayed and burnt. This is not yet in BIS.

Skye Phelps – Brewarrina Shire Council

Angledool site was treated by NWLLS staff.

Inspecting roads for Hudson pear.

Goodoga site to be inspected shortly.

10 General business

Claire Bergin – North West LLS

It will be 20 years since the 1st meeting of the Hudson pear Taskforce in November 2025. It is good to hear about all the good work that is occurring in this space.

Doug Batton - CMCC

Congratulation to Andrew McConnachie on the 8 years of work.

Andrew McConachie: Thanks also to Royce Holtkamp and the Queensland Government.

Pete Turner – NSW DPIRD

There have been some workshops for the cost evaluation of Hudson pear, Parthenium weed and Tropical Soda Apple to help develop a 5 year WAP program. The final report will be shared with all who attended. Thanks to NWLLS and CMCC for taking part.

Matt Savage – CMCC

Good to see 4 LLS regions collaborating about Hudson pear.

Todd Pallister – North West LLS

Happy with the Hudson pear Program. We are providing the landholders with maps of the areas treated by the contractors.

Rachael Turner – North West LLS

Original Come Clean Go Clean signs are looking old and faded. Can these be replaced?

Deb Bancroft: NSLA has the artwork.

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Andrew McConnachie – NSW DPIRD

These meetings are good and we are at a critical point in time and we need to keep pushing on.

Pete Dawson – North West LLS

Good news stories are needed to tell the story of where we are at.

Deb Bancroft – Northern Slopes Landcare

The Yellow HP sign artwork is available from NSLA. Need more Cacti Quarterly stories.

Andy Fletcher-Dawson – CMCC

We need to focus on the Pilliga for Hudson pear. Pete D: Recreational hunting parks are a high risk area.


11 Actions

1. Matt Savage to liaise with Todd and Rachael as to when Tafe are holding AQF3 course in Lightning Ridge.
2. Hugh to add Budget to the Agenda for November 2025 and beyond.
3. Hugh to share the Hudson pear Action Plan with Andy McKinnon and Marita Sydes for their use.

Closed 11.50am

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting


Appendices 1



Hudson Pear Control Program
HPTF Update
13th May 2025
Presented by Todd Pollock

Contents

On Ground Control	1
Outlier Incursions	2
Chemical Supply	3
Media & Engagement	4



On Ground Control
1

On Ground Control


Contractors

- From November 2024, LLS had employed 3 contractors to target Hudson pear within the Lightning Ridge, Gravel Opal Fields Area, and Cymborah Village.
- 11 Properties have been treated for Hudson pear.
- 1st Contractor carried work from 1st November 2024 to 13th December 2024.
- 2nd Contractor carried out work from 30th January 2025 to 21st March 2025.
- 3rd Contractor started on the 3rd March 2025 and is currently still in location and is due to finish up soon.


NWLS

- From 1st November 2024 to 30th April 2025, contractors have treated an area of approximately 5,870 Hectares.
- Data from current contractor not finished.
- 13 Properties have been identified and treated for Hudson pear.
- From August 2024 to 9th May 2025, treated approximately 847 Hectares.


Total treated area from start of program is approximately 65,743.58 Hectares.



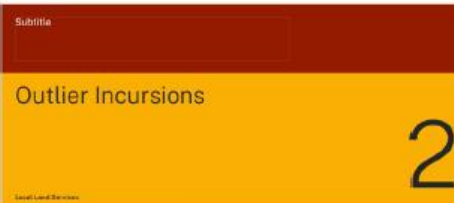
Hudson Pear - Contractor and LLS Treatment Areas (Gravel & Cymborah)




Hudson Pear - Contractor and LLS Treatment Areas (Lightning Ridge Area)




Hudson Pear - Contractor and LLS Treatment Areas (Lightning Ridge Area)



Outlier Incursions
2



Hudson Pear - Treated Outlier Incursions (Gravel and Cymborah Area)







Hudson Pear - Treated Outlier Incursions (Lightning Ridge)

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 <p>Hudson Pear - Treated Outlier Incursions (Hebel and Lightning Ridge Area)</p>	<p>Subtitle</p> <p>Chemical Supply</p> <p>3</p> <p>Local Land Services</p>
<p>Chemical Supply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> From program start to current day, 24 Landholders have received chemical. 9 of the 24 have received a second supply. Helped facilitate AQIS Accreditation through Tocal College that was held at Lightning Ridge on the 17th to 18th February with 6 participants.  <p>Local Land Services</p>	<p>Subtitle</p> <p>Media & Engagement</p> <p>4</p> <p>Local Land Services</p>
<p>Media & Engagement</p> <p>F24/25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invited to present a presentation on Hudson pear at the Balmain Shire Council in St George to the Security Committee meeting. Held a workshop at Grawin Club In The Scrub that aimed to promote awareness on White-spined & Brown-spined Hudson pear. A total of 12 people participated in the workshop. Hosted information stalls at various locations throughout the Grawin Quails Fields and Lightning Ridge area with 64 participants engaged with 'Quaranta used to capture data'. A total of 144 participants engaged with at these stall and events. <p>Reminder of F24/25 and onwards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to engage with the community and tourist through information stalls and other media. Host a stall at Lightning Ridge Opal and Gem Festival 25th to 25th July 2025. Potential host another workshop on the same subject at Lightning Ridge. Ongoing cross borderer work with members from the Balmain Shire around Hudson pear at Hebel. <p>Local Land Services</p>	<p>Coasters & Signs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signs installed at various locations such Gooding's Bare Baths and Collarenebri. Coasters distributed out to 5 venues across Grawin Opal Fields area and Lightning Ridge.  <p>Local Land Services</p>
<p>Local Land Services</p> <p>Do you know when to report sightings of Hudson pear?</p>  <p>Local Land Services</p>	

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Appendices 2.



Lightning Ridge Area
Opal Reserve

Lightning Ridge Area Opal Reserve HPTF Report – May 2025

SPRAY REPORT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roadside spraying throughout the Reserve – focus on White spined Hudson Pear (<i>Cylindropuntia pallida</i>), Brown spined Hudson Pear (<i>Cylindropuntia tunicata</i>) and Harrisia (<i>Harrisia martinii</i>). Navigating all the Car Door Tour Rds and tertiary tracks on the Reserve, sometimes spraying out smaller infestations. - Also added to our Weed Management Plan is spraying out High Spread Areas (HSAs) which includes spraying around water sources such as around dams. We are noticing heavy infestations of small plants, probably due to wildlife movements around these water sources. - Finding large pockets of <i>Harrisia martinii</i> throughout the Reserve in Lightning Ridge, and with lots of new growth and seed development, also new plants popping up. - <i>Harrisia pomanensis</i> is quite prevalent at Grawin, as seen in spray reports #25, 26, 29 and 30. (the key showing Harrisia is for <i>H. pomanensis</i> in Grawin, not <i>H. martinii</i>). - Use of the UFT devices has been proving extremely helpful, especially to help deliver reports to CMCC for Property Inspection Reports of work completed. - Outlying infestations identified at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Wandella – follow-up spray completed. - LLS provided support to spray out the Grawin Golf Course. One of the golf course has been sprayed out. Large numbers of Brown spined HP, many small plants. - LLS contacted us to engage contractors on the Reserve. A shared boundary to where contractors were spraying will be sprayed as well support on creating a containment up Castlereagh Hwy, which will be a follow spray to the original spray job of the CMCC contractors.
COCHINEAL RELEASE REPORT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring of release sites, some good results across the Reserve. - Locations that have had releases over the past 3-5 years are showing populations present, with some plants fully deceased, some plants fully loaded with cochineal and others with small collections starting to breed. - We have made the decision to spray any small plants with small amounts of cochineal on them that are on the road sides, to support the restriction of movement of plants, as some cladodes with cochineal on the plant may not be on all cladodes. If a plant is large and covered with cochineal on the side of the road, we are collecting/removing all cladodes from the plant and distributing them to other plants, that will not be sprayed. - We target to collect and breed over 100 tubs of cochineal for <i>C. pallida</i> and 100 tubs of cochineal for <i>C. tunicata</i> this year.
FUNDING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awaiting Crown Reserve Improvement Fund announcement to determine how much funding we will have for the upcoming year.

HPTF/13-May-2025

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council MeetingITEM 9.5 HARRISIA CACTUS TASKFORCE MEETING MINUTES – 13th MAY 2025

Local Land Services



Minutes

Harrisia Cactus Task Force – 13 May 2025

Details

Location: Barriekneal Community & Housing
 Language Room
 Lot 8 Opal Street,
 Lightning Ridge NSW

Date/time: 13 May 2025
 1.00pm (AEST)

Chairperson: Pete Dawson - NW LLS

7. Matthew Savage - CMCC
8. Damien Sykes - MPSC
9. Skye Phelps - BSC
10. Pete Turner - NSW DPIRD
11. Marita Sydes - NSW DPIRD
12. Andrew McConnachie - NSW DPI
13. Royce Holtkamp - Horizon Ecological
14. Clare Felton-Taylor - NSC (via Teams)
15. Chris Crafter - SQL (via Teams)
16. Tamara Taylor - QDPI (via Teams)
17. Bill Davidson - NSW DPIRD (via Teams)
18. Luke Creighton GwydirSC (via Teams)

People present

1. Peter Dawson - NW LLS
2. Hugh Leckie - NW LLS
3. Todd Pallister - NW LLS
4. Rachel Turner - NW LLS
5. Deb Bancroft - NSLA
6. Andrea Fletcher-Dawson - CMCC

Apologies

1. Geoff Riley - Inverell Shire Council
2. Mike Mulholland - NPWS
3. Josh Biddle - NPWS
4. Aaron Cross - NSC
5. Michael Urquhart - CMCC

Actions

No	Action	Responsible	Status
1	Contact Inland Rail community engagement team to ensure sub-contractors are aware of spread and implications risk	NW LLS	Completed
2	Reinstate Expo steering committee	NW LLS	Withdrawn
3	Follow up Horizon Ecological re reports and article for CQ	Peter Dawson	Completed
4	Marita Sydes to send info to Hugh to Collect information required for the NEWP application.	Marita Sydes	Completed
5	Hugh to Update Contact List for meeting	Hugh Leckie	WIP

This Meeting:

No.	Agenda Item
1	Welcome

PUBNN/MMMMM

1

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

	Meeting opened at Acknowledgement of Country
2	Apologies As noted above
3	Conflicts of Interest None
4	Previous Minutes Moved that the previous minutes are a true and accurate record of meeting <i>Accepted Andrew McConnachie and Seconded Pete Turner</i>
5	Business Arising Actions <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hugh emailed Inland Rail representative. All maintenance should be referred to UGL Regional Linx. 2. Withdrawn as priorities have changed. 3. NSLA have received the report from Royce. 4. NEWP application information sent. 5. WIP
6	New Incursions Clare Felton-Taylor – Narrabri Shire Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In March 2025 received a call from a property owner in Baan Baa who found some HC on their property. • In April 2025 received a call from the same farmer who found HC on their property on Harparary Road, Baan Baa. • In May 2025 received some photos of HC on Lara Killarney Gap Rd (Wheat Research Station). Inspected the property adjacent due to bushland and have found a large number of HC plants. In June we will do a workshop in the area about HC. Signs to be installed. Deb Bancroft – NSLA Mosquito Creek Rd east of Pallamallawa inspection undertaken in December 2024. Found some plants along the roadside along with an incursion on the southern side of the road in a TSR which has been sprayed now. Found a large number of plants on private property on the southern side of the road. Undertook a Cacti Catch Up at the Pallamallawa pub where 30 people attended. The private property to with the large number of HC plants was using a Bulldozer to remove the HC. Pete Turner – NSW DPIRD BIS shows 2 new incursions of HC near Denman. Andrea Fletcher-Dawson – CMCC Sent a sample to the Herbarium which is being grown out and it appears to be <i>Harrisia tortuosa</i> .
7	Distribution Mapping

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Deb Bancroft – NSLA

Working on mapping the extent of the core in the Gwydir and Moree Plains Shire Council areas. We have finished doing Gwydir SC. Working with Lachlan Biddle in May 2025 to map the extent of HC in Moree Plains SC.

Andrea Fletcher-Dawson – CMCC

The incursion at Warren is in BIS. It is on 2 properties and spilling out onto Hwy and Rail corridor.

Pete Turner – NSW DPIRD

29 weeds listed in the NEWP with Harrisia cactus being one of them. Next step is the detailed assessment. The mapping is critical to this as it provides data around the issue.

Andrew McConnachie – NSW DPIRD

It appears that HC density is increasing rather than the distribution due to the weather.

Tamara Taylor – QDPI

The HC density is increasing along with distribution in Qld. The high rainfall in recent times is providing good growing conditions.

8 Biocontrol Release

Andrew McConnachie – NSW DPIRD

As of April 2025 we have spread 2560 mealy bug infected HC segments at 9 sites covering 306Ha.

Deb is finding new sites and collecting cladodes for the HC mealy bug breeding. This is a great partnership.

Andrea – Fletcher-Dawson – CMCC

Rain has affected the mealy bug. We are now spraying the HC as the biocontrol is not working.

Tamara Taylor – QDPI

The biocontrol is out in the environment.

Chris Crafter – SQL

The biocontrol is out in the environment. We are waiting to get out after the floods to see the effects. There as been some erosion due to the flood waters.

9 NSW Reports

Department of Primary Industries – Andrew McConnachie

Provided an overview of the work around the Weevil which appears to eat 5 varieties of Dragon Fruit. We will continue to finish the work around the weevil. If people can keep a eye out to see if they can find the Weevil in the landscape this would be good and would help.

Northern Slopes Landcare – Deb Bancroft

Community Engagement activities with attendance at the Belarah Grasses workshop. Cacti Catch Up at Pallamallawa and North Star. Garah has been booked for 26 May 2025.

Mapping of MPSC will be undertaken in Late May 2025.

Collected more cladodes for Mealy bug breeding. Monitoring release sites.

Inspection of HC on Mosquito Road, Pallamallawa with plants found and a significant incursion on a private property.

North West LLS – Peter Dawson

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The TSR team is spraying HC within their allocated budget. This work helps to strengthen the containment lines. With the drought in the southern part of NSW and into Vic we will see significant numbers of cattle being brought up and grazing on the TSRs.

Inverell Shire Council – Geoff Riley

Report from Geoff. Harrisia cactus chemical trials review, wants to know where this is up to?

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council – Andrea Fletcher-Dawson

Incursion at Warren is growing.

Moree Plains Shire Council – Damien Sykes

Spraying HC along roadsides prior to inspections of private property, installed signs. I have been mapping the spraying work. Attended the Cacti Catch Up at the Pallamallawa pub. I have received 3 calls since which all turned out to be Tiger pear.

Gwydir Shire Council – Luke Creighton

Organising an inspection of the North Star village. Need to complete our 50km of roadside spraying. Monitoring Mosquito Creek Road incursion.

Narrabri Shire Council – Clare Felton-Taylor

Completing 3-6 month inspections and we are now busy with the new incursion in Killarney Gap Road. In July we will be inspecting our core locations of, Baan Baa and Yarrie Lake.

10 QLD Reports

Queensland Department of Primary Industries - Tamara Taylor

Presentation around research being conducted with Argentina for biocontrol agents. See **Appendices 1.**

Written a paper on Harrisia cactus thermal tolerance.

Envu are testing a new herbicide for HC. This is in early trials. There is a minor use permit for QLD.

South Queensland Landscapes - Chris Crafter

HC are spread beyond the current mapping and new mapping is in progress. We are looking for biocontrol on HC. Education to landholders around HC. Floods have been a big concern due to erosion. It is good to see what is happening across the landscape with regards to HC.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

11 General business

NW LLS – Pete Dawson

It is time we develop a Harrisia Action Plan similar to Hudson pear.

Action: Hugh to pull together an Action Plan with a small group of members of the HCTF.

NSW DPIRD – Pete Turner

NEWP for new WONS list has 29 species moving to detailed assessment with Harrisia cactus being in the list.

Supporting Communities – Federal Funding is currently open and closes 6 June 2025. This is a 1 year grant which has a short application to fill in.

Tamara Taylor has several applications for this funding.

NSW DPIRD will pull together an application with support from members of the HCTF.

Clare Felton-Taylor raised concern around Buffle Grass being on the NEWP list.

Pete Turner advised that all 29 species in the NEWP will not get through as only 8 species will move to the WONS list.

Pete Dawson said that a 12 month program is really a 8 month project. An application should enhance the biocontrol pipeline.

Andrew McConnachie said that this could help the release application costs.

12 Actions & Close

Action: Hugh to pull together an Action Plan with a small group of members of the HCTF.

Meeting closed 3:00pm

Next Meeting: 1pm 11 November 2025 (Lightning Ridge Bowling Club)

Appendices 1



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting



10. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

ITEM 10.1 COUNCIL'S DECISION ACTION REPORT – NOVEMBER 2025

REPORTING SECTION: General Manager
AUTHOR: Michael Urquhart

Summary:

This schedule summarises the current position of action taken in respect of matters considered at the previous meetings of Council when the outcomes have not been finalised.

Background:

Attached is the Resolution Register which summaries outstanding action in respect of all resolutions which required action and are still outstanding. The exception is for the last meeting where items that have been completed are included. Members are reminded that any queries should be raised with the General Manager prior to the meeting.

Current Position:

Details of actions taken/being taken are flagged for each motion. Over time the register may grow in size because, whilst resolutions are actioned after the meeting, it is not always possible to resolve issues quickly, especially if other government agencies are involved or Council's own in-house resources are stretched, Council has to prioritise work commitments.

In these circumstances the register becomes the simple tool of keeping track of matters awaiting attention.

Again, Members are reminded that any queries should be raised with the General Manager prior to the meeting as this would streamline the meeting process and also resolve minor issues more expediently.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Resolution Register.

Governance Issues:

Standard Procedure dictates that Council resolutions should be implemented as soon as practicably be achieved.

Environmental Issues:

Nil.

Stakeholders:

CMCC Council

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Nil.

Conclusion:

That the Resolution Register be received and noted. It is requested that any queries be raised with the General Manager prior to meeting day to facilitate proceedings at the meeting.

*Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting***Council's Decision Action Report – November 2025****Recommendation:**

That the Resolution Register November 2025 be received and noted.

Moved:**Seconded:****Attachment:**

Action Resolution Register.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting**CMCC ACTION RESOLUTION REGISTER**

27.06.2022	06/22-11	1. That the report be received and noted. 2. Media Awareness Program to be undertaken by GM in conjunction with distribution of flyers with rates notices	GM	Flyers to quarterly rate notices. Information to be advertised in constituent Council newsletter Media releases have been issued for Harrisia Cactus, St Johns Wort and Hudson Pear, African Box Thorn Filed Days and Sticky Florestina.	Continuing Continuing
28.08.23		Action Request; That the General Manager contact Todd (LLS Coordinator) and request that he attend every CMCC Council meeting to provide an update on the Hudson Pear program.	GM	Co-ordinator invited to attend the bi-monthly meetings. May 2025 Requesting Mr. Pallister attend every second Council Meeting.	Continuing
23.06.2025	03/25/13	That; (a) Could endorse the actions of the General Manager in progressing a quotation for Internal Audit Services in conjunction with Upper Macquarie and Upper Hunter County Council. (b) Council enters into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Upper Macquarie and Upper Hunter County Councils for the Internal Audit Services. (c) Council formally appoints the Upper Macquarie Council's Biosecurity Administration Manager as the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Internal Audit Coordinator. (d) The Chairman and General Manager be authorised to appoint on Councils behalf, an appropriately qualified Internal Audit Firm for the shared Internal Audit arrangement for a three (3) year period commencing 1 st July 2025.	GM	With only three (3) expressions of interest (EOI) received it was decided to issue another EOI with additional data supplied to assist Audit firms better assess the internal audit needs of the three (3) County Council. In addition to this, each Council has undertaken a review of operations identifying and prioritising high and medium risk activities before controls are applied. The EOI has again been issued to the Tender portal and sent to a number of internal auditors across regional NSW.	Continuing

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		(e) The Chairman and the General Manager be authorised to execute the relevant documents.			
25.08.2025	04/25/10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Draft Annual Financial Reports for 2024/2025 be referred to Council's Auditor 2. The Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, General Manager be authorised to sign the necessary Financial Statements. 3. On receipt of the Audit Report, a copy be forwarded to the Office of Local Government and any other relevant statutory body. 4. Council delegate to the General Manager the authority to set the date at which the Auditor's report and the Financial Statements be presented to the public, additionally be reviewed/adopted by Council formally as required, subject to Section 418 of the Local Government Act 1993 and its requirements. 	GM	<p>Draft financials have been referred to external auditor.</p> <p>Statement duly signed by all authorised persons.</p> <p>Financial formally lodged with OLG prior to 31st October 2025.</p> <p>The 2024/2025 Financial Statements will be presented to the 27th November 2025 Ordinary meeting of Council.</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>In progress</p>
25.08.2025	04/25/11	<p>That;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The General Manager's report be received. 2. Council adopt the "Payment of Expenses & Provision of Facilities to Councillors" policy as tabled. 3. The policy be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days and public submissions be invited. 	GM	<p>08.09.2025 Commencement of public exhibition period</p> <p>08.09.2025 – Commencement of advertising</p>	Complete
25.08.2025	04/25/17	That the Council undertake a wide scale media campaign in relation to the Sticky Florentina outbreak.	GM	Media release completed to all media outlets as per Council policy.	Complete

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

25.08.2025	04/25/18	<p>That the General Manager be authorised to;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Advertise, calling for expressions of interest for the sale of the demountable office/amenity building situated on Crown Reserve R97121 at Coolah and its removal from said land, and 2. Negotiate with potential purchases to achieve a best value price for the sale and removal of the office/amenity building. 	GM	Advertising commenced.	In progress
27.10.2025	05/25/10	<p>That;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council receives the Model Code of Meeting Practice documents 2. The Code of Meeting Practice be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28days calling for comment from the public. 	GM	<p>The draft Code of Meeting Practice is currently on display. The submissions can be lodged with Council up to 4.30pm 10th December 2025.</p> <p>Council shall formally consider submissions and adopt at its 23rd February 2026 Ordinary Council meeting.</p>	In progress
27.10.2025		<p>Action Request;</p> <p>That the General Manager organise a field tour for CMCC Members in 2026</p>	GM	To be held in conjunction with Ordinary Meeting of Council.	In progress
27.10.2025		<p>Action Request;</p> <p>That the General Manager write to Bio Security Commissioner and Local Member Mr Roy Buter extending an invitation to meet with CMCC Members to discuss current bio security matters of concern.</p>	GM	Letters to be issued in November 2025.	In progress

ITEM 10.2 CASH ON HAND AND INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 31st OCTOBER 2025

REPORTING SECTION: Executive
AUTHOR: Rebecca Wilson – Administration Officer

Summary:

This report provides a summary and analysis of Council's cash and investments for the period ending 31st October 2025.

Background:

The investment portfolio consists of bank accounts and fixed rate interest bearing deposits. The portfolio is regularly reviewed to maximise investment performance and minimise risk. Council's investment portfolio is not subject to share market volatility.

Comparisons are regularly made between existing investments with available products that are not part of Council's portfolio, but that meet Council's policy guidelines.

All investments at 31st October 2025 are compliant with the Relevant Reference Documents and Policies listed later in this report.

Current Position:

Council at 31st October 2025 held a total of \$997,351.87 in on-call and interest bearing deposits with financial institutions within Australia. All investments are held with approved deposit taking institutions with a short term rating A-2(A2)/BBB or higher. Council does not have any exposure to unrated institutions.

31st October 2025

Investment Number	Date invested	Amount \$	Lodged With	Rate % per annum	Term	Due Date
General Fund Bank Account Balance		\$497,351.87	CBA	3.00%		N/A
	19.06.2025	\$500,000.00	AMP Bank	4.25%	182days	16.12.2025
TOTAL		\$997,351.87				

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Local Government Act (NSW), 1993
 Local Government (General) Regulation 2021
 Ministerial Investment Order 5th January 2016
 Investment Policy

Governance issues:

Nil

Environmental issues:

Nil

Financial Implications:

As per report

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Nil

Stakeholders:

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
Constituent Councils
Residents of Constituent Councils
Financial Institutions

Certification – Responsible Accounting Officer

1. I hereby certify that the investments listed in the attached report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, the *Investment Order (of the Minister) 5th January 2016* and Council's Investments Policy.
2. I hereby certify that Council's cash book and ledger have been reconciled to the bank statement as at the end of month.

Michael J Urquhart

General Manager – Responsible Accounting Officer

Conclusion:

As at 31st October 2025, Council's available cash and invested funds totalled \$997,351.87

Cash and Investment Reports – 31st October 2025

Recommendation:

That the investment report for 31st October 2025 be received and noted.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Nil

*Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting***ITEM 10.3 GOVERNMENT INFORMATION PUBLIC ACCESS ACT (GIPA)
ANNUAL REPORT 202/2025**

REPORTING SECTION: Executive
AUTHOR: Administration Officer – Rebecca Wilson

Summary:

This report is provided to Council for adoption of its annual GIPA return.

Background:

On the 1st July 2010 the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act) came into effect.

Current Position:

Council is required to prepare an annual report in accordance with the requirements of section 125 of the GIPA Act and clause 7 of the GIPA Regulation. The annual report is also required to include statistical information on formal access applications in the form required by Schedule 2 of the GIPA Regulation.

Upon adoption of the attached annual report Council shall forward a Web link to the Information Commissioner.

Governance issues:

Council must comply with the reporting requirements under the GIPA Act and regulation.

Environmental issues:

NIL.

Stakeholders:

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
Information and Privacy Commission New South Wales

Financial Implications:

NIL

Conclusion:

Council adopt the attached Annual Report.

Government Information Public Access Act – Annual Report**Recommendation:**

That;

1. the Administration Officers report be received
2. Council adopt the attached GIPA Annual Report for 2024/2025
3. the Information Commissioner be sent a link t Council's 2024/2025 Annual Report

Moved:**Seconded:**

Attachments: Annual Report 2024/2025

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Government Information (Public Access) Act – Annual Report for Agency Castlereagh-Macquarie County Council

Clause 8A: Details of the review carried out by the agency under section 7 (3) of the Act during the reporting year and the details of any information made publicly available by the agency as a result of the review

Reviews carried out by the agency	Information made publicly available by the agency
Yes	Yes

Clause 8B: The total number of access applications received by the agency during the reporting year (including withdrawn applications but not including invalid applications)

Total number of applications received
0

Clause 8C: The total number of access applications received by the agency during the reporting year that the agency refused either wholly or partly, because the application was for the disclosure of information referred to in Schedule 1 to the Act (information for which there is conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure)

Number of Applications Refused	Wholly	Partly	Total
	0	0	0
% of Total	0.00%	0.00%	

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Government Information (Public Access) Act – Annual Report for Agency Castlereagh-Macquarie County Council

Schedule 2 Statistical information about access applications to be included in annual report

Table A: Number of applications by type of applicant and outcome*

	Access Granted in Full	Access Granted in Part	Access Refused in Full	Information not Held	Information Already Available	Refuse to Deal with Application	Refuse to Confirm/Deny whether information is held	Application Withdrawn	Total	% of Total
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Private sector business	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Not for profit organisations or community groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Members of the public (by legal representative)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Members of the public (other)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
% of Total	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		

* More than one decision can be made in respect of a particular access application. If so, a recording must be made in relation to each such decision. This also applies to Table B.

By Rebecca Wilson on 22/10/2025 11:05 AM for FY: 2024-25

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Government Information (Public Access) Act – Annual Report for Agency Castlereagh-Macquarie County Council

Table B: Number of applications by type of application and outcome*

	Access Granted in Full	Access Granted in Part	Access Refused in Full	Information not Held	Information Already Available	Refuse to Deal with Application	Refuse to Confirm/Deny whether information is held	Application Withdrawn	Total	% of Total
Personal information applications*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
% of Total	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		

* A personal information application is an access application for personal information (as defined in clause 4 of Schedule 4 to the Act) about the applicant (the applicant being an individual).

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Government Information (Public Access) Act – Annual Report for Agency Castlereagh-Macquarie County Council

Table C: Invalid applications

Reason for invalidity	No of applications	% of Total
Application does not comply with formal requirements (section 41 of the Act)	0	0.00%
Application is for excluded information of the agency (section 43 of the Act)	0	0.00%
Application contravenes restraint order (section 110 of the Act)	0	0.00%
Total number of invalid applications received	0	0.00%
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications	0	0.00%

Table D: Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure: matters listed in Schedule 1 of Act

	Number of times consideration used*	% of Total
Overriding secrecy laws	0	0.00%
Cabinet information	0	0.00%
Executive Council information	0	0.00%
Contempt	0	0.00%
Legal professional privilege	0	0.00%
Excluded information	0	0.00%
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	0	0.00%
Transport safety	0	0.00%
Adoption	0	0.00%
Care and protection of children	0	0.00%
Ministerial code of conduct	0	0.00%
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0	0.00%
Privilege generally - Sch 1(5A)	0	0.00%
Information provided to High Risk Offenders Assessment Committee	0	0.00%
Total	0	

*More than one public interest consideration may apply in relation to a particular access application and if so, each such consideration is to be recorded (but only once per application). This also applies in relation to Table E

By Rebecca Wilson on 22/10/2025 11:05 AM for FY: 2024-25

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Government Information (Public Access) Act – Annual Report for Agency Castlereagh-Macquarie County Council

Table E: Other public interest considerations against disclosure: matters listed in table to section 14 of Act

	Number of times consideration used*	% of Total
Responsible and effective government	0	0.00%
Law enforcement and security	0	0.00%
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	0	0.00%
Business interests of agencies and other persons	0	0.00%
Environment, culture, economy and general matters	0	0.00%
Secrecy provisions	0	0.00%
Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation	0	0.00%
Total	0	

Table F: Timeliness

	Number of applications*	% of Total
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	0	0.00%
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	0	0.00%
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0	0.00%
Total	0	

By Rebecca Wilson on 22/10/2025 11:05 AM for FY: 2024-25

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Government Information (Public Access) Act – Annual Report for Agency Castlereagh-Macquarie County Council

Table G: Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act (by type of review and outcome)

	Decision varied	Decision upheld	Total	% of Total
Internal review	0	0	0	0.00%
Review by Information Commissioner*	0	0	0	0.00%
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of Act	0	0	0	0.00%
Review by NCAT	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	0	0	0	
% of Total	0.00%	0.00%		

*The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions, but can make recommendations to the original decision-maker. The data in this case indicates that a recommendation to vary or uphold the original decision has been made by the Information Commissioner.

Table H: Applications for review under Part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)

	Number of applications for review	% of Total
Applications by access applicants	0	0.00%
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see section 54 of the Act)	0	0.00%
Total	0	

Table I: Applications transferred to other agencies.

	Number of applications transferred	% of Total
Agency-Initiated Transfers	0	0.00%
Applicant - Initiated Transfers	0	0.00%
Total	0	

ITEM 10.4 PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE – ANNUAL REPORT

REPORTING SECTION: Executive
AUTHOR: Administration Officer Rebecca Wilson

Summary:

This report provides Council with information for the adoption of the 2024/2025 Annual Public Interest Disclosure report.

Background:

Council has an obligation under the Public Interest Disclosure Act. In March 2011 amendments were made to the Public Interest Act 1994 and Council is required to report annually on its obligations under the PID Act. This report must be in accordance with the requirements of section 31 of the PID Act and clause 4 of the Public Interest Regulation.

Current Position:**Commentary on PID obligations**

What actions the head of the public authority has taken to ensure his or her staff awareness responsibilities under section 6E(1)(b) of the PID Act have been met.

Statistical information on PIDs (clause 4(a)-(c)-PID Regulations)

	Made by public officials performing their day to day functions	Under a statutory or other legal obligation	All other PIDs
Number of public officials who made PIDs directly	0	0	0
Number of PIDs received	0	0	0
Of PIDs received, number primarily about:			
Corrupt conduct	0	0	0
Maladministration	0	0	0
Serious and substantial waste	0	0	0
Government information contravention	0	0	0
Local government pecuniary interest contravention	0	0	0
Number of PIDs finalised	0		

Governance issues:

Council as an agency has obligations under the Public Interest Disclosures Act and Regulation.

Environmental issues:

NIL.

Stakeholders:

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Financial Implications:

NIL

*Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting***Alternative Solutions/Options:**

NIL

Conclusion:

The 2024/2025 Public Interest Disclosures Annual Report as detailed above is tabled for adoption.

PID Annual Report**Recommendation:**

That;

1. the Administration Officer report be received
2. Council adopt the 2024/2025 Public Interest Disclosure Annual Report.

Moved:**Seconded:****Attachments:** Public Interest Disclosure – Annual Report

PID Annual Return: FY 2024-25

Return period: 1 July 2024 - 30 June 2025



1. Name of the reporting agency for this return	Castlereagh-Macquarie County Council
2. Is the reporting agency completing this annual return or is it made on behalf of the reporting agency?	By the reporting agency
3. Agency submitting this annual return	Castlereagh-Macquarie County Council
4. Has your agency entered into an arrangement with the reporting agency under s 81 of the PID Act to submit this annual return on their behalf?	No
5. Select which agency type best describes the reporting agency	Local government authority
6. What is the total number of full time equivalent employees of the reporting agency at the time this annual return is submitted?	6
7. Name of person completing this annual return	Rebecca Wilson
8. Position	Administration Officer
9. Email	rwilson@cmcc.nsw.gov.au
10. Contact Number	0427598577
11. How does the reporting agency ensure public officials associated with the agency are aware of the PID Act 2022?	Training/information session (not mandated PID training)
12. If you selected other, outline any additional awareness activities the reporting agency undertakes to ensure public officials associated with the agency are aware of the PID Act 2022	
13. Does the reporting agency include content on the PID Act 2022 in its induction program?	Yes
14. Has the head of the agency received training on the agency's PID policy and on their responsibilities under the PID Act 2022?	Yes
15. If training has not been received by the head of agency, provide reasons for this	
16. Have all disclosure officers received training on the agency's PID policy and on their responsibilities under the PID Act 2022?	Yes
17. If training has not been received by all disclosure officers, provide reasons for this	
18. Have all managers received training on the agency's PID policy and on their responsibilities under the PID Act 2022?	Yes

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting**PID Annual Return: FY 2024-25**

Return period: 1 July 2024 - 30 June 2025



19. If training has not been received by managers, provide reasons for this	
20. What measures has the agency taken to promote a 'speak up' culture among public officials associated with the agency?	Availability of PID resources
21. Total number of purported PIDs made by public officials to the reporting agency that were not public interest disclosures	0
22. Total number of purported PIDs that were made by other persons (not public officials) to the reporting agency that were not public interest disclosures	0
23. How many purported PIDs (that we not in fact PIDs) did the agency not deal with or cease to deal with as a PID because it was not made by a public official?	0
24. How many purported PIDs (that we not in fact PIDs) did the agency not deal with or cease to deal with as a PID because it was not a report of serious wrongdoing?	0
25. Provide additional reasons the reporting agency did not deal with, or ceased to deal with, each of these disclosures as a public interest disclosure	0
26. How many voluntary PIDs did the reporting agency finalise during this return period?	0
27. How many voluntary PIDs did the reporting agency receive during the return period?	0
Created	29/07/2025
Created By	Rebecca Wilson
Status	Submitted
SubmittedId	1107

ITEM 10.5 2024/2025 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUDIT REPORT

REPORTING SECTION: Executive
AUTHOR: Michael Urquhart – General Manager

Summary:

This report is to recommend that Council formally receives the Audited Financial Reports together with the Auditor's Reports for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

Background:

Council in accordance with Section 419 (1) of the Local Government Act 1993 must present its audited financial accounts together with the auditor's report at a meeting of Council.

Current Position:

Copies of Council's Audited Financial Reports and Auditor's Report are provided under separate cover.

NET OPERATING RESULT

For the year ended 30th June 2025 Council's operating result was a deficit of \$102,000 before capital grants and contributions. The original budget forecast was an operating deficit of \$29,000 and the difference here being expenditure of previous years un-expended grant funds.

WORKING CAPITAL

The "Working Capital" approach is another financial indicator that identifies Council's liquidity or capacity to fund the day to day general purpose operations and delivery of services to the Constituent Councils and community in the short to medium term. It's also a measure of an organisations operational efficiency and short-term health. For the year ended 30th June 2025 Council's operations posted a working capital surplus of \$91,000 which increased the accumulation account leaving a year-end balance of \$964,000.

At years end the "working capital" consisted of cash, inventories (stores) and net sundry creditors/debtors.

Stores	\$32,000
Unrestricted Cash	\$977,000
Net creditor/debtor	(\$45,000)
Total	\$964,000

CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Council's overall cash position has increased by \$32,000 throughout the year with a year-end closing balance of \$1,448,000. The cash and investments are held for the following purposes.

Internal Restrictions

Plant Reserve	58,000
Building Reserve	20,000
Employees Leave Reserve	116,000
Unrestricted Cash	977,000

Sub-total \$1,171,000

External Restrictions

Government grants	277,000
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Total \$1,448,000

*Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting***Conclusion.**

Council's overall working capital position has improved with the accumulation account at a healthy \$964,000. This level of working capital when considered in conjunction with the long term internal reserves is an excellent financial position.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Local Government Act (1993)

Financial Reports and Auditors Report to 30 June 2025

Governance issues:

Presentation to Council of the Annual Financial Statements is a key governance requirement and forms part of Council's reporting to the community.

Environmental issues:

There are no identified environmental issues in relation to this matter.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

There are no alternative solutions / options.

Stakeholders:

Office of Local Government

NSW Audit Office

Nexia Sydney

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Financial Implications:

The Financial implications for Council are detailed in the auditor's report and the supporting ratios. The sound financial position provides the flexibility for Council to further increase control programs in the coming years should the need arise.

2024/2025 Audited Financial Statements and Audit Report**Recommendation:**

That Council receive the Audited Financial Statements together with the Auditor's Reports for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

Moved:**Seconded:**

Attachments: Audited Primary Financial Statements for year ended 30 June 2025. *Please refer to Attachment C of the 2024/25 Annual Report.*

*Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting***ITEM 10.6 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT – SEPTEMBER 2025**

REPORTING SECTION: General Manager
AUTHOR: Michael Urquhart

Summary:

The General Manager reports to Council on the status of the September 2025 Quarterly Budget Review (QBR) Statement. The report outlines the first quarter operations against the adopted 2025/2026 budget estimates, with income and expenditure variations made because of actual differences or known trends.

Background:

The Quarterly Budget Review document is a statutory requirement under the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, Part 9, Division 3, Section 203 and is an essential aspect of Council's financial management. A budget review is to be prepared and submitted to Council not later than two months after the end of each quarter.

Current Position:

The current position is detailed in the attached Quarter 1 (period ending 30th September 2025) Quarterly Budget Review Statement report.

Generally the majority of income and expenditure estimates for 2024/2025 are on track, however there is a number of variations brought to account in the attached report because of rollover projects from 2024/2025 or the availability of known actual figures.

Council's General Fund operations after capital expenditures and transfers to and from reserves has recorded a deficit of \$31,199 for the quarter. The forecast cash result for the year is a deficit of \$29,739.

The major variations for the September 2025 quarter are listed below.

Description	Explanation	Saving	Expense
DPI North West WAP Grant	There will be no increase in the WAP under the new four (4) year program	0	4,196
DPI Central West WAP Grant	No increase in the WAP funding on the 24/25 year	0	8,712
Parkinsonia 25-26 Grant	Bring to account Parkinsonia grant 25/26.	60,000	60,000
DPI Bio Wet Wall	Bring to account funds for the construction of the wet wall in the bio control centre.	6,114	4,114
Investment income	Increase in available funds has delivered increased interest on investments	8,000	0
Contribution by HP, Park & WAP	Contributions from the unincorporated area transferred to Administration	13,636	13,636
Internal audit	Adjustment for expected internal audit fee for 2025/2026. Funded from the WH&S Reserve. Balance funded WH&S works.	0	7,000
Insurances	The insurance actual costs for 2025/26 has increased on original estimates.	0	12,541
Trade for motor vehicles	Adjustment for sale and purchase of new motor vehicles. Reduced transfer to reserve	34,900 30,000	66,000
Parkinsonia Unincorporated Area	The income for the project was included in budget, however expense was omitted.	0	15,000
Transfer of Reserve Funds	Request that the funds from the building reserve be moved to an IT Reserve for the long term asset renewal.	15,000	15,000
Other variations	Net of all other variations for the quarter	7,350	0
Totals of adjustments		175,000	206,199
Net adjustment for quarter			(\$31,199)

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Local Government Act 1993
Local Government (General) Regulation 2021
Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

Governance issues:

The Quarterly Budget Review Statement is a key document for Council in monitoring the progress of the Annual Budget and more broadly its achievement of the objectives within the Strategic Plan.

In August 2025 the Office of Local Government (OLG) introduced a change to the Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBRs) guidelines with standardised report templates for Council adoption and submission to the OLG. Council are required to commence reporting the first quarter for 2025/2026 by the 30th November 2025.

Financial Implications:

The Quarterly Budget Review details Councils current financial projections for the 2025/2026 fiscal year as at the quarter ending 30th September 2025.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Not Applicable

Conclusion:

The QBRs as at 30th September 2025 provides council with information relating to the status of the budget after three (3) months of operation.

Quarterly budget review statement – September 2025

Recommendation:

That Council adopt the attached Quarterly Budget Review Statement for 30th September 2025 as tabled.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

September 2025. Quarterly Budget Review Statement
OLG QBR Data Return September 2025

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL									
Quarterly Budget Review as at 30th September 2025.									
	Adopted Budget 2024-25	Approved Variation	Revised Budget	Requested Variation This QTR	Revised Budget 2024-25	Actual To Date	Balance Remaining For Year	% utilised for year	
INCOME									
Administration									
DPI - NW LLS WAP Grant	\$124,073		\$124,073	(\$4,196)	\$119,877	\$0	\$119,877	0%	
DPI - CW LLS WAP Grant	\$257,629		\$257,629	(\$8,712)	\$248,917	\$0	\$248,917	0%	
LLS Hudson Pear	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	
Parkinsonia Control Grant	\$17,650		\$17,650	(\$2,650)	\$15,000	\$0	\$15,000	0%	
Parkinsonia 2025-2026	\$0		\$0	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$0	100%	
Rubber Vine Project	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	
Bio Wet wall grant			\$0	\$6,114	\$6,114	\$6,114	\$0	100%	
Constituent Council Contribs	\$643,381		\$643,381		\$643,381	\$0	\$643,381	0%	
Interest on Investments	\$47,634		\$47,634	\$8,000	\$55,634	\$14,697	\$40,937	26%	
Lease office space	\$20,800		\$20,800		\$20,800	\$0	\$20,800	0%	
WH&S Incentive Rebate	\$5,000		\$5,000		\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	0%	
Administration - Total	\$1,116,167	\$0	\$1,116,167	\$58,556	\$1,174,723	\$80,811	\$1,093,912	7%	
Private Works									
Private Works Income	\$50,500		\$50,500		\$50,500	\$21,041	\$29,459	42%	
DPI Unincorporated Area	\$149,460		\$149,460		\$149,460	\$149,460	\$0	100%	
DPI Bio Control Unit	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	
Private Works - Total	\$199,960	\$0	\$199,960	\$0	\$199,960	\$170,501	\$29,459	85%	
Other Income									
Plant Income	\$165,793		\$165,793		\$165,793	\$43,511	\$122,282	26%	
profit on sale of plant	\$5,000		\$5,000		\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	0%	
Other Income - Total	\$170,793	\$0	\$170,793	\$0	\$170,793	\$43,511	\$127,282	25%	
Revenue Income - Total	\$1,486,920	\$0	\$1,486,920	\$58,556	\$1,545,476	\$294,823	\$1,250,653	\$1	
EXPENDITURE									
Administration Costs									
General Manager's Salary	\$81,920		\$81,920		\$81,920	\$15,384	\$66,536	19%	
Contract Administrative Support	\$12,913		\$12,913		\$12,913	\$8,000	\$4,913	62%	
Administration Salaries	\$63,499		\$63,499		\$63,499	\$13,044	\$50,455	21%	
Contribution by HP, Park and WAP	(\$84,592)		(\$84,592)	(\$13,636)	(\$98,228)	(\$25,000)	(\$73,228)	25%	
WH&S Risk Management	\$5,000		\$5,000		\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	0%	
Administration travelling and meeting expens	\$2,000		\$2,000		\$2,000	\$591	\$1,409	30%	
Audit Fees	\$19,000		\$19,000		\$19,000	\$0	\$19,000	0%	
Audit Risk Improvement Committee	\$9,539		\$9,539		\$9,539	\$0	\$9,539	0%	
Internal Audit	\$0		\$0	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$1	\$6,999	0%	
Advertising	\$4,608		\$4,608		\$4,608	\$1,221	\$3,387	26%	
Printing & Stationary	\$3,584		\$3,584		\$3,584	\$1,475	\$2,109	41%	
Postage & Freight	\$1,357		\$1,357		\$1,357	\$339	\$1,018	25%	
Telephone	\$9,901		\$9,901		\$9,901	\$2,638	\$7,263	27%	
Bank Charges	\$771		\$771		\$771	\$144	\$627	19%	
Legal Expenses	\$1,024		\$1,024		\$1,024	\$0	\$1,024	0%	
sundry admin expenses	\$12,288		\$12,288		\$12,288	\$1,881	\$10,407	15%	
lease fee expense Walgett	\$20,800		\$20,800		\$20,800	\$3,900	\$16,900	19%	
Office maintenance and running expense	\$7,987		\$7,987		\$7,987	\$240	\$7,747	3%	
IT purchases expensed in year	\$7,168		\$7,168		\$7,168	\$0	\$7,168	0%	
Computer & office equipment maintenance	\$22,000		\$22,000		\$22,000	\$7,841	\$14,159	36%	
web site costs	\$1,024		\$1,024		\$1,024	\$0	\$1,024	0%	
Administration Costs - Total	\$201,791	\$0	\$201,791	(\$6,636)	\$195,155	\$31,699	\$163,456	16%	

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

	Adopted Budget 2024-25	Approved Variation	Revised Budget	Requested Variation This QTR	Revised Budget 2024-25	Actual To Date	Balance Remaining For Year	% utilised for year
Insurance Costs								
Fidelity Gaurantee	\$2,864		\$2,864	\$2,295	\$5,159	\$5,159	\$0	100%
Public Liability & Prof Indemnity	\$41,476		\$41,476	\$1,054	\$42,530	\$42,530	\$0	100%
Property Insurance	\$10,776		\$10,776	\$5,591	\$16,367	\$16,367	\$0	100%
Personal Accident	\$1,957		\$1,957	\$1	\$1,958	\$1,958	\$0	100%
Councillor's and Officers' Liability	\$15,255		\$15,255	\$238	\$15,493	\$15,493	\$0	100%
Motor vehicle liability	\$7,793		\$7,793	\$3,362	\$11,155	\$11,155	\$0	100%
Insurance Costs - Total	\$80,121	\$0	\$80,121	\$12,541	\$92,662	\$92,662	\$0	100%
Governance Costs								
Chairperson's Allowance	\$4,250		\$4,250		\$4,250	\$748	\$3,502	18%
Councillors' Meeting Fees	\$19,734		\$19,734		\$19,734	\$3,483	\$16,251	18%
Councillors' Travelling	\$10,525		\$10,525		\$10,525	\$989	\$9,536	9%
Councillors' Subsistence - CMCC Mtgs	\$1,542		\$1,542		\$1,542	\$610	\$932	40%
Subscription - Shires Assoc	\$3,127		\$3,127		\$3,127	\$0	\$3,127	0%
Delegates Expenses	\$1,639		\$1,639		\$1,639	\$0	\$1,639	0%
Councillors Superannuation	\$1,049		\$1,049		\$1,049	\$131	\$918	12%
Governance Costs - Total	\$41,866	\$0	\$41,866	\$0	\$41,866	\$5,961	\$35,905	14%
Employee Overheads								
ToolBox Meetings	\$1,476		\$1,476		\$1,476	\$0	\$1,476	0%
Annual Leave	\$35,723		\$35,723		\$35,723	\$32,988	\$2,735	92%
Long Service Leave	\$42,878		\$42,878		\$42,878	\$18,549	\$24,329	43%
Sick Leave	\$17,861		\$17,861		\$17,861	\$8,347	\$9,514	47%
compassionate leave	\$1,786		\$1,786		\$1,786	\$0	\$1,786	0%
Employee Overheads distributed to works	(\$213,251)		(\$213,251)		(\$213,251)	(\$21,661)	(\$191,590)	10%
Union Picnic Day	\$703		\$703		\$703	\$0	\$703	0%
Public Holidays NEI	\$17,195		\$17,195		\$17,195	\$0	\$17,195	0%
Superannuation	\$70,178		\$70,178		\$70,178	\$16,449	\$53,729	23%
Workers Compensation	\$9,461		\$9,461		\$9,461	\$2,806	\$6,655	30%
Protective Clothing	\$2,546		\$2,546		\$2,546	\$398	\$2,148	16%
Staff travel to meetings CCMC 61218	\$4,096		\$4,096		\$4,096	\$0	\$4,096	0%
Allowances Disability/Climatic	\$709		\$709		\$709	\$0	\$709	0%
Staff Training	\$8,639		\$8,639		\$8,639	\$2,008	\$6,631	23%
Sub -Total - Employee Overheads	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$59,884	(\$59,884)	#DIV/0!
Sub Total Administrative Overheads	\$323,778	\$0	\$323,778	\$5,905	\$329,683	\$190,206	\$139,477	58%
Employee Overheads - Total								
Destruction of Weeds								
WAP CW	\$515,258		\$515,258		\$515,258	\$111,621	\$403,637	22%
WAP NW	\$248,145		\$248,145		\$248,145	\$54,732	\$193,413	22%
Council roads	\$60,000		\$60,000		\$60,000	\$30,859	\$29,141	51%
Parkinsonia project	\$0		\$0	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$0	\$60,000	0%
Rubber Vine Project	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!
Unincorporate Area	\$149,460		\$149,460		\$149,460	\$18,226	\$131,234	12%
Parkinsonia project Unincorporated Area	\$0		\$0	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0	\$15,000	0%
Contribution Administration UA	(\$13,636)		(\$13,636)	\$13,636	\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!
Destruction of Weeds - Total	\$959,227	\$0	\$959,227	\$88,636	\$1,047,863	\$215,438	\$832,425	21%
Private Works								
Gilgandra Shire - Cost of Private Works	\$15,725		\$15,725		\$15,725	\$2,512	\$13,213	16%
DPI - Biocontrol and Quanda	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!
Crown Land	\$7,596		\$7,596		\$7,596	\$0	\$7,596	0%
Walgett Shire - Cost of Private Works	\$17,336		\$17,336		\$17,336	\$0	\$17,336	0%
Coonabarabran - Private works	\$11,607		\$11,607		\$11,607	\$0	\$11,607	0%
Hudson Pear - Private Works	\$3,958		\$3,958		\$3,958	\$0	\$3,958	0%
Warren - Private works	\$1,045		\$1,045		\$1,045	\$0	\$1,045	0%
Coonamble - Private works	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!
Cost of Private Works	\$27,775		\$27,775		\$27,775	\$4,782	\$22,993	17%
Private Works -Total	\$27,775	\$0	\$27,775	\$0	\$27,775	\$4,782	\$22,993	17%

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

	Adopted Budget 2024-25	Approved Variation	Revised Budget	Requested Variation This QTR	Revised Budget 2024-25	Actual To Date	Balance Remaining For Year	% utilised for year
Other Expenses								
Depot Expenses	\$11,094		\$11,094		\$11,094	\$5,064	\$6,030	46%
Storage Rental	\$4,793		\$4,793		\$4,793	\$0	\$4,793	0%
Plant Expenses	\$85,793		\$85,793		\$85,793	\$18,197	\$67,596	21%
Depreciation	\$80,000		\$80,000		\$80,000	\$20,000	\$60,000	25%
Other Expenses -Total	\$181,680	\$0	\$181,680	\$0	\$181,680	\$43,261	\$138,419	24%
Revenue Expenses - Total	\$1,492,460	\$0	\$1,492,460	\$94,541	\$1,587,001	\$453,687	\$1,133,314	29%
Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit) after Deprec	(\$5,540)	\$0	(\$5,540)	(\$35,985)	(\$41,525)	(\$158,864)	\$117,339	383%
Capital Income								
Sale/Trade in of Plant Assets	\$26,000		\$26,000	\$34,900	\$60,900		\$60,900	0%
Transfer from ELE Reserve	\$0		\$0		\$0		\$0	#DIV/0!
Transfer from Building Reserve	\$5,000		\$5,000	\$15,000	\$20,000		\$20,000	0%
Transfer from Plant Reserve	\$8,000		\$8,000		\$8,000		\$8,000	0%
Capital Income - Total	\$39,000	\$0	\$39,000	\$49,900	\$88,900	\$0	\$88,900	0%
Capital Expenditure								
Minor Building Improvements	\$2,000		\$2,000		\$2,000		\$2,000	0%
Bio Control unit	\$2,000		\$2,000	\$4,114	\$6,114		\$6,114	0%
New Vehicles - Nett	\$46,000		\$46,000	\$66,000	\$112,000		\$112,000	0%
New Spray Rigs	\$0		\$0		\$0		\$0	0%
Small Plant, Tools, Radios	\$2,000		\$2,000		\$2,000		\$2,000	0%
Transfer to ELE Reserve	\$10,000		\$10,000	(\$10,000)	\$0		\$0	#DIV/0!
Transfer to IT Reserve	\$15,000		\$15,000	\$15,000	\$30,000		\$30,000	0%
Transfer to Plant Reserve	\$30,000		\$30,000	(\$30,000)	\$0		\$0	#DIV/0!
Capital Expenditure - Total	\$107,000	\$0	\$107,000	\$45,114	\$152,114	\$0	\$152,114	0%
Net Capital Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$68,000)	\$0	(\$68,000)	\$4,786	(\$63,214)	\$0	(\$63,214)	
Summary								
Total Income	\$1,525,920	\$0	\$1,525,920	\$108,456	\$1,634,376	\$294,823	\$1,339,553	
Total Expenditure	\$1,599,460	\$0	\$1,599,460	\$139,655	\$1,739,115	\$453,687	\$1,285,428	
Net Total Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$73,540)	\$0	(\$73,540)	(\$31,199)	(\$104,739)	(\$158,864)	\$54,125	
Add back depreciation and profit on sale	\$75,000		\$75,000		\$75,000		\$75,000	
Less Profit on sale	\$0		\$0		\$0		\$0	
Net cash result for year Surplus (Deficit)	\$1,460	\$0	\$1,460	(\$31,199)	(\$29,739)	(\$158,864)	\$129,125	

QBRS FINANCIAL OVERVIEW												
Select Council Name												
Budget review for the quarter ended 30/09/25												
DESCRIPTION		Previous Year	Current Year	Approved	Approved	Approved	Revised	Recommended	Projected	VARIANCE	ACTUAL	
		Actual	Budget	Review	Review	Review	Budget	for council	Year End	ORIGINAL	2025/26	YTD
		2024/25	2025/26	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3		resolution	(FYR)	Budget v FYR	2025/26	
		\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Net Operating Result before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	General Fund	-102	-10	0	0	0	-10	-31	-41	-31	-213	
	Water Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Sewer Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Consolidated	-102	-10	0	0	0	-10	-31	-41	-31	-213	
Operating Result from continuing operations (with capital grants and contributions) excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	Consolidated	7	91	0	0	0	91	-31	60	-31	-193	
Borrowings	Total borrowings	0	0						0	0	0	
Liquidity	External restrictions	277	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Internal Allocations	194	197	0	0	0	197	-40	157	-40	0	
	Unallocated	977	859	0	0	0	859	4	863	4	0	
	Total Cash, Cash Equivalents and Inves	1,448	1,056	0	0	0	1,056	-36	1,020	-36	0	
Capital	Capital Funding	0	106	0	0	0	106	6	112	6	0	
	Capital Expenditure	0	106	0	0	0	106	6	112	6	0	
	Net Capital	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

		Opening	Total Cash	Total	Total	Total	Held as	Cumulative balance of internal
		Balance	Contributions	Interest	Expended	Internal	Restricted	borrowings (to)/from
		As at 1 July	As at this Q	As at this Q	As at this Q	As at this Q	As at this Q	As at this Q
		2025	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
		\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Developer Contribution	Total Developer Contributions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Income and Expenses Budget Review Statement										
Select Council Name										
Budget review for the quarter ended 30/09/2025										
Consolidated Fund										
Description	Previous Year Actual 2024/25 \$000's	Current Year Original Budget 2025/26 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 1 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 2 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 3 \$000's	Revised Budget \$000's	Recommended changes for council resolution \$000's	Projected Year End (PYE) Result 2025/26 \$000's	VARIANCE ORIGINAL budget v PYE 2025/26 \$000's	ACTUAL YTD 2025/26 \$000's
INCOME										
Rates and Annual Charges	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
User Charges and Fees	31	50				50	0	50	0	21
Other Revenue	5	0				0	0	0	0	0
Grants and Contributions - Operating	1,210	1,192				1,192	51	1,243	51	216
Grants and Contributions - Capital	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Interest and Investment Income	62	48				48	8	56	8	15
Other Income	19	21				21	0	21	0	0
Net gain from disposal of assets	0	5				5	0	5	0	0
Total Income from continuing operations	1,327	1,316	0	0	0	1,316	59	1,375	59	252
EXPENSES										
Employee benefits and on-costs	780	705				705	76	781	76	209
Materials & Services	539	520				520	14	534	14	236
Borrowing Costs	1	0				0	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Net Loss from Disposal of Assets	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	1,320	1,225	0	0	0	1,225	90	1,315	90	445
Operating Result from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	7	91	0	0	0	91	-31	60	-31	-193
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	109	101				101	0	101	0	20
Operating result from continuing Operations	-102	-10	0	0	0	-10	-31	-41	-31	-213
Net Operating Result before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	-102	-10	0	0	0	-10	-31	-41	-31	-213
Notes										
Original Budget +/- approved budget changes in previous quarters = REVISED Budget										
Revised Budget +/- recommended changes this quarter = PROJECTED year results										
The quarterly recommended changes to the revised budget are to include:										
1) an explanation for the recommended changes and any impact this will have on the Operational Plan, Delivery Program and Long Term Financial Plan										
2) any impacts of year to date expenditure on recommended changes to budget										
Explanations are to be in plain English and in a style that is easily understood by readers of non-financial information.										
The narrative is important in understanding why budget changes are necessary.										

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Income and Expenses Budget Review Statement										
Select Council Name										
Budget review for the quarter ended 30/09/2025										
General Fund										
Description	Previous Year Actual 2024/25 \$000's	Current Year Original Budget 2025/26 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 1 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 2 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 3 \$000's	Revised Budget \$000's	Recommended changes for council resolution \$000's	Projected Year End (PYE) Result 2025/26 \$000's	VARIANCE ORIGINAL budget v PYE 2025/26 \$000's	ACTUAL YTD 2025/26 \$000's
INCOME										
Rates and Annual Charges	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
User Charges and Fees	31	50				50	0	50	0	21
Other Revenue	5	0				0	0	0	0	0
Grants and Contributions - Operating	1,210	1,192				1,192	51	1,243	51	216
Grants and Contributions - Capital	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Interest and Investment Income	62	48				48	8	56	8	15
Other Income	19	21				21	0	21	0	0
Net gain from disposal of assets	0	5				5	0	5	0	0
Total Income from continuing operations	1,327	1,316	0	0	0	1,316	59	1,375	59	252
EXPENSES										
Employee benefits and on-costs	780	705				705	76	781	76	209
Materials & Services	539	520				520	14	534	14	236
Borrowing Costs	1	0				0	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Net Loss from Disposal of Assets	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	1,320	1,225	0	0	0	1,225	90	1,315	90	445
Operating Result from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	7	91	0	0	0	91	-31	60	-31	-193
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	109	101				101	0	101	0	20
Operating result from continuing Operations	-102	-10	0	0	0	-10	-31	-41	-31	-213
Net Operating Result before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	-102	-10	0	0	0	-10	-31	-41	-31	-213

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Income and Expenses Budget Review Statement										
Select Council Name										
Budget review for the quarter ended 30/09/2025										
Water Fund										
Description	Previous Year Actual 2024/25 \$000's	Current Year Original Budget 2025/26 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 1 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 2 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 3 \$000's	Revised Budget \$000's	Recommended changes for council resolution \$000's	Projected Year End (PYE) Result 2025/26 \$000's	VARIANCE ORIGINAL budget v PYE 2025/26 \$000's	ACTUAL YTD 2025/26 \$000's
INCOME										
Access Charges						0		0	0	
User Charges						0		0	0	
Fees						0		0	0	
Grants & Contributions - Operating						0		0	0	
Interest and Investment Income						0		0	0	
Other Income						0		0	0	
Net gain from disposal of assets						0		0	0	
Total Income from continuing operations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
EXPENSES										
Employee benefits and on-costs						0		0	0	
Materials & Services						0		0	0	
Borrowing Costs						0		0	0	
Water purchase charges						0		0	0	
Calculated taxation equivalents						0		0	0	
Debt guarantee fee						0		0	0	
Other Expenses						0		0	0	
Net Loss from Disposal of Assets						0		0	0	
Total Expenses from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Operating Result from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets						0		0	0	
Surplus / (Deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grants and Contributions - Capital						0		0	0	
Surplus / (Deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Income and Expenses Budget Review Statement										
Select Council Name										
Budget review for the quarter ended 30/09/2025										
Sewer Fund										
Description	Previous Year Actual 2024/25 \$000's	Current Year Original Budget 2025/26 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 1 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 2 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 3 \$000's	Revised Budget \$000's	Recommended changes for council resolution \$000's	Projected Year End (PYE) Result 2025/26 \$000's	VARIANCE ORIGINAL budget v PYE 2025/26 \$000's	ACTUAL YTD 2025/26 \$000's
INCOME										
Access charges						0		0	0	
User charges						0		0	0	
Liquid trade-waste charges						0		0	0	
Fees						0		0	0	
Grants and contributions - Operating						0		0	0	
Interest and Investment Income						0		0	0	
Other Income						0		0	0	
Net gain from disposal of assets						0		0	0	
Total Income from continuing operations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
EXPENSES										
Employee benefits and on-costs						0		0	0	
Materials & Services						0		0	0	
Borrowing Costs						0		0	0	
Calculated taxation equivalents						0		0	0	
Debt Guarantee fee						0		0	0	
Other Expenses						0		0	0	
Net Loss from Disposal of Assets						0		0	0	
Total Expenses from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Operating Result from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets						0		0	0	
Surplus / (Deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grants and Contributions - Capital						0		0	0	
Surplus / (Deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Capital Budget Review Statement										
Select Council Name										
Budget review for the quarter ended 30/09/2025										
Description	Previous Year Actual 2024/25 \$000's	Current Year Original Budget 2025/26 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 1 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 2 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 3 \$000's	Revised Budget \$000's	Recommended changes for council resolution \$000's	Projected Year End (PYE) Result 2025/26 \$000's	VARIANCE ORIGINAL budget v PYE 2025/26 \$000's	ACTUAL YTD 2025/26 \$000's
CAPITAL FUNDING										
Rates & other untied funding	0	38				38	5	43	5	0
Capital Grants & Contributions	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Reserves - External Restrictions	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Reserves - Internally Allocated	0	8				8	0	8	0	0
New Loans	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Proceeds from sale of assets	0	60				60	1	61	1	0
Other	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Total Capital Funding	0	106	0	0	0	106	6	112	6	0
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE										
WIP	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
New Assets	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Asset Renewal	0	106				106	6	112	6	0
Other	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Total Capital Expenditure	0	106	0	0	0	106	6	112	6	0
Net Capital Funding - Surplus /(Deficit)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Cash and Investments Budget Review Statement										
Select Council Name										
Budget review for the quarter ended 30/09/2025										
Description	Previous Year Actual 2024/25 \$000's	Current Year Original Budget 2025/26 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 1 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 2 \$000's	Approved Changes Review Q 3 \$000's	Revised Budget \$000's	Recommended changes for council resolution Q1 \$000's	Projected Year End (PYE) Result 2025/26 \$000's	VARIANCE ORIGINAL budget v PYE 2025/26 \$000's	ACTUAL YTD 2025/26 \$000's
Total Cash, Cash Equivalents & Investments	1,448	1,056				1,056	-36	1,020	-36	0
EXTERNALLY RESTRICTED										
Water Fund	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Sewer Fund	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Developer contributions - General	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Developer contributions - Water	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Developer contributions - Sewer	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Transport for NSW Contributions	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Domestic waste management	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Stormwater management	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Other	277	0				0	0	0	0	0
Total Externally Restricted	277	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash, cash equivalents & investments not subject to external restrictions	1,171	1,056	0	0	0	1,056	-36	1,020	-36	0
INTERNAL ALLOCATIONS										
Employee entitlements	116	127				127	-10	117	-10	0
Insert nature of allocation	58	40				40	-30	10	-30	0
Insert nature of allocation	20	15				15	-15	0	-15	0
Insert nature of allocation	0	15				15	15	30	15	0
Insert nature of allocation	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Insert nature of allocation	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0				0	0	0	0	0
Total Internally Allocated	194	197	0	0	0	197	-40	157	-40	0
Unallocated	977	859	0	0	0	859	4	863	4	0

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
Office of Local Government



Circular to Councils

Subject/title	Quarterly Budget Review Statement Guidelines
Circular Details	Circular 25-17/ 07 August 2025 / A966349
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / Council finance staff
Contact	Sector Policy and Development / 02 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Information

What's new or changing?

- To ensure councillors have effective oversight and are in control of the financial performance of their council, the Office of Local Government (OLG) has revised the Quarterly Budget Review Statement Guidelines for Local Government (the Guidelines).
- The Guidelines outline the purpose and value of effective financial reporting, highlight roles and responsibilities, and establish standardised Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBRs) reporting templates.
- The Guidelines also introduce a QBRs overview and reporting of council income and expenditure based on fund.
- These changes will ensure that the governing body and communities are receiving clear, relevant and meaningful financial information.

What will this mean for council?

- The QBRs reporting requirements outlined in the Guidelines are mandatory, and all NSW councils are required to comply with the Guidelines. This includes use of standardised QBRs reporting templates to be presented to councillors, the community and to OLG.
- A 'How to read your Quarterly Financial Overview' guide has also been developed to assist users read and understand the figures presented in the QBRs. The one-page resource can be re-badged and used by councils.

T 02 4428 4100 TTY 02 4428 4209, E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
www.olg.nsw.gov.au

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

- OLG expects that councils will commence reporting the 1st quarter QBRS under the new Guidelines by no later than 30 November 2025.
- OLG will provide councils with an electronic data template, aligned to the templates in the Guidelines well in advance of the 30 November 2025 reporting date.

Key points

- Draft Guidelines were released for comment in March 2025 and feedback closed on 28 April. A consultation summary report has been released outlining the feedback received.
- The Guidelines highlight the importance of financial reporting and clarify that councillors have a primary role in determining the financial direction and health of a council.
- The Guidelines introduce standardised reporting templates and a mandate to report at fund level to ensure the governing body and community can easily view how each fund is operating on its own merit.
- Councils can add additional narrative, commentary and supplementary information however must use, and not adjust, the standardised QBRS reporting templates.
- The Guidelines also introduce a new requirement for councils to provide OLG with a full copy of QBRS documents and an electronic QBRS data return throughout the financial year.
- Councils are required to commence reporting the 1st quarter QBRS under the new Guidelines by no later than 30 November 2025.
- An electronic template will be provided to all councils to report their QBRS to OLG.

Where to go for further information

- The suite of QBRS documents are available on the [OLG website](#).

A blue ink signature of Brett Whitworth.

Brett Whitworth
Deputy Secretary, Local Government

*Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting***ITEM 10.7 ANNUAL REPORT 2024/2025**

REPORTING SECTION: General Manager
AUTHOR: Michael Urquhart

Summary:

This report provides tables the Annual Report highlighting Council's achievements for 2024/2025.

Background:

In accordance Section 428 of the Local Government Act 1993 Council must within five (5) months after the end of year prepare a report on achievements and the effectiveness of the principal activities undertaken in achieving the objectives.

Current Position:

The Annual Report is attached for Council's information.

Governance issues:

Local Government Act 1993

Local Government Regulation (2021)

Environmental issues:

N/A

Stakeholders:

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Constituent Councils

Financial Implications:

NIL

Alternative Solutions/Options:

NIL

Conclusion:

Council should note the progress made during the 2024/2025 year.

Annual Report 2024/2025**Recommendation:**

That Council formally adopts its Annual Report for 2024/2025.

Moved:**Seconded:**

Attachments: Annual Report 2024/2025. *Please refer to the Attachment Document*

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

ITEM 10.8 IMPORTANT DATES – UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

REPORTING SECTION: General Manager
AUTHOR: Michael Urquhart

Summary:

A list of upcoming meetings and events is provided for Members information.

Background:

This report provides Members with an overview of upcoming meetings and events that Castlereagh Macquarie County Council staff are involved in.

Current Position:

Members are requested to raise any queries prior to the meetings listed.

Conclusion:

Provided there are no changes it is appropriate to receive and note the information.

Important Dates For Members - Upcoming Meetings & Events

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the list of upcoming meetings and events.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Calendar of events 2025

*Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting***IMPORTANT DATES - Upcoming Meetings and Events –2025**

DATE	MEETING/FUNCTION	LOCATION	NOTES
2 nd December 2025	Central West Regional Meeting	Weddin	Senior Biosecurity Officer
4 th December 2025	Western Regional Meeting	Teams	Senior Biosecurity Officer
19 th December 2025	CMCC Christmas Closure Period Begins		All Staff
23 February 2026	CMCC Council Meeting	Coonamble	Members, GM, Senior Biosecurity Officer & Administration Officer
27 April 2026	CMCC Council Meeting	Coonamble	Members, GM, Senior Biosecurity Officer & Administration Officer
22 June 2026	CMCC Council Meeting	Coonamble	Members, GM, Senior Biosecurity Officer & Administration Officer
24 August 2026	CMCC Council Meeting	Coonamble	Members, GM, Senior Biosecurity Officer & Administration Officer
26 October 2026	CMCC Council Meeting	Coonamble	Members, GM, Senior Biosecurity Officer & Administration Officer
30 November 2026	CMCC Council Meeting	Coonamble	Members, GM, Senior Biosecurity Officer & Administration Officer

11. BIOSECURITY REPORT

ITEM 11.1 QUARTERLY BIOSECURITY REPORT

REPORTING SECTION: Biosecurity Control Works
AUTHOR: Andrea Fletcher

Summary:

The attached report provides an update of biosecurity matters in the County Council area.

Background:

Council has an obligation in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 2015 to prevent, eliminate, minimise, and manage biosecurity risks in the County Council local government area.

Current Position:

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council provides funding to resource its obligation in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 2015, and the adopted Delivery Program and Operational Plan set out the activities, objectives and performance measures necessary for compliance.

Governance issues:

Biosecurity Act 2015
Local Government Act 1993

Environmental issues:

Any environmental issues are detailed in the attached update.

Stakeholders:

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
Constituent Councils
County Council LGA Ratepayers

Financial Implications:

Control and compliance operational expenditure matters are funded from the annual operational budget.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

There are no alternate options.

Conclusion:

The Senior Biosecurity Officer submits the attached report for Councils information.

Quarterly Biosecurity Report
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That the report be received and noted</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>

Attachments: Report for Senior Bio Security Officer

Senior Biosecurity Weed Officer Report November 2025

Crownland Funding

Grants are open for the 2025–26 NSW Crown Reserves Improvement Fund to upgrade and maintain public reserves, with applications open for eligible reserve managers, including local councils and community groups. The fund, which has been increased to \$13.5 million, supports community, recreational, and tourism facilities, as well as pest and weed management on Crown land. The [NSW Department of Planning and Environment \(DPE\)](#) website is the primary source for information on how to apply.

What the grants are for

Upgrading and maintaining community, recreational, and tourism facilities on Crown land
Managing feral pests and noxious weeds on reserves
General maintenance and improvements

Who can apply

Crown land reserve managers
Local councils
Community groups that manage Crown land
Showgrounds on Crown land

How to apply

Check the NSW Government's Crown land website for the official grant guidelines and application portal. Encourage eligible local organizations to apply for funding.

Important notes

Applications are open for the 2025–26 funding round.
The total funding has been increased to \$13.5 million.

St Johns Wort is germinating. The incredible work by Castlereagh Macquarie County Council staff have reduced the impacts significantly in The Warrumbungle and Gilgandra Shires through roadside spraying, inspections for compliance from landowners. UGL rail, Local Land Services and Crownlands.

3rd November 2022 Castlereagh Macquarie County Council released Chrysolina beetles (photo below) in Warrumbungle and Gilgandra Shire. Approximately 5000 beetles were released at each site and consist of the 2 Chysolina species released in Australia. Chrysolina metallic bronze hyperici and metallic green Chysolina quadrigemina. This season has been we have found large active numbers making impacts.

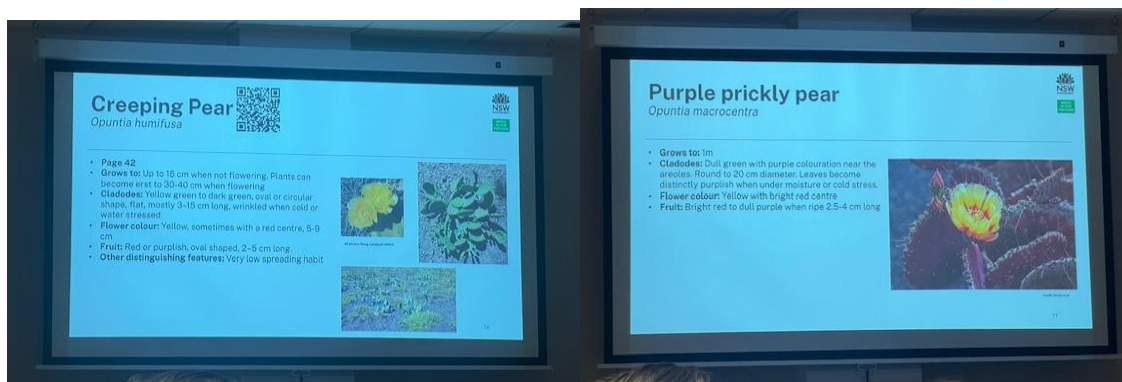
Warren, Coonamble and Walgett Shires remain free from St John's Wort

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting



*Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting***Opuntia and Cacti Spp. Biological control Workshop**

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council assisted Andrew McConnachie and the Good Neighbour with an Opuntia Workshop in Broken Hill Tuesday 4th November 2025. The course was very educational helping stakeholders identify cactus species. The day was also very valuable networking with National Parkes, Crownland, Broken Hill Shire Council and Landcare staff from Broken Hill and the Unincorporated area.



Power point presentation to follow Senior Biosecurity Report on Parkinsonia

12. QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

13. CONFIRMATION DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date: 23rd February 2026, in Coonamble

14. CLOSE OF MEETING

Time:



**ATTACHMENT DOCUMENT
FOR
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

Thursday, 27th November 2025

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –27th November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Attachments:

- 2024/2025 Annual Report including
 - o *Attachment A* -CMCC Operational Plan as at 30th June 2025
 - o *Attachment B* - Delivery Programme 2022/23 – 2024-25
 - o *Attachment C* - CMCC Financial Statements & Auditor General's Report for 2024/2025
 - o *Attachment D* – Payment of Expenses and Provision to Councillors Policy
 - o *Attachment E* – 2024/2025 Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 Annual Report
 - o *Attachment F* – Public Interest Disclosure Annual Report – 2024/25 NSW Ombudsman



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

ANNUAL REPORT 2024/2025

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CONTACT DETAILS

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

55 Fox Street
WALGETT NSW 2832

Postal Address:

PO Box 664
WALGETT NSW 2832

**Please address all correspondence to the General Manager.*

Telephone: 0427 598 577

Office Hours

9am to 3pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Chairperson:

Clr Doug Batten

General Manager:

Mr. Michael Urquhart

Email:

cmcc@cmcc.nsw.gov.au

Website:

www.cmcc.nsw.gov.au

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



2024/2025 year has been an outstanding year for Castlereagh Macquarie County Council (CMCC) with many on ground achievements, and it's my sincere pleasure to present the Chairmans report, highlighting the success stories of our operations that prevent the establishment of invasive weeds in our County Council area.

I would like to take this opportunity to genuinely thank each of the constituent Councils Coonamble, Gilgandra, Walgett, Warren and Warrumbungle for their committed support of the County Council and its operations. This collective approach continues to be the perfect example of successful and effective

collaboration between the Councils to address new and emerging invasive weed problems across the region in addition to the control of widespread weeds on roadsides.

We have a small team of dedicated and highly professional staff, our Administration Officer, Senior Biosecurity Officer and five (5) Biosecurity Officers all managed by our General Manager Mike Urquhart. The staff are very effective and efficient in identification and controlling invasive weeds, coupled with their highly advanced communications skills ensure private and public land managers are complying with their obligations under the NSW Biosecurity Act.

Council has a commitment under the Weed Action Plan to conduct several important activities preventing the establishment of new invasive species and Council achieved the following targets in the Central West Region in 24/25 (Gilgandra, Warren, Coonamble and Warrumbungle);

- Inspection of 140klms of High-Risk waterways.
- Inspection of 4,000 klms of High-Risk roads.
- Inspection of 400klms of High-Risk Railways.
- 120 Inspections of High-Risk sites
- 1,500 Private property inspections.
- 50 Council property inspections.
- Inspection of 60 State owned or managed sites.
- Inspection of 6 Parthenium sites.
- Control of wide spread weeds along 261 klms of infected roads.

In the North West Region (Walgett);

- Inspection of 70klms of High-Risk waterways.
- Inspection of 1,500 klms of High-Risk roads.
- Inspection of 90klms of High-Risk Railways.
- 128 Inspections of High-Risk sites
- 200 Private property inspections.
- 10 Council property inspections.
- Inspection of 26 State owned or managed sites.
- Inspection of 12 Parthenium sites.
- Control of wide spread weeds along 118 klms of infected roads.

This year Council successfully completed its first year of operations in the NSW Unincorporated Area as the Local Control Authority. The region includes several small towns including Tibooburra, Milparinka, Silverton and some parts of Broken Hill not included in the City of Broken Hill. The CMCC inspectors have established a Hudson Pear control site to the south east of Broken Hill where they have introduced the cochineal agent. In addition, the staff conducted widespread aerial surveillance of the region and conducted control works on Rubber Vine at numerous sites in the area.

Hudson Pear infestations surrounding Lightning Ridge and the Opal fields to the west continue to present a serious environmental problem for the Walgett Shire community. I am pleased to report that the NSW Minns Labor Government continue to support North West Local Land Services (NWLLS) with their Hudson Pear containment and control program. The NWLLS work this past financial year along with CMCC's amazing bio control program is stopping the plant in its tracks. NWLLS and its contractors have attended to 35 properties in the area and treated 3,607 HA of Hudson Pear infected land. The NWLLS program also saw the issue of 540 litres of chemical to private landowners to carry out their own Hudson Pear control treatment.

The DPI and CMCC continue to work closely together on the control and monitoring of Parkinsonia along the river systems from Queensland. Waterways from the north have become the single highest risk pathway for this very invasive weed to enter the state and our Local Control Area. Numerous flooding events this past year has once again prompted aerial surveillance and a control program along the Narren and Barwon rivers to ensure this weed is contained to the border.

Landowner compliance is the key to stopping the spread of invasive weeds and Biosecurity Officers are working closely with private landowners that are finding it difficult to comply with their obligations under the NSW Biosecurity Act. While small in number, a majority of these non-complying landowners are making some inroads into controlling their weed problem with containment strategies stopping the spread to neighbouring properties. To date Council hasn't had to issue a "Biosecurity Direction", however, the time may come when Council has no other alternative but to issue an order. The "Compliance system which is risk based will come into operation in 25/26.

On the financial side of our operations, although reporting a deficit for the year before capital grants and contributions of \$102,000, Council recorded a small increase in cash of \$32,000. This coupled with internal reserves of \$194,000 presents a sound financial position. Council's income totaled \$1.327 million with \$1.320 million in operational expenditure.

Constituent Council support for CMCC is the cornerstone of this highly successful operation that jointly with DPI and LLS continues to prevent new invasive weeds establishing and prevents the spread of existing weeds in our Local Control Area.

In closing, I would like to thank my fellow Members and Council staff for their ongoing support and commitment to the control and minimization of invasive weeds in our County.

Councillor Doug Batten
Chairman

OUR VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

Vision

The prevention, elimination, minimisation and management of the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by weeds within the County District so that it does not become a significant factor limiting:

- agricultural productivity and
- the quality of the rural environment and
- the economic viability of rural communities within the County District.

Mission

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council's mission is to ensure all private and public landholders manage their holdings in such a way as to reach and maintain a sustainably low level of weed biosecurity risk.

This mission is to be shared by all those agencies striving to reduce biosecurity risks across the country, throughout the regions and locally with the constituent councils, landholders and the whole of the community living and residing within the County District.

To provide effective integrated weed management systems utilizing the latest technology to all constituent council areas fairly and equitably in accordance with the Biosecurity Act, 2015.

REASON FOR OUR ANNUAL REPORT

Our Annual Report is one of the key points of accountability between Council and our community. It is not a report that is submitted to the Office of Local Government or the State Government; rather it is a report to inform and update our community.

This report focuses on Council's implementation of the CMCC Delivery Programme 2022/2023 – 2024/2025 and Operational Programme 2024/2025. The CMCC Financial Statements for 2024/2025 and Audit Report are included in this report at **Attachment B – Financial Statements**.

This report also includes some information that is prescribed by the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021. This information has been included in the Regulation because we believe that it is important for the community members to obtain knowledge about it – to help them gain a better understanding of how the Council has been performing both as a business entity and a community leader.

Below is the additional legislative basis for the development of our Annual Report:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993

The following is a summary of the requirements of Section 428 of the Act:

- Council must prepare an annual report within five months after the end of a financial year. The report will outline the Council's achievements in implementing its Delivery Program and the effectiveness of the principle activities undertaken in achieving the objectives at which those principle activities are directed.
- The annual report must contain Council's audited financial statements and notes and any information required by the Regulation or the Guidelines.
- A copy of the report must be posted on Council's website (www.cmcc.nsw.gov.au) and provided to the Minister and such other persons and bodies as the regulations may require.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (GENERAL) REGULATION 2021

Clause 217 of the Regulation requires the following information to be included in the annual report:

- Details (including the purpose) of overseas visits during the year by Councillors and staff
- Details of Chairman and Councillor fees, expenses and facilities
- Details of contracts awarded by the Council
- Amounts incurred in relation to legal proceedings
- Works carried out on private lands and financial assistance
- Details of external bodies, companies and partnerships
- A statement of the activities undertaken by the council during that year to implement its equal employment opportunity management plan
- Details of the General Manager's total remuneration
- Details of the total remuneration of all senior staff members employed during the year

WHO WE ARE

The Castlereagh Macquarie County Council is comprised of three distinct elements: the governing body, administration and the operations

Elected Council

As a County Council under the LGA 1993, CMCC is required to have a governing body made up of elected representatives of its Constituent Councils. Part 5 of the Local Government Act 1993 (*see note 1) outlines the formation and operation of County Councils. The application of LGA 1993 to CMCC is outlined in Section 400, LGA 1993.

Ten councillors including a Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson make up the governing body of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council. Each Constituent Council is represented by two councillors who are elected as representatives for a four-year term.

Under the *Local Government Act 1993*, Councillors have a responsibility to:

- Participate in the determination of the budget
- Play a key role in the creation and review of Council policies, objectives and criteria relating to the regulatory functions, and
- Review Council's performance and the delivery of services management plans and revenue policies.

A councillor represents residents and ratepayers, provides leadership and guidance to the community, and facilitates communication between the community and Council. Council meets bi-monthly (even months) on the fourth Monday of each month commencing at 10:30am. Details in relation to meeting place, can be found on the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council website.

Administrative Support

The General Manager leads the administrative arm of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council and is responsible for the efficient and effective operation of the business and ensuring that the decisions of Council are implemented.

Councils Administration Officer performs a range of clerical and accounting functions from the Administration Office at 55 Fox Street Walgett

The General Manager reports to the fully elected Council.

Operations

Council has a team of six (6) Bio Security Officers which is lead by the Senior Bio Security Officer currently based in Warrumbungle Shire. A Bio Security Officer is located in each of the five (5) constituent council LGA's with the Senior Bio Security Officer managing and assisting the team of five (5).

The inspectors are fully accredited Bio Security Officers having completed the Department of Primary Industries Bio Security training course.

The Operations team is responsible for private property and roadside inspections by actively undertaking the education, awareness and engagement with all land managers (public and private) to prevent, eliminate or minimize biosecurity weed risks and/or impacts on behalf of

Council, the Local Control Authority (Biosecurity Act 2015). The team undertake site inspections along high-risk pathways and sites and provide advice to private and public landholders to reduce biosecurity weed impacts on both high value environmental and agricultural land and other key assets. They Interpret the regulatory framework and issue biosecurity undertakings or directions if required and identify new and emerging invasive weeds within the county council area.

Location

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council is a single purpose Council which is responsible for the fulfillment of its Constituent Councils obligations under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015.

The County Councils governance is in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (LGA 1993) with the County Council being first proclaimed in 1947.

The present area of operation of CMCC is the local government areas of Coonamble, Gilgandra, Warren, Walgett and Warrumbungle. These Councils are located in the Orana Region of Western New South Wales. Commencing the 1st July 2024 Council has also been responsible for the Unincorporated Area of NSW.

***Note 1:** Part 5, Local Government Act 1993 contained in Appendix A

Core Business Activities

The core role of the County Council is the prevention, elimination, minimisation and management of the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by weeds on both private and council controlled lands.

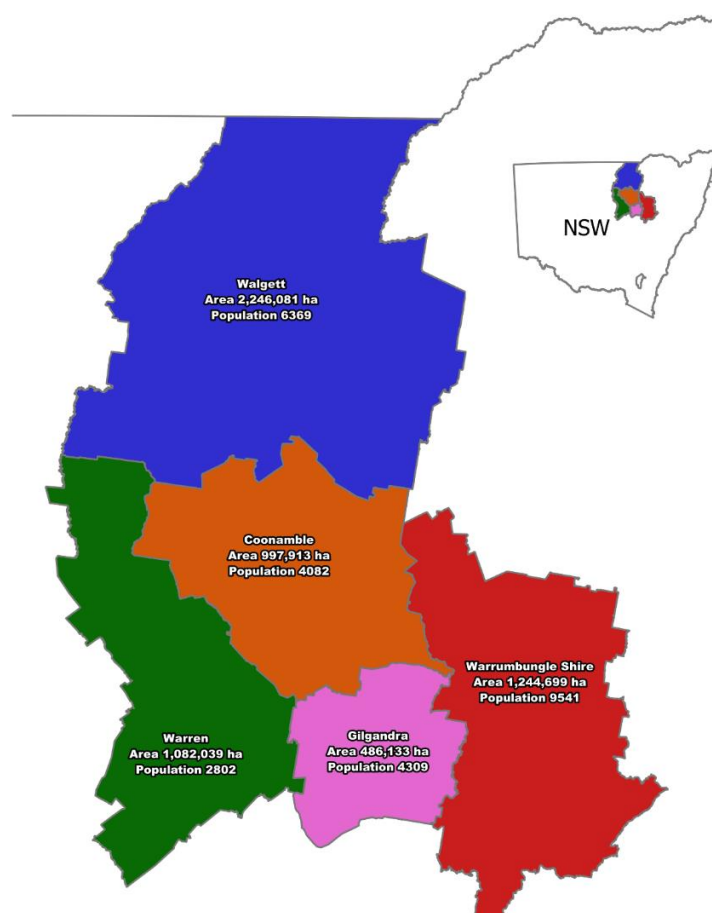
The diverse range of climatic conditions within the region exposes it to a large range of invasive plants which have the potential of establishing themselves within the region.

In NSW all plants are regulated with a general biosecurity duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise any biosecurity risk they may pose. Any person who deals with any plant, who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk, has a duty to ensure the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimized.

Government Grants

Council receives very limited Federal Government Grant Funding. However approximately one half of Council's income is sourced from State Government Grants which are administered jointly by the North West and Central West Local Land Services. Various other grants are accessed through NSW Department of Primary Industries and other government agencies.

OUR AREA OF OPERATION



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council's area of operation comprises an area of approximately 6,056,865 hectares with a population of around 27,000 people. The region has a diverse topographical range, from the Warrumbungle Range to the semi-arid regions of Lightning Ridge and contains an extensive area of National Parks and Nature Reserves.

In 2024 the DPI chose Castlereagh Macquarie County Council to manage the Unincorporated Area of far west New South Wales. The region includes several small towns including Tibooburra, Milparinka and Silverton and some parts of Broken Hill but not the city centre. This Local Control Area covers 93,299 sq klms and has a population of 1,056.

OUR MEMBERS



Chairperson
Doug Batten
Gilgandra



Deputy Chairperson
Noel Kinsey
Warren



Member Greg Peart
Gilgandra



Member Margaret Garnsey
Coonamble



Member Michael Cooke
Walgett



Member Greg Rummery
Walgett



Member Greg Whiteley
Warren



Member Paul Fisher
Coonamble



Member Zoe Holcombe
Warrumbungle



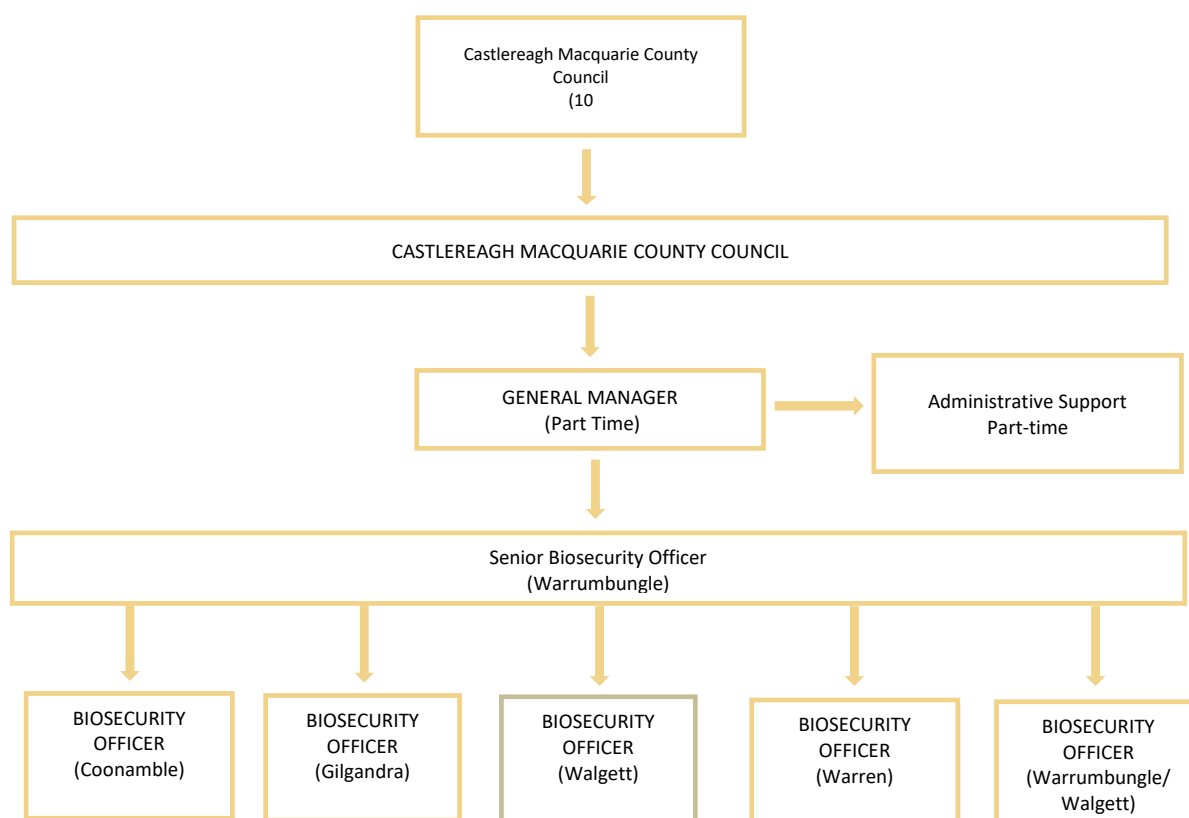
Member Debra Bell
Warrumbungle

OUR ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The current staff structure of the Council consists of a part time General Manager, a part-time Administration Officer, Senior Biosecurity Officer and six (6) District Biosecurity Officers.

The Council's current structure is outlined in the following table.

Current Organisational Structure



General Manager: This position is part-time and currently held by Michael Urquhart. The General Manager is responsible for the management of CMCC in accordance with the **LGA 1993**.

Administration Officer: This is a part-time position based at Councils administration office in Walgett. The Administration Officer is responsible for payroll, accounts receivable, accounts payable, records management, customer service, finance and personal assistant to the General Manager & Chairman.

Senior Biosecurity Officer: This position is a full-time position with the Senior Biosecurity Officer being responsible for the day-to-day management of

CMCC and supervision of District Biosecurity Officers. The position is based at the Coonabarabran Depot.

Biosecurity Officers:

These positions are on a full time/casual/contract basis with duties including but not limited to property inspections for the presence of invasive plants on private lands and Council controlled lands, raising community awareness through public awareness programs in their designated Shires.

COUNTY COUNCIL'S ROLE IN WEED CONTROL

The County Council is constituted under the Local Government Act 1993 and is specified as a Local Control Authority under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015. It is a special (single) purpose authority formed to carry out the following functions, in relation to the land for which it is the local control authority.

- the prevention, elimination, minimisation and management of the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by weeds,
- to develop, implement, co-ordinate and review weed control programs,
- to inspect land in connection with its weed control functions,
- to keep records about the exercise of the local control authority's functions under this Act,
- to report to the Secretary about the exercise of the local control authority's functions under this Act.

INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING SUMMARY

Business Activity Strategic Plan

Council's Business Activity Strategic Plan (Plan) identifies Council's interpretation of its community's main priorities and aspirations for the future, addressing strategies for achieving the objectives in relation to invasive weeds management and control across our constituent council areas. This enables Council to improve agricultural sustainability, primary industry productivity and to deliver broad environmental outcomes for the County area for over the next ten years.

Council, as a small single purpose organization, has been mindful of its resource capacity and continues to act prudently to deliver the outcomes identified in its Plan.

The Plan is the foundation for the Annual Operational Plan and Budget, Four Year Delivery Programme and Resourcing Strategy comprising the Ten Year Financial Plan, Workforce Strategy and Asset Management Plan.

Four Year Delivery Programme

The Four-Year Delivery Programme is a living, breathing document through which Council addresses the dynamic nature of invasive weed species and it's constantly evolving approach to weed management and control.

It is Council's aim to continue to improve the services it provides to the Constituent Council communities through the strategic objectives and principle activities identified in the Programme in a range of ways including effective governance, strategic planning, environmental management and economic sustainability.

Annual Operational Plan and Budget

The Annual Operational Plan and Budget provide the framework for Council's day to day operations and the ability to have funding available for them. Key aspects include the undertaking of activities in relation to the Weeds Action Plan, private property inspections and routine administrative functions and staff supervision.

STATUTORY REPORTING INFORMATION

The following information is provided in order to comply with NSW legislation and associated regulatory requirements that a Council's annual report will address certain prescribed matters.

A. Performance of Principal Activities:

For the purposes of section 428 (1) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 397J of the Local Government Regulations (2021) Council's annual performance statement setting out achievements in implementing the delivery program and effectiveness of principal activities for the 2024/25 reporting period are outlined. Please refer to **Attachment A**.

B. Audited Financial Reports

For the purposes of section 428 (4) (a) of the Local Government Act (1993), Council's financial position as at 30th June 2025 for the financial year 2024/2025 is attached and includes the Audit Reports prepared by the NSW Auditor General. Please refer to **Attachment C**.

C. State of the Environment

For the purposes of section 428A of the Local Government Act (1993), Council does not have a State of the Environment Report as such a report is produced by the constituent councils in connection with their respective community strategic plans. Please refer to the relevant Local Council Website for such reports.

D. Miscellaneous Item - Members Fees, Expenses & Facilities

For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a) & (a1) of the Local Government Regulations (2021) Council's position in relation to the payment of fees and expenses or provision of facilities for the 2024/25 reporting period are set out below. Please refer to **Attachment D**.

(a) There were no overseas visits undertaken during the year by Councillors, Council staff or any other persons representing the Council (including no visits sponsored by other organisations).(a1) The total cost during the year of the payment of the expenses of, and the provision of facilities to, Councillors in relation to their civic functions (as paid by the council, reimbursed to the Councillor or reconciled with the Councillor) was **\$29,910.39**

a. The detailed breakdown for prescribed elements of the total cost is as follows:

The payment of meeting fees to Council Members as required under section 248 of the Local Government Act was **\$17,927.60**.

The payment of meeting fees to the Council Chairman as required under section 249 of the Local Government Act was **\$3850.64**

The payment of meeting attendance travel expenses to Council Members and the Council Chairman as per section 252 of the Local Government Act was **\$8,132.15**

i. The provision during the year of dedicated office equipment allocated to Councillors on a personal basis, such as laptop computers, mobile telephones and landline telephones and facsimile machines installed in Councillor's homes (including equipment and line rental costs and internet access costs but not including call costs) was **NIL**.

- ii. Telephone calls made by Councillors, including calls made from mobile telephones provided by the council and from landline telephones and facsimile services installed in a Councillors home was **NIL**.
- iii. Provision of induction training for Councillors and professional development programs. **The General Manager delivered a CMCC specific induction training module tailored for a Weeds County Council.**
- iv. Other training of Councillors and the provision of skill development for Councillors was **NIL**.
- v. Interstate visits undertaken during the year by Councillors while representing the council, including the cost of transport, the cost of accommodation and other out of pocket travelling expenses was **NIL**.
- vi. Overseas visits undertaken during the year by Councillors while representing the council, including the cost of transport, the cost of accommodation and other out of pocket travelling expenses was **NIL**.
- vii. The expenses of any spouse, partner (whether of the same or the opposite sex) or other person who accompanied a Councillor in the performance of his or her civic functions, being expenses payable in accordance with the Guidelines for the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities for Mayors and Councillors for Local Councils in NSW prepared by the Director-General from time to time was **NIL**.
- viii. Expenses involved in the provision of care for a child of, or an immediate family member of, a Councillor, to allow the Councillor to undertake his or her civic functions was **NIL**.

(a2) Miscellaneous Item – AWARDING OF CONTRACTS

For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a2) of the Local Government Regulations (2021) Council did not award any contracts for work of value greater than \$250,000 for the 2024/25 reporting period.

(a3) Miscellaneous Item – LEGAL PROCEEDINGS For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a3) of the Local Government Regulations (2021) Council was not involved in any legal proceedings being taken by or against the Council.

(a4) Miscellaneous Item – PRIVATE WORKS - For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a4) of the Local Government Regulations (2021) Council's position in relation to undertaking private works for the 2024/25 reporting period is as follows: Council undertook various private works in relation to weed control on both public and private land during the year, on a cost-plus basis paid by the relevant agency/property owner. Council sets out the applicable rates and charges for private works in Council's fees and charges schedules. These rates are generally similar to the rates of contractors, as Council does not wish to unfairly compete with private enterprise. Council has not made any resolutions pursuant to Section 67 2(b), accordingly no public works have been subsidised by Council.

(a5) Miscellaneous Item – CONTRIBUTIONS TO OTHERS For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a5) of the Local Government Regulations (2021) Council did not make any contributions under section 356 of the Local Government Act to financially assist others during the 2024/25 reporting period.

(a6) Miscellaneous Item – CONTRIBUTIONS TO OTHERS For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a6) of the Local Government Regulations (2021) Council did not delegate to any external body the power to exercise functions on behalf of the Council during the 2024/25 reporting period.

(a7) Miscellaneous Item – CONTROL OF OTHER ENTITIES - For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a7) of the Local Government Regulations (2021) Council did not hold a controlling interest in any corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies during the 2024/25 reporting period.

(a8) Miscellaneous Item – PARTICIPATING IN OTHER ENTITIES For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a8) of the Local Government Regulations (2021) Council participated in other corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies during the 2024/2025 reporting period as follows:

- Macquarie Valley Weeds Committee
- Local Government NSW (LGNSW)
- Hudson pear Taskforce
- North West and Central West Local Land Services Regional Weeds Advisory Committees

(a9) Miscellaneous Item – EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT - For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a9) of the Local Government Regulations (2021) Council undertook limited activities, consistent with its small size, to implement its equal employment opportunity management plan during the 2024/25 reporting period as follows:

(b) Miscellaneous Item – GENERAL MANAGER REMUNERATION - For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (b) & (c) & (d) of the Local Government Regulations (2021) Council provided total remuneration package to the Part-time General Manager of **\$91,237.04** during the 2024/25 reporting period. This remuneration included salary, and any non-cash benefits and associated taxes as applicable. Council's organisational structure provides for the employment of the General Manager as the only Senior Staff position. The part-time General Manager was engaged under the Office of Local Government Standard Contract of Employment.

(c) Total of remuneration paid to all senior staff members (other than the General Manager) was **Nil** as the General Manager is the only senior officer.

(d) The total number of persons who performed paid work for the Council on the relevant day is as follows:

- (i) persons employed by the Council on a permanent full-time, permanent part-time or casual basis or under a fixed term contract totalled 6 (six) full-time and 2 (two) part-time.
- (ii) Senior staff members totalled 1 (one)
- (iii) There were no persons engaged by the Council under a contract or other arrangement with the persons employer, wholly or principally for the labour of the person
- (iv) No persons were supplied to the Council, under a contract or other arrangement with the persons employer, as an apprentice or trainee.

(E) Miscellaneous Item – Rates & Charges For the purposes of clause 132 of the Local Government Regulations (2021) Council did not write-off any rates or charges during the 2024/25 reporting period.

(F). GOVERNMENT INFORMATION - For the purposes of section 125 (1) of the Government Information (Public Access) Act (2009) and Clause 7 Schedule 2 of the Government Information (Public Access) Regulation (2018) the following report is provided about Government Information Public Access activity for the 2024/25 reporting year. Council did not receive any requests for the release of information under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA) during the 2024/2025 reporting period. Please refer to **Attachment E**.

(G). DISCLOSURE OF PUBLIC INTERESTS For the purposes of section 31 of the Public Interests Disclosure Act (1994), the following report is provided about public interests disclosed by Councillors and / or designated persons. The six monthly and annual reports were provided to the NSW Ombudsman in accordance with the Public Interest Disclosures Act (1994). There were no public interest disclosures either made or received during the reporting period 2024/25. Please refer to **Attachment F**.

(H). COMPLIANCE WITH CODE OF CONDUCT - For the purposes of the reporting requirements under the model Code of Conduct the following report is provided regarding complaints about noncompliance with the Council code of conduct. Council adopted a Code of Conduct and Procedures in June 2020 based on the Division of Local Government's then new Model Code of Conduct. There were no Code of Conduct complaints made about Councillors or the General Manager during the reporting period 2024/25.

(I). PRIVACY & PERSONAL INFORMATION For the purposes of the reporting requirements relating to complaints about non-compliance with the privacy laws. There were no complaints or other requirement for review of the conduct of Council under Part 5 of the Privacy & Personal Protection Act (1998) during the reporting period 2024/25.

Anti-Slavery Act section 428 (4) (c) Castlereagh Macquarie County Council has not had any issues raised by the Anti-Slavery Commissioner during 2024/25 concerning its operations.

Modern Slavery Act section 428 (4) (c) This Modern Slavery Statement is provided by Castlereagh Macquarie County Council in accordance with Section 428 (4) of the NSW Local Government Act 1993. This statement outlines Castlereagh Macquarie County Councils commitment to combatting modern slavery and the measures we have implemented during this reporting period to reduce the risk of our procurement activities resulting in or contributing to human rights violations. Castlereagh Macquarie County Council is implementing a procurement model that recognises the importance of taking steps to ensure that goods and services procured by and for Castlereagh Macquarie County Council are not the product of modern slavery. Our supply chain includes purchasing of chemicals; equipment; vehicle fleet, office resources; electricity; materials and services related to the operations of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council.

Chairperson and Member Attendance

During the 2024-2025 financial year, there was a total of 6 (six) ordinary meetings. Ordinary meetings are held on the last Monday of every second month. Meetings dates and times are displayed on the CMCC website cmcc.nsw.gov.au

01 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 Council Meeting Attendance

Member	Ordinary Meetings
Doug Batten	6
Noel Kinsey	6
Greg Peart	4
Greg Whiteley	4
Michael Cooke	4
Zoe Holcombe	6
Greg Rummery (<i>term commenced Oct 24</i>)	4
Debra Bell (<i>term commenced Oct 24</i>)	4
Margaret Garnsey (<i>term commenced Oct 24</i>)	5
Paul Fisher (<i>term commenced Oct 24</i>)	5
Bill Fisher (<i>term completed Sept 24</i>)	0
Pat Cullen (<i>term completed Sept 24</i>)	1
Dennis Todd (<i>term completed Sept 24</i>)	1
Ian Woodcock (<i>term completed Sept 24</i>)	1

CMCC OPERATIONS REPORT 2024/2025



Weed Management is without a doubt one of Australia's biggest Natural Resource Management challenges facing this country today. Weeds threaten our valuable agricultural industries, influence the economic viability of our communities, affect human health, and pose a major threat to our unique biodiversity. Weeds cost Australia over \$4billion per year in lost production and control measures. In NSW alone, weeds cause an estimated \$600 million in losses every year. Castlereagh Macquarie County Council continue with dedicated efforts across their 5 county shires covering approximately 60,000 square kilometres and the unincorporated area of Western NSW covering approximately 93,000 square kilometres a total of 152,620 square kilometres. Inspections of all lands are carried out by our authorised biosecurity officers, and extensive surveillance and control are carried out for state priority weeds on Parkinsonia, Parthenium Weed, Hudson Pear, Rubber Vine and Mesquite.

The most effective way to minimise the impacts of invasive weeds is to prevent them establishing in the first place. Early detection is crucial for managing new and emerging weeds in New South Wales, the team are vigilant looking for new species and educating landowners / community to do the same and to report anything new or unusual.

Other weeds across the 5 constituent Council areas and the unincorporated area of Western NSW, that CMCC have been controlling on roadsides and reporting are:

African Box Thorn	Prickly Pear <i>Cylindropuntia</i> species
African Olive	Prickly Pear <i>Austrocylindropuntia</i>
Bathurst Burr	Prickly Pear <i>Opuntia</i> species
Blackberry	Riverina Pear
Blue Heliotrope	Serrated Tussock
Boxing Glove Cactus	Silverleaf Nightshade
Bridal Creeper	Snake Cactus
Bunny Ears	Spiny Burr Grass
Cane Cactus	St Johns Wort
Cats Claw Creeper	Star Thistle
Coolati Grass	Stricta Cactus
Devils Rope Pear	Sweet Briar
Drooping Tree Pear	Thornapple
Eves Needle	Tree of Heaven
Firethorn	Tunicata Brown Spine Hudson Pear
Fleabane	Velvety Tree Pear
Green Cestrum	Robusta (Wheel Cactus)
Golden Dodder	
Harrisia cactus	
Honey Locust	
Johnsons Grass	
Jumping Cholla	
Kleins Cholla	
Maderia Vine	
Morning Glory	
Mexican Poppy	
Mother Of Millions	
Noogoora Burr	

Other achievements by Castlereagh Macquarie County Council detection of weeds.

While attending a Biological Control Workshop in Cobar and giving a Hudson Pear presentation, 2 landowners at the workshop came forward to say they thought they had Hudson Pear. CMCC visited the property to confirm the identification and discovered approximately 1000 mature Hudson Pear plants. This was reported to Cobar Shire Council and DPIRD & Western LLS. CMCC were then engaged by DPIRD to carry out aerial surveillance of the area to determine the extent of the infestation. Another 200 plants were discovered 19kms from the initial infestation was found.



(above Hudson Pear infestation Cobar)

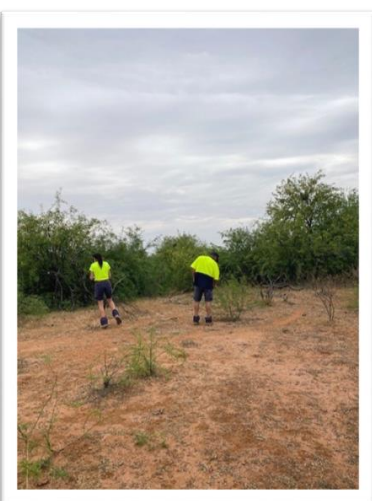
Detection of large infestations of Hudson Pear during aerial surveillance in the unincorporated area along Stephens Creek spread across 3 private properties. Each property is 100,000 HA. CMCC acted promptly with this reporting to DPIRD and releasing biological control. There is now a monitoring site at a core infestation. Long term field monitoring will be conducted by CMCC and Andrew McConnachie, DPIRD. Outside of the monitoring site The Good Neighbours Program was engaged with contractors to control herbicide.





(above Hudson Pear Infestations Stephens Creek & before and after biological release at the tank)

Surveillance and mapping large infestations of Mesquite in the Unincorporated area. This surveillance enabled the engagement of the Good Neighbours Program to be engaged with contractors for control.



(above Mesquite infestations Packsaddle)

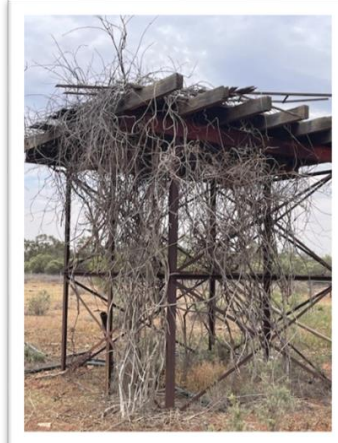
Parkinsonia Unincorporated Area

CMCC detected Parkinsonia at a historic site on a private property near Milparinka and has also found 3 other sites, 1 roadside, the other 2 sites are on 2 National Parkes out of Tibooburra.



(above Parkinsonia)

CMCC has confirmed eradication at 4 of the 5 Rubber Vine sites. 3 of the eradicated sites are around Wanaaring and 1 at Yantabulla. The 1 ongoing surveillance site is Tibooburra.



(above Rubber Vine)

Parkinsonia Walgett Shire

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council are continuing to achieve positive impacts on the Barwon, Narran and Namoi River systems in the Walgett Shire reducing the infestations of Parkinsonia. It appears the Namoi infestation has been eradicated, however monitoring will continue. There will be ongoing surveillance and control on the Namoi and Barwon Rivers. CMCC were also engaged by Moree Plains Shire – Barwon River & Brewarrina Shire – Narran River to do Parkinsonia surveillance and control.



(above large Parkinsonia infestation & juveniles behind the spray bottle. With ongoing surveillance plants can be found before maturing.)

Quanda Coonamble Shire

Hudson Pear. CMCC are engaged by Crown Lands to control the Hudson Pear infestation at Quanda 5 Way and making fantastic efforts to contain and reduce the infestation. Up to 20 Staff from Crown Lands, Central West Local Land Services, Northwest Local Land Services, DPIRD Ag and Biosecurity, Bogan Shire Council, Forbes Shire Council, Parkes Shire Council, and Weddin Shire Council have joined with Castlereagh Macquarie County Council staff on site at 2 occasions assisting with denominations, geared with backpack to spray what is found. A 50m x 20m survey and within that area 40 plants were located and sprayed. The majority of these were less than 15cm in height. This is a dramatic reduction in size and numbers. We will continue the walkthroughs as an annual event as they are a good opportunity to work collaboratively to treat a weed species that is a regional priority for eradication in the Central West region. It's also a great opportunity field staff from other LCAS to learn more about the species so they can be keeping an eye out for it in their own patches. The whole team work together to make a difference.



(above Quanda site Hudson Pear)



Harrisia Cactus

Central West Regional Priority Eradication. Castlereagh Macquarie County Council were successful applicants with **The Good Neighbour program** to assist landowners with Harrisia Cactus. Herbicide will be used in 2025/2026 to spray the infestations, and a Harrisia Workshop will be organised engaging with the Harrisia Coordinator, UGL Rail, Local Land Services, Landowners and community.



(above Harrisia signage and infestation Warren Shire)

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council continue with Education and Awareness at the Local Agricultural Shows, field days and events. These always prove fantastic opportunities to meet with landowner, community and tourists to discuss weeds, identify weeds and for weeds to be reported.



CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL WEED LIST

Management Categories Objective Characteristics of Weeds in this category

Regional Priority Weeds

Regional Priority - Eradication

State Priority – Prevention / eradication

Central West - Warrumbungle Shire

Common name Scientific name Management priority

African Box Thorn *Lycium ferocissimum* regional priority - Asset Protection
 African Olive *Oleo europaea* sub sp. *cuspidata* Regional Priority - Containment
 Blackberry *Rubus Fruiticus* Regional priority - Containment
 Blue heliotrope *Heliotrope amplexicaule* regional priority - Asset Protection
 Bridal Creeper *Asparagus asparagoides* Regional Priority - Prevention
 Cats Claw Creeper *Dolichandra unguis-cati* Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Coolatai Grass *Hyparrhenia* Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Fire Weed *Senecio madagascariensis* Regional Priority - Eradication
 Firethorn *Pyracantha* spp. Regional Priority - Containment
 Giant Reed *Arundo donax* Regional Priority - Eradication
 Green Cestrum *Cestrum parqui* Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Harrisia *Harrisia* spp. Regional Priority - Eradication
 Honey Locust *Gleditia triacanthos* Regional Priority - Eradication
 Hudson Pear *Cylindropuntia palliada* Regional Priority - Eradication
 Johnsons Grass *sorhum halepense* Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Mother of Millions *Bryophyllum delagoense* Regional Priority - Containment
 Maderia Vine *Andera cordifolia* State priority - Containment
 Parthenium Weed *Parthenium hysterophorus* State priority - Prevention
 Prickley Pears *Cylindropuntia* species Regional Priority - Eradication
 Prickley Pears *Opuntia* species Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Silverleaf Night Shade *Solanum elaeagnifolium* Regional Priority - Containment
 Serrated Tussock *Nassella trichotoma* Regional Priority - Containment
 Spiny Burr Grass *Cenchrus longispinus* Regional Priority - Containment
 St John's Wort *Hypericum perforatum* Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Sticky Nightshade *Solanum sisymbriifolium* Regional Priority - Eradication
 Sweet Briar *Rosa rubiginosa* Regional Priority – Containment

Central West - Gilgandra

Common name Scientific name Management priority

African Box Thorn *Lycium ferocissimum* regional priority - Asset Protection
 Blue heliotrope *Heliotrope amplexicaule* regional priority - Asset Protection
 Cats Claw Creeper *Dolichandra unguis-cati* Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Coolatai Grass *Hyparrhenia* Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Giant Reed *Arundo donax* Regional Priority – Eradication
 Green Cestrum *Cestrum parqui* Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Harrisia *Harrisia* spp. Regional Priority - Eradication
 Hudson Pear *Cylindropuntia palliada* Regional Priority - Eradication

Johnsons Grass *sorhum halepense* Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Mother of Millions *Bryophyllum delagoense* Regional Priority - Containment
 Prickly Pears *Cylindropuntia* species Regional Priority - Eradication
 Prickly Pears *Opuntia* species Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Silverleaf Night Shade *Solanum elaeagnifolium* Regional Priority - Containment
 Spiny Burr Grass *Cenchrus longispinus* Regional Priority - Containment
 St John's Wort *Hypericum perforatum* Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Sticky Nightshade *Solanum sisymbriifolium* Regional Priority - Eradication
 Sweet Briar *Rosa rubiginosa* Regional Priority – Containment

Central West - Coonamble

Common name Scientific name Management priority

African Box Thorn *Lycium ferocissimum* regional priority - Asset Protection
 Blue heliotrope *Heliotrope amplexicaule* regional priority - Asset Protection
 Coolatai Grass *Hyparrhenia* Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Giant Reed *Arundo donax* Regional Priority - Eradication
 Green Cestrum *Cestrum parqui* Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Harrisia *Harrisia* spp. Regional Priority - Eradication
 Hudson Pear *Cylindropuntia palliada* Regional Priority - Eradication
 Johnsons Grass *sorhum halepense* Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Mother of Millions *Bryophyllum delagoense* Regional Priority - Containment
 Prickly Pears *Cylindropuntia* species Regional Priority - Eradication
 Prickly Pears *Opuntia* species Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Silverleaf Night Shade *Solanum elaeagnifolium* Regional Priority - Containment
 Spiny Burr Grass *Cenchrus longispinus* Regional Priority - Containment
 St Johns Wort *Hypericum perforatum* Regional Priority - Asset protection

Central West - Warren

Common name Scientific name Management priority

African Box Thorn *Lycium ferocissimum* regional priority - Asset Protection
 Blue heliotrope *Heliotrope amplexicaule* regional priority - Asset Protection
 Cats Claw Creeper *Dolichandra unguis-cati* Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Coolatai Grass *Hyparrhenia* Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Giant Reed *Arundo donax* Regional Priority - Eradication
 Green Cestrum *Cestrum parqui* Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Harrisia *Harrisia* spp. Regional Priority - Eradication
 Johnsons Grass *sorhum halepense* Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Mesquite *Prosopis* spp Regional Priority - Eradication
 Mother of Millions *Bryophyllum delagoense* Regional Priority - Containment
 Prickly Pears *Cylindropuntia* species Regional Priority - Eradication
 Prickly Pears *Opuntia* species Regional Priority - Asset protection
 Spiny Burr Grass *Cenchrus longispinus* Regional Priority – Containment

North West - Walgett

Common name Scientific name Management priority

African Box Thorn *Lycium ferocissimum* regional priority - Asset Protection

Coral Cactus / Boxing Glove *Cylindropuntias fulgida* var *mamillata* Regional Priority - Containment
 Harrisia *Harrisia* spp. Regional Priority - Containment
 Hudson Pear (White Spine) *Cylindropuntia palliada* Regional Priority - Eradication excluding core infestations
 Hudson Pear (Brown Spine) *Tunicata* Regional Priority - Eradication excluding core infestations
 Mesquite *Prosopis* spp Regional Priority - Eradication
 Mother of Millions *Bryophyllum delagoense* Regional Priority - Asset Protection
 Parthenium Weed *Parthenium hysterophorus* State priority - Prevention / eradication
 Parkinsonia *Parkinsonia aculeata* State Priority - Eradication
 Prickly Pears *Cylindropuntia* species Regional Priority - Eradication excluding core infestations
 Prickly Pears *Opuntia* species Regional Priority - Asset Protection
 Rope Pear *Cylindropuntia imbricata* Regional Priority - Asset Protection
 Tiger Pear *Aurantiac* Regional Priority - Asset Protection
 Velvety Tree Pear *Opuntia tomentosa* regional priority - Asset Protection

A moment in history



In 2018 staff commenced breeding biocontrol agents at a make shift facility in Lightning Ridge a converted greenhouse which held 60tubs of infected Hudson Pear.



In 2019 Council was successful with a grant application to erect a special purpose bio control centre in Lightning Ridge that could hold 640, fifty litre tubs of Hudson Pear. The biocontrol centre was named after a long-serving Biosecurity Officer, Mr. Don McKenzie. The Lightning Ridge bio control breeding centre has played a pivotal role in the long-term control of Hudson Pear in the region.



(above Cumborah site before and after biological control releases)

INTERNAL AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT ATTESTATION STATEMENT FOR THE 2024/2025 FINANCIAL YEAR FOR CMCC

I am of the opinion that Castlereagh Macquarie County Council has an audit, risk and improvement committee, risk management framework and internal audit function that operate in compliance with the following requirements except as may be otherwise provided below:

Audit, risk and improvement committee

	Requirement	Compliance
1.	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council has appointed an audit, risk and improvement committee that comprises of an independent chairperson and at least two independent members (section 428A of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> , section 216C of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
2.	The chairperson and all members of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council audit, risk and improvement committee meet the relevant independence and eligibility criteria prescribed under the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i> and have not exceeded the membership term limits prescribed under the Regulation (sections 216D, 216E, 216F, 216G of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
3.	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council has adopted terms of reference for its audit, risk and improvement committee that are informed by the model terms of reference approved by the Departmental Chief Executive of the Office of Local Government and the committee operates in accordance with the terms of reference (section 216K of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
4.	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council provides the audit, risk and improvement committee with direct and unrestricted access to the [general manager/executive officer] and other senior management and the information and resources necessary to exercise its functions (section 216L of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
5.	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council audit, risk and improvement committee exercises its functions in accordance with a four-year strategic work plan that has been endorsed by the governing body and an annual work plan that has been developed in consultation with the governing body and senior management (Core requirement 1 of the Office of Local Government's <i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW</i>).	Non-Compliant Plans to be adopted prior to March 2026 Ordinary meeting of Council.
6.	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council audit, risk and improvement committee provides the governing body with an annual assessment each year, and a strategic assessment each council term of the matters listed in section 428A of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> reviewed during that term (Core requirement 1 of the Office of Local Government's <i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW</i>).	Compliant Report to be adopted at 27 th October 2025 Council meeting.
7.	The governing body of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council reviews the effectiveness of the audit, risk and improvement committee at least once	Compliant

	each council term (Core requirement 1 of the Office of Local Government's <i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW</i>).	Review to be conducted prior to September 28
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Membership

The chairperson and membership of the audit, risk and improvement committee are:

Chairperson	Ms. Liz Jeremy	15 th May 2025	14 th May 2029
Independent member	Mr. Ron Gillard	20 th December 2023	19 th December 2027
Independent member	Mr. Charbel Abouraad	15 th May 2025	14 th May 2028
CMCC member ¹	Mr. Noel Kinsey	28 th October 2024	8 th September 2028

Risk Management

	Requirement	Compliance
8.	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council has adopted a risk management framework that is consistent with current Australian risk management standard and that is appropriate for the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council risks (section 216S of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
9.	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council audit, risk and improvement committee reviews the implementation of its risk management framework and provides a strategic assessment of its effectiveness to the governing body each council term (section 216S of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant Review and report prior to September 28

Internal Audit

	Requirement	Compliance
10.	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council has an internal audit function that reviews the council's operations and risk management and control activities (section 216O of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
11.	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council internal audit function reports to the audit, risk and improvement committee on internal audit matters (sections 216M, 216P and 216R of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
12.	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council internal audit function is independent and internal audit activities are not subject to direction by the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council (section 216P of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant

	Requirement	Compliance
13.	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council has adopted an internal audit charter that is informed by the model internal audit charter approved by the Departmental Chief Executive of the Office of Local Government and the internal audit function operates in accordance with the charter (section 216O of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
14.	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council has appointed a member of staff to direct and coordinate internal audit activities or is part of a shared arrangement where a participating Castlereagh Macquarie County Council has appointed a staff member to direct and coordinate internal audit activities for all participating councils (section 216P of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
15.	Internal audit activities are conducted in accordance with the International Professional Practices Framework (Core requirement 3 of the Office of Local Government's <i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW</i>).	Compliant
16.	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council provides the internal audit function with direct and unrestricted access to staff, the audit, risk and improvement committee, and the information and resources necessary to undertake internal audit activities (section 216P of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
17.	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council internal audit function undertakes internal audit activities in accordance with a four-year strategic work plan that has been endorsed by the governing body and an annual work plan that has been developed in consultation with the governing body and senior management (Core requirement 3 of the Office of Local Government's <i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW</i>).	Non-Compliant No plan as at 30 th June 25, however a plan will be adopted by Council and adopted before the March 2026 Ordinary meeting.
18.	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council audit, risk and improvement committee reviews the effectiveness of the internal audit function and reports the outcome of the review to the governing body each council term (section 216R of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant Review and report prior to September 28

Non-compliance with the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*

I advise that Castlereagh Macquarie County Council has not complied with the following requirements prescribed under the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* with respect to the operation of its audit, risk and improvement committee/internal audit processes.

Non-compliance	Reason	Alternative measures being implemented	How the alternative measures achieve equivalent outcomes
5) Castlereagh Macquarie County Council audit, risk and improvement committee exercises its functions in accordance	Council's ARIC and senior management have been working toward development of the strategic and annual work plans for some	Requirements of the guidelines shall be met albeit eight (8) months late.	The intended outcomes associated with the plans shall be delivered in accordance with the Guidelines as Council already performs many

with a four-year strategic work plan that has been endorsed by the governing body and an annual work plan that has been developed in consultation with the governing body and senior management (Core requirement 1 of the Office of Local Government's <i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW</i>).	time, and these will be adopted by Council at its October 2025 Ordinary meeting.		of the activities necessary for compliance.
17) Castlereagh Macquarie County Council internal audit function undertakes internal audit activities in accordance with a four-year strategic work plan that has been endorsed by the governing body and an annual work plan that has been developed in consultation with the governing body and senior management (Core requirement 3 of the Office of Local Government's <i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW</i>).	Council's ARIC and senior management have been working toward development of the strategic and annual work plans for some time, and these will be adopted by Council at its October 2025 Ordinary meeting.	Requirements of the guidelines shall be met albeit eight (8) months late.	The intended outcomes associated with the plans shall be delivered in accordance with the Guidelines as Council already performs many of the activities necessary for compliance.

These processes, including the alternative measures implemented, demonstrate that Castlereagh Macquarie County Council has established and maintained frameworks, systems, processes and procedures for appropriately managing audit and risk within Castlereagh Macquarie County Council.

Michael J Urquhart

Michael Urquhart – General Manager

30th June 2025

CMCC ARIC ANNUAL REPORT



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Annual Report 2024-25

1 Executive Summary

On behalf of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee ('Committee' or 'ARIC'), I am pleased to present the ARIC report for the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council (CMCC) covering the 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025 year.

The ARIC is an independent forum that provides oversight and assistance to improve risk management, governance and compliance, internal control and external accountability of the CMCC.

The CMCC's ARIC operates in accordance with relevant legislation, the Office of Local Government's *Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW (Guidelines)* and its Charter which sets out the roles and responsibilities of the Committee, its authority, membership and the tenure of its members, the operation of its meetings, how decisions are made and its reporting responsibilities.

This report covers the report's purpose, role of ARIC, ARIC membership and attendance, resourcing, key activities over the year, and focus issues for the upcoming period.

2 Role of the Committee

As noted in the *Guidelines*, the Local Government Act requires each council or in this case the Joint Organisation to establish an audit, risk and improvement committee to continuously review and provide independent advice to the General Manager/Executive Officer and the governing body on:

- whether the council/JO is complying with all necessary legislation, regulations and other legal requirements
- the adequacy and effectiveness of the council's risk management framework, fraud and corruption prevention activities, financial management processes, and the council's financial position and performance
- the council's governance arrangements
- the achievement by the council of the goals set out in the council's community strategic plan, delivery program, operational plan and other strategies
- how the council delivers local services and how it could improve the performance of its functions more generally
- the collection of performance measurement data by the council, and

- any other matters prescribed by the Local Government Regulation (including internal audit).’

3 Purpose of Report

This report provides background to the Committee’s membership, activities during the period and areas for attention in the year to come.

4 Committee Membership

Over the course of 2024-25, the Committee had the following members:

Role	Member	Commencement date	Completion date
Chairperson	Ray Smith	November 2023	September 2024
Chairperson	Liz Jeremy	23 May 2025	14 May 2029
Independent member	Liz Jeremy	16 November 2023	14 May 2025
Independent member	Ron Gillard	16 November 2023	November 2027
Independent member	Charbel Abouraad	15 May 2025	14 May 2028

5 Meetings of the ARIC

The ARIC meets quarterly on the fourth Thursday of the months of February, May, August and November. Additional meetings are scheduled if required.

6 Committee activities

During the reporting period, the ARIC fulfilled its oversight role with a focus on governance, risk, and assurance, as required by section 428A of the NSW Local Government Act and consistent with the NSW Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government. CMCC has made good progress in developing its risk register and presents policies to ARIC on an ongoing basis. In addition, CMCC reports on any incidents of fraud or investigations involving council and risk profiling.

Throughout the reporting period, regular financial reporting has been provided to ARIC including monitoring budget performance, and regulatory obligations. ARIC meetings have included

consideration of financial statements, audit management letters, and follow-up actions on external audit recommendations. The NSW Audit Office has maintained active involvement, with representatives attending committee meetings to provide updates, clarify issues, and support effective communication.

In addition, the ARIC convened a best practice workshop with the JO member councils in August 2025 to work through reporting requirements, status of activities and next steps. This was a constructive and collaborative process to align progress to date and next steps in the context of legislation and guidelines and will assist both the ARIC and CMCC in the coming reporting period.

7 Charter and Terms of Reference

In alignment with amendments to the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, and the release of updated Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit, ARIC has undertaken significant work to develop its Charter, and Terms of Reference.

8 Attestation Statement Completion


The annual attestation required under the Local Government Regulation has been completed by CMCC and will be provided to the elected council. This attestation statement outlines CMCC's current level of compliance with mandatory requirements for the committee, internal audit function, and risk management framework, and discloses any areas of non-compliance and alternative measures being implemented. The attestation has been developed in consultation with the Chairperson and independent member of the ARIC in a collaborative manner.

9 Regular reporting

Regular reporting by the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) to CMCC is a requirement under both the NSW Local Government Act and the Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit. This can be achieved by ensuring that, after each ARIC meeting, a summary update or formal minutes are provided to the governing body, outlining the committee's activities, opinions, and any issues of significance. Such updates ensure ongoing transparency, keep Council informed of emerging risks and assurance matters, and are best practice for effective governance and compliance. This matter was canvassed in the best practice workshop held with the General Managers in August 2025.

10 2025-2026 – The year ahead

The year ahead for the CMCC ARIC will continue to focus on governance assurance and risk, in the context of CMCC's strategic direction and available resourcing. Having made significant progress since the establishment of the ARIC in terms of ensuring all required documentation was developed and adopted, in addition to significant progress with the development of a risk framework, and ongoing policy review, the focus will now be on developing both a Strategic Work Plan and Annual Work Plan, in accordance with NSW Guidelines, to ensure compliance and to scope assurance activities required under section 428A of the Local Government Act.



Liz Jeremy
Chair
Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Audit Risk and Improvement Committee
21 October 2025

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – CMCC Operational Plan Status as at 30th June 2025.

Attachment B – CMCC Delivery Program for 24/25

Attachment C - Council's Financial Statements and Auditor General's Report for 2024/2025

Attachment D - Payment of expenses and provision of facilities to Councillor Policy

Attachment E – 2024/2025 Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 Annual Report

Attachment F – Public Interest Disclosure Annual Report 24/25 NSW Obudsman

**Attachment A – CMCC Operational Plan as at 30th June
2025**



**Castlereagh Macquarie County
Council**

**Operational Plan Status as at
30th June 2025**

Note: In the following tables the column headed “BA & SO” provides in order, a reference to the Main Business Activity Priorities number and the Strategic Objective number from the Business Activity Strategic Plan.

1. Provide information to Council to allow decisions at Council Meetings					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Ensure Business Paper is ready for distribution.	2.3	GM	At least 7 days, working days prior to the Council Meeting.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying, however GM and AO will have hard copies of business paper mailed at least 10 days prior to meeting commencing August 2025
Provide recommendations to Council when possible.	2.3	GM	Include in business paper for Council’s consideration.		Recommendations provided to all reports.

2. Respond to Councillor inquiries related to the administration function					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Provide information to Councillors within Council’s policy guidelines	2.3	GM	On day requested where possible, or within 5 working days (unless request requires detailed investigation).	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying & on-going
	2.3	GM			



Provide written information as requested			Within 5 working days (unless request requires detailed investigation)		Complying & normally as a report to Council
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3. Update Council policy register					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Update new or amended administration policies in Council's policy register.	2.3	GM	Within 14 days of adoption or amendment	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying
Review Council administration policies.	2.3	GM	Within 2 months of expiry of policy or every 2 years		Policy review to be complete in August 2025..

4. Provide information to public in a timely and effective manner					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Ensure Council business papers are made available in hard copy at Council's office.	2.1	GM	At least 3 working days before the Council meeting.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying
Ensure other public information is made available at Council's office.	2.1	GM	As soon as practicable after it becomes public information.		Complying

Ensure business papers are provided to constituent councils.	2.1	GM	Post to General Managers at the same time as Councillors' business papers.		Complying
Ensure minutes, business papers and other information is posted to Council's website.	2.1	GM	As soon as practicable.		Complying

5. Ensure all statutory requirements are completed and financial returns and plans are completed and lodged by the due date					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Quarterly Budget Review Statements and Delivery Programme Review to Council.	2.2	GM	August, October, February and April Meetings.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying
Audited Financial Statements to Office of Local Government.	2.2	GM	By the end of October.		Complying
Financial Data collection return.					
Notice of meeting at which audited reports are to be presented.	2.2	GM	By date specified by Office of Local Government.		Complying November/December 2025
Audited Financial Reports presented to public	2.2	GM	Prior to December meeting.		Complying November 2025
Draft Operational Plan and Budget on public exhibition.					Complying, April 2025

Operational Plan and Budget to be adopted	2.2	GM	February meeting.		Complying June 2025
	2.2	GM	Following April meeting.		
	2.2	GM			

6. Ensure all other statutory returns are completed and lodged by the due date					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Pecuniary Interest Returns.	2.2	GM	30 September annually.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Tabled October 2024.
Council's Annual Report prepared and lodged with Office of Local Government	2.2	GM	30 November annually.		New Councillors April 25.
Other returns as required by Office of Local Government, Department of Primary Industries, or others	2.2	GM	No later than return date specified		Tabled to Council in November 24. Placed on website.
					As and when required
7. Implementation of Council decisions					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Implement Council decisions following Council meeting	2.2	GM	Within 10 working days of Council Meeting	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying and on time
					Nil prosecutions

			For prosecutions, within 2 months of Council resolution		
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8. Continue to ensure the provision of finance to Council from available sources					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Liaise with constituent councils regarding the level of Council contributions and the apportionment of contributions.	2.4	GM	Continuously.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Email sent to all Council General Managers advising of Draft Operational Plan to adopt a 4.3% increase being the average of all IPART Ratepeg increases. GM reported to Walgett Shire Council on financial contributions and invasive weed expenditure in Walgett LGA.
Letter to Constituent Councils concerning Council's proposed Delivery Plan and Budget estimates for the forthcoming financial year, and the contribution sought from constituent councils.	2.4	GM	30 April.		
Application to Department of Primary Industries for grants under NSW Weeds Action Programme as necessary.			As required under Weeds Action Programme 1520.		Complete

Provide grant returns to Department of Primary Industries.	2.4	GM	As required under Weeds Action		Complying application lodged on time.
Pursue opportunities for securing grant funds from other available sources.	2.4	GM	Programme 1520		When available and some are in progress.
	2.4 & 1.4	GM	As required		Also negotiations With DPIRNSW on other projects.

9. Continue current financial management direction and review Business Activity Strategic Plan and Delivery Programme					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Review Business Activity Strategic Plan.	2.1 & 2.4	GM	Continuously	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying, adopted June 2025
Review Delivery Programme.	2.1 & 2.4	GM	Continuously		Complying, adopted June 2025.
Provide adequate funds for employee leave entitlements.	2.3	GM	Maintain reserve of at least 50% of Long Service Leave liability		As at 30 th June 2024 reserve was 39.84% down from 56.8%



10. Provide financial information and advice to Council					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Provide financial advice as required.	2.2 & 2.3	GM	At Council meetings	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying on-going
Provide quarterly update on financial trends relating to Council's expenditure.	2.2 & 3	GM	At Council Meeting following end of quarter		Complying on-going

11. Ensure that Council's Operational Plan and Budget is considered in order to allow adoption by 30 June each year					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Draft Plan to be presented to Council.	2.2	GM	February Meeting.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Completed April 2025
Draft Plan adopted to allow 28 day public exhibition.	2.2	GM	April Meeting.		Completed April 2025
Draft Plan to be adopted following consideration of any submissions received.					Completed June 25

12. Promote the Council's interests through participation with relevant organisations					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Participate in Macquarie Valley Weeds Advisory Committee activities through attendance at meetings and supply of information as required to assist the lobbying of State and Federal Governments.	1.1	GM	Attend meetings and provide information as requested.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Staff attend meetings.

13. Provide active support for LGNSW					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Provide information as requested by LGNSW to assist it to lobby governments.	3.1	GM	Information to be provided by the date requested.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying as and when required
Utilise the services of LGNSW to further Council's interests	3.1	GM	As and when required by Council.		Complying as and when required

14. Actively pursue politicians to further Council's interests					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025

Invite politicians to attend Council meetings.	3.1	GM	Politicians to be invited to Council meetings as required.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Minister for Agriculture staff attended the November 24 Council meeting. Minister an apology. No opportunities in first quarter
Meet with State and Federal Politicians to promote the interests of Council.	3.1	GM	As required		
15. Minimise the risks associated with all functions of Council					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Identify new risks associated with Council's functions.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying
Analyse and prioritise all risks identified.	2.3	GM	Within 3 months after identification.		Training for staff in 2024/25 continues
Minimise exposure through rectification of risks.	2.3	GM	Within budget constraints.		Training budget allocated in 24/25
Update policy on the use of contractors.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.		
Review risk management policy.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.		
Update Risk Assessment re spraying from back of vehicles and consult WorkCover on proposal.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.		Council has in place new SOP's and CMCC has in place a Traffic Guidance System to replace old TCP's.
	2.3	GM	When resources allow.		



16. Ensure Council staff are aware of their rights and responsibilities in relation to WH&S , risk management and EEO					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Provide training to staff on relevant legislation.	2.3	GM	Ongoing as identified.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying on-going
Provide training on EEO to staff.	2.3	GM	Ongoing as required.		GM to review EEO Plan with staff in 2025.
Provide staff with training on risk management.	2.3	GM	Ongoing as required.		Scheduled for 2024/25
Review and update staff training programme.	2.3	GM	Annually.		To be completed 2024/25
Review EEO Management Plan.	2.3	GM	As required		To be completed 2024/25

17. Maintain and update Council's records management system					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Monitor record keeping procedures to ensure that they provide the best method of maintaining an accurate record of Council's activities.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying.
	2.3	GM	Ongoing.		Meeting with staff from NSW Records in January 25

Review record keeping procedures with a view to updating and computerizing.					Complying records are electronic
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18. Implement system of information technology capable of providing information that is relevant and timely					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Monitor reporting system ability to provide information requirements.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying
Monitor technology improvements and assess future requirements.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.		Complying MYOB updated 01.07.2024
Update Council's computer system, both hardware and software, to ensure that it enhances management and record keeping (as resources allow).	2.3	GM	As required.		Completed in 2023
Review Council's website and implement systems for expanding content and keeping content up to date.	2.1 & 3.2	GM	Ongoing.		Reviewed constantly

19. Compile accurate data on the condition of current Council assets					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Maintain assets register for all assets over \$5,000.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying
Monitor the condition of those assets	2.3	GM	Ongoing.		Complying
Identify maintenance requirements for those assets.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.		Complying
Cost maintenance requirements and incorporate into annual budget.	2.3	GM	As identified.		Maintenance as required Complying in conjunction with Senior Biosecurity Officer
20. Introduce a system for electronic mapping of invasive weed infestations and the automation of Weeds Officers' reports					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Monitor the introduction of electronic mapping of invasive weed infestations and the automation of Weeds Officers' reporting procedures.	1.3 & 2.3	GM SWO	In conjunction with year 1 WAP 2020 2025.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying mapping on-going

Expand the introduction of electronic mapping of invasive weeds infestation and the automation of Weeds Officers' Reporting Procedures to the whole of Council's Area of Operations.	1.3 & 2.3	GM SWO	In conjunction with year 1 WAP 2020 / 2025.		Continuing
Continue the training of staff in the use of the system in order to ensure it's most efficient and effective use.	1.3 & 2.3	GM SWO	Ongoing.		Complying Training as necessary Use of drones to assist with weed identification complete

21. Compile data on Council's current vehicle and plant fleet – condition and usage					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Analyse Council's current vehicle and plant fleet and its activities and assess future vehicle and plant needs.	2.3	GM	Ongoing	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying, new replacement plan adopted 2023.

22. Ensure access to competitively priced chemicals for weeds control programmes					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Ensure access to competitively priced chemicals for weeds control programs.	1.2	GM	As required	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying on-going assessment of prices when purchasing



23. Actively pursue the control of invasive weeds along roadsides in Council's area					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Inspect roadsides prior to control works to ensure that control programmes are efficient and effective.	1.3	SWO	At least one week prior to spraying.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying inspections carried out
Carryout necessary control works in line with Council's Budget allocations.	1.3	SWO	As seasonal conditions / and available funding permit.		Works continuing With staff and contractors
Respond to reports of invasive weeds on roadsides.	1.3	SWO	Carry out inspection within 7 days of notification.		All reports responded to
Carry out control works in accordance with Council's policy and budget allocations.	1.3	SWO	As required		Complying

24. Actively pursue the control of invasive weeds on private lands					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Inspection of private lands to assist landowners to fulfill their legal responsibilities in relation to invasive weeds.	1.2 & 3.2	SWO	At least 250 inspections per quarter.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying on-going

Provide information to landowners on invasive weeds control	1.2 & 3.2	SWO	If not done at time of inspection then within 1 week.		Complying on-going
Respond to invasive weed complaints	1.2 & 3.2	SWO	Initial inspection within 10 working days.		Complying on-going

25. Actively pursue the control of invasive weeds on vacant Crown lands					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Inspect vacant Crown land parcels to facilitate application to DPI for funds for necessary control works.	1.2	SWO	Prior to submission of application.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	In progress
Inspect vacant Crown lands to ensure obligations for invasive weed control are being met.	1.2	SWO	As required as resources are available.		In progress
Provide information to Department of Lands on invasive weed control requirements	1.2	SWO	Within 10 working days of inspection.		In progress
Respond to complaints for invasive weeds on vacant Crown Land	1.2	SWO	Initial inspection within 10 working days.		In progress
26. Actively pursue the control of invasive weeds on land held by Forests of NSW					

Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Inspect areas proposed to be clear felled in coming financial year.	1.2	SWO	Within 28 days of receipt of <i>Harvesting Plan of Operations</i> .	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	When advised
Advise Forests NSW of proposed clear fell areas that are potential weeds risks.	1.2	SWO	Within 14 days of inspection.		
Follow up to ensure control work is carried out on potential weeds risks.	1.2	SWO	Prior to Spring each year.		
Inspect areas surrounding standing forests and "land bank" areas.	1.2	SWO	Ongoing as resources permit, or in response to complaints within 10 working 14 days after inspection.		
Advise Forests NSW of areas that pose a risk of weeds spreading to adjoining land.	1.2	SWO			

27. Actively pursue the control of invasive weeds on other public authorities land					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Inspect lands of public authorities to ensure obligations for invasive weeds control are being met.	1.2 & 1.3	SWO	Ongoing.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Continuing

Provide information to public authority on invasive weed control requirements.	1.2 & 1.3	SWO	Within 10 working days of inspection.		Continuing
Respond to complaints regarding invasive weeds on lands of public authorities.	1.2 & 1.3	SWO	Initial inspection within 10 working days.		Continuing

28. Conduct aerial spraying programmes for invasive weeds					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Organise programmes for aerial spraying of invasive weeds throughout the year as seasonal conditions permit and demand requires.	1.2	GM/SWO	As required.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	As required.
Publicise aerial spraying programmes in local media, and as occasion permits, to ensure maximum landholder participation.	1.2	GM/SWO	As required.		Parkinsonia and Rubber Vine programs continue.
Organise aerial spraying (involving all weeds officers) throughout Council's area in accordance with programmes.	1.2	SWO	In accordance with Programmes		As and when required
					No program organised

29. Actively pursue regional resources sharing with neighbouring councils and other public authorities to provide cost benefits to Council in the provision of services					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th June 2025
Pursue resource sharing through regular interaction with nearby councils and other public authorities to discuss regional weed plans and coordinated approaches to weed control	1.1	GM	Liaise with appropriate members and officers of surrounding councils and other public authorities as required.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Continuing. GM active member of WCCN. Senior biosecurity officer attends regional meetings.

Attachment B – Delivery Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25



**Castlereagh Macquarie County
Council**

**Delivery Programme
2022/23 – 2024/25**

30th June 2025

1. Strategic Objective – Building relationships

Build strong relationships with other natural resource managers having responsibilities in, or adjacent to, the County Council's area of operations through a program to improve liaison between natural resource managers.

Strategy

Foster a spirit of cooperation with other natural resource managers.

Status as at 30th June 2025.

Continuing.

Council has good relationship with neighbouring Council's, and State and Federal Agencies in particular DPI and LLS. CMCC successful with new projects such as the Unincorporated Area management, Rubber Vine project and private works for DPIRNSW in the Cobar Shire on Hudson Pear. Council staff have assisted with Emergency Response to invasive weed outbreaks with adjoining LCA's.

2. Strategic objective – Noxious Weeds Control

Ensure the effectiveness of the Council's role in improving the natural environment through a reduction in noxious weeds.

Strategy

Ensure that the Council is aware of any presence of noxious weeds in its Area of Operations.

Status as at 30th June 2025.

Continuing.

Property inspections are documented with generally good landowner/occupier control compliance. Invasive weeds infestations are generally reduced across the county area on roadsides and Council controlled lands. The reduction in weeds is noticeable in the Warrumbungle Shire with St Johns Wort. Biosecurity Officers continue to liaise with land managers each weed growing season to ensure compliance. A large number of land managers require continual prompting to control weeds.

3. Strategic objective – Noxious Weeds Controls - Roadsides

Improve the effectiveness of the control of noxious weeds on roads by promoting changes in management techniques and cooperative action.

Strategy

Ensure that all occupiers are aware of their obligations to control noxious weeds on roads.

Status as at 30th June 2025.

Continuing.

Landowner/occupier control compliance levels are good. Council has in 2024/2025 delivered a continuation of the LLS Hudson Pear program in and around Lightning Ridge.

CMCC continues to apply an extensive publicity campaign in each of the LGA's as there is a number of land managers requiring continual prompting to implement control programs.

4. Strategic objective – Noxious Weeds Controls Funding

Secure funding, where possible, to assist occupiers in their management of noxious weeds by encouraging policy change by NSW State Government and other funding authorities.

Strategy

Provide assistance and support to occupiers in securing funding for noxious weed control.

Status as at 30th June 2025.

Continuing.

Council has been proactive with its assistance to DPIRNSW for the Unincorporated Area, Rubber vine and Cobar Shire inspection and compliance programs. Projects funded by DPIRNSW.

5. Strategic objective- Communication Policies

Improve communications between the Council and its community through increased use of electronic and other media.

Strategy

Improve the Council's profile in the community.

Status as at 30th June 2025.

Continuing.

Council has renewed its Web Page to allow for improved communications with residents, landowners and occupiers of land. Council has also adopted an advertising policy to assist with communications to the general public on all things concerning Council operations and invasive weed management. Articles also posted to the Western Plains App.

6. Strategic objective – Community Consultation

Improve the accountability of the Council to its community by providing more open access to information and public participation.

Strategy

Encourage members of the Council's community to take an interest in the Council's affairs.

Status as at 30th June 2025.

Continuing.

Information readily available to community. Council staff participated in community consultation events to showcase best practice control measures and provide information on land manager weed biosecurity requirements and compliance methods.

7. Strategic objective- Administration

Develop an efficient and effective Council administration for the management of noxious weeds through improved training, procedures and use of technology.

Strategy

Engage and retain sufficient skilled staff to provide administrative services to the Council.

Status as at 30th June 2025.

Continuing.

Council has a highly effective electronic records management system operated by highly skilled personnel. Records are kept in accordance with the State records Act 1998.

Council Biosecurity Officers receive training in the Biosecurity Act, investigations and landowner compliance. Council maintains a fleet of computers with a highly efficient and effective property inspection program.

8. Strategic objective- Funding Arrangements

Secure the Council's financial position by promoting stronger funding arrangements with funding bodies and seeking alternative sources of funds.

Strategy

Secure alternative sources of funding for the Council's ordinary operations.

Status as at 30th June 2025.

Continuing.

Additional income streams identified with private works for constituent Councils. Council has commenced projects for DPIRNSW in the Unincorporated Area and Cobar Shire.

9. Strategic objective- Lobbying

Increase public awareness of the impact of noxious weeds on the community and the cost to the community of noxious weeds through contact with community leaders and public awareness campaigns.

Strategy

Increase politicians awareness of weeds.

Status as at 30th June 2025.

Continuing.

Council has made the general public and relevant politicians aware of the invasive weeds position in the CMCC LCA area.

Minister for Agriculture was an apology for the November 2024 Council meeting, however her staff attended and provided answers to the Members questions concerning the future of invasive weed control in NSW.

10. Strategic objective- Technology

Enhance the educational and advisory role of the Council through the provision of a range of written and electronic material and staff promotion of this role.

Strategy

Ensure that the Council fulfils its educational and advisory role.

Status as at 30th June 2025.

Continuing.

Council undertakes a comprehensive publicity program each year with community programs held at Agquip and local agricultural shows, Lightning Ridge Opal festival. Other information days are held when necessary to highlight new and emerging weeds, new control measures and to enforce landowner compliance with the Biosecurity Act.

11. Strategic objective – Regulatory Powers

Improve the effectiveness of the Council's regulatory role by the strategic use of the regulatory powers and appropriate publicity.

Strategy

To use the Council's regulatory powers, where necessary, to enforce the requirements of the Act with regard to noxious weed control.

Status as at 30th June 2025.

No legal action to date.

Property inspections are documented with generally good landowner/occupier control compliance. Invasive weeds infestations are generally reduced across the county area. Council in June 2024 approved the introduction of a new compliance system that will commence operations in 2024/25. Council has received a number of complaints concerning non-compliance and these are being followed up with the landowners.

**Attachment C – CMCC Financial Statements and Auditor
General’s Report for 2024/25**

Local Government Act Section 428 (4)(a)

[A copy of the Council’s audited financial reports.](#)

See attachment (C): Financial Statements

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2025



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Understanding Council's Financial Statements

Introduction

Each year NSW local governments are required to present audited financial statements to their council and community.

What you will find in the Statements

The financial statements set out the financial performance, financial position and cash flows of Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

The format of the financial statements is standard across all NSW Councils and complies with both the accounting and reporting requirements of Australian Accounting Standards and requirements as set down by the Office of Local Government.

About the Councillor/Management Statement

The financial statements must be certified by senior staff as 'presenting fairly' the Council's financial results for the year and are required to be adopted by Council – ensuring both responsibility for and ownership of the financial statements.

About the Primary Financial Statements

The financial statements incorporate five "primary" financial statements:

1. The Income Statement

Summarises Council's financial performance for the year, listing all income and expenses. This statement also displays Council's original adopted budget to provide a comparison between what was projected and what actually occurred.

2. The Statement of Comprehensive Income

Primarily records changes in the fair value of Council's Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

3. The Statement of Financial Position

A 30 June snapshot of Council's financial position indicating its assets, liabilities and "net wealth".

4. The Statement of Changes in Equity

The overall change for the year (in dollars) of Council's "net wealth".

5. The Statement of Cash Flows

Indicates where Council's cash came from and where it was spent. This statement also displays Council's original adopted budget to provide a comparison between what was projected and what actually occurred.

About the Notes to the Financial Statements

The Notes to the Financial Statements provide greater detail and additional information on the five primary financial statements.

About the Auditor's Reports

Council's financial statements are required to be audited by the NSW Audit Office.

In NSW the auditor provides 2 audit reports:

1. an opinion on whether the financial statements present fairly the Council's financial performance and position, and
2. their observations on the conduct of the audit, including commentary on the Council's financial performance and financial position.

Who uses the Financial Statements?

The financial statements are publicly available documents and must be presented at a Council meeting between seven days and five weeks after the date of the audit report.

The public can make submissions to Council up to seven days subsequent to the public presentation of the financial statements.

Council is required to forward an audited set of financial statements to the Office of Local Government.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council**General Purpose Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Statement by Councillors and Management**Statement by Councillors and Management made pursuant to Section 413 (2c) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW)****The attached general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:**

- the *Local Government Act 1993* and the regulations made thereunder,
- the Australian Accounting Standards issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board
- the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

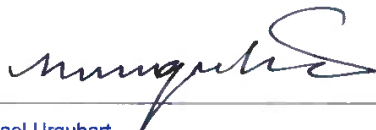
- present fairly the Council's operating result and financial position for the year
- accord with Council's accounting and other records.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.**Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 25 August 2025.**

Doug Batten
Chairperson
25 August 2025



Noel Kinsey
Deputy Chairperson
25 August 2025



Michael Urquhart
General Manager
25 August 2025



Michael Urquhart
Responsible Accounting Officer
25 August 2025

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council | Income Statement | for the year ended 30 June 2025

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Income Statement

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Original unaudited budget 2025 \$ '000		Notes	Actual 2025 \$ '000	Actual 2024 \$ '000
	Income from continuing operations			
114	User charges and fees	B2-1	31	79
5	Other revenues	B2-2	5	5
1,242	Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	B2-3	1,210	1,442
36	Interest and investment income	B2-4	62	37
—	Other income	B2-5	19	18
5	Net gain from the disposal of assets	B4-1	—	—
1,402	Total income from continuing operations		1,327	1,581
	Expenses from continuing operations			
635	Employee benefits and on-costs	B3-1	780	747
711	Materials and services	B3-2	539	702
—	Borrowing costs	B3-3	1	2
1,346	Total expenses from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets		1,320	1,451
56	Operating result from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets		7	130
85	Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	B3-4	109	115
(29)	Operating result from continuing operations		(102)	15
(29)	Net operating result for the year attributable to Council		(102)	15
(29)	Net operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes		(102)	15

The above Income Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council | Statement of Comprehensive Income | for the year ended 30 June 2025

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2025

		Actual 2025 \$ '000	Actual 2024 \$ '000
	Notes		
Net operating result for the year – from Income Statement		(102)	15
Other comprehensive income:			
Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequent to operating result			
Gain (loss) on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	–	46
Total items which will not be reclassified subsequent to operating result		–	46
Total other comprehensive income for the year		–	46
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to Council		(102)	61

The above Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council | Statement of Financial Position | as at 30 June 2025

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2025

		Actual 2025 \$ '000	Actual 2024 \$ '000
	Notes		
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	C1-1	448	916
Investments	C1-2	1,000	500
Receivables	C1-4	20	30
Inventories	C1-5	32	40
Other	C1-7	5	3
Total current assets		1,505	1,489
Non-current assets			
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)	C1-6	439	528
Right of use assets	C2-1	29	49
Total non-current assets		468	577
Total assets		1,973	2,066
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	C3-1	65	76
Lease liabilities	C2-1	15	19
Employee benefit provisions	C3-2	292	256
Total current liabilities		372	351
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liabilities	C2-1	16	31
Employee benefit provisions	C3-2	3	—
Total non-current liabilities		19	31
Total liabilities		391	382
Net assets		1,582	1,684
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus	C4-1	1,099	1,201
IPPE revaluation surplus	C4-1	483	483
Council equity interest		1,582	1,684
Total equity		1,582	1,684

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council | Statement of Changes in Equity | for the year ended 30 June 2025

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Statement of Changes in Equity
for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025			2024		
		Accumulated surplus \$ '000	IPPE revaluation surplus \$ '000	Total equity \$ '000	Accumulated surplus \$ '000	IPPE revaluation surplus \$ '000	Total equity \$ '000
Opening balance at 1 July		1,201	483	1,684	1,186	437	1,623
Net operating result for the year		(102)	–	(102)	15	–	15
Net operating result for the period		(102)	–	(102)	15	–	15
Other comprehensive income							
Gain (loss) on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	–	–	–	–	46	46
Other comprehensive income		–	–	–	–	46	46
Total comprehensive income		(102)	–	(102)	15	46	61
Closing balance at 30 June		1,099	483	1,582	1,201	483	1,684

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council | Statement of Cash Flows | for the year ended 30 June 2025

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Original unaudited budget 2025 \$ '000		Notes	Actual 2025 \$ '000	Actual 2024 \$ '000
Cash flows from operating activities				
Receipts:				
114	User charges and fees		43	155
36	Interest received		58	37
1,242	Grants and contributions		1,210	1,442
5	Other		96	115
Payments:				
(635)	Payments to employees		(738)	(678)
(648)	Payments for materials and services		(531)	(663)
—	Borrowing costs		(1)	(2)
(88)	Other		(86)	(51)
26	Net cash flows from operating activities	F1-1	51	355
Cash flows from investing activities				
Receipts:				
—	Redemption of term deposits		900	1,000
46	Proceeds from sale of IPPE		—	—
Payments:				
—	Acquisition of term deposits		(1,400)	(1,000)
(106)	Payments for IPPE		—	—
(60)	Net cash flows from investing activities		(500)	—
Cash flows from financing activities				
Payments:				
(5)	Principal component of lease payments		(19)	(20)
(5)	Net cash flows from financing activities		(19)	(20)
(39)	Net change in cash and cash equivalents		(468)	335
581	Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		916	581
542	Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	C1-1	448	916
500	plus: Investments on hand at end of year	C1-2	1,000	500
1,042	Total cash, cash equivalents and investments		1,448	1,416

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

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A About Council and these financial statements

A1-1 Basis of preparation

These financial statements were authorised for issue by Council on 25 August 2025. Council has the power to amend and reissue these financial statements in cases where critical information is received from public submissions or where the OLG directs Council to amend the financial statements.

The material accounting policy information related to these financial statements are set out below. Accounting policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Australian Accounting Interpretations, the *Local Government Act 1993 (Act)* and *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (Regulation)*, and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting. Council is a not for-profit entity. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain infrastructure, property, plant and equipment and investment property.

Significant accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Council's accounting policies. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the Council and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

Council makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future.

The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year include:

- i. estimated fair values of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment – refer Note C1-6
- ii. employee benefit provisions – refer Note C3-2.

Significant judgements in applying the Council's accounting policies

- i. Impairment of receivables – refer Note C1-4.
- ii. Determination of whether performance obligations are sufficiently specific and whether the contract is within the scope of AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* and / or AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* – refer to Notes B2-1 – B2-3.
- iii. Determination of the lease term, discount rate (when not implicit in the lease) and whether an arrangement contains a lease – refer to Note C2-1.

Monies and other assets received by Council

The Consolidated Fund

In accordance with the provisions of Section 409(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW), all money and property received by Council is held in the Council's Consolidated Fund unless it is required to be held in the Council's Trust Fund.

Cash and other assets of the following entities have been included as part of the Consolidated Fund:

- General purpose operations

The Trust Fund

In accordance with the provisions of Section 411 of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* (as amended), a separate and distinct Trust Fund is maintained to account for all money and property received by the council in trust which must be applied only for the purposes of, or in accordance with, the trusts relating to those monies.

A separate statement of monies held in the Trust Fund is available for inspection at the council office by any person free of charge

A1-1 Basis of preparation (continued)

Volunteer services

Council does not engage volunteers.

New accounting standards and interpretations issued but not yet effective

New accounting standards and interpretations issued but not yet effective

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2025 reporting period. Council has not applied any pronouncements before its operative date in the annual reporting period beginning 1 July 2025.

As at the date of authorisation of these financial statements Council does not consider that any of these new (and still to be applied) standards and interpretations are likely to have a material impact on the Council's future financial statements, financial position, financial performance or cash flows.

New accounting standards adopted during the year

During the year Council adopted all accounting standards and interpretations (as issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board) which were mandatorily effective from the first time at 30 June 2025.

The following new standard is effective for the first time at 30 June 2025:

- **AASB 2022-10 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Fair Value Measurement of Non-Financial Assets of Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities.**

There is no significant impact on the Councils' reported financial position.

B Financial Performance

B1 Functions or activities

B1-1 Functions or activities – income, expenses and assets

Income, expenses and assets have been directly attributed to the following functions or activities. Details of those functions or activities are provided in Note B1-2.

	Income		Expenses		Operating result		Grants and contributions		Carrying amount of assets	
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Functions or activities										
Governance	-	-	32	46	(32)	(46)	-	-	-	-
Administration	-	-	361	360	(361)	(360)	-	-	-	-
Environment	1,327	1,581	1,036	1,160	291	421	1,210	1,442	1,973	2,066
Total functions and activities	1,327	1,581	1,429	1,566	(102)	15	1,210	1,442	1,973	2,066

B1-2 Components of functions or activities

GOVERNANCE

Includes costs related to Council's role as a component of democratic government, members' fees and expenses, subscriptions to local authority associations, meeting of Council and policy-making committees, public disclosure (e.g. GIPA) and legislative compliance.

ADMINISTRATION

Includes corporate support and other support services and any Council policy compliance.

ENVIRONMENT

Includes priority/noxious plants and insect/vermin control, other environmental protection.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2025

B2 Sources of income**B2-1 User charges and fees**

	Timing	2025 Actual \$ '000	2024 Actual \$ '000
Other user charges and fees			
(i) Fees and charges – statutory and regulatory functions (per s608)			
Private works – section 67	2	31	79
Total fees and charges – statutory/regulatory		31	79
Total other user charges and fees		31	79
Total user charges and fees		31	79
Timing of revenue recognition for user charges and fees			
User charges and fees recognised over time (1)		–	–
User charges and fees recognised at a point in time (2)		31	79
Total user charges and fees		31	79

Material accounting policy information

Revenue arising from user charges and fees is recognised when or as the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided.

The performance obligation relates to the specific services which are provided to the customers and generally the payment terms are within 30 days of the provision of the service. There is no material obligation for Council in relation to refunds or returns.

B2-2 Other revenues

	Timing	2025 Actual \$ '000	2024 Actual \$ '000
Insurance claims recoveries	2	5	5
Total other revenue		5	5
Timing of revenue recognition for other revenue			
Other revenue recognised over time (1)		–	–
Other revenue recognised at a point in time (2)		5	5
Total other revenue		5	5

Material accounting policy information for other revenue

Where the revenue is earned for the provision of specified goods / services under an enforceable contract, revenue is recognised when or as the obligations are satisfied.

Other revenue is recorded when the payment is due, the value of the payment is notified, or the payment is received, whichever occurs first.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2025

B2-3 Grants and contributions

		Operating 2025 Actual \$ '000	Operating 2024 Actual \$ '000	Capital 2025 Actual \$ '000	Capital 2024 Actual \$ '000
	Timing				
Special purpose grants and non-developer contributions (tied)					
Cash contributions					
Previously specific grants:					
Noxious weeds	2	593	853	–	–
Previously contributions:					
Other councils – joint works/services	2	617	589	–	–
Total special purpose grants and non-developer contributions – cash		1,210	1,442	–	–
Total special purpose grants and non-developer contributions (tied)		1,210	1,442	–	–
Total grants and non-developer contributions		1,210	1,442	–	–
Comprising:					
– Other funding		617	589	–	–
– State funding		593	853	–	–
		1,210	1,442	–	–

		Operating 2025 Actual \$ '000	Operating 2024 Actual \$ '000	Capital 2025 Actual \$ '000	Capital 2024 Actual \$ '000
Total grants and contributions		1,210	1,442	–	–

Timing of revenue recognition					
Grants and contributions recognised over time (1)		–	–	–	–
Grants and contributions recognised at a point in time (2)		1,210	1,442	–	–
Total grants and contributions		1,210	1,442	–	–

Unspent grants and contributions

Certain grants and contributions are obtained by Council on the condition they be spent in a specified manner or in a future period but which are not yet spent in accordance with those conditions are as follows:

	Operating 2025 Actual \$ '000	Operating 2024 Actual \$ '000	Capital 2025 Actual \$ '000	Capital 2024 Actual \$ '000
Unspent grants and contributions				
Unspent funds at 1 July	369	231	–	–
Add: operating grants recognised in the current period but not yet spent	245	329	–	–
Less: Funds recognised as revenue in previous years that have been spent during the reporting year	(337)	(191)	–	–
Unspent funds at 30 June	277	369	–	–

continued on next page

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B2-3 Grants and contributions (continued)

Material accounting policy information

Grants and contributions – enforceable agreement with sufficiently specific performance obligations

Grant and contribution revenue from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations is recognised as or when control of each performance obligations is transferred.

The performance obligations vary according to the agreement. Payment terms vary depending on the terms of the grant, cash is received upfront for some grants and on the achievement of certain payment milestones for others.

Performance obligations may be satisfied either at a point in time or over time and this is reflected in the revenue recognition pattern. Point in time recognition occurs when the beneficiary obtains control of the goods / services at a single time (e.g. completion of the project when a report / outcome is provided), whereas over time recognition is where the control of the services is ongoing throughout the project.

Where control is transferred over time, generally the input methods being either costs or time incurred are deemed to be the most appropriate methods to reflect the transfer of benefit.

Other grants and contributions

Assets, including cash, received from other grants and contributions are recognised at fair value when the asset is received. Council considers whether there are any related liability or equity items associated with the asset which are recognised in accordance with the relevant accounting standard.

Once the assets and liabilities have been recognised then income is recognised for any remaining asset value at the time that the asset is received.

B2-4 Interest and investment income

	2025 Actual \$ '000	2024 Actual \$ '000
Interest on financial assets measured at amortised cost		
– Cash and investments	62	37
Total interest and investment income (losses)	62	37

B2-5 Other income

Rental income

Room/Facility Hire	19	18
Total other income	19	18

B3 Costs of providing services**B3-1 Employee benefits and on-costs**

	2025 Actual \$ '000	2024 Actual \$ '000
Salaries and wages	627	501
Travel expenses	4	6
Employee leave entitlements (ELE)	57	153
Superannuation	73	66
Workers' compensation insurance	12	11
Training costs (other than salaries and wages)	6	7
Protective clothing	1	3
Total employee costs	780	747
Total employee costs expensed	780	747

Material accounting policy information

Council contributes to various defined benefit plans and defined contribution plans on behalf of its employees.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

Council participates in a defined benefit plan under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme, however, sufficient information to account for the plan as a defined benefit is not available and therefore Council accounts for its obligations to defined benefit plans on the same basis as its obligations to defined contribution plans, i.e. as an expense when it becomes payable.

B3-2 Materials and services

		2025 Actual \$ '000	2024 Actual \$ '000
	Notes		
Raw materials and consumables		220	131
Contractor costs		—	212
Audit Fees	E2-1	19	21
Previously other expenses:			
Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses	E1-2	32	46
Advertising		2	6
Computer software charges		21	17
Insurance		78	76
Office expenses (including computer expenses)		48	60
Postage		1	1
Printing and stationery		4	7
Telephone and communications		10	8
Plant expenses		97	104
Regional meeting expenses		1	8
Membership		6	5
Total materials and services		539	702
Total materials and services		539	702

B3-3 Borrowing costs

(i) Interest bearing liability costs

Interest on leases	1	2
Total interest bearing liability costs	1	2
Total interest bearing liability costs expensed	1	2
Total borrowing costs expensed	1	2

B3-4 Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets

	Notes	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Depreciation and amortisation			
Plant and equipment		75	80
Office equipment		–	2
Infrastructure:			
– Buildings (non-specialised)	C1-6	14	12
Right of use assets	C2-1	20	21
Total gross depreciation and amortisation costs		109	115
Total depreciation and amortisation costs		109	115
Total depreciation, amortisation and impairment for non-financial assets		109	115

Material accounting policy information**Depreciation and amortisation**

Depreciation and amortisation are calculated using the straight line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives.

Impairment of non-financial assets

Council assets held at fair value that are not held primarily for their ability to generate net cash flow, and that are deemed to be specialised, are not tested for impairment since these assets are assessed on an annual basis to ensure that the carrying amount is not materially different from fair value and therefore an impairment loss would be captured during this assessment.

Other non-financial assets that do not meet the criteria above are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets (cash-generating units).

Impairment losses for revalued assets are firstly offset against the amount in the revaluation surplus for the class of asset, with only the excess to be recognised in the Income Statement.

B4 Gains or losses**B4-1 Gain or loss from the disposal, replacement and de-recognition of assets**

	Notes	2025 Actual \$ '000	2024 Actual \$ '000
Gain (or loss) on disposal of term deposits			
Proceeds from disposal/redemptions/maturities – term deposits	C1-2	900	1,000
Less: carrying amount of term deposits sold/redeemed/matured		(900)	(1,000)
Gain (or loss) on disposal		–	–
Net gain (or loss) from disposal of assets		–	–

B5 Performance against budget

B5-1 Material budget variations

Council's original budget was adopted by the Council on 25 June 2024 and is not required to be audited. The original projections on which the budget was based have been affected by a number of factors. These include state and federal government decisions, including new grant programs, changing economic activity, environmental factors, and by decisions made by Council.

While these General Purpose Financial Statements include the original budget adopted by Council, the Act requires Council to review its financial budget on a quarterly basis, so it is able to manage the variation between actuals and budget that invariably occur during the year.

Material variations of more than 10% between original budget and actual results or where the variance is considered material by nature are explained below.

Variation Key: **F** = Favourable budget variation, **U** = Unfavourable budget variation.

\$ '000	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2025 ----- Variance -----	
Revenues				
User charges and fees	114	31	(83)	(73)% U
Actual private works income was less than the original budget predictions.				
Other revenues	5	5	–	0% F
Operating grants and contributions	1,242	1,210	(32)	(3)% U
Interest and investment revenue	36	62	26	72% F
Council invested more in term deposits during the year which resulted in higher interest returns than budgeted.				
Net gains from disposal of assets	5	–	(5)	(100)% U
Council did not dispose of any assets during the year.				
Other income	–	19	19	∞ F
Income for renting office space was not included in the budget.				
Expenses				
Employee benefits and on-costs	635	780	(145)	(23)% U
Salaries and wages were higher than budget due to additional staff and pay rises.				
Materials and services	711	539	172	24% F
Materials and services were lower than budget due to not spending all grant funds on the weeds programs during the year.				
Borrowing costs	–	1	(1)	∞ U
Interest component of right of use asset for the building lease was not included in the budget.				
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	85	109	(24)	(28)% U
Depreciation was higher than budget due to the budget not taking into account depreciation on right of use assets.				

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2025

B5-1 Material budget variations (continued)

\$ '000	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2025 ----- Variance -----	
Statement of cash flows				
Cash flows from operating activities	26	51	25	96% F
Grants and contributions income was less than estimated in the budget, which lead to payments to employees and materials and services being less than estimated in the budget.				
Cash flows from investing activities	(60)	(500)	(440)	733% U
Council increased its investment in term deposits which was not budgeted and did not purchase any new plant and equipment during the year.				
Cash flows from financing activities	(5)	(19)	(14)	280% U
Principal component of lease payments was higher than budget due to the budget not including the Walgett building lease.				

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2025

C Financial position**C1 Assets we manage****C1-1 Cash and cash equivalents**

	2025 Actual \$ '000	2024 Actual \$ '000
Cash assets		
Cash on hand and at bank	448	916
Total cash and cash equivalents	448	916
Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents		
Total cash and cash equivalents per Statement of Financial Position	448	916
Balance as per the Statement of Cash Flows	448	916

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2025

C1-2 Financial investments

	2025	2025	2024	2024
	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Debt securities at amortised cost				
Long term deposits	1,000	–	500	–
Total	1,000	–	500	–
Total financial investments	1,000	–	500	–
Total cash assets, cash equivalents and investments	1,448	–	1,416	–

Material accounting policy information

Financial instruments are recognised initially on the date that the Council becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

Financial assets

All recognised financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial assets.

Classification

On initial recognition, Council classifies its financial assets into the following categories – those measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit and loss (FVTPL)
- fair value through other comprehensive income – equity instrument (FVOCI-equity)

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition.

Amortised cost

Council's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables, term deposits and cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Financial Position. Term deposits with an initial term of more than 3 months are classified as investments rather than cash and cash equivalents.

Subsequent to initial recognition, these assets are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less provision for impairment.

Interest income, impairment and gains or loss on de-recognition are recognised in profit or loss.

C1-3 Restricted and allocated cash, cash equivalents and investments

	2025	2024
	Actual	Actual
	\$ '000	\$ '000

(a) Externally restricted cash,
cash equivalents and
investments

Total cash, cash equivalents and investments **1,448** 1,416

Less: Externally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments **(277)** (369)

Cash, cash equivalents and investments not subject to external restrictions **1,171** 1,047

External restrictions**External restrictions**

External restrictions included in cash, cash equivalents and investments above comprise:

Specific purpose unexpended grants (recognised as revenue) – general fund **277** 369

Total external restrictions **277** 369

Cash, cash equivalents and investments subject to external restrictions are those which are only available for specific use by Council due to a restriction placed by legislation or third-party contractual agreement.

	2025	2024
	Actual	Actual
	\$ '000	\$ '000

(b) Internal allocations

Cash, cash equivalents and investments not subject to external restrictions **1,171** 1,047

Less: Internally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments **(194)** (171)

Unrestricted and unallocated cash, cash equivalents and investments **977** 876

Internal allocations

At 30 June, Council has internally allocated funds to the following:

Plant and vehicle replacement **58** 49

Employees leave entitlement **116** 102

Building **20** 20

Total internal allocations **194** 171

Cash, cash equivalents and investments not subject to external restrictions may be internally allocated by resolution or policy of the elected Council.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2025

C1-4 Receivables

	2025 Current Actual \$ '000	2025 Non-current Actual \$ '000	2024 Current Actual \$ '000	2024 Non-current Actual \$ '000
User charges and fees	–	–	12	–
Accrued revenues				
– Interest on investments	9	–	5	–
Net GST receivable	11	–	13	–
Total	20	–	30	–
Total net receivables	20	–	30	–

Material accounting policy information

Receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

C1-5 Inventories

	2025 Current Actual \$ '000	2025 Non-current Actual \$ '000	2024 Current Actual \$ '000	2024 Non-current Actual \$ '000
(i) Inventories at cost				
Stores and materials	32	–	40	–
Total inventories at cost	32	–	40	–
Total inventories	32	–	40	–

Material accounting policy information**Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods**

Costs are assigned to individual items of inventory on the basis of weighted average costs.

C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

By aggregated asset class	Asset movements during the reporting period						
	At 1 July 2024			Depreciation expense	At 30 June 2025		
	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount		Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Plant and equipment	435	(252)	183	(75)	434	(326)	108
Office equipment	56	(56)	–	–	56	(56)	–
Land:							
– Operational land	39	–	39	–	39	–	39
Infrastructure:							
– Buildings – non-specialised	534	(228)	306	(14)	534	(242)	292
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	1,064	(536)	528	(89)	1,063	(624)	439

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C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

By aggregated asset class	Asset movements during the reporting period							
	At 1 July 2023						At 30 June 2024	
	Gross carrying amount \$ '000	Accumulated depreciation and impairment \$ '000	Net carrying amount \$ '000	Depreciation expense \$ '000	Revaluation decrements to equity (ARR) \$ '000		Gross carrying amount \$ '000	Net carrying amount \$ '000
Plant and equipment	435	(172)	263	(80)	–		435	183
Office equipment	57	(55)	2	(2)	–		56	–
Land:								
– Operational land	36	–	36	–	3		39	39
Infrastructure:								
– Buildings – non-specialised	460	(185)	275	(12)	43		534	306
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	988	(412)	576	(94)	46		1,064	528

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C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

Material accounting policy information

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment are held at fair value. Independent comprehensive valuations are performed at least every five years, however the carrying amount of assets is assessed by Council at each reporting date to confirm that it is not materially different from current fair value.

When infrastructure, property, plant and equipment are acquired by Council for nil or nominal consideration, the assets are initially recognised at their fair value at acquisition date.

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Plant and equipment	Years		
Office equipment	5 to 10		
Office furniture	10 to 20		
Computer equipment	4		
Vehicles	5 to 8	Buildings	
Heavy plant	5 to 8	Buildings: masonry	50 to 100
Other plant and equipment	5 to 15	Buildings: other	20 to 40

C1-7 Other

Other assets

	2025 Current Actual \$ '000	2025 Non-current Actual \$ '000	2024 Current Actual \$ '000	2024 Non-current Actual \$ '000
Prepayments	5	–	3	–
Total other assets	5	–	3	–

C2 Leasing activities

C2-1 Council as a lessee

Council has a lease over a building. Information relating to the leases in place and associated balances and transactions is provided below.

Terms and conditions of leases

Leases are on a short-term basis with the building leases in Coonamble and Walgett.

Buildings

Council leases a depot building in Coonamble and office in Walgett. The lease has a five (5) year term.

The building lease contains an annual pricing mechanism based on a fixed increases of 3% at each anniversary of the lease inception.

Extension options

Council includes options in the building leases to provide flexibility and certainty to Council operations and reduce costs of moving premises; and the extension options are at Council's discretion.

At commencement date and each subsequent reporting date, Council assesses where it is reasonably certain that the extension options will be exercised.

(a) Right of use assets

	Ready to use Actual \$ '000	Total Actual \$ '000
2025		
Opening balance at 1 July	49	49
Depreciation charge	(20)	(20)
Balance at 30 June	29	29
2024		
Opening balance at 1 July	10	10
Additions to right-of-use assets	60	60
Depreciation charge	(21)	(21)
Balance at 30 June	49	49

(b) Lease liabilities

	2025 Current Actual \$ '000	2025 Non-current Actual \$ '000	2024 Current Actual \$ '000	2024 Non-current Actual \$ '000
Lease liabilities	15	16	19	31
Total lease liabilities	15	16	19	31

C2-1 Council as a lessee (continued)**(c) (i) The maturity analysis**

The maturity analysis of lease liabilities based on contractual undiscounted cash flows is shown in the table below:

	< 1 year Actual \$ '000	1 – 5 years Actual \$ '000	> 5 years Actual \$ '000	Total Actual \$ '000	Total per Statement of Financial Position Actual \$ '000
2025					
Cash flows	16	16	–	32	31
2024					
Cash flows	21	31	–	52	50

(d) Income Statement

The amounts recognised in the Income Statement relating to leases where Council is a lessee are shown below:

	2025 Actual \$ '000	2024 Actual \$ '000
Interest on lease liabilities	1	2
Depreciation of right of use assets	20	21
	21	23

(e) Statement of Cash Flows

Total cash outflow for leases	19	20
	19	20

Material accounting policy information

Council has elected not to separate non-lease components from lease components for any class of asset and has accounted for payments as a single component.

The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises: the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration, less any lease incentives. The right-of-use is depreciated over the lease term on a straight-line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of asset accounting policy.

Exceptions to lease accounting

Council has applied the exceptions to lease accounting for both short-term leases (i.e. leases with a term of less than or equal to 12 months) and leases of low-value assets. Council recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Leases at significantly below market value / concessionary leases

Council has elected to measure the right of use asset arising from the concessionary leases at cost which is based on the associated lease liability at initial recognition.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2025

C3 Liabilities of Council**C3-1 Payables**

	2025 Current Actual \$ '000	2025 Non-current \$ '000	2024 Current Actual \$ '000	2024 Non-current \$ '000
Accrued expenses:				
– Salaries and wages	3	–	–	–
– Other expenditure accruals	62	–	76	–
Total payables	65	–	76	–

Payables

Payable amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

C3-2 Employee benefit provisions

	2025 Current Actual \$ '000	2025 Non-current Actual \$ '000	2024 Current Actual \$ '000	2024 Non-current Actual \$ '000
Annual leave	129	–	122	–
Long service leave	163	3	134	–
Total employee benefit provisions	292	3	256	–

Current employee benefit provisions not anticipated to be settled within the next twelve months

	2025 Actual \$ '000	2024 Actual \$ '000
The following provisions, even though classified as current, are not expected to be settled in the next 12 months.		
Provisions – employees benefits	211	183
	211	183

Description of and movements in provisions

	ELE provisions		
	Annual leave \$ '000	Long service leave \$ '000	Total \$ '000
2025			
At beginning of year	122	134	256
Additional provisions	55	32	87
Amounts used (payments)	(48)	–	(48)
Total ELE provisions at end of year	129	166	295
2024			
At beginning of year	83	88	171
Additional provisions	70	49	119
Amounts used (payments)	(31)	(3)	(34)
Total ELE provisions at end of year	122	134	256

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C3-2 Employee benefit provisions (continued)

Material accounting policy information

Other long-term employee benefit obligations

The liability for long-service leave and annual leave that is not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures, and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

C4 Reserves

C4-1 Nature and purpose of reserves

IPPE Revaluation Surplus

The infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE) revaluation surplus is used to record increments and decrements in the revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

D Risks and accounting uncertainties

D1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held

Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks including (1) price risk, (2) credit risk, (3) liquidity risk and (4) interest rate risk.

The Council's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Council.

Council does not engage in transactions expressed in foreign currencies and is therefore not subject to foreign currency risk.

Financial risk management is carried out under policies approved by the Council.

A comparison by category of the carrying amounts and fair values of Council's financial assets and financial liabilities recognised in the financial statements is presented below.

	Carrying value 2025 \$ '000	Carrying value 2024 \$ '000	Fair value 2025 \$ '000	Fair value 2024 \$ '000
Financial assets				
Measured at amortised cost				
Cash and cash equivalents	448	916	448	916
Receivables	20	30	20	30
Investments				
– Debt securities at amortised cost	1,000	500	1,000	500
Total financial assets	1,468	1,446	1,468	1,446
Financial liabilities				
Payables	65	76	65	76
Total financial liabilities	65	76	65	76

Council's objective is to maximise its return on cash and investments whilst maintaining an adequate level of liquidity and preserving capital.

Council's General Manager manages the cash and Investments portfolio with the assistance of independent advisors.

Council has an investment policy which complies with the Local Government Act 1993 and Minister's investment order 625. This policy is regularly reviewed by Council and it's staff and an investment report is tabled before Council on a monthly basis setting out the portfolio breakup and its performance as required by Local Government regulations.

The risks associated with the instruments held are:

- **Price risk** – the risk that the capital value of investments may fluctuate due to changes in market prices, whether there changes are caused by factors specific to individual financial instruments or their issuers or are caused by factors affecting similar instruments traded in a market.
- **Interest rate risk** – the risk that movements in interest rates could affect returns and income.
- **Liquidity risk** – the risk that Council will not be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.
- **Credit risk** – the risk that the investment counterparty will not complete their obligations particular to a financial instrument, resulting in a financial loss to Council – be it of a capital or income nature.

Council manages these risks (amongst other measures) by diversifying its portfolio and only purchasing investments with high credit ratings or capital guarantees.

Council also seeks advice from independent advisers before placing any funds in cash equivalents and investments.

D1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held (continued)**(a) Market risk – interest rate and price risk**

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000

The impact on the result for the year and equity of a reasonably possible movement in the price of investments held and interest rates is shown below. The reasonably possible movements were determined based on historical movements and economic conditions in place at the reporting date.

Impact of a 1% movement in interest rates

– Equity / Income Statement	14	12
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Impact of a 10% movement in price of investments

– Equity / Income Statement	–	–
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(b) Liquidity risk

Payables, lease liabilities and borrowings are both subject to liquidity risk; that is, the risk that insufficient funds may be on hand to meet payment obligations as and when they fall due.

Council manages this risk by monitoring its cash flow requirements and liquidity levels, and by maintaining an adequate cash buffer. Payment terms can be extended, and overdraft facilities drawn upon in extenuating circumstances.

Borrowings are also subject to interest rate risk: the risk that movements in interest rates could adversely affect funding costs. Council manages this risk through diversification of borrowing types, maturities and interest rate structures.

The finance team regularly reviews interest rate movements to determine if it would be advantageous to refinance or renegotiate part or all of the loan portfolio.

The timing of cash flows presented in the table below to settle financial liabilities reflects the earliest contractual settlement dates. The timing of expected outflows is not expected to be materially different from contracted cashflows.

The amounts disclosed in the table are the undiscounted contracted cash flows for non-lease liabilities (refer to Note C2-1(b) for lease liabilities) and therefore the balances in the table may not equal the balances in the Statement of Financial Position due to the effect of discounting.

	Weighted average interest rate %	Subject to no maturity \$ '000	≤ 1 Year \$ '000	payable in: 1 - 5 Years \$ '000	> 5 Years \$ '000	Total cash outflows \$ '000	Actual carrying values \$ '000
2025							
Payables	0.00%	–	65	–	–	65	65
Lease liabilities	0.00%	–	16	16	–	32	31
Total financial liabilities		–	81	16	–	97	96
2024							
Payables	0.00%	–	76	–	–	76	76
Lease liabilities	0.00%	–	21	31	–	52	50
Total financial liabilities		–	97	31	–	128	126

D2-1 Fair value measurement

The Council measures the following asset and liability classes at fair value on a recurring basis:

– Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

The fair value of assets and liabilities must be estimated in accordance with various accounting standards for either recognition and measurement requirements or for disclosure purposes.

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement requires all assets and liabilities measured at fair value to be assigned to a 'level' in the fair value hierarchy as follows:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

(1) The following table presents all assets and liabilities that have been measured and recognised at fair values:

Fair value measurement hierarchy								
Notes	Date of latest valuation		Level 2 Significant observable inputs		Level 3 Significant unobservable inputs		Total	
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Recurring fair value measurements								
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6							
Plant and Office Equipment	30/06/25	30/06/24	–	–	108	183	108	183
Operational Land	30/06/24	30/06/24	–	–	39	39	39	39
Buildings (non specialised)	30/06/24	30/06/24	–	–	292	306	292	306
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment			–	–	439	528	439	528

D3-1 Contingencies

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position, but their knowledge and disclosure is considered relevant to the users of Council's financial report.

LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED

1. Guarantees

(i) Statewide Limited

Council is a member of Statewide Mutual, a mutual pool scheme providing liability insurance to local government.

Membership includes the potential to share in either the net assets or liabilities of the fund depending on its past performance. Council's share of the net assets or liabilities reflects Council's contributions to the pool and the result of insurance claims within each of the fund years.

The future realisation and finalisation of claims incurred but not reported to 30 June this year may result in future liabilities or benefits as a result of past events that Council will be required to fund or share in respectively.

(ii) StateCover Limited

Council is a member of StateCover Mutual Limited and holds a partly paid share in the entity.

StateCover is a company providing workers compensation insurance cover to the NSW local government industry and specifically Council.

Council has a contingent liability to contribute further equity in the event of the erosion of the company's capital base as a result of the company's past performance and/or claims experience or as a result of any increased prudential requirements from APRA.

These future equity contributions would be required to maintain the company's minimum level of net assets in accordance with its licence requirements.

(iii) Other guarantees

Council has provided no other guarantees other than those listed above.

2. Other liabilities

(i) Third party claims

The Council is involved from time to time in various claims incidental to the ordinary course of business including claims for damages relating to its services.

Council believes that it is appropriately covered for all claims through its insurance coverage and does not expect any material liabilities to eventuate.

E People and relationships

E1 Related party disclosures

E1-1 Key management personnel (KMP)

Key management personnel (KMP) of the council are those persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the council, directly or indirectly.

The aggregate amount of KMP compensation included in the Income Statement is:

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Compensation:		
Short-term benefits	111	104
Total	111	104

Other transactions with KMP and their related parties

Council has determined that there were no other KMP or related party transactions.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2025

E1-2 Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses

	2025	2024
	Actual	Actual
	\$ '000	\$ '000
The aggregate amount of Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses included in materials and services expenses in the Income Statement are:		
Member expenses – chairperson’s fee	4	4
Member expenses – member’s fees	18	20
Member’s expenses (incl. chairperson) – other (excluding fees above)	10	22
Total	32	46

E2 Other relationships**E2-1 Audit fees**

	2025	2024
	Actual	Actual
	\$ '000	\$ '000

During the year, the following fees were incurred for services provided by the auditor of Council, related practices and non-related audit firms

Auditors of the Council - NSW Auditor-General:**(i) Audit and other assurance services**

Audit and review of financial statements

Remuneration for audit and other assurance services**Total Auditor-General remuneration****Total audit fees**

19	21
19	21
19	21
19	21

F Other matters

F1-1 Statement of Cash Flows information

Reconciliation of Operating Result

	2025 Actual \$ '000	2024 Actual \$ '000
Net operating result from Income Statement	(102)	15
Add / (less) non-cash items:		
Depreciation and amortisation	109	115
Movements in operating assets and liabilities and other cash items:		
(Increase) / decrease of receivables	10	75
(Increase) / decrease of inventories	8	39
Decrease/(increase) in other assets	(2)	(3)
Increase / (decrease) in other accrued expenses payable	(11)	29
Increase/(decrease) in employee leave entitlements	39	85
Net cash flows from operating activities	51	355

F2-1 Events occurring after the reporting date

Council is unaware of any material or significant 'non-adjusting events' that should be disclosed.

End of the audited financial statements



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Report on the general purpose financial statements

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

To the Councillors of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council (the Council), which comprise the Statement by Councillors and Management, the Income Statement and Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2025, the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2025, the Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information and other explanatory information.

In my opinion:

- the Council's accounting records have been kept in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Chapter 13, Part 3, Division 2 (the Division)
- the financial statements:
 - have been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the requirements of the Division
 - are, in all material respects, consistent with the Council's accounting records
 - present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at 30 June 2025, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards
- all information relevant to the conduct of the audit has been obtained
- no material deficiencies in the accounting records or financial statements have come to light during the audit.

My opinion should be read in conjunction with the rest of this report.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under the standards are described in the 'Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements' section of my report.

I am independent of the Council in accordance with the requirements of the:

- Australian Auditing Standards
- Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 'Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)' (APES 110).

Parliament promotes independence by ensuring the Auditor-General and the Audit Office of New South Wales are not compromised in their roles by:

- providing that only Parliament, and not the executive government, can remove an Auditor-General
- mandating the Auditor-General as auditor of councils
- precluding the Auditor-General from providing non-audit services.

I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with APES 110.

I believe the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Other Information

The Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025 includes other information in addition to the financial statements and my Independent Auditor's Report thereon. The Councillors are responsible for the other information.

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information. Accordingly, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion on the other information.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude there is a material misstatement of the other information, I must report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

The Councillors' Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Local Government Act 1993*, and for such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to:

- obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error
- issue an Independent Auditor's Report including my opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect material misstatements. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions users take based on the financial statements.

A description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. The description forms part of my auditor's report.

The scope of my audit does not include, nor provide assurance:

- that the Council carried out its activities effectively, efficiently and economically
- on the Original Budget information included in the Income Statement, Statement of Cash Flows, and Note B5-1 'Material budget variations'
- on the Special Schedules. A separate opinion has been provided on Special Schedule - Permissible income for general rates
- about the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited financial statements on any website where they may be presented
- about any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the financial statements.



Manuel Moncada

Director, Financial Audit
Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

29 October 2025
SYDNEY



Cr Doug Batten
Chairperson
Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
PO Box 664
WALGETT NSW 282

Contact: Manuel Moncada
Phone no: 02 9275 7333
Our ref: R008-1981756498-6769

29 October 2025

Dear Chairperson

**Report on the Conduct of the Audit
for the year ended 30 June 2025
Castlereagh Macquarie County Council**

I have audited the general purpose financial statements (GPFS) of the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council (the Council) for the year ended 30 June 2025 as required by section 415 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act).

I expressed an unmodified opinion on the Council's GPFS.

My audit procedures did not identify any instances of material non-compliance with the financial reporting requirements in Chapter 13, Part 3, Division 2 of the LG Act and the associated regulation or a material deficiency in the Council's accounting records or financial statements. The Council's:

- accounting records were maintained in a manner and form to allow the GPFS to be prepared and effectively audited
- staff provided all accounting records and information relevant to the audit.

This Report on the Conduct of the Audit (the Report) for the Council for the year ended 30 June 2025 is issued in accordance with section 417 of the Act. The Report:

- must address the specific matters outlined in the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting 2024-25
- may include statements, comments and recommendations that I consider to be appropriate based on the conduct of the audit of the GPFS.

This Report should be read in conjunction with my audit opinion on the GPFS issued under section 417(2) of the Act.

INCOME STATEMENT

Financial performance

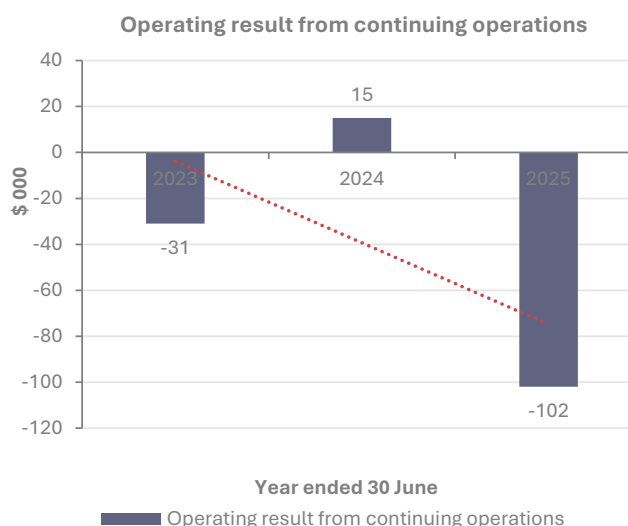
	2025	2024	Variance
	\$000	\$000	%
Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes revenue	1,210	1,442	↓ 16
Operating result from continuing operations	(102)	15	↓ 780

Operating result from continuing operations

This graph shows the operating result from continuing operations for the current and prior two financial years.

Council's operating result from continuing operations for the year was \$117,000 lower than the 2023–24 result.

The decrease in the operating result is due to reduced revenue from grants and contributions.



CASH FLOWS

Statement of cash flows

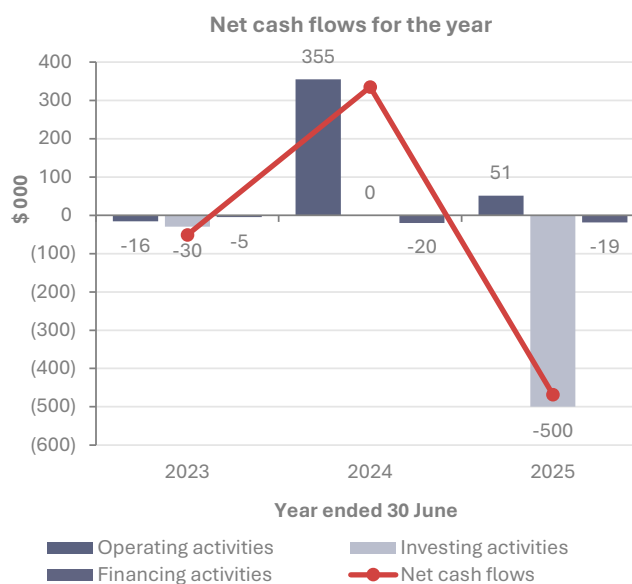
The Statement of Cash Flows details the Council's inflows and outflows of cash over a specific period. It helps in assessing the Council's ability to generate cash to fund its operations, pay off debts, and support future projects. It also aids in identifying any pressures or issues in the Council operating in a financially sustainable manner.

This graph shows the net cash flows for the current and prior two financial years.

The net cash outflows for the year were \$468,000 (inflow of \$335,000 in 2023-24).

In 2024-25 the net cashflows:

- from operating activities decreased by \$304,000, mainly due to reduced revenue
- used in investing activities increased by \$500,000, due to increased purchases of investments in long term deposits
- used in financing activities decreased by \$1,000.



FINANCIAL POSITION

Cash, cash equivalents and investments

This section of the Report provides details of the amount of cash, cash equivalents and investments recorded by the Council at 30 June 2025.

Externally restricted funds are the cash, cash equivalents and investments that can only be used for specific purposes due to legal or contractual restrictions.

Cash, cash equivalents, and investments without external restrictions can be allocated internally by the elected Council's resolution or policy. These allocations are matters of Council policy and can be changed or removed by a Council resolution.

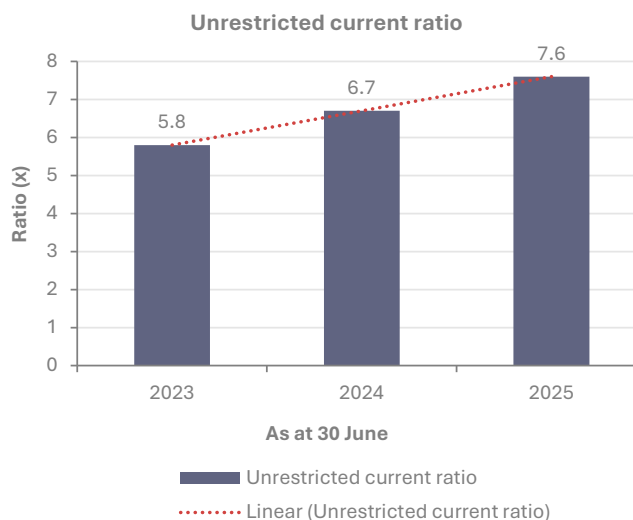
Cash, cash equivalents and investments	2025	2024	Percentage of total cash and investments 2025	Commentary
	\$'000	\$'000	%	
Total cash, cash equivalents and investments	1,448	1,416		Externally restricted balances are those which are only available for specific use due to a restriction placed by legislation or third-party contract. A breakdown of the sources of externally restricted balances is included in the graph below.
Restricted and allocated cash, cash equivalents and investments:				Internal allocations are determined by council policies or decisions, which are subject to change.
• External restrictions	277	369	19	
• Internal allocations	194	171	13	

Council liquidity

This graph shows the Council's unrestricted current ratio for the current and prior two financial years.

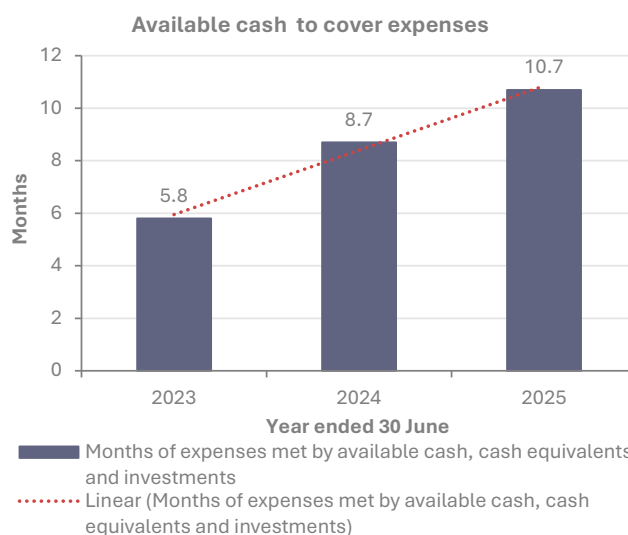
The unrestricted current ratio is specific to local government and represents council's ability to meet its short-term obligations as they fall due. The ratio measures the ratio of unrestricted current assets to specific purpose liabilities.

In 2023-24, the average unrestricted current ratio was an average of 5.6x for rural councils.



This graph shows the number of months of general fund expenses (excluding depreciation and borrowing costs), Council can fund from its available cash, cash equivalents and investments (not subject to external restrictions).

In 2023-24, the available cash to cover expenses was an average of 8 months for rural councils.



Manuel Moncada
Director - Financial Audit

Delegate of the Auditor-General

Attachment D – Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors Policy



PAYMENT OF EXPENSES AND PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR MEMBERS POLICY

Adoption Date: 26th August 2024

Review Date: 26th August 2025

Responsible Officer: General Manager

POLICY STATEMENT

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that there is accountability and transparency in the reimbursement of expenses incurred or to be incurred by Members. The policy also ensures that the facilities provided to assist Members to carry out their civic duties are reasonable.

OBJECTIVES

To ensure that the details and range of expenses paid and facilities provided to the Members by the Council are clearly and specifically stated, fully appropriate to the importance of office, are consistently applied and transparent, and are acceptable to the community.

To ensure that the Members are reimbursed for expenses reasonably incurred in the performance of their roles as a Councillor.

To ensure that election to Council is open to all by ensuring that no one would be financially or otherwise disadvantaged in undertaking the civic duties of a Councillor.

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1. Background

Members must act lawfully, honestly and exercise a reasonable degree of care and diligence in carrying out their functions under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act. This is required under section 439 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and reinforced in the Code of Conduct made under section 440.

The purpose of this policy is to establish, where practicable, clear limits for all expenses and facilities, including a process for the approval, reconciliation and reimbursement for all such expenses and facilities. Members can only receive reimbursement for expenses and the use of facilities clearly identified in this Policy.

This policy does not permit a private benefit (other than a non-incidental private benefit) to be gained from expenses and facilities nor does it permit the payment of a general expense allowance.

Councillor/Member annual fees do not fall within the scope of this policy.

This policy has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* and the 'Guidelines for the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities for mayors and Councillors in NSW' in effect at the time of adoption by Council. This policy only applies in relation to Council business or related social activities/functions. For the purposes of this policy, the Council Christmas celebration or other equivalent function is deemed to be a Council related social function.

2. Payment of Expenses

2.1 General

Reimbursement of costs and expenses will only be made:

1. in accordance with the monetary limits prescribed in this policy, and
2. on lodgment of a completed Claim Form within three months of the cost or expense being incurred, such Claim Form including, unless required otherwise by this policy:
 - an itemised account of the expenditure, and
 - valid GST receipts.

For periods less than a full year, for example, after a local government general election, the reimbursement of costs and expenses will be calculated on a pro rata basis.

Reasonable out of pocket or incidental travel expenses incurred (such as telephone or facsimile calls, refreshments, internet charges, taxi fares, parking fees and tolls) will be reimbursed subject to production of valid GST receipts or a signed statutory declaration itemising the expenses.

2.2 Advance Payment

Advance payment for meals and incidentals by cheque or EFT is available provided a completed Claim Form has been lodged with sufficient notice to allow for preparation of the advance. Payment for meals will not exceed the maximum allowable rates prescribed in the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) 'Reasonable Travel and Meal Allowance Expenses' Determination, as applicable for the date of travel.

A full reconciliation of all expenses incurred (including valid GST receipts) against the amount of the advance must be provided within two weeks of return from the event. All unspent funds must be returned.

2.3 Specific

2.3.1 Conferences, seminars, training and educational expenses and approval of attendance

Attendance at conferences and seminars must be approved by Council in advance of the event. If time does not permit, then the General Manager and Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson (for attendance by the Chairperson) may approve such attendance, taking account of: relevance; benefit to Council; and budget availability.

Where staff does not attend an event, the Member on return from the event must provide a written report to Council detailing highlights and in particular, aspects of the event relevant to Council business and/or the local community.

2.3.2 Registration, accommodation and air travel

All bookings are to be arranged through the Administration Officer.

Payment for registration, accommodation and air travel must:
 wherever possible, be paid direct by Council to the provider; and
 not exceed the maximum allowable rates prescribed in the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) 'Reasonable Travel and Meal Allowance Expenses' Determination, as applicable from time to time.

Maximum reimbursement for each meal will be as follows in accordance with the ATO determination for County Areas.

- Breakfast \$30.35
- Lunch \$34.65
- Dinner \$59.75

2.4 Meals

The cost of meals not provided as part of the registration fee or accommodation package will be reimbursed in accordance with maximum allowable rates prescribed in the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) 'Reasonable Travel and Meal Allowance Expenses' Determination, as applicable from time to time.

If valid GST receipts are not provided then reimbursement will be at 50% of the ATO 'Reasonable Travel and Meal Allowance Expenses' Determination rate.

2.5 Spouse or partner expenses

Council will meet the reasonable costs of the spouse or partner or an accompanying person of a Member for attendance at an official Council function within the local government area that are of a formal or ceremonial nature. Reasonable costs are limited to the ticket, meal and/or direct cost of attending the function. Peripheral expenses incurred by spouses, partners or accompanying persons such as grooming, special clothing and transport are not reimbursable expenses.

2.6 Travelling expenses

2.6.1 General

The driver is personally responsible for all traffic or parking fines incurred while travelling in private or Council vehicles.

When travelling by car every attempt must be made to car pool with other Members or Council staff.

2.6.2 Travel

All travel relating to Council business must be undertaken by utilising the most direct route and the most practicable and economical mode of transport subject to any personal medical considerations.

A Member that travels using their private car will be reimbursed at the appropriate kilometer rate in accordance with the *Local Government (State) Award 2023* or airfare rate, whichever is the lower. Evidence of current vehicle registration and compulsory third party insurance coverage must be provided to the General Manager prior to travel. Alternative methods of transport will be reimbursed following the production of valid GST receipts.

2.6.3 Overseas travel

International travel relating to Council business must be avoided unless it can be demonstrated that direct and tangible benefits can be established for both the Council and local community. The travel must be documented in a Report to Council and considered and approved by a full meeting of the Council prior to the travel being undertaken.

The Report must identify the Members nominated to undertake the travel and detail the purpose of the travel and expected benefits derived from the travel. The duration, itinerary and approximate total cost of the visit must also be provided.

2.7 Care and other related expenses

Members will be entitled to claim reimbursement for the reasonable cost of care arrangements to allow the performance of normal civic duties and responsibilities while attending:

1. Council meetings;
2. Council Committee meetings;
3. Other essential Council related business (for example, conference, seminars, briefing sessions/workshops called by Council, the Chairperson or the General Manager).

This includes reimbursement for up to one hour before and after an event.

'Care and other related expenses' means childcare expenses and the care of elderly, disabled and/or sick immediate family members of Members. Childcare expenses will only be reimbursed in relation to children of the Member that are up to and including the age of 16 years.

The cost of care arrangements will be reimbursed up to \$1,000 per financial year per Member, subject to lodgment of a completed Claim Form supported by valid GST receipts and details of the Council related activity that was attended. Expenses are not reimbursable if care is provided by an immediate family member, spouse or partner or someone who ordinarily resides with the Member.

Council will make provision for the payment of other related expenses associated with the special requirements of Members such as disability and access needs, to allow them to perform their normal civic duties and responsibilities. For any Member with a disability, the Council may resolve to provide reasonable additional facilities and expenses which may be necessary for the performance of their duties.

Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Chairperson and Members Policy

5 | Page

2.8 Use of Council resources

Members must not, as a result of Council funded and approved expenditure, obtain more than incidental private benefit from the provision of equipment and facilities. This includes travel bonuses such as 'frequent flyer' schemes or any other such loyalty programs. It is acknowledged that incidental use of Council equipment and facilities may occur from time to time. Such incidental use is not subject to a compensatory payment to Council. Where more substantial private use does occur, reimbursement to Council of the value of that private use is required. The value of 'private use' in this context is the proportional private use/business use percentage.

Any resources provided under this Policy must not be used for personal interests. This includes but is not limited to the following: a Members re-election; any political party event or activity.

2.9 Giving of gifts and benefits

Where it is appropriate for a Councillor to give a gift or benefit (for example, on a Council business related trip or when receiving visitors), these gifts and benefits should be of a token value only (refer to Council's Code of Conduct and Gifts, Benefits and Bribes Policy).

Version	Adopted Date	Minute No.	Details of Review
2	16 November 2020	11/20/8	Adoption of Revised Policy
3	19 October 2021	10/21/8	Adoption of Revised Policy
4	29 August 2022	08/22/08	Adoption of Revised Policy
5	28 August 2023	06/23/07	Adoption of Revised Policy
6	26 August 2024	04/24/09	Adoption of Revised Policy
7	25 August 2025	04/25/11	Adoption of Reviewed Policy

Attachment E – 2024/2025 Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 Annual Report

Government Information (Public Access) Act – Annual Report for Agency Castlereagh-Macquarie County Council

Clause 8A: Details of the review carried out by the agency under section 7 (3) of the Act during the reporting year and the details of any information made publicly available by the agency as a result of the review

Reviews carried out by the agency	Information made publicly available by the agency
Yes	Yes

Clause 8B: The total number of access applications received by the agency during the reporting year (including withdrawn applications but not including invalid applications)

Total number of applications received
0

Clause 8C: The total number of access applications received by the agency during the reporting year that the agency refused either wholly or partly, because the application was for the disclosure of information referred to in Schedule 1 to the Act (information for which there is conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure)

Number of Applications Refused	Wholly	Partly	Total
	0	0	0
% of Total	0.00%	0.00%	

Government Information (Public Access) Act – Annual Report for Agency Castlereagh-Macquarie County Council

Schedule 2 Statistical information about access applications to be included in annual report

Table A: Number of applications by type of applicant and outcome*

	Access Granted in Full	Access Granted in Part	Access Refused in Full	Information not Held	Information Already Available	Refuse to Deal with Application	Refuse to Confirm/Deny whether information is held	Application Withdrawn	Total	% of Total
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Private sector business	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Not for profit organisations or community groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Members of the public (by legal representative)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Members of the public (other)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
% of Total	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		

* More than one decision can be made in respect of a particular access application. If so, a recording must be made in relation to each such decision. This also applies to Table B.

Government Information (Public Access) Act – Annual Report for Agency Castlereagh-Macquarie County Council

Table B: Number of applications by type of application and outcome*

	Access Granted in Full	Access Granted in Part	Access Refused in Full	Information not Held	Information Already Available	Refuse to Deal with Application	Refuse to Confirm/Deny whether information is held	Application Withdrawn	Total	% of Total
Personal information applications*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
% of Total	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		

* A personal information application is an access application for personal information (as defined in clause 4 of Schedule 4 to the Act) about the applicant (the applicant being an individual).

Government Information (Public Access) Act – Annual Report for Agency Castlereagh-Macquarie County Council

Table C: Invalid applications

Reason for invalidity	No of applications	% of Total
Application does not comply with formal requirements (section 41 of the Act)	0	0.00%
Application is for excluded information of the agency (section 43 of the Act)	0	0.00%
Application contravenes restraint order (section 110 of the Act)	0	0.00%
Total number of invalid applications received	0	0.00%
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications	0	0.00%

Table D: Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure: matters listed in Schedule 1 of Act

	Number of times consideration used*	% of Total
Overriding secrecy laws	0	0.00%
Cabinet information	0	0.00%
Executive Council information	0	0.00%
Contempt	0	0.00%
Legal professional privilege	0	0.00%
Excluded information	0	0.00%
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	0	0.00%
Transport safety	0	0.00%
Adoption	0	0.00%
Care and protection of children	0	0.00%
Ministerial code of conduct	0	0.00%
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0	0.00%
Privilege generally - Sch 1(5A)	0	0.00%
Information provided to High Risk Offenders Assessment Committee	0	0.00%
Total	0	

*More than one public interest consideration may apply in relation to a particular access application and if so, each such consideration is to be recorded (but only once per application). This also applies in relation to Table E

By Rebecca Wilson on 22/10/2025 11:05 AM for FY: 2024-25

Page: 4

Government Information (Public Access) Act – Annual Report for Agency Castlereagh-Macquarie County Council

Table E: Other public interest considerations against disclosure: matters listed in table to section 14 of Act

	Number of times consideration used*	% of Total
Responsible and effective government	0	0.00%
Law enforcement and security	0	0.00%
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	0	0.00%
Business interests of agencies and other persons	0	0.00%
Environment, culture, economy and general matters	0	0.00%
Secrecy provisions	0	0.00%
Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation	0	0.00%
Total	0	

Table F: Timeliness

	Number of applications*	% of Total
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	0	0.00%
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	0	0.00%
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0	0.00%
Total	0	

Government Information (Public Access) Act – Annual Report for Agency Castlereagh-Macquarie County Council

Table G: Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act (by type of review and outcome)

	Decision varied	Decision upheld	Total	% of Total
Internal review	0	0	0	0.00%
Review by Information Commissioner*	0	0	0	0.00%
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of Act	0	0	0	0.00%
Review by NCAT	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	0	0	0	
% of Total	0.00%	0.00%		

*The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions, but can make recommendations to the original decision-maker. The data in this case indicates that a recommendation to vary or uphold the original decision has been made by the Information Commissioner.

Table H: Applications for review under Part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)

	Number of applications for review	% of Total
Applications by access applicants	0	0.00%
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see section 54 of the Act)	0	0.00%
Total	0	

Table I: Applications transferred to other agencies.

	Number of applications transferred	% of Total
Agency-Initiated Transfers	0	0.00%
Applicant - Initiated Transfers	0	0.00%
Total	0	

Attachment F – Public Interest Disclosure Annual Report – 2024/25 NSW Ombudsman

PID Annual Return: FY 2024-25

Return period: 1 July 2024 - 30 June 2025



1. Name of the reporting agency for this return	Castlereagh-Macquarie County Council
2. Is the reporting agency completing this annual return or is it made on behalf of the reporting agency?	By the reporting agency
3. Agency submitting this annual return	Castlereagh-Macquarie County Council
4. Has your agency entered into an arrangement with the reporting agency under s 81 of the PID Act to submit this annual return on their behalf?	No
5. Select which agency type best describes the reporting agency	Local government authority
6. What is the total number of full time equivalent employees of the reporting agency at the time this annual return is submitted?	6
7. Name of person completing this annual return	Rebecca Wilson
8. Position	Administration Officer
9. Email	rwilson@cmcc.nsw.gov.au
10. Contact Number	0427598577
11. How does the reporting agency ensure public officials associated with the agency are aware of the PID Act 2022?	Training/information session (not mandated PID training)
12. If you selected other, outline any additional awareness activities the reporting agency undertakes to ensure public officials associated with the agency are aware of the PID Act 2022	
13. Does the reporting agency include content on the PID Act 2022 in its induction program?	Yes
14. Has the head of the agency received training on the agency's PID policy and on their responsibilities under the PID Act 2022?	Yes
15. If training has not been received by the head of agency, provide reasons for this	
16. Have all disclosure officers received training on the agency's PID policy and on their responsibilities under the PID Act 2022?	Yes
17. If training has not been received by all disclosure officers, provide reasons for this	
18. Have all managers received training on the agency's PID policy and on their responsibilities under the PID Act 2022?	Yes

PID Annual Return: FY 2024-25

Return period: 1 July 2024 - 30 June 2025



19. If training has not been received by managers, provide reasons for this	
20. What measures has the agency taken to promote a 'speak up' culture among public officials associated with the agency?	Availability of PID resources
21. Total number of purported PIDs made by public officials to the reporting agency that were not public interest disclosures	0
22. Total number of purported PIDs that were made by other persons (not public officials) to the reporting agency that were not public interest disclosures	0
23. How many purported PIDs (that we not in fact PIDs) did the agency not deal with or cease to deal with as a PID because it was not made by a public official?	0
24. How many purported PIDs (that we not in fact PIDs) did the agency not deal with or cease to deal with as a PID because it was not a report of serious wrongdoing?	0
25. Provide additional reasons the reporting agency did not deal with, or ceased to deal with, each of these disclosures as a public interest disclosure	0
26. How many voluntary PIDs did the reporting agency finalise during this return period?	0
27. How many voluntary PIDs did the reporting agency receive during the return period?	0
Created	29/07/2025
Created By	Rebecca Wilson
Status	Submitted
SubmittedId	1107



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
PO Box 664, Walgett NSW 2832



P. 0427 598 577



www.cmcc.nsw.gov.au



PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE OF COUNCIL PUBLIC ROADS POLICY

1. BACKGROUND

Coonamble Shire Council (the Council) is the roads authority for the purpose of managing Council Public Roads within its local government area (the Shire) as per *The Roads Act 1993*. Amendments to the *The Roads Act 1993* on 1 July 2018, passed responsibility for the permanent closure of Council public roads to the Council. In Part 4 Division 3 of *The Roads Act 1993*, provisions exist for the permanent closure and disposal of public roads to adjoining land holders.

2. PURPOSE

To ensure Coonamble Shire Council has clear instructions available if or when a resident approaches the Council and proposes to permanently close a Council public road and purchase the associated road corridor.

3. POLICY OBJECTIVE

To make the best possible decision for a Council public road asset when approached by a resident for its permanent closure and sale.

4. LEGISLATION

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

Conveyancing Act, 1919

Local Government Act, 1993

Roads Act, 1993

Crown Land Management Act, 2016

5. APPLICATION/SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- The permanent closure of Council public roads
- The sale of the road corridor upon closure
- Owners of land adjoining a public road that is subject to permanent road closure and sale

- Public road users of the road that is subject to permanent road closure and sale

The General Manager has overall responsibility for ensuring that this policy complies with Council's legal and ethical obligations and that all those under Council's control comply with it.

The Council will lead the community in their understanding and compliance with this policy. Executive staff will implement this policy and lead Council staff in their understanding and compliance of this policy. Management will implement this policy, provide guidance Executive and other Council staff as to the content and implementation of this policy, and ensure the timely review of this policy, every three (3) years is met. All Council staff will be required to comply with this policy and associated legislation when implementing the related set of procedures.

6. POLICY

Council is committed to establishing a clear set of objectives and guidelines in relation to residents applying for permanent road closures. With regards to the permanent closure and sale of Council public roads;

- The applicant seeks procedural advice via a formal request to Council
- All application fees, administration fees, valuation fees, and surveyor fees are at the applicants' expense
- The submission of an application does not guarantee the proposal is successful
- The applicant is made aware that an application is non-refundable regardless of success
- Council must not proceed to close any road it does not have authority over
- The road and asset manager assess the existing use, level of construction, and future potential use of the Council public road proposed for permanent closure and sale
- The road and asset manager consider alternative legal and practical access availability for land holders to ensure land locking is avoided for the proposal to progress
- Land associated with a Council public road, upon closure, must be vested in Council
- The road and asset manager prepares a report for Council resolution and Council must vote to grant or deny the road closure
- If granted, Council must notify publicly for a period of twenty-eight (28) days adjoining land holders, notifiable authorities, and other government stakeholders by letter, and members of the community via Councils website and the local newspaper
- If there are any objections against the road closure received during the twenty-eight (28) day public exhibition, Council is required to resolve these before the procedure can continue. If it cannot, Council may resolve to end the application

- If the procedure is to continue, Council obtains at the applicants' expense, a current market valuation of the land associated with the road corridor
- A registered surveyor hired at the applicants' expense prepares a site plan for registration
- Only Council as the authority over Council public roads and the authority to submit, at the applicants' expense, a CL31-30 Form ('Application to Close Public Road (Council)') with all required documentations
- Council at the applicants' expense publishes a notice in the Government Gazette for a period of 60 days
- If there are no appeals by the Land and Environment Court, Council as the authority of Council public roads, completes a Request Form (11R Form) for lodgement with the NSW Land Registry Service for release of a certificate of title to council
- The land is added to Councils register in preparation for disposal by sale to the applicant
- At the completion of the process, the assets manager removes road segments and the associated land asset from all registers and GIS datasets

7. DEFINITION

Term	Definition
Act	Roads Act 1993
Public Road	Public Road is defined under <i>The Roads Act 1993</i> as; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any road that is opened or dedicated as a public road, whether under this or any other Act or Law; and • any road that is declared to be a public road for the purpose of this Act
General Manager	Refers to the statutory executive of the Council as defined in Chapter 11 Section 335 of <i>The Local Government Act 1993</i> , including where on an Interim or Acting basis, and under any alternative titles.

Title: Permanent Road Closure of Council Public Roads Policy		
Department: Corporate Services		
Version	Date	Author
V1.0	4 November 2025	S Lloyd
Review Date: 2028 This policy may be amended or revoked at any time and must be reviewed at least three (3) years since its adoption (or latest amendment). The Manager of Assets will be responsible for the review of this policy.		
Amendments in the release:		
Amendment History	Date	Detail
Annexure Attached:		
Phillip Perram General Manager		



SHORT-TERM LEASES OF UNUSED COUNCIL PUBLIC ROADS POLICY

1. BACKGROUND

Coonamble Shire Council (the Council) is the roads authority for the purpose of managing Council Public Roads within its local government area (the Shire) as per *The Roads Act 1993*. In Part 10, Division 2 sections 153 - 157 of *The Roads Act 1993*, provisions exist for the short-term lease of unused public roads. All applications to Council for the lease of unused public roads are to be dealt with by Council in accordance with the Act.

2. PURPOSE

To ensure that Coonamble Shire Council has available instructions for the option of leasing out an unused Council public road to an adjoining landholder or adjoining land lessee while maximising the use of the public road asset.

3. POLICY OBJECTIVE

To make the best possible use of unused Council public road assets

4. LEGISLATION

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

- *Roads Act 1993*
- *The Local Government Act 1993*

5. APPLICATION/SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- Short-term leases of public roads
- Owners of land adjoining a public road that is subject to a short-term lease

The General Manager has overall responsibility for ensuring this policy complies with Council's legal and code of conduct obligations, and that all those under Council's control comply with it.

The Council will lead the community in their understanding and compliance with this policy. Executive staff will implement this policy and lead Council staff in their understanding and compliance of this policy. Management will implement this policy,

provide guidance Executive and other Council staff as to the content and implementation of this policy, and ensure the timely review of this policy, every three (3) years is met. All Council staff will be required to comply with this policy and associated legislation when implementing the related set of procedures.

6. POLICY

Council is committed to providing short-term leases of its unused public roads to applicants according to the following conditions;

- Applicants seek procedural advice via a formal request to Council
- Applicants understand that an application is not itself a binding contract, and submission of an application does not guarantee a successful outcome
- The applicant is made aware that an application is non-refundable regardless of success
- Applicants are to be either an owner or a lessee of land adjoining the Council public road asset
- Council leases of a Council public road cannot exceed five (5) years inclusive of extensions
- Council must not provide a lease for any road under the authority of Crown Lands, or under the authority of Transport for NSW (TfNSW)
- Council gives public notice of the intent to lease out a given Council public road, inviting public submissions, for a period no less than twenty-eight (28) days;
 - On Councils Website
 - Via the local newspaper, and
 - To the owner of each land parcel adjoining the Council public road
- Council reserves the right to terminate any granted lease of unused Council public road at any time and for any reason
- The applicant accepts that under no condition shall infrastructure be erected on the leased Council public road without Councils permission

7. DEFINITION

Term	Definition
Public Road	Public Road is defined under <i>The Roads Act 1993</i> as; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any road that is opened or dedicated as a public road, whether under this or any other Act or Law; and • any road that is declared to be a public road for the purpose of this Act
General Manager	Refers to the statutory executive of the Council as defined in Chapter 11 Section 335 of <i>The Local Government Act 1993</i> , including where on an Interim or Acting basis, and under any alternative titles.
TfNSW	Refers to Transport for NSW

Title: Short-term Leases of Unused Council Public Roads Policy		
Department: Corporate Services		
Version	Date	Author
V1.0	4 November 2025	S Lloyd
Review Date: 2029 This policy may be amended or revoked at any time and must be reviewed at least three (3) years since its adoption (or latest amendment). The Manager of Assets will be responsible for the review of this policy.		
Amendments in the release:		
Amendment History	Date	Detail
Annexure Attached:		
Phillip Perram General Manager		

**PUBLIC ROAD CLOSURE
AND SALE PROCEEDURE
PREPARED FOR COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL**

COONAMBLE
SHIRE COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 2025
[VERSION 1.5 – DRAFT]



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The purpose of this document is to set out the procedure for the permanent closure and sale of Council Public Roads. Section 1 of this document provides details of the procedure for the Permanent Closure and Purchase of a Council Public Road. Fees and estimated costs associated with the procedure are provided in section 2 of this document. If in the case a Crown Public Road is sought to be permanently closed and purchased, applicants will need to contact their nearest NSW Crown Lands Office with their inquiry/application and work with them through the process.

Section 3 of this document provides an estimate of costs involved in the permanent closure of a road while section 4 contains the appendices. A flow chart providing a visual guide to the decision-making process is provided in Appendix 1, while a copy of the application form is provided in Appendix 2. This is followed by examples of notification templates (appendix 3 – 6), the CL30-31 form Council submits (appendix 7), and Request Form 11R (appendix 8).

1. Procedure of Permanent Council Public Road Closure and Purchase

The following sub sections provide the procedure involved in the permanent closure and purchase of a Council Public Road.

1.1 Initial Inquiry

Before the resident makes any application to permanently close a Council Public Road, they must make an inquiry at Coonamble Shire Council to discuss their proposal. Council staff will then need to:

- outline to the procedure involved in permanently closing a public council road,
- clearly list the required supporting documents the resident must supply upon application,
- highlight all associated application costs which are borne by the resident including,
 - Application fees,
 - All Supporting documentation fees,
 - All Council administrative costs,
- clearly explain that the application is non-refundable,
- strongly point out that the success of the application process is not guaranteed,
- that the resident should strongly weigh up the costs prior to applying, and
- provision of a council application form (Permanent Road Closure Application Form – Appendix B) to the resident

1.2 Application Details

Should the resident choose to proceed with the application then they will need to provide to Council:

- A formal written request stating clearly their reasons for the permanent closure of the Public Council Road,
- A completed Council application form (Permanent Road Closure Application Form) with a thorough reason for the proposed road closure
- The applicant must provide with their written application a diagram showing the dimensions and area of the subject land. Although this diagram is to provide as accurate detail as possible, further along in the procedure the applicant will be required to have a registered surveyor undertake a survey of the land and to draft up a plan for registration, at their own expense.
- It is also noted here that this Road Closure process applies to the purchase of the full width and length of a road reserve or part thereof and where a road reserve is to be narrowed, and the closed portion disposed to another party. The applicant will pay the application fee as set by Council in its Fees and Charges.

1.3 Initial Assessment (*The Roads Act 1993* Section 38A)

Council's Roads and Assets Managers will prepare a written assessment that;

- The subject land is a Council Public Road for which Coonamble Shire Council is the Road Authority (Should the road have been created by private subdivision prior to 1920 the Roads Manager must establish evidence of common law dedication),
- The road is not reasonably required as a road for public use (whether for present or future needs,
- The road is not required to provide continuity for an existing road network,
- If in the case the road provides a means of vehicular access to any particular land for example Crown Land or State/National Forest, that there is another public road that provides lawful and reasonably practicable vehicular access to that same land.

1.4 Existence of Road Construction (*The Roads Act 1993* S38E(2))

Council's determination of 'construction' affects who the road vests with upon closure. Land under a public road that is vested in council where some 'construction' has ever taken place remains vested to council and title to the land passes to council upon closure of the road. If 'construction' has not taken place i.e. the road is unformed, the land is vested with the Crown and the title will pass to Crown Land upon closure of the road.

Although the dictionary of *The Roads Act 1993* does not specifically define 'construction' in terms of section 38E(2) of the Act, the definitions of 'road work' and 'carry out road work' in the dictionary of the Roads Act appear to be related to 'construction'. Examples of current or historical construction within road corridors may include:

- bitumen-sealed road formations
- gravel or other road-base material
- formed footpaths and/or kerb and guttering
- slashing or clearing of vegetation
- mowing.

In accordance with the definition, this may raise some question regarding if a road classed as formed only, may in fact be vested with the Crown rather than the Council; something to be considered. Council's Road Manager will prepare a written declaration as to the existence or not of any 'construction' that has ever taken place on the road proposed for closure. If 'construction' has taken place, then the declaration will require evidence to support this determination. This could include ledger entries associated with works on the road for example. If the application is successful, the road and its components (seals, pavements, base/sub-base, culverts for example), will be identified within council's road assets register and asset maintenance system in preparation for the process of write-off/disposal.

When looking to close an unconstructed council road, council should forward the road closure proposal to council.roadclosures@crowland.nsw.gov.au in the early stages to identify options to progress the outcome sought. When an unconstructed council public road is closed, it becomes vested in the Crown as Crown land. The Council will object to the proposed closure if the consequential vesting in the Crown is considered unsuitable according to policy. The statutory process for closing and purchasing Crown Public Roads is provided in section 2 of this document.

1.5 Council Resolution to Close the Road

Upon both the Roads and Assets Mangers approval, the proposed closure and in the case of an unconstructed road the Crown not objecting to the closed road vesting to it, either of the Road or Asset manager can prepare a report for Council's determination. A Council resolution to support the road closure and commence the notification process will include the following requirements;

- that the applicant is to meet all associated notification, legal, surveyor, and valuation costs involved throughout the procedure,
- the applicant recognizes their responsibility in the provision of easements for any public utilities within the subject land if necessary,
- the subject land is to be consolidated with the applicant's adjacent land,
- the purchase price of the subject land is to be determined by a Registered Valuer as the current market value,
- that all necessary documentation be executed under the Common Seal of Council.

1.6 Determination of 'Current Market Value'

Council will be required to obtain a valuation of the land associated with the road corridor to be closed, at the cost of the applicant. This can be conducted during the public notification process. This allows the applicant to more clearly ascertain the costs associated with the application.

1.7 Notification of Proposal to Close a Council Public Road (The Roads Act 1993 S38B)

1. The council must cause notice of the proposal;
 - a. to be published in a local newspaper, and
 - b. to be given to,
 - i. all owners of land adjoining the road, and
 - ii. all notifiable authorities, and
 - iii. any other person (or class of person) prescribed by the regulations.
2. The notice;
 - a. must identify the road that is proposed to be closed, and
 - b. must state that any person is entitled to make submissions to the council with respect to the closing of the road, and
 - c. must indicate the manner and the period (being at least 28 days) within which, any such submission should be made.

To undertake the above notification involved staff MUST utilize the following council notification templates;

- CSC TEMPLATE – Road Closure – Adjoining Landholder Notification (Magiq id 25578)
- CSC TEMPLATE – Road Closure – Advertisement Newspaper (Magiq id 25579)
- CSC TEMPLATE – Road Closure – Authority Referencing Notification (Magiq id 25581)
- CSC TEMPLATE – Road Closure – Land and Water Notification (Magiq id 25580)

Note failure to use the prescribed templates may result in the Department potentially requiring repetition of the process utilizing the prescribed templates.

While not prescribed in the notification provisions of the Act the notice should also be posted to the exhibition and advertisements page on council's website. This will ensure that notification reaches

as wide as it can across the community so that fair opportunity for the public to submit objections, if any, is made possible.

1.8 Dealing with Submissions and Objections (*The Roads Act 1993 S38C*)

If a Notifiable Authority formally objects Section 38D 2(b) then “a council public road may not be closed in the case where a notifiable authority has formally objected under section 38C to the closing of the road until the objection is withdrawn by the authority or set aside by the Land and Environment Court under that section.” Council should negotiate with the Notifiable Authority to resolve the objection. The authority may withdraw the objection any time by written notice given to the council (S38C(2)).

Should the objection not be resolved by negotiation council may utilise Section S38C(3) and appeal to the Land and Environment Court against the formal objection. The Court may affirm the objection ending the road closure process or set aside the objection allowing council to proceed with the proposed closure. Section 38C also provides that any person may make submissions to the council with respect to closing the road. Council should respond to the submissions and where appropriate negotiate with objectors. Objectors should receive procedural fairness.

Council is required to consider any submissions that have been duly made with respect to the road closure proposal. A report to the General Manager should include the outcome of any negotiations with objectors and responses to the issues raised in submissions. The General Manager may subsequently send the matter to Council for determination under Section 38(D). Following determination of submissions/objections council will advise all persons/authorities who made a submission of the decision.

1.9 Preparation and Registration of a Plan

Following a decision under S38(D) to proceed with closure the applicant will be advised to instruct a private surveyor to undertake a survey and prepare the survey plan and associated documents of road closure. The unregistered plan is to be forwarded to council for assessment. The plan will require appropriate signatures and consents such as certification and Section 88(b) instrument.

Upon receipt by Council of the plans, Council will complete the required form; Application to Close Public Road form CL31-30.

The application must be supported by the following;

1. The council must attach a survey diagram showing;
 - a. dimensions and area of road to be closed
 - b. adjoining property information
 - c. location of any existing public utilities
 - d. location and type of any fences, buildings or structures on or near the road
2. The survey plan is to be in accordance with the Surveyor General's Directions, Surveying and Spatial Information Regulation 2012, Conveyancing (General) Regulation 2013, and the Registrar General's Direction of Plans.
3. A statement from council with the following information regarding road construction;
 - a. evidence of construction which has taken place (as mentioned in section 1.3)
 - b. the unnecessary nature of the road
 - c. any alternate public access, if relevant

- d. any intentions regarding disposition of the land
 - e. the name and phone number of a council contact officer for any proposal for public display.
4. The council must provide written consents/agreements of;
- a. all owners and holders of interests in lands adjoining the road(s)
 - b. any affected public authorities
 - c. NSW Fisheries (where the road adjoins or gives access to a river or lake)
 - d. Roads and Maritime Services (where the closing affects or forms a junction with a State Highway, Trunk Road or Main Road)
 - e. The Land Information Unit, RailCorp Property (where the road adjoins railway land).

Once council has assessed and approved the survey plan and documentation these can be returned to the applicant to allow lodgment and registration at the NSW Land Registry Services.

1.10 Issue of Certificate of Title

Upon registration of the plan of road closure and notification to council, council will publish a notice in the Government Gazette giving effect to the road closure. Following the Gazettal council will wait for a period of 60 days to allow for potential appeals to the Land and Environment Court against the closure under Section 38(F). If there is no appeal or the court sets aside the appeal the process may continue. If an appeal is upheld the closure terminates. For an unconstructed road, title will be created in the name of the Crown and council will notify the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment to proceed with the sale of the land under *The Crown Land Management Act 2016*.

Where construction has taken place on the road council will complete a Request Form (11R Form) for lodgment with NSW Land Registry Services. NSW Land Registry Services will subsequently issue a certificate of title in council's name.

1.11 Council Land Register

Following the issue of a certificate of title in council's name the title details will be recorded in council's Land Register. Upon the sale of the land the transfer of title to the applicant will be reflected in the register and the sale recorded in council's financial records.

1.12 Sale of the New Lot

When council receives title for the former council public road this title may be conveyed to the applicant for consolidation with the applicants adjoining land.

The applicant will be required to;

- Prepare a plan of consolidation suitable for registration with the NSW Land Registry Service.
- Make payment to council of the purchase price as assessed by the Registered Valuer and all other related costs.

Upon receipt of the above payment council will prepare and execute the transfer and forward to the applicant with the Certificate of Title and Valuation report (required for Stamp Duty purposes) to allow registration with the plan of consolidation at Land Registry Services.

Council's Road Manager and Assets Manager will confirm that the closed road and any associated assets have been processed as a disposal in council's road register, assets management system and financials.

2. The Statutory process for permanent closure and purchase of Crown Public roads

The NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) processes Crown road purchase applications under provisions in the *Roads Act 1993*. The following table outlines the approximate timeframes for the statutory processes, starting from the date the department commences the application, not from the date of receipt. These timeframes are estimates only and do not account for time that maybe taken during negotiations on resolutions for affected parties. It also does not account for any other unforeseeable delays in the overall process.

Steps	Estimated timeframe	Description
Department commences application	1 week	Initial investigation of the road purchase application
Detailed investigation	4 weeks	Assessment including property ownership, access, Crown road status Preparation for advertisement and referencing documents and diagrams
Notification of proposal to sell Crown road	6 weeks	This timeframe includes the 28-day submission period
Submission assessment [^]	6 weeks	Consider submissions and contact affected parties for further information if required
Decision	4 weeks	Decision by the delegate of the minister administering the <i>Crown Lands Management Act 2016</i> to dispose (sell) or retain the Crown road
Agreement to purchase Crown road	4 weeks	This timeframe allows the applicant to consider and respond to the agreement before returning the signed contract for sale
Invoice for road purchase	4 weeks	The applicant receives an invoice that must be paid within 4 weeks, and pays Stamp Duty* directly to Revenue NSW
Drawing, approval and lodgement of plan	3 weeks	This timeframe will extend where a survey plan is required or where easement documents require signatures of affected parties
Plan registration*	3–4 weeks	This timeframe may change and is dependent on NSW Land Registry Services processes
Transfer form	2–4 weeks	This timeframe allows the applicant to receive, sign and return the transfer form
Registration of transfer of ownership*	4–6 weeks	This timeframe may change and is dependent on NSW Land Registry Services processes
Statutory process complete	52–78 weeks (12–18 months)	

3. The Fees Associated with closing and purchasing Public Roads

The fee associated with the closing and purchasing of a public road in NSW is not a fixed amount. Typically, there are variations between applicants, sometimes quite significantly depending on factors including for example the size of the land, the complexity of the application, and whether a rezoning or LEP amendment is required. Additional costs include land valuation and surveying, while pre-lodgment meetings, advertising, and community consultation meetings can also incur costs. Please note that the costs associated with process are generally non-refundable. The following is a breakdown of estimated fees and costs associated with the purchasing and closure of public roads.

1. Basic Application Fee:
 - A basic application fee for road closure is around \$476.90.
2. Council Administration, advertising, and community consultation fees:
 - Estimated total \$600
3. Independent Valuation:
 - Council will require an independent valuation of the land, paid by the applicant, ranging from \$2,000 to \$3,000 plus GST.
4. Road Closure Survey Plan:
 - The applicant will need a survey undertaken and provide a survey plan, which can cost between \$1,500 to \$3,000 plus GST, depending on the complexity.
5. Rezoning/LEP Amendment (if applicable):

If a rezoning or LEP amendment is necessary, it can be a significant cost, with the estimated cost for a minor site (less than 1ha) being around \$26,000 plus \$3,500 for estimated advertising fees

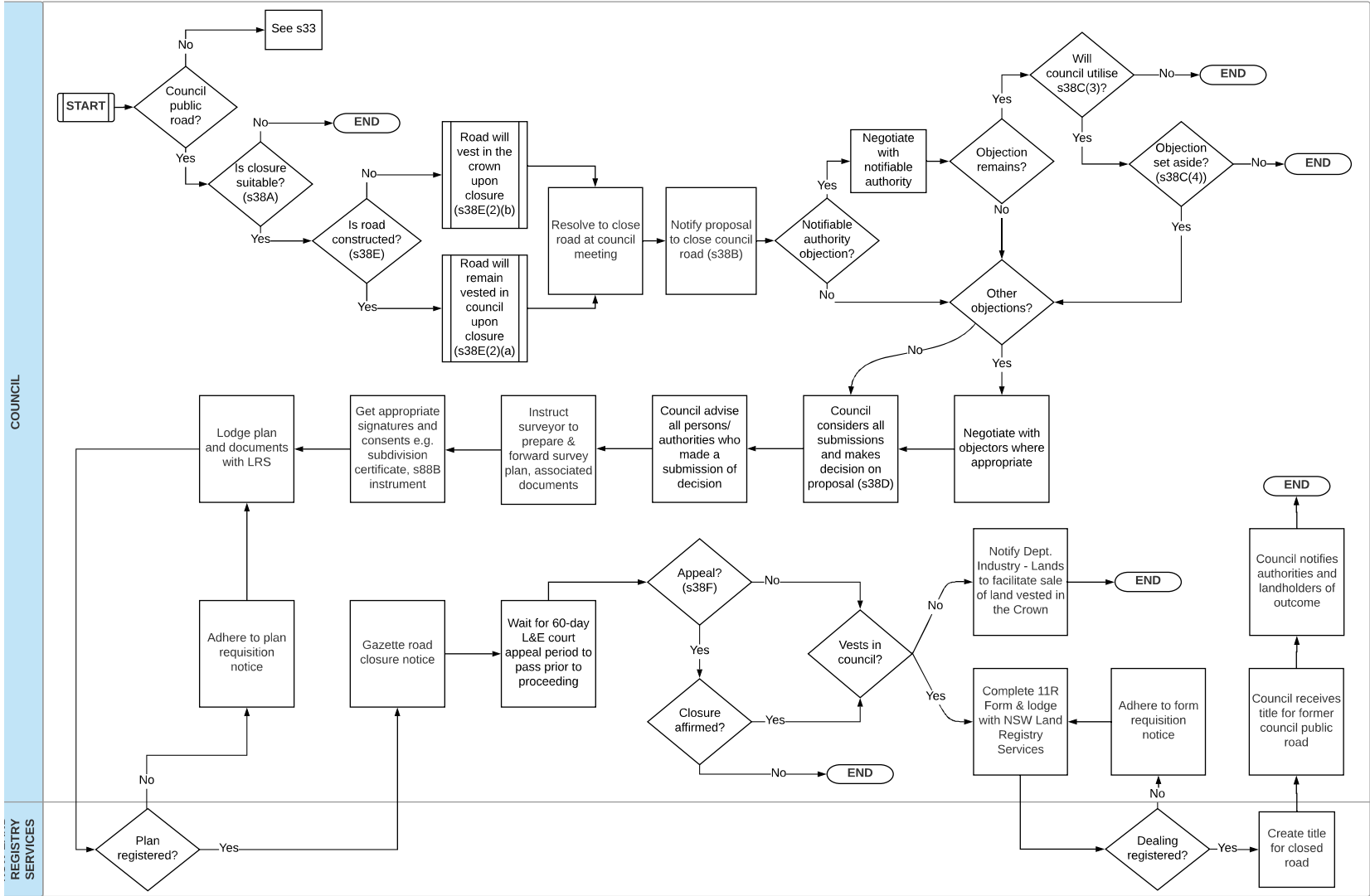
4. Appendix

4.1 Appendix 1 - Permanent Road Closure Process Flow Chart

CLOSING OF COUNCIL PUBLIC ROADS BY COUNCILS - PART 4 DIVISION 3 ROADS ACT 1993

Appendix 1

This chart provides a possible method for councils to utilise when closing council public roads under Part 4 Division 3 of the Roads Act 1993.



4.2 *Appendix 2 - Application to Close Council Public Road*
CSC

PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE APPLICATION FORM

UNDER SECTION 38A ROADS ACT 1993, A REFERENCE TO "COUNCIL" IN THIS APPLICATION MEANS
COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL

Purpose

This form is used to close a Council public road under section 38A of the Roads Act 1993.

Applicant Details

If the applicant is applying on behalf of someone else, written consent must be provided with this application and act on their behalf during negotiations.

First Name

Surname

Postal Address

Street Number

Street Name

Suburb

Post Code

Phone Number

Mobile Number

Email Address

Site Details

Road Name

Suburb

Post Code

Details of Lots/Sections and Deposited or Strata Plans in the vicinity

COONAMBLE
SHIRE COUNCIL

PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE APPLICATION FORM

UNDER SECTION 38A ROADS ACT 1993, A REFERENCE TO "COUNCIL" IN THIS APPLICATION MEANS
COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL

Description of the road proposed for closure (Formed/Unformed, footpaths, kerb/guttering etc...)

Purpose of closure and intended future use

Planning Approval Pathway

Is this road closure associated with a Development Application DA?

☐ Yes

☐ No

DA/SSDA Number if known

Fees and Charges

Applications incur an application fee, payable on submission of this application. The application fee is for Council to undertake a Preliminary Assessment of the proposed road closure and is non-refundable.

Submission Checklist

- ☐ Written consent if applying on behalf of someone else
- ☐ Application Fee Paid and Completed Road Closure Application Form
- ☐ Certified Valuer Report - IMPORTANT NOTE: APPLICANT MUST NOT ENGAGE VALUERS SERVICES UNTIL AFTER OBJECTIONS IF ANY ARE RESOLVED AT COUNCIL AND IF COUNCIL RESOLVES TO CLOSE THE ROAD
- ☐ Survey Site Plan attached - IMPORTANT NOTE: APPLICANT MUST NOT COMMENCE SURVEY UNTIL AFTER OBJECTIONS IF ANY ARE RESOLVED AT COUNCIL AND IF COUNCIL RESOLVES TO CLOSE THE ROAD
 - Drawn at or reduced to A4 size and the site plan should include;
 - The location, boundary dimensions, site area and north point of the land
 - Existing public utilities on the land
 - Location and uses of any buildings or structures encroaching on the land
 - Location and uses of buildings on adjoining sites to the land

COONAMBLE
SHIRE COUNCIL

PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE APPLICATION FORM

UNDER SECTION 38A ROADS ACT 1993, A REFERENCE TO "COUNCIL" IN THIS APPLICATION MEANS
COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL

Declaration

- ☐ I understand this application does not constitute any form of a contract or guarantee that the road will be closed or sold
- ☐ I understand and acknowledge responsibility of costs I am likely to incur with this road closure application including Council Fees and Charges, and surveyor costs
- ☐ I declare that all the information given in this application is true and correct
- ☐ I understand not to engage a certified land valuer or registered surveyor until objections are resolved and that Council resolves to close the road
- ☐ I understand should the closure not proceed any fees paid will not be refunded.

First Name

Surname

Signed

Date

Acceptance of Application

Council will not process applications that are incomplete or non-complying with lodgement requirements. These applications will not be accepted or may be returned to applicants within 14 days.

Lodgement Details

Applicants are required to lodge the completed application form and associated documents to Coonamble Shire Council, by one of the following methods;

Email: council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au

Post: PO Box 249, Coonamble NSW 2829

In person: 80 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble NSW 2829, 8.30am to 5pm weekdays

Marked Attention: Roads Manager

Payment Method

Application fees can be paid by cash, cheque or credit card.

- cash, cheque or credit card payments can be paid in person
- cheque or credit card payments are accepted by post
- only credit card payments are accepted by email

Paying by Credit Card

Please complete the **Credit Card Authorisation Form**. This is available upon request via email or at the office. Ensure that you provide the full details of the purpose of your payment on this form.

If you are sending your payment by email, please ensure the Credit Card Authorisation Form is included in your email as a separate attachment to your application or any other information.

COONAMBLE
SHIRE COUNCIL

PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE APPLICATION FORM

UNDER SECTION 38A ROADS ACT 1993, A REFERENCE TO “COUNCIL” IN THIS APPLICATION MEANS
COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL

ROAD CLOSURE FACT SHEET

When can a Council close a Public Road?

Section 38A of the Roads Act states that Councils may propose the closure of a Council Public Road for which it is the roads authority, if the road is not reasonably required as a road for public use (present or future), the road is not required to provide continuity for an existing road network and if the closure does not prevent lawful and reasonable vehicular access to surrounding land.

Road Construction status

If the road is constructed, the road will vest in Council upon closure and Council may transact on the land. If the road is unconstructed, the road will vest in Crown upon closure and the applicant will need to discuss future opportunities directly with Crown Land.

Constructed roads may be formed or unformed roads and can include works such as bitumen, surface works, formed footpaths and/or kerb and guttering, slashing or clearing of vegetation, mowing or any form of infrastructure.

Services

If services or other utility infrastructure is located within the road reserve, easements may be required to ensure protection and access to infrastructure should the services remain on site upon closure, or alternatively the applicant may be required to relocate the services at their cost.

Adjoining Owners Consent

If the public road subject to the road closure application has adjoining lots other than that of the applicant, written consent to the applicant making the application must be obtained from the adjoining owner/s prior to the submission of the road closure application.

Disclaimer

The lodgement of a Road Closure Application form does not indicate Council will agree to close the road or undertake a sale of the land upon closure. Road Closure Applications are subject to Preliminary Assessment, public notification, notification to statutory authorities, and Council Resolution. Objections to the road closure proposal may mean Council is unable to close the road.

Key stages of the road closure process

While the road closure process may seem very complex, all steps involved are required due to the statutory requirements under the Roads Act, which cannot be varied.

COONAMBLE
SHIRE COUNCIL

PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE APPLICATION FORM

UNDER SECTION 38A ROADS ACT 1993, A REFERENCE TO "COUNCIL" IN THIS APPLICATION MEANS
COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL

ROAD CLOSURE FACT SHEET

Stage	Description	Est. Timeframe
Stage 1A – Preliminary Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preliminary Assessment to determine the road closure suitability 	4 – 6 weeks
Stage 1B – Owners Consent for DA/SSDA Lodgement (If Applicable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Owner's consent is issued for the submission of a Development Application (DA) and associated application for assessment under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, Local Government Act or Roads Act 	1 – 2 weeks*
Stage 2 – Proposal Notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public, Adjacent Landholders, and Authority notification of the proposed road close in accordance with legislative provisions. 	8 – 10 weeks*
Stage 3 – Sales Negotiations and Council Endorsements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sales negotiations including engagement of a Certified Valuer (If applicable) Council endorsement to proceed with the road closure and for the sale of the land (If applicable) Deed of Agreement preparation and execution (If applicable) 	12 – 16 weeks
Stage 4 – Planning Approvals and Plan Registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road Closure Development Application (DA) (If required) Road Closure Subdivision Certificate (SC) (If required) Road Closure Plan registration with LRS 	6 – 8 weeks*
Stage 5 – Road Closure Gazettal and Title Registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gazettal notice of closure Registration of road closure on title 	6 – 8 weeks
Stage 6 – Sale (If applicable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract of sale executed Settlement of the land 	4 – 8 weeks
Total Estimated Timeframe		41 – 58 weeks* 10 – 14 months*

*The total estimated timeframe does not include the submission, assessment or completion of conditions of consent of any Planning Approvals required for the road closure or the resolution of any road closure objections that may be received during public notification.

Additional Costs

Some of the additional costs that may be applicable to the applicant, in addition to Council's Fees and Charges, include surveyor costs for the preparation and registration of the road closure plan, service relocation costs, planning approval costs, and legal costs associated with the sale.

* If the road is a Crown Public Road it will vest in Crown upon closure and the applicant must negotiate the purchase of the land directly with the Department of Planning, Housing, and Infrastructure.

Please contact the Council's Road Manager via the office number (02) 6827 1900 or email council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au for further information or assistance in completing this application form

COONAMBLE
SHIRE COUNCIL

PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE APPLICATION FORM

UNDER SECTION 38A ROADS ACT 1993, A REFERENCE TO "COUNCIL" IN THIS APPLICATION MEANS
COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL

OFFICE USE ONLY – CHECK LIST

- ☐ Completed Application - Permanent Closure of Public Road
- ☐ Written letter of consent on behalf of someone else (only check if application is completed by
- ☐ Application Fee Paid
- ☐ Initialisation - Intention to permanently close public road reported to council
- ☐ 28-Day Public Notification of intention to permanently close public road
- ☐ Notification to Adjoining landholders
- ☐ Authority referencing notification
- ☐ Land and Water notification
- ☐ Submissions/Objections Received (Tick For Yes, Leave Blank if No)
- ☐ Report of outcomes of objections provided to General Manager (Tick for Yes, Leave Blank for No)
- ☐ Objections Resolved (Tick For Yes, Leave Blank for No)
- ☐ Council Resolved To Close Road (Tick For Yes, Leave Blank for No): IMPORTANT IF COUNCIL DOES NOT
RESOLVE TO CLOSE ROAD THE PROCEDURE STOPS HERE - APPLICATION HAS BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL.
- ☐ Certified Valuer Report Provided
- ☐ Survey Plans Provided by registered surveyor
- ☐ Notice published in Government Gazetted for 60 day period (Tick for Yes, Leave Blank for No)
- ☐ Issue of Certificate of Title Received (Tick for Yes, Leave Blank for No)
- ☐ Council Land Register Updated
- ☐ Land Sold to Applicant (Tick for Yes, Leave Blank for No)
- ☐ Permanent Public Road Closure Procedure Complete

Completion Date

Sign Off

Name (Print)

COONAMBLE
SHIRE COUNCIL

**4.3 *Appendix 3 - CSC Template - Road Closure - Adjoining
Landholder Notification***



File Ref: [FILE REFERENCE]

Contact: [CONTACT NAME]
Phone: 02 6827 1900
Email: council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au

[ADJOINING LANDOWNER
POSTAL ADDRESS].

PROPOSAL TO PERMANENTLY CLOSE A COUNCIL PUBLIC ROAD [ENTER LOCATION]

Dear Sir/Madam

Coonamble Shire Council is currently considering the closure of a council public road near your property. The attached diagram identifies the council public road proposed for closure.

Who knows about the proposed closure?

Similar letters have been forwarded to all landowners adjoining the road or considered to be affected by the proposed road closure. Council is also consulting with notifiable authorities and any additional authorities with affected infrastructure.

The proposal to close the road/s will also be advertised in the [NEWSPAPER NAME] on [ADVERTISEMENT DATE], providing a Twenty-Eight (28) day period for interested parties to make submissions.

What should you do now?

Please forward any comments you have on the proposed road closure within Twenty-Eight (28) days.

What happens next?

Once the submission period is completed, Coonamble Shire Council will consider all duly made submissions and decide on road closure suitability.

If you have any further enquiries regarding this matter, please contact Coonamble Shire Council.

Yours sincerely

[STAFF DETAILS]

Doc ID: 25578

Coonamble Shire Council
80 Castlereagh Street
COONAMBLE NSW 2829

Dear Sir/Madam

I/We:

- ☐ Are in favour of the road closure

OR

- ☐ Object to closure of the following roads for the reasons noted below.

[illegible]

SIGNED:

If signing on behalf of a company, please add your name and company title (for example, Director)

ACN/Company seal

DATE:

Contact details:

Home:

Mobile:

Doc ID: 25578

PLEASE RETURN THIS PAGE TO COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL WITHIN 28 DAYS

Doc ID: 25578

**4.4 *Appendix 4 - CSC Template - Road Closure -
Advertisement Newspaper***



PROPOSED PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE UNDER SECTION 38B ROADS ACT 1993

In pursuance of the provisions of the *Roads Act 1993*, notice is hereby given that Coonamble Shire Council proposes to close the council public road listed in Schedule 1.

Schedule 1:

- [\[IDENTIFY THE ROAD THAT IS PROPOSED TO BE CLOSED\]](#).

Upon closure of the road, council intends to [\[select from dropdown OR right click to "remove content control" and create unique description\]](#).

All interested persons are hereby invited to make submissions concerning the proposal to the General Manager, Coonamble Shire Council, 80 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble NSW 2829, within Twenty-Eight (28) days of the date of this advertisement. Please note that under the provisions of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*, such submissions may be referred to third parties for consideration.

Once the submission period is completed, Coonamble Shire Council will consider all duly made submissions before deciding whether to continue with the road closure proposal.

Council Ref: [\[COUNCIL REFERENCE NUMBER\]](#)

Enquiries: [\[COUNCIL OFFICER\]](#)

Telephone: 02 6827 1900

For the General Manager, COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL

Doc ID: 25579

4.5 *Appendix 5 - CSC Template - Road Closure - Authority Referencing Notification*



File Ref: [FILE REFERENCE]

Contact: [CONTACT NAME]
Phone: 02 6827 1900
Email: council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au

NOTIFIABLE AUTHORITY
CONTACT ADDRESS].

PROPOSAL TO PERMANENTLY CLOSE A COUNCIL PUBLIC ROAD AT [ENTER LOCATION]

Dear Sir/Madam

Coonamble Shire Council is currently considering the closure of the council public road identified on the attached diagram. Council is proposing closure of the road to [select from dropdown OR right click to "remove content control" and create unique description].

The proposal to close the road will be advertised in the [NEWSPAPER NAME] on [ADVERTISEMENT DATE]. A copy of the advertisement is attached for your information.

What should you do now?

Please consider the proposal and provide a response to Coonamble Shire Council within Twenty-Eight (28) days. Send your submission to:

Post: 80 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble NSW 2829

Email: council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au

What happens next?

If Coonamble Shire Council does not receive a reply within the specified Twenty-Eight (28) day period, it will assume that [AUTHORITY NAME] has no objections to the proposal.

Please advise Coonamble Shire Council within the Twenty-Eight (28) day period if [AUTHORITY NAME] requires additional time to consider its position.

Once the submission period is completed, Coonamble Shire Council will consider all duly made submissions and decide on road closure suitability.

If you have any further enquiries regarding this matter, please contact Coonamble Shire Council.

Yours sincerely

[STAFF DETAILS]

Doc ID: 25581

4.6 *Appendix 6 - CSC Template - Road Closure - Land and Water Notification*



File Ref: [FILE REFERENCE]

Contact: [CONTACT NAME]
Phone: 02 6827 1900
Email: council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au

Business Centre—Roads
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Lands & Water
By email: council.roadclosures@crowland.nsw.gov.au

PROPOSAL TO PERMANENTLY CLOSE A COUNCIL PUBLIC ROAD [ENTER LOCATION]

Dear Sir/Madam

Coonamble Shire Council is currently considering the closure of the council public road identified on the attached diagram. Closure of the road is proposed in order to [select from dropdown OR right click to "remove content control" and create unique description].

The proposal to close the road will be advertised in the [NEWSPAPER NAME] on [ADVERTISEMENT DATE]. A copy of the advertisement is attached for your information.

Road status

Coonamble Shire Council acknowledges that it has the power to close council public roads only. Council's attached status report confirms that the road under proposal is a council road.

Proposed vesting upon closure

[FOR CONSTRUCTED ROADS, THAT IS ROADS TO VEST IN COUNCIL UPON CLOSURE]
[SELECT FROM DROPDOWN].

[FOR UNCONSTRUCTED ROADS, THAT IS ROADS TO VEST IN THE CROWN UPON CLOSURE]
Council considers the road proposed for closure to be unconstructed, which would vest the road in the Crown upon closure. As previously discussed with the department, council is proposing the closure of the unconstructed council public road in order to [SELECT FROM DROPDOWN].

Departmental response required

Coonamble Shire Council requests formal departmental response to the road closure proposal within Twenty-Eight (28) days of this notice. Please advise Coonamble Shire Council within the Twenty-Eight (28) day period if the department requires additional time to consider its position. Council is aware that the department will respond to all council road closure notifications.

What happens next?

Once the submission period is completed, Coonamble Shire Council will consider all submissions and decide on road closure suitability. If you have any further enquiries regarding this matter, please contact Coonamble Shire Council.

Yours sincerely

[STAFF DETAILS]

Doc ID: 25580

**4.7 *Appendix 7 - CL30-31 Road Closure Public Road Closure
Application – Council***



Trade &
Investment
Crown Lands

Road Closure: Public Road Closure application (Council)

Description of Form

This form is used by Councils applying to close a public road.

Fee

\$476.90 – This fee covers administration costs where Council has carried out preliminary investigation and statutory advertising.

Contact Us

NSW Trade and Investment Crown Lands
PO Box 2155
DANGAR NSW 2309

T: 1300 886 235 (option 2 then option 1)
F: 02 4925 3517

E: roads@crowmland.nsw.gov.au

W: www.crowmland.nsw.gov.au

Privacy statement

The personal information you provide on this form is subject to the Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act 1989. It is being collected by NSW Trade & Investment and will be used for purposes related to this application. NSW Trade & Investment will not disclose your personal information to anybody else unless authorised by law. The provision of this information is voluntary or required to be supplied. If you choose not to provide the requested information we may not be able to process this application. You have the right to request access to, and correct details of, your personal information held by the department. Further information regarding privacy can be obtained from the NSW Trade & Investment website at www.trade.nsw.gov.au/legal/privacy

Council details

Council name			
Council contact officer name			
Postal address			
Phone		Ref	
Email			

Hereby apply for the closing of the public road described in Section 1 below

Section 1: Description of public road to be closed

Town / Locality		LGA	
Parish		County	
General text description of road			
Supply Diagram - Road proposed to be closed shown by			colour on attached diagram.
Area		(sq m/ha)	

Include a copy of any relevant map or sketch to show clearly the locality, the boundaries & dimensions of the road proposed to be closed plus the land title boundaries of adjoining properties. Also show the position and type of any fencing and buildings / structures adjoining the road and any reticulation services (eg. power or telephone lines, water, sewer or gas pipes, drains) within the road boundaries.

Section 2: Details of 3rd party applicant and property ownership in vicinity of road

Name	
Address	
Title reference	

Section 3 Affected Adjoining Owners/Public Utilities**Details of Ownership of Land Adjoining the Road**

1 - Portion/ Lot		DP		2 - Portion/ Lot		DP	
Owner(s)				Owner(s)			
Address				Address			
Please attach documentation from the landowner to your application indicating their agreement to the road closure proposal.				Please attach documentation from the landowner to your application indicating their agreement to the road closure proposal.			
3 - Portion/ Lot		DP		4 - Portion/ Lot		DP	
Owner(s)				Owner(s)			
Address				Address			
Please attach documentation from the landowner to your application indicating their agreement to the road closure proposal.				Please attach documentation from the landowner to your application indicating their agreement to the road closure proposal.			
5 - Portion/ Lot		DP		6 - Portion/ Lot		DP	
Owner(s)				Owner(s)			
Address				Address			
Please attach documentation from the landowner to your application indicating their agreement to the road closure proposal.				Please attach documentation from the landowner to your application indicating their agreement to the road closure proposal.			

Public Authorities with Affected Public Utilities

(e.g. power lines, water pipes, gas pipes, drainage pipes, telephone lines)

Utility type		Utility type	
Public Authority		Public Authority	
The proposed road closing has been discussed with the authority who has indicated the following views: <input type="checkbox"/> No objections to closing of road <input type="checkbox"/> Written agreement to creation of easement attached		The proposed road closing has been discussed with the authority who has indicated the following views; <input type="checkbox"/> No objections to closing of road <input type="checkbox"/> Written agreement to creation of easement attached	
Utility type		Utility type	
Public Authority		Public Authority	
The proposed road closing has been discussed with the authority who has indicated the following views: <input type="checkbox"/> No objections to closing of road <input type="checkbox"/> Written agreement to creation of easement attached		The proposed road closing has been discussed with the authority who has indicated the following views; <input type="checkbox"/> No objections to closing of road <input type="checkbox"/> Written agreement to creation of easement attached	

Section 4: Council Proposal for Closed Road

COUNCIL ROAD

(land will remain vested in Council if road is closed – s.38(2)(b) *Roads Act* as evidenced by prior construction, maintenance or use of the road by the public)

Please tick the appropriate boxes to indicate the manner of intended disposal, which may arise from the closure of the public road. Where the land is to remain vested in Council on closure, Council should indicate below whether the land is to be vested as operational land or community land, see sec.43

- ☐ Operational Land:
 ☐ sale to adjoining land owners*
 ☐ sale by public auction or tender
☐ sale by private treaty
 ☐ retention of land for Council operations
☐ other (provide details below)

- ☐ Community Land (if so please indicate the intended use)

General statement outlining intended disposal/land use

JOINT ROAD OPENING/ROAD CLOSING

Proposal to close road in conjunction with a Council road opening Council road

- ☐ Comment regarding need to synchronise timing of road closing to coincide with Council acquisition of other land for road or construction and opening of new road

- ☐ Request for land in closed road to be given in compensation (For other land acquired by Council for the purposes of the *Roads Act 1993*, eg. a road opening associated with this road closing to improve the public road network for the benefit of the public – see section 44. Please provide details.)

Section 5 : Council Statement

The department gives authorisation under s.35 of the *Roads Act 1993* for all Councils in NSW to carry out advertising of a proposed Council road closure where it would vest in the Council on closing. Council acknowledges and confirms that all statutory requirements under s. 35 and s. 36 of the *Roads Act 1993* including advertising, consideration of submissions and resolution/outcome have been undertaken. Council also confirms that the following is attached:

- The Council Road checklist fully completed.
- All correspondence including submissions and resolutions relating to the road closing.
- All required status documents, plans, titles and gazette notices confirming public dedication of the road.
- Evidence of current and/or prior construction and maintenance.
- A survey plan or diagram of the proposal.
- Council report and approval.
- The required fee of \$476.90

General Manager (or Delegates name)			
Title (if not GM)			
Signature		Date	

For more information go to http://www.lpma.nsw.gov.au/crown_land/roads

Fee

Tick appropriate:

- ☐ **\$476.90** Pay by cheque. Enclose a cheque payable to Crown Lands or
- ☐ **\$476.90** Pay by money order. Enclose a money order payable to Crown Lands

Lodgement

→ Mail to NSW Trade and Investment Crown Lands, PO Box 2155 DANGAR NSW 2309

Office use only – Refer to the Receipting and Referrals Codes Document						
Business Unit: <input type="checkbox"/> BCN	Referral Code	BCNRD	Receipting Code	RD/RC	TRIM DOC	
Fee Paid		Receipt Number		Account number		
Date						

4.8 *Appendix 8 - Request form 11R*
_NSW_LAND_REGISTRY_SERVICES

Form: 11R
Release: 4-5

REQUEST
New South Wales
Real Property Act 1900

Leave this space clear. Affix additional pages to the top left-hand corner.

PRIVACY NOTE: Section 31B of the Real Property Act 1900 (RP Act) authorises the Registrar General to collect the information required by this form for the establishment and maintenance of the Real Property Act Register. Section 96B RP Act requires that the Register is made available to any person for search upon payment of a fee, if any.

All Statutory Declarations and evidence that are lodged in support of land dealings will be treated as publicly accessible and will be disclosed to persons upon request.

STAMP DUTY

Insert Duties Assessment No. as issued by Revenue NSW Office.
Duties Assessment No. _____

B) **TORRENS TITLE**

C) **REGISTERED DEALING**

Number	Torrens Title
--------	---------------

D) **LODGED BY**

Document Collection Box	Name, Address, Telephone, and Customer Account Number if any	CODE R
	Email: _____	
	Reference: _____	

E) **APPLICANT**

F) **NATURE OF REQUEST**

G) **TEXT OF REQUEST**

DATE _____

Change Execution

- H) *From the list below select the required form of execution by the APPLICANT*
- ☐ *Standard*
 - ☐ *Company with seal*
 - ☐ *Company without seal*
 - ☐ *Attorney*
 - ☐ *Solicitor, licensed conveyancer or barrister for the applicant*
 - ☐ *Authorised officer of a company or of a government department or authority*

- I) *This section is to be completed where a notice of sale is required and the relevant data has been forwarded through eNOS.*
- The applicant certifies that the eNOS data relevant to this dealing has been submitted and stored under eNOS ID No. Full name: _____ Signature: _____

* s117 RP Act requires that you must have known the signatory for more than 12 months or have sighted identifying documentation.



COONAMBLE
SHIRE COUNCIL



**SHORT-TERM LEASE OF UNUSED
PUBLIC ROAD - PROCEEDURE
PREPARED FOR COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL**

COONAMBLE
SHIRE COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 2025
[VERSION 1.1 – DRAFT]



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The purpose of this document is to set out the procedure for the short-term lease of Council Public Roads. *The Roads Act 1993*, Section 153-157 gives provisions for Short-term leases of unused public roads as follows;

- (1) A roads authority may lease land comprising a public road (other than a Crown road) to the owner or lessee of land adjoining the public road if, in its opinion, the road is not being used by the public
- (2) However, a lease may not be granted under this Division with respect to land that has been acquired by TfNSW under Division 3 of Part 12 (being land that forms part of a classified road) except by TfNSW
- (3) A lease granted under this Division may be terminated by the roads authority at any time and for any reason. Council as the Roads Authority may lease land comprising a public road (other than a Crown Road) to the owner or lessee of land adjoining the public road.

Sections 154 – 157 of *The Roads Act 1993* provides the requirements when an application is made for a short-term lease of an unused Council Public Road.

1. Procedure of Short-Term Lease of an unused Council Public Road

The following sub sections provide the procedure involved in the Short-term lease of an unused Council Public Road.

1.1 Initial Inquiry

Before the resident makes any application for a short-term lease of an unused a Council Public Road, they must make an inquiry at Coonamble Shire Council to discuss their proposal. Council staff will then need to:

- Provide an outline of the procedure involved in the short-term lease of an unused public road,
- highlight all associated application costs which are borne by the resident including,
 - Application fees,
 - Land valuation fees (if the estimated rent exceeds \$1000 pa),
 - All Council administrative costs,
- clearly explain that the application is non-refundable,
- strongly point out that the success of the application process is not guaranteed,

1.2 Application Details

Should the resident choose to proceed with the application then they will need to provide to Council:

- A formal written request stating clearly their reasons for the permanent closure of the Public Council Road,
- A completed Council application form (Short-term lease of Unused Council Public Road Application Form) with a thorough reason for the proposed road lease
- If the applicant is intending to use the land for the agistment of animals and requires the erection of a fence, the applicant must seek consent to erect a fence as part of their application
- The applicant must provide with their written application a diagram showing the dimensions and area of the subject land.
- The applicant will pay the application fee as set by Council in its Fees and Charges.

1.3 Initial Assessment

Council's Roads and Assets Managers will prepare a written assessment that;

- The subject land is a Council Public Road for which Coonamble Shire Council is the Road Authority (Should the road have been created by private subdivision prior to 1920 the Roads Manager must establish evidence of common law dedication),
- The road is under utilised and is likely to remain so over the duration of the proposed lease
- The road is not required to provide continuity for an existing road network,
- If in the case the road provides a means of vehicular access to any particular land for example Crown Land or State/National Forest, that there is another public road that provides lawful and reasonably practicable vehicular access to that same land.

1.4 Council Resolution to Lease an unused Council Public Road

Upon both the Roads and Assets Managers approval, the proposed short-term lease can be prepared as a report for Council's determination. A Council resolution to support the short-term lease and commence the notification processes will include the following requirements;

- that the applicant is to meet all associated notification, legal, surveyor, and valuation costs involved throughout the procedure,
- the applicant recognizes their responsibility to allow for access to any public utilities within the subject land if necessary,
- the applicant acknowledges that they must not erect any structures on the road or associated road corridor without Council consent.

1.5 Determination of 'Current Rental Market Value'

Council will need to make an estimate of the rental market value for the short-term lease of the road. Where the proposed lease rental is estimated to be exceed one thousand dollars per annum (\$1000.00 pa), a rental valuation of the land to be leased is to be obtained from a registered valuer operating within the Council area, at the lessees cost. If however the estimated lease is less than one thousand dollars per annum (\$1000.00 pa) then a rental valuation of the land will not be required.

1.6 Notification of Proposal to Lease an unused Council Public Road

1. The council must cause notice of the proposal;
 - a. to be published in a local newspaper, and
 - b. to be given to,
 - i. all owners of land adjoining the road, and
 - ii. all notifiable authorities, and
 - iii. any other person (or class of person) prescribed by the regulations.
2. The notice;
 - a. must identify the road that is proposed to be closed, and
 - b. must specify the proposed term and particulars of any proposed options for renewal of the lease
 - c. must state that any person is entitled to make submissions to the council with respect to the lease of the road, and
 - d. must indicate the manner and the period (being at least 28 days) within which, any

such submission should be made.

To undertake the above notification involved staff MUST utilize the following council notification templates;

- CSC TEMPLATE – Road Lease – Adjoining Landholder Notification (Magiq id 25574)
- CSC TEMPLATE – Road Lease – Advertisement Newspaper (Magiq id 25575)
- CSC TEMPLATE – Road Lease – Authority Referencing Notification (Magiq id 25576)
- CSC TEMPLATE – Road Lease – Land and Water Notification (Magiq id 25577)

Note failure to use the prescribed templates may result in the Department potentially requiring repetition of the process utilizing the prescribed templates.

While not prescribed in the notification provisions of the Act the notice should also be posted to the exhibition and advertisements page on council's website. This will ensure that notification reaches as wide as it can across the community so that fair opportunity for the public to submit objections, if any, is made possible.

1.7 Dealing with Submissions

After considering any submissions that have been made with respect to the proposed lease, Council may grant the lease, with or without alteration, or may refuse to grant the lease. If Council grants the lease, a notice is to be placed on Councils website.

1.8 Lease Duration

The duration of a short-term lease is at minimum for a period of two (2) years. The term of a lease, together with any option to renew, must not exceed a period of five (5) years. In the case of land that has been acquired by Council as the roads' authority, the duration must not exceed ten (10) years.

1.9 Erection of Structures

A person must not erect any structures on land that is subject of a lease without the consent of Council. Council will only consent to proposed structures if they comprise a fence or temporary structures of a kind that can be easily demolished or removed. Failure to notify Council and seek to erect a structure will cause the lease to become void and may attract a fine of 10 penalty units.

If consent is given to the lessee to erect a fence for the agistment of animals, the fence must be constructed to a standard that is satisfactory to Council. The satisfactory standard is typically a four-strand barbed wire fence as the minimal for grazing animals. The costs to install the fence will be bourn by the lessee.

2. The Fees Associated with the short-term lease of Council Public Roads

The fee associated with the closing and purchasing of a public road in NSW is not a fixed amount. Typically, there are variations between applicants, sometimes quite significantly depending on factors including for example the size of the land, the complexity of the application, and whether a rezoning or LEP amendment is required. Additional costs include land valuation and surveying, while pre-lodgment meetings, advertising, and community consultation meetings can also incur

costs. Please note that the costs associated with process are generally non-refundable. The following is a breakdown of estimated fees and costs associated with the purchasing and closure of public roads.

1. Basic Application Fee:
 - A basic application fee for road closure is around \$404.00 GST Incl.
2. Council Administration, advertising, and community consultation fees:
 - Estimated total \$220.00 GST Incl.
3. Independent Valuation:
4. Council may require an independent rental valuation of the land, paid by the applicant, if the rental estimate is \geq \$1000.00 pa. Cost may range between \$2,000 to \$3,000 plus GST.

3. Appendix

3.1 Appendix 1 - Application for Short-Term Lease of unused Council Public Road CSC

SHORT-TERM ROAD LEASE APPLICATION FORM

UNDER SECTION 153 ROADS ACT 1993, A REFERENCE TO “COUNCIL” IN THIS APPLICATION MEANS
COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL

Purpose

This form is used to apply for a Short-Term lease of an unused Council public road under section 153 of the Roads Act 1993.

Applicant Details

If the applicant is applying on behalf of someone else, written consent must be provided with this application.

First Name

Surname

Postal Address

Street Number

Street Name

Suburb

Post Code

Phone Number

Mobile Number

Email Address

Details of Unused Public Road

Road Name

Suburb

Post Code

Planned Purpose for Leased Road

COONAMBLE
SHIRE COUNCIL

SHORT-TERM ROAD LEASE APPLICATION FORM

UNDER SECTION 153 ROADS ACT 1993, A REFERENCE TO "COUNCIL" IN THIS APPLICATION MEANS
COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL

Fees and Charges

Applications incur an application fee, payable on submission of this application. The application fee is for Council to undertake assessment of the proposed road lease, administrative tasks, and is non-refundable.

Submission Checklist

- ☐ Written consent if applying on behalf of someone else
- ☐ Application Fee Paid and Completed Road Lease Application Form
- ☐ Site Plan attached
 - Drawn at or reduced to A4 size and the site plan should include;
 - The location, boundary dimensions, site area and north point of the land
 - Existing public utilities on the land
 - Location and uses of any buildings or structures encroaching on the land
 - Location and uses of buildings on adjoining sites to the land

Declaration

- ☐ I understand this application does not constitute any form of a contract or guarantee that the road will
- ☐ I understand and acknowledge responsibility of costs I am likely to incur with this road lease application including Council Fees and Charges, and rental valuation of the land if applicable
- ☐ I declare that all the information given in this application is true and correct
- ☐ I understand should the lease not proceed any fees paid will not be refunded.

First Name

Surname

Signed

Date

Acceptance of Application

Council will not process applications that are incomplete or non-complying with lodgement requirements. These applications will not be accepted or may be returned to applicants within 14 days.

COONAMBLE
SHIRE COUNCIL

SHORT-TERM ROAD LEASE APPLICATION FORM

UNDER SECTION 153 ROADS ACT 1993, A REFERENCE TO "COUNCIL" IN THIS APPLICATION MEANS
COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL

Lodgement Details

Applicants are required to lodge the completed application form and associated documents to Coonamble Shire Council, by one of the following methods;

Email: council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au

Post: **PO Box 249, Coonamble NSW 2829**

In person: **80 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble NSW 2829, 8.30am to 5pm weekdays**

Marked Attention: **Roads Manager**

Payment Method

Application fees can be paid by cash, cheque or credit card.

- cash, cheque or credit card payments can be paid in person
- cheque or credit card payments are accepted by post
- only credit card payments are accepted by email

Paying by Credit Card

Please complete the **Credit Card Authorisation Form**. This is available upon request via email or at the office. Ensure that you provide the full details of the purpose of your payment on this form.

If you are sending your payment by email, please ensure the Credit Card Authorisation Form is included in your email as a separate attachment to your application or any other information.

COONAMBLE
SHIRE COUNCIL

SHORT-TERM ROAD LEASE APPLICATION FORM

UNDER SECTION 153 ROADS ACT 1993, A REFERENCE TO “COUNCIL” IN THIS APPLICATION MEANS
COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL

ROAD LEASE FACT SHEET

When can a Council Lease a Public Road?

Section 153 of the Roads Act states that Councils may propose the short-term lease of a Council Public Road for which it is the roads authority, if the road is not reasonably used as a road for public use (present or future), the road is not required to provide continuity for an existing road network and if the lease does not prevent lawful and reasonable vehicular access to surrounding land.

Services

If services or other utility infrastructure is located within the road reserve, the lessee agrees to provide required access to infrastructure should the services need to be accessed.

Adjoining Owners Consent

If the public road subject to the road lease application has adjoining lots other than that of the applicant, written consent to the applicant making the application must be obtained from the adjoining owner/s prior to the submission of the road lease application.

Erection of infrastructure

The applicant must not erect any structures on the road or road corridor subject to lease either first providing notice to the Council, and without the Council granting consent to do so.

Disclaimer

The lodgement of a short-term road lease application form does not indicate Council will agree to lease the road. Short-Term Road Lease Applications are subject to Preliminary Assessments, public notification, notification to statutory authorities, and Council Resolution. Objections to the road lease proposal may mean Council is unable to lease the road.

Key stages of the road closure process

While the road closure process may seem very complex, all steps involved are required due to the statutory requirements under the Roads Act, which cannot be varied.

COONAMBLE
SHIRE COUNCIL

SHORT-TERM ROAD LEASE APPLICATION FORM

UNDER SECTION 153 ROADS ACT 1993, A REFERENCE TO "COUNCIL" IN THIS APPLICATION MEANS
COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL

OFFICE USE ONLY – CHECK LIST

- ☐ Completed Application - Short-term Lease of unused Council Public Road
- ☐ Written letter of consent on behalf of someone else (only check if application is completed by
- ☐ Application Fee Paid
- ☐ Initialisation - Intention to lease an unused public road reported to council
- ☐ 28-Day Public Notification of intention to lease an unused Council Public Road
- ☐ Notification to Adjoining landholders
- ☐ Authority referencing notification
- ☐ Land and Water notification
- ☐ Submissions/Objections Received (Tick For Yes, Leave Blank if No)
- ☐ Report of outcomes of objections provided to General Manager (Tick for Yes, Leave Blank for No)
- ☐ Objections Resolved (Tick For Yes, Leave Blank for No)
- ☐ Council Resolved To Lease Road (Tick For Yes, Leave Blank for No): IMPORTANT IF COUNCIL DOES NOT
RESOLVE TO LEASE ROAD THE PROCEDURE STOPS HERE - APPLICATION HAS BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL.
- ☐ Certified Rent Valuer Report Provided (Only if estimated rent exceeds \$1000.00 pa)

Completion Date

Sign Off

Name of Officer (Print)

COONAMBLE
SHIRE COUNCIL

**3.2 *Appendix 2 - CSC Template - Road Lease - Adjoining
Landholder Notification***



File Ref: [FILE REFERENCE]

Contact: [CONTACT NAME]
Phone: 02 6827 1900
Email: council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au

[ADJOINING LANDOWNER
POSTAL ADDRESS].

PROPOSAL TO SHORT-TERM LEASE AN UNUSED COUNCIL PUBLIC ROAD [ENTER LOCATION]

Dear Sir/Madam

Coonamble Shire Council is currently considering the short-term lease of a council public road near your property.

The attached diagram identifies the council public road proposed for lease.

Who knows about the proposed lease?

Similar letters have been forwarded to all landowners adjoining the road or considered to be affected by the proposed road lease. Council is also consulting with notifiable authorities and any additional authorities with affected infrastructure.

The proposal to lease the road/s will also be advertised in the [NEWSPAPER NAME] on [ADVERTISEMENT DATE], providing a Twenty-Eight (28) day period for interested parties to make submissions.

What should you do now?

Please forward any comments you have on the proposed road lease within Twenty-Eight (28) days.

What happens next?

Once the submission period is completed, Coonamble Shire Council will consider all duly made submissions and decide on road lease suitability.

If you have any further enquiries regarding this matter, please contact Coonamble Shire Council.

Yours sincerely

[STAFF DETAILS]

Doc ID: 25574

Coonamble Shire Council
80 Castlereagh Street
COONAMBLE NSW 2829

Dear Sir/Madam

I/We:

- ☐ Are in favour of the road lease

OR

- ☐ Object to lease of the following roads for the reasons noted below.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

SIGNED:

If signing on behalf of a company, please add your name and company title (for example, Director)

ACN/Company seal

DATE:

Contact details:

Home:

Mobile:

PLEASE RETURN THIS PAGE TO COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL WITHIN 28 DAYS

Doc ID: 25574

3.3 *Appendix 3 - CSC Template - Road Lease - Advertisement Newspaper*



PROPOSED ROAD SHORT-TERM LEASE OF UNUSED COUNCIL PUBLIC ROAD UNDER SECTION 153 *ROADS ACT 1993*

In pursuance of the provisions of the *Roads Act 1993*, notice is hereby given that Coonamble Shire Council proposes to lease the council public road listed in Schedule 1.

Schedule 1:

- [\[IDENTIFY THE ROAD THAT IS PROPOSED LEASED\]](#).

Upon lease of the road, the Council intends to [\[select from dropdown OR right click to "remove content control" and create unique description\]](#).

All interested persons are hereby invited to make submissions concerning the proposal to the General Manager, Coonamble Shire Council, 80 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble NSW 2829, within Twenty-Eight (28) days of the date of this advertisement. Please note that under the provisions of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*, such submissions may be referred to third parties for consideration.

Once the submission period is completed, Coonamble Shire Council will consider all duly made submissions before deciding whether to continue with the road lease proposal.

Council Ref: [\[COUNCIL REFERENCE NUMBER\]](#)

Enquiries: [\[COUNCIL OFFICER\]](#)

Telephone: 02 6827 1900

For the General Manager, COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL

Doc ID: 25575

**3.4 *Appendix 4 - CSC Template - Road Lease - Authority
Referencing Notification***



File Ref: [FILE REFERENCE]

Contact: [CONTACT NAME]
Phone: 02 6827 1900
Email: council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au

NOTIFIABLE AUTHORITY
CONTACT ADDRESS].

PROPOSAL TO SHORT-TERM LEASE AN UNUSED COUNCIL PUBLIC ROAD AT [ENTER LOCATION]

Dear Sir/Madam

Coonamble Shire Council is currently considering the lease of the council public road identified on the attached diagram. Council is proposing lease of the road to [select from dropdown OR right click to "remove content control" and create unique description].

The proposal to lease the road will be advertised in the [NEWSPAPER NAME] on [ADVERTISEMENT DATE]. A copy of the advertisement is attached for your information.

What should you do now?

Please consider the proposal and provide a response to Coonamble Shire Council within Twenty-Eight (28) days. Send your submission to:

Post: 80 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble NSW 2829

Email: council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au

What happens next?

If Coonamble Shire Council does not receive a reply within the specified Twenty-Eight (28) day period, it will assume that [AUTHORITY NAME] has no objections to the proposal.

Please advise Coonamble Shire Council within the Twenty-Eight (28) day period if [AUTHORITY NAME] requires additional time to consider its position.

Once the submission period is completed, Coonamble Shire Council will consider all duly made submissions and decide on road lease suitability.

If you have any further enquiries regarding this matter, please contact Coonamble Shire Council.

Yours sincerely

[STAFF DETAILS]

Doc ID: 25576

3.5 *Appendix 5 - CSC Template - Road Lease - Land and Water Notification*



File Ref: [FILE REFERENCE]

Contact: [CONTACT NAME]
Phone: 02 6827 1900
Email: council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au

Business Centre—Roads
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Lands & Water
By email: council.roadclosures@crowland.nsw.gov.au

PROPOSAL TO SHORT-TERM LEASE AN UNUSED COUNCIL PUBLIC ROAD [ENTER LOCATION]

Dear Sir/Madam

Coonamble Shire Council is currently considering the lease of the council public road identified on the attached diagram. Lease of the road is proposed in order to [select from dropdown OR right click to "remove content control" and create unique description].

The proposal to lease the road will be advertised in the [NEWSPAPER NAME] on [ADVERTISEMENT DATE]. A copy of the advertisement is attached for your information.

Road status

Coonamble Shire Council acknowledges that it has the power to lease council public roads only.

Council's attached status report confirms that the road under proposal is a council road.

Departmental response required

Coonamble Shire Council requests formal departmental response to the road lease proposal within Twenty-Eight (28) days of this notice. Please advise Coonamble Shire Council within the Twenty-Eight (28) day period if the department requires additional time to consider its position. Council is aware that the department will respond to all council road lease notifications.

What happens next?

Once the submission period is completed, Coonamble Shire Council will consider all submissions and decide on road lease suitability.

If you have any further enquiries regarding this matter, please contact Coonamble Shire Council.

Yours sincerely

[STAFF DETAILS]

Doc ID: 25577



COONAMBLE
SHIRE COUNCIL





LOCAL PREFERENCE PURCHASING POLICY

1. BACKGROUND

This policy supports delivery of Councils 'Community Strategic Plan' to grow our reputation as an LGA of choice to live, work and invest.

2. PURPOSE

The Council's Local Preference Purchasing Policy recognises that overall value for money is about the broader economic benefits to the entire Shire, and not just the lowest price. The Council acknowledges that economic benefits flow to all local businesses where Council maximises opportunities for local suppliers to compete for Council's business on the basis of value for money.

The Council's Local Preference Purchasing Policy aims to use Council's procurement actions to encourage and support local suppliers, and support economic activity within the Shire, where it is efficient to do so, while achieving the Council's overall value for money objectives. This approach seeks to maximise overall community benefit for the Shire.

3. POLICY OBJECTIVE

The primary objective of the Local Preference Purchasing Policy is to achieve the best value for money in its procurement of goods and services, where possible giving preference to local suppliers, and non-local suppliers using local content, to support the Council's economic development.

4. LEGISLATION AND FRAMEWORK

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

- Coonamble Shire Council Sustainable Procurement and Contracts Policy
- Coonamble Shire Council Procurement Procedures
- Coonamble Shire Council Statement of Business Ethics (2025)
- Coonamble Shire Council Terms and Conditions of Purchase Orders (2025)
- Local Government Act 1993
- Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (NSW)
- Office of Local Government Tendering and Procurement Guidelines
- ICAC Procurement Guidance notes (2018)
- Modern Slavery Act 2018
- Coonamble Shire Community Strategic Plan

Ethics and Conflicts of Interest – Council Officers and Councillors shall refrain from personal activities that would conflict with proper execution and management of Council Policy. Council's Code of Conduct provides guidance for recognising and disclosing any conflicts of interest.

5. APPLICATION/SCOPE

All Council Officers and Councillors are accountable for applying this policy within their areas of responsibility.

6. POLICY

To assist local industry and local economic development, the Council shall:

- Encourage a 'local preference purchasing' policy culture within the Council.
- Encourage local suppliers to participate in Council business by advertising in the local newspaper and other means considered appropriate.
- Ensure that procurement policies and procedures do not disadvantage local suppliers.
- Ensure transparency in Council procurement practices.
- Encourage use of local suppliers by contractors, whenever goods or services have to be sourced from outside the Shire.
- Consider the non-price value for money considerations set out in this policy; and
- Apply a price preference discount in favour of local suppliers, as set out in the policy.

Non-price value-for-money considerations

Council acknowledges that in assessing overall "value for money", the following non-price considerations should be considered (where relevant) in relation to a Procurement request:

- Availability and access to after-sales service and maintenance.
- Quality, type and availability of goods or services.
- Advantages in dealing with a local supplier, including administrative and operational efficiency.
- The proportion of local content to be supplied.
- Whole of life costs of the purchase or contract.
- Compliance with specifications, guidelines, and requirements.
- The supplier's commitment to supporting local business and the local economy through sub-contracting and other supply arrangements.
- Net benefits to the Shire, including economic benefits; and

- All other factors relevant to consideration of the particular Procurement Request

Non-Price Assessment

A non-price assessment criteria will be included and will be based on the locality of the business and its impact on the local and surrounding economy. The assessment will be allocated 7% of the overall weighting for the non-price assessment criteria.

Criteria	Score	Supporting Business
Business head office set up and run locally within the Coonamble Local Government Area (LGA), including Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone	7	With the commitment to local businesses and economy
Business branch operating within the LGA, with head office outside the LGA	5	With commitment to local economy
Business set up and run outside of the LGA but within a neighbouring Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warren LGA • Gilgandra LGA • Warrumbungle LGA • Walgett LGA • Narrabri LGA 	3	Minor impact on local economy
Business set up and run outside of the LGA and but within 250km of Coonamble	1	Within Central West NSW
Business operating outside of the above	0	

Price Assessment - Local Content Discount

For suppliers who respond to Council's Procurement Requests if at least 30% of the net cost of their response or tender includes or is attributable to local content, Council will reduce the total quoted cost by the allowance equivalent to the local content discount.

Criteria	Price discount	Supporting Business
Business provides details and nominates local suppliers and/or subcontractors for goods and services for use in the project to a minimum value of 50% of the contract sum (ex GST)	100%	Demonstrated commitment to using local suppliers and sub-contractors
Business provides details and nominates local suppliers and/or sub-contractors for goods and services for use in the project to a minimum of 30% of the contract sum (ex GST)	50%	Partial commitment to using local suppliers and sub-contractors
Business does not commit to using local suppliers and/or sub-contractors	0	

Amount Quoted	Allowance	Maximum Allowance applied
Below \$50,000	10.0%	\$5,000
\$50,001 - \$100,000	7.5%	\$7,500
\$100,001 - \$150,000	5.0%	\$10,000
\$150,001 - \$500,000	2.5%	\$25,000
Above \$500,000	2.5%	\$50,000

For Tenders over \$1Million the local content percentage target will be outlined in the Tender Probity and Evaluation Plan.

Where no sub-contractors are nominated by any tenderer, the tenderer local content criteria will be removed, and the weighting reallocated to a pre-determined evaluation criteria nominated within the Tender Probity and Evaluation Plan. Where this has not been nominated within the Tender Probity and Evaluation Plan, the default evaluation criteria will be price.

Obtaining Discounts

To be eligible for either discount, suppliers must specifically detail and explain in their response to Council's Procurement Request the particular facts upon which they rely to establish their eligibility for the discount and must provide any evidence of such eligibility as reasonably required by the Council.

Once a supplier is awarded works under this policy, they will be required to provide Council with sufficient documentation to substantiate the utilisation of local content as outlined in their quotation/submission. All subcontractors MUST supply a subcontractor statement upon completion of the works which is to be submitted to Council as part of the completion report. Failure to supply a completion report and subcontractor statements may result in ineligibility for the Local Content Discount for future submissions.

Procedural Matters

For purchases above those limits set under the Local Government Act 1993 a public tender process must be undertaken. All "Request for Tender" documents must include a Local Content Statement. This allows tenderers to accurately calculate the local content of their tender.

If the Local Preference Purchasing Policy is applied in a procurement process, the community should be notified and advised of the cost to the community of applying the policy by posting details of the successful supplier, the monetary cost of applying the policy (only those discounts exceeding \$5,000), and a brief statement of the rationale behind the policy on the Council's website within a reasonable time of award of the tender.

Council in its Annual Report shall provide details of all discounts exceeding \$5,000, including details of the successful supplier, the monetary cost of applying the policy.

All Procurement Requests resulting in local preferences being applied must be capable of identification and verification through the Council's audit or internal control mechanism.

Overall local preference

In the event that:

- the net costs bid by a local supplier and a non-local supplier are equal (after calculating any applicable discounts in accordance with this policy), and
- both suppliers otherwise meet the criteria and requirements of the Procurement Request, and
- each supplier (and its goods and/or services) is otherwise regarded as being "equal", taking into account the non-price value-for-money considerations set out above,

Preference will be given to the local supplier.

To avoid doubt, normal processes of assessment of non-price considerations still apply, and this policy does not require that the lowest cost tender is necessarily successful. The purpose of this policy is to give preference to local suppliers (compared to non-local suppliers) where all else is equal.

7. DEFINITION

In this policy (unless the context indicates otherwise):

- **Council Staff** – includes full time and part-time Council officers, and temporary employees, contractors and consultants while engaged by the Council.
- **Local Content** – defined as labour, materials, plant and supervision which are sourced from within the Coonamble Local Government Area
- **Local Supplier** – a business, contractor or industry permanently based in, or employing permanent staff and supplying the quoted service from a permanent premises situated within the Coonamble Shire Council Local Government Area boundaries, for not less than 3 months prior to the date of the procurement request, and registered or licensed in the State of New South Wales.

Title: Local Preference Purchasing Policy		
Department: Finance and Procurement		
Version	Date	Author
1	June 2022	Deborah Tatton
2	October 2023	Deborah Tatton
3	October 2025	Deborah Tatton
Review Date: October 2028		
Greg Hill General Manager		



LOCAL PREFERENCE PURCHASING POLICY

1. BACKGROUND

This policy supports delivery of Councils 'Community Strategic Plan' to grow our reputation as an LGA of choice to live, work and invest.

2. PURPOSE

The Council's Local Preference Purchasing Policy recognises that overall value for money is about the broader economic benefits to the entire Shire, and not just the lowest price. The Council acknowledges that economic benefits flow to all local businesses where Council maximises opportunities for local suppliers to compete for Council's business on the basis of value for money.

The Council's Local Preference Purchasing Policy aims to use Council's procurement actions to encourage and support local suppliers, and support economic activity within the Shire, where it is efficient to do so, while achieving the Council's overall value for money objectives. This approach seeks to maximise overall community benefit for the Shire.

3. POLICY OBJECTIVE

The primary objective of the Local Preference Purchasing Policy is to achieve the best value for money in its procurement of goods and services, where possible giving preference to local suppliers, and non-local suppliers using local content, to support the Council's economic development.

4. LEGISLATION AND FRAMEWORK

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

- Coonamble Shire Council Sustainable Procurement and Contracts Policy
- Coonamble Shire Council Procurement Procedures
- Local Government Act 1993
- Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (NSW)
- Modern Slavery Act 2018
- Community Strategic Plan

Ethics and Conflicts of Interest – Council Officers and Councillors shall refrain from personal activities that would conflict with proper execution and management of

Council Policy. Council's Code of Conduct provides guidance for recognising and disclosing any conflicts of interest.

5. APPLICATION/SCOPE

All Council Officers and Councillors are accountable for applying this policy within their areas of responsibility.

6. POLICY

To assist local industry and local economic development, the Council shall:

- Encourage a 'local preference purchasing' policy culture within the Council
- Encourage local suppliers to participate in Council business by advertising in the local newspaper and other means considered appropriate.
- Ensure that procurement policies and procedures do not disadvantage local suppliers.
- Ensure transparency in Council procurement practices.
- Encourage use of local suppliers by contractors, whenever goods or services have to be sourced from outside the Shire.
- Consider the non-price value for money considerations set out in this policy; and
- Apply a price preference discount in favour of local suppliers, as set out in the policy.

Non-price value-for-money considerations

Council acknowledges that in assessing overall "value for money", the following non-price considerations should be considered (where relevant) in relation to a Procurement request:

- Availability and assess to after-sales service and maintenance.
- Quality, type and availability of goods or services.
- Advantages in dealing with a local supplier, including administrative and operational efficiency.
- The proportion of local content to be supplied.
- Whole of life costs of the purchase or contract.
- Compliance with specifications, guidelines, and requirements.
- The supplier's commitment to supporting local business and the local economy through sub-contracting and other supply arrangements.
- Net benefits to the Shire, including economic benefits; and

- All other factors relevant to consideration of the particular Procurement Request

Price Preference Discounts

For the purpose of comparing the price tendered by local and non-local suppliers, the price preference discounts set out below will be applied and given to:

- local suppliers submitting responses to Procurement Requests which are assessed in relation to this policy; and
- non-local suppliers submitting responses to Procurement Requests, which include use of local content, and which are assessed in relation to this policy.

Local Supplier Discount

For Local suppliers who respond to Council's Procurement Requests, Council will assess their response as if their total net cost bid was reduced by the relevant allowance. Therefore, when assessing the quote, an evaluation allowance for local suppliers will be applied as follows.

Amount Quoted	Allowance	Maximum Allowance applied
Below \$50,000	10.0%	\$5,000
\$50,001 - \$100,000	7.5%	\$7,500
\$100,001 - \$150,000	5.0%	\$10,000
Above \$150,000	2.5%	\$25,000

Local Content Discount

For non-local suppliers who respond to Council's Procurement Requests if at least 25% of the net cost of their response or tender includes or is attributable to local content, Council will assess such response as if the total net cost attributable to local content were reduced by the allowance equivalent to the local supplier discount. With discounts limited to a maximum of \$20,000.

Obtaining Discounts

To be eligible for either discount, suppliers must specifically detail and explain in their response to Council's Procurement Request the particular facts upon which they rely to establish their eligibility for the discount and must provide any evidence of such eligibility as reasonably required by the Council.

Once a supplier is awarded works under this policy, they will be required to provide Council with sufficient documentation to substantiate the utilisation of local content as outlined in their quotation/submission.

Procedural matters

All Procurement Requests (Tenders & Quotations) issued by Council must clearly state whether and how a price preference for local suppliers will be applied so that respondents to such Procurement Requests are aware of Local Preference Purchasing Policy prior to responding to the Procurement Request.

For purchases above those limits set under the Local Government Act 1993 requires that a public tender process is undertaken. All "Request for Tender" documents must include a Local Content Statement. This allows tenderers to accurately calculate the local content of their tender. The Tender Evaluation Criteria Matrix will include a mandatory weighting of 10% for local content.

If the Local Preference Purchasing Policy is applied in a procurement process, the community should be notified and advised of the cost to the community of applying the policy by posting details of the successful supplier, the monetary cost of applying the policy (only those discounts exceeding \$5,000), and a brief statement of the rationale behind the policy on the Council's website within a reasonable time of award of the tender.

Council in its Annual Report shall provide details of all discounts exceeding \$5,000, including details of the successful supplier, the monetary cost of applying the policy.

All Procurement Requests resulting in local preferences being applied must be capable of identification and verification through the Council's audit or internal control mechanism.

Overall local preference

In the event that:

- the net costs bid by a local supplier and a non-local supplier are equal (after calculating any applicable discounts in accordance with this policy)
- both suppliers otherwise meet the criteria and requirements of the Procurement Request; and
- each supplier (and its goods and/or services) is otherwise regarded as being "equal", taking into account the non-price value-for-money considerations set out above,


Preference will be given to the local supplier.

To avoid doubt, normal processes of assessment of non-price considerations still apply, and this policy does not require that the lowest cost tender is necessarily successful. The purpose of this policy is to give preference to local suppliers (compared to non-local suppliers) where all else is equal.

7. DEFINITION

In this policy (unless the context indicates otherwise):

- **Council Staff** – includes full time and part-time Council officers, and temporary employees, contractors and consultants while engaged by the Council.
- **Local Content** – defined as labour, materials, plant and supervision which are sourced from within the Coonamble Local Government Area
- **Local Supplier** – a business, contractor or industry permanently based in, or employing permanent staff and supplying the quoted service from a permanent premises situated within the Coonamble Shire Council Local Government Area boundaries, for not less than 3 months prior to the date of the procurement request, and registered or licensed in the State of New South Wales.

Title: Local Preference Purchasing Policy		
Department: Finance and Procurement		
Version	Date	Author
1	June 2022	Deborah Tatton
2	October 2023	Deborah Tatton
Review Date: October 2024		
Paul Gallagher General Manager 		

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Model Code of Conduct Complaints Statistics 2024-25 Coonamble Shire Council

Number of Complaints

1	The total number of complaints received in the reporting period about councillors and the General Manager (GM) under the code of conduct from the following sources:	
i	Community	0
ii	Other Councillors	1
iii	General Manager	0
iv	Other Council Staff	2
2	The total number of complaints finalised about councillors and the GM under the code of conduct in the following periods:	
i	3 Months	3
ii	6 Months	0
iii	9 Months	0
iv	12 Months	0
v	Over 12 months	0

Overview of Complaints and Cost

3	a	The number of complaints finalised at the outset by alternative means by the GM or Mayor	1
	b	The number of complaints referred to the Office of Local Government (OLG) under a special complaints management arrangement	0
	c	The number of code of conduct complaints referred to a conduct reviewer	2
	d	The number of code of conduct complaints finalised at preliminary assessment by conduct reviewer	2
	e	The number of code of conduct complaints referred back to GM or Mayor for resolution after preliminary assessment by conduct reviewer	0
	f	The number of finalised code of conduct complaints investigated by a conduct reviewer	0
	g	Cost of dealing with code of conduct complaints via preliminary assesment	12,039
	h	Progressed to full investigation by a conduct reviewer	0
	i	The number of finalised complaints investigated where there was found to be no breach	0
	j	The number of finalised complaints investigated where there was found to be a breach	0
	k	The number of complaints referred by the GM or Mayor to another agency or body such as the ICAC, the NSW Ombudsman, OLG or the Police	
	i	ICAC	0
	ii	NSW Ombudsman	0
	iii	OLG	0
	iv	Police	0

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v	Other Agency (please specify)	0
l	The number of complaints being investigated that are not yet finalised	0
m	The total cost of dealing with code of conduct complaints within the period made about councillors and the GM including staff costs	12,275

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Preliminary Assessment Statistics

4 The number of complaints determined by the conduct reviewer at the preliminary assessment stage by each of the following actions:

a	To take no action (clause 6.13(a) of the 2020 Procedures)	2
b	To resolve the complaint by alternative and appropriate strategies (clause 6.13(b) of the 2020 Procedures)	0
c	To refer the matter back to the GM or the Mayor, for resolution by alternative and appropriate strategies (clause 6.13(c) of the 2020 Procedures)	0
d	To refer the matter to another agency or body such as the ICAC, the NSW Ombudsman, OLG or the Police (clause 6.13(d) of the 2020 Procedures)	0
e	To investigate the matter (clause 6.13(e) of the 2020 Procedures)	0
f	Other action (please specify)	0

Investigation Statistics

5 The number of investigated complaints resulting in a determination that there was **no breach**, in which the following recommendations were made:

a	That the council revise its policies or procedures	0
b	That a person or persons undertake training or other education (clause 7.40 of the 2020 Procedures)	0

6 The number of investigated complaints resulting in a determination that there **was a breach** in which the following recommendations were made:

a	That the council revise any of its policies or procedures (clause 7.39 of the 2020 Procedures)	0
b	In the case of a breach by the GM, that action be taken under the GM's contract for the breach (clause 7.37(a) of the 2020 Procedures)	0
c	In the case of a breach by a councillor, that the councillor be formally censured for the breach under section 440G of the Local Government Act 1993 (clause 7.37(b) of the 2020 Procedures)	0
d	In the case of a breach by a councillor, that the councillor be formally censured for the breach under section 440G of the Local Government Act 1993 and that the matter be referred to OLG for further action (clause 7.37(c) of the 2020 Procedures)	0

7	Matter referred or resolved after commencement of an investigation (clause 7.20 of the 2020 Procedures)	0
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REGULATORY

Categories of misconduct		
8	The number of investigated complaints resulting in a determination that there was a breach with respect to each of the following categories of conduct:	
a	General conduct (Part 3)	0
b	Non-pecuniary conflict of interest (Part 5)	0
c	Personal benefit (Part 6)	0
d	Relationship between council officials (Part 7)	0
e	Access to information and resources (Part 8)	0
Outcome of determinations		
9	The number of investigated complaints resulting in a determination that there was a breach in which the council:	
a	Adopted the independent conduct reviewers recommendation	0
b	Failed to adopt the independent conduct reviewers recommendation	0
10	The number of investigated complaints resulting in a determination where:	
a	The external conduct reviewers decision was overturned by OLG	0
b	Council's response to the external conduct reviewers recommendation was overturned by OLG	0
11	Date Code of Conduct data was presented to council	10-Dec-25

COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025



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Appendices

Appendix A: Delivery Program 2024-2025 Progress Update Report
Appendix B: Statutory Declaration
Appendix C: Financial Statements 2024-2025

1.0 Welcome

Acknowledgment of Country

Council acknowledges the Gamilaraay and Wailwan people as the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which it operates, respecting Elders past, present and emerging. Council seeks at all time to show respect to all people and cultures whose privilege it has to serve.

Mayor's Message

It is a great honour to present the 2024/2025 Annual Report for Coonamble Shire Council. The newly elected Council in September 2024 accepted the baton from the previous Council and has continued to deliver works and services with significant achievements during the year.

These achievements have ranged across the full spectrum of Council's operations from the large projects like the additional \$18.2 million dollars for the Tooraweenah Road enabling the progression of this critical project and the new amenities at both the Gulargambone and Coonamble Sportsgrounds, to the smaller projects like the fitting of accessibility doors at the Visitors and Exhibition Centre and Service NSW Office and upgrade of the tennis courts at Quambone and Coonamble, to the personal with the Return and Earn, Seniors Week luncheon and construction of columbarium at Quambone, Gulargambone and Coonamble and the regional with the multiple Councils involved in both the Real Country Destination and the Country Heartline promotions.



Council took the opportunity to showcase our community during the Governor's visit in June. It was a great pleasure to see so many members of our community across all age groups proactively engage with the Governor. The skills and talents of the many children that entertained at the Governor's dinner was impressive.

One of the great contributors to the fabric of our community is the huge number of events held annually. During the year, the majority of the 72 events were planned, organised and delivered by a host of community members, volunteers and organisation. I thank those involved for creating the entertainment and meeting opportunities for friends, families and our greater community.

I thank my fellow Councillors for their constructive advice and considered decisions during the year. The leadership of our complex and multifaceted organisation and delivery of works and services to our community in a financially constrained environment is rewarding and, at times, challenging. I have appreciated the way the Councillors come together as a team in an endeavour to achieve the best outcomes for the Shire.

My thanks also goes to Council staff for their sustained efforts to get the job done, particularly during this year of high staff vacancies. Both indoor and outdoor staff have tried to deliver best value in works and services within the adopted budget. Without their considerable efforts little would be achieved in our community.

I look forward to working with my fellow Councillors, staff and the community to realise sustained improvement not only in works and services but in the lifestyle of our residents and ratepayers.

Dan Keady
MAYOR

General Manager's Message

During 2024/25 Coonamble Shire Council has continued to provide a broad range of critical works and services to the Shire in a dynamic environment. Change is the norm with no better evidence than a new Council, new Councillors and more recently the search for a new General Manager all this year.

Fortunately, Council's adopted strategic framework captures insight of the community's aspirations and priorities. As required, a significant body of work has been completed since the election to engage with the community and inform Council's new strategic direction.

The extensive community engagement, which included a Community Satisfaction Survey in November and December 2024, pop-up community consultation sessions at Quambone, Gulargambone and Coonamble and an online survey in March 2025 and public exhibition of the draft Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program in May 2025 resulted in Council's adoption of the Community Strategic Plan 2025-2035 and Delivery Program 2025-2029 as well as the enabling Operational Plan for 2025/26 in June 2025.

This wide-ranging process also realised a new Council Vision:
"We are a united, vibrant and capable community, focused on caring for each other and our country, now and into the future."

Council's adoption of the Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program have captured the works, services and projects during the life of this Council. The adoption of the budget in the 2025/26 Operational Plan has determined the works programs, services and projects to be provided by Council in the next year.

Plan and the Asset Management Plan. This is a work in progress which is scheduled for completion in 2026.



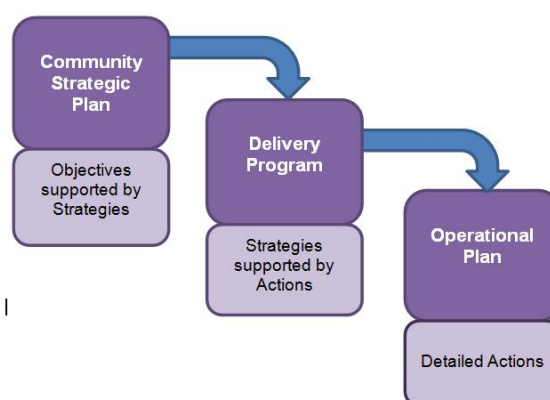
Paul Gallagher



Phillip Perram

Councillors' establishment of the strategic direction enables the staff to manage the operations and deliver the works, services and projects within the provided budget.

The significant achievements during the past year are summarised in the Annual Report Highlights and are across the full range of the Community Strategic Plan's key areas of Our Community, Our Economy, Our Assets, Our Country and Our Leadership.



Of particular note is the progression on three key projects:

- Tooraweenah Road Project works included a full review of REF, procurement and delivery of additional box culverts, procurement of site office, identification of side tracks and road closure requirements, community consultation, including creation of project specific email for community use and FAQs and revision of tender documentation to allow for greater potential involvement of local contractors.
- Yarran Street Residential Subdivision works included subdivision plan and DA approval, RFQ for Civil and Electrical Design, civil construction plans completed, pump station, stage 1 water mains and sewer pump station and raising main constructed,
- Coonamble Artesian and Cultural Experience works included REF completed, bore Application resubmitted for new site, site survey, bore design, preliminary wastewater reuse plans completed and concept plans produced.



Image: Coonamble Artesian and Cultural Experience preliminary concept.

Council has received many expressions of appreciation for improvements and maintenance including for roads as the flood damage continue to be addressed, in waste and recycling with the opening of the Community Recycling Centre (CRC) and the commencement of Return and Earn, for the driveway upgrades at the Quambone Showground, lighting upgrades at the Coonamble Showground and irrigation upgrades at the Gulargambone Oval.

The delivery of Council's program of works, services and projects has been extraordinarily challenging this year with Council unable to fill up to a one third of staff positions. The achievements are a testament to the dedication and willingness of staff to deliver for the Coonamble Shire Community. Thank you and well done to the Coonamble Shire staff for the extra mile!

Thank you also to the host of volunteers, community groups and organisations that give so freely of their time to assist Council in contributing to community and lifestyle in Coonamble Shire.

Council is well placed to meet the opportunities and challenges of the new year and committed to a path of continuous improvement.

Phillip Perram
GENERAL MANAGER



Contact us

Visit

Council's Administration Office and Chambers are located at 80 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble NSW 2829

Office Hours

Open Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm

Contact

Phone: (02) 6827 1900
Email: council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au
www.coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au

Fax: (02) 6822 1626
Website:

Write

If you wish to write to Council on any matter, kindly address the letter to:

The General Manager
Coonamble Shire council
PO Box 249
COONAMBLE NSW 2829

Meet with Staff

Council staff are available during office hours to answer enquiries. It is good practice, although not essential, to make an appointment to see staff. This will ensure the staff member you require is available at the time.

Other Council Contacts

Library	Castlereagh Street, Coonamble Phone 6827 1925 Fax 6822 1057 Email: Coonamble.Library@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au Facebook: Coonamble Shire Library
Information & Exhibition Centre	120 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble Phone 6827 1923 Email: vic@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au Facebook: Visit Coonamble
Service NSW Agency	84 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble Phone 6822 1487
Coonamble Museum Under the Bridge	Aberford Street Closed until further notice
Coonamble Swimming Pool	Aberford Street, Opening hours: Monday to Sunday 6.00am – 9.00am and 2.00pm-7.00pm Phone 68221722
Gulargambone Swimming Pool	Munnell Street, Opening hours: Monday to Friday 6.00am – 9.00am and 1.00pm - 6.00pm Saturday to Sunday 1.00pm - 6.00pm Phone 68251124

2.0 Introduction

The Annual Report

The purpose of the Annual Report is for Council to communicate to the community the progress made in 2024 - 2025 with the four-year Delivery Program and the one-year Operational Plan. These plans are wholly the responsibility for Council to deliver. The Annual Report details many of the mandatory and statutory reporting requirements and audited financial statements. An 'easy to read' income and expenditure financial summary is provided below.

The Annual Report is a critical component of Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting requirements. This includes a suite of strategic plans and documents for the Coonamble Shire and Council.

Council's strategic plans are based on the Office of Local Governments Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) framework. This framework aims to help Council improve community participation in decision making, reduce duplication, build networks and partnerships, and strengthen Council's strategic focus.

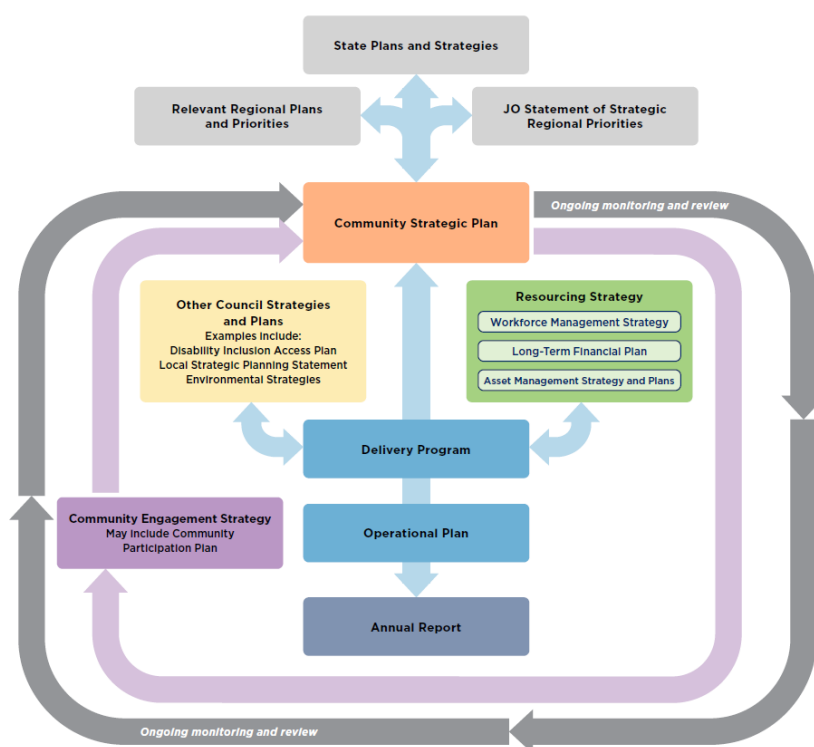


Diagram 1: Integrated Planning & Reporting Framework

Coonamble Shire Council Annual Report 2024-2025 Page | 10

Highlights

Projects and services delivered during 2024 – 2025, across the quadruple bottom line – economic, social, environmental and leadership, are outlined below.

The detailed 2024 - 2025 Report on the Delivery Program and Operational Plan is provided within Appendix A.

OUR COMMUNITY

- Seniors Safari Luncheon – 130+ attendees celebrated Seniors Week with costumes, prizes and support from NASCA volunteers. The event also gathered feedback for future planning.
- Zoo Excursion – Grant-funded trip to Taronga Western Plains Zoo for 40 seniors and carers, including lunch and a guided tour.
- Tech Help @ Library – Monthly digital support sessions pairing youth mentors with seniors to build skills and confidence.
- Seniors Cinema – Local film sessions drawing 6–15 attendees, offering movies, refreshments and social connection.
- Youth Week Revival – Council, Headspace, First Light Coonamble and Coonamble High School hosted Erfan Daliri for an inspiring day with 45 students.
- Tech Mentorship – Youth mentors provided year-round digital support to seniors, fostering intergenerational learning.
- First Light Youth Empowerment Program – 42 young people engaged across three groups, running five days a week with 115 sessions, five camps and four service projects (Tech Help, aged care visits, hospital outreach, community garden). Youth shared achievements at family gatherings, community radio and a presentation to the Governor of NSW.
- Children's Activities – Easter Egg Hunt and preschool story time supported early literacy and family bonding at the library.
- National Simultaneous Storytime – “The Truck Cat” shared across the shire, with craft packs for centres unable to attend.
- Dolly Parton's Imagination Library – Ongoing funding delivers monthly books to children aged 0–5.
- School Holiday Program – Council coordinated 10 weeks of activities across the shire with support from local services, creating inclusive spaces for play and learning.
- Library Excursions – On- and off-site programs promoting early literacy and family engagement.
- NAIDOC Week – Indigenous Storytime and crafts at the library, plus support for NAIDOC Day with the Local Aboriginal Land Council.

Library statistics for 2024 - 2025

Library services

Service	Loans	New M/ships	Wi-Fi (ppl)	Internet (pp)	Internet (hrs.)	Children's Computers	Junior Visits	Adult Visits
Coonamble	4624	110	549	668	804	969	1765	4240
Gulargambone	256	6						

Visits and enquiries by type

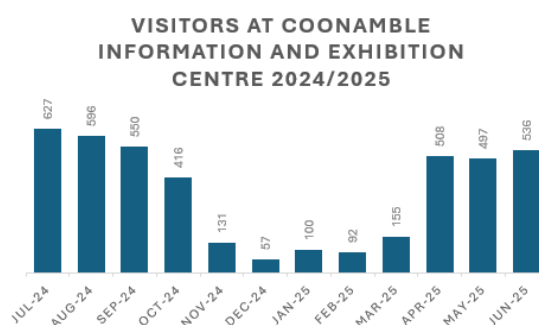
Library Visits	Reference Enquiries	Technology Enquiries	Local History	VIC Enquiries
6005	147	486	66	33

Activity Statistics

Senior Craft	School/Childcare Visits & Excursions	Movies	Other/Meetings
152	228	92	421

OUR ECONOMY

- Council supported, promoted or assisted 51 events across the Shire, including the Business Awards Dinner, Buy Local campaign, Christmas Street Party, Welcome to Gulargambone Dinner, Australia Day celebrations in Coonamble and Gulargambone, 'Reflect, Respect, Celebrate' pool parties across all three towns, and the Waste 2 Art Community Exhibition and Competition.
- A pilot *Vision Splendid* Concert was delivered during the October long weekend, resulting in a three-fold increase in visitor spending compared with the same period the previous year.
- The Visitor Information and Exhibition Centre welcomed more than 3,500 visitors throughout the year.



- The *Real Country Destination Strategic Plan* was adopted during the year. Funded through a State Government grant of \$489,312, a consortium, comprising Coonamble,

Coonamble Shire Council Annual Report 2024-2025 Page | 12

Gilgandra and Warrumbungle Shire Councils, was able to develop the Business Case for a keystone project in each Shire and the Destination Strategic Plan itself to promote the region as a destination in its own right. This contributes to the development of the tourism industry in the area and the goal of encouraging more overnight stays by visitors.

- Development of the *Country Heartline* rural tourism and community resilience regional project in collaboration with Warren and Bogan Shires.
- Draft subdivision concept completed, and a Planning Proposal initiated to rezone the former Coonamble Sheepyards north of the truck wash to support expansion of industrial land.
- Coonamble Shire Urban Housing Strategy development secured funding of \$69,916.
- Coonamble Heritage Reflections Project secured funding of \$25,000.
- Vision Splendid concerts in Coonamble's main street, delivered over the next three years (2025–2028) secured funding of \$350,000.
- The Coonamble Artesian and Cultural Experience (Racecourse site) project preliminary concept design has been completed.
- The Yarran Street Residential Subdivision continues with final road works and kerb and gutter construction and commencement of housing scheduled for 2026.
- The Gulargambone Youth Accommodation Development Consent has been granted with the Coonamble Youth Accommodation Development Consent to be considered in late 2025.

OUR ASSETS

Roads & Urban Services

- The Tooraweenah Road project planning continues with construction anticipated to commence early in 2026.
- Warren Road upgrade completed.
- McCullough Street seal, parking and tree planting works completed.
- Ongoing flood damage road restoration continued during the year.
- Hickey and Limerick Street subdivision and site survey completed.
- Aerodrome fencing Request for Quotation issued.
- Pioneer Cemetery fencing commenced.
- New columbarium installed at Coonamble, Quambone & Gulargambone cemeteries.
- Coonamble Pool backwash upgrade completed and integrated with the McDonald Park irrigation works.
- Quambone Showground driveway works completed.
- Coonamble Showground lighting improvements completed.
- Main Street Garden funding allocated for the 2025/2026 financial year.
- Gulargambone Oval irrigation upgrade completed.
- Quambone and Coonamble tennis court upgrades.
- Coonamble and Gulargambone field improvements including dethatching, aeration and fertilisation completed.
- Formbird Fleet Management System implemented at the Workshop.
- Coonamble flood levy stage one maintenance completed.
- Mount Magometon Quarry compliance works continuing with nine infringement notices completed, panels established for mobile crushing as well as drill and blast, and Safety Management System upgrade continuing.
- Accessibility doors were fitted to the Coonamble Exhibition & Information Centre and Services NSW.

Utilities

- Coonamble Water Tower (mural reservoir) structural integrity confirmed with upgrade scheduled to improve Council's summer water security.
- First response trailer commissioned to strengthen operational capability.

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- In-house capital works team established to support delivery.
- Stop valve and hydrant replacement program completed in conjunction with NSW Fire & Rescue.
- Risk assessments advanced through completion of Advanced Operational Support project items initiated by Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW).
- Sewer renewal program delivered with 12 critical sewer junctions fully rebuilt.
- Laboratory room established at Gulargambone Treatment Works for statutory testing.
- Coonamble and Gulargambone Sewer Pumping Stations upgrades completed.

OUR COUNTRY

- Educational waste-management visits delivered to local primary and high school students to build awareness of sustainability practices.
- A new weighbridge installed at Coonamble Waste Facility to improve waste tracking, pending final software integration.
- Construction of a dedicated plant shed to support equipment storage and maintenance.
- Bulky waste collections completed in Quambone, Gulargambone and Coonamble.
- Return and Earn program launched across Coonamble and Quambone in partnership with Tomra Cleanaway, encouraging recycling and container returns.
- Training and employment pathways strengthened through partnerships with VERTO, Nguumambiny Indigenous Corporation and "Wake Up Shake Up" workshops, supporting local skills development in waste operations. Five staff successfully completed Plant Operator Training, expanding in-house capability to support ongoing projects.
- Council remains proactively involved in Weed Management through the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council.
- Assessed and determined 37 Development Applications.

OUR LEADERSHIP

- Professional Development of Councillors through the induction program.
- Extensive community engagement in the establishment of the ten-year Community Strategic Plan and four-year Delivery Program.
- Public Exhibition and adoption of 2025/2026 Operational Plan and annual budget.
- State of our Shire Report completed at the end of the term of the previous Council.
- The IPWEA recognised Director of Infrastructure, Kerrie Murphy's performance and professionalism by awarding her the meritorious "Highly Commended for Public Works Leader of the Year" Award.
- Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) adoption of a four-year plan and internal audit program.
- Independent auditors have issued Council with an unqualified audit.
- Implementation of Records Management System.

Financial Summary

Coonamble Shire Council is in a strong financial position meeting or exceeding industry financial benchmarks. It is noted that one area where Council has consistently performed below the industry standard is the 'own source operating revenue ratio', which is the measure of the degree of Council's reliance on external funding sources, such as operating grants and contributions. Council continues to work on strategies to mitigate the reliance on operating grants and contributions by exploring new income generating activities.

A summary of our performance is provided below, while detailed financial information is included within the full financial statements.

INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS	2024/2025 (\$ '000)
Rates and annual charges	7,960
User charges and fees	10,335
Other revenues	1,825
Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	10,385
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	4,308
Interest and investment income	1,334
Other income	117
Net gain from the disposal of assets	82
Total income from continuing operations	36,346
EXPENSES FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS	
Employee benefits and on-costs	11,784
Materials and services	13,220
Borrowing costs	32
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	8,057
Other expenses	1,051
Total expenses from continuing operations	26,087
Operating result from continuing operations	2,202
Net operating result for the year attributable to Council	2,202
Net operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	(2,106)

3.0 Coonamble LGA

Council Vision

'We are a united, vibrant and capable community, focused on caring for each other and our country, now and into the future.'



Coonamble LGA socio-economic profile and map

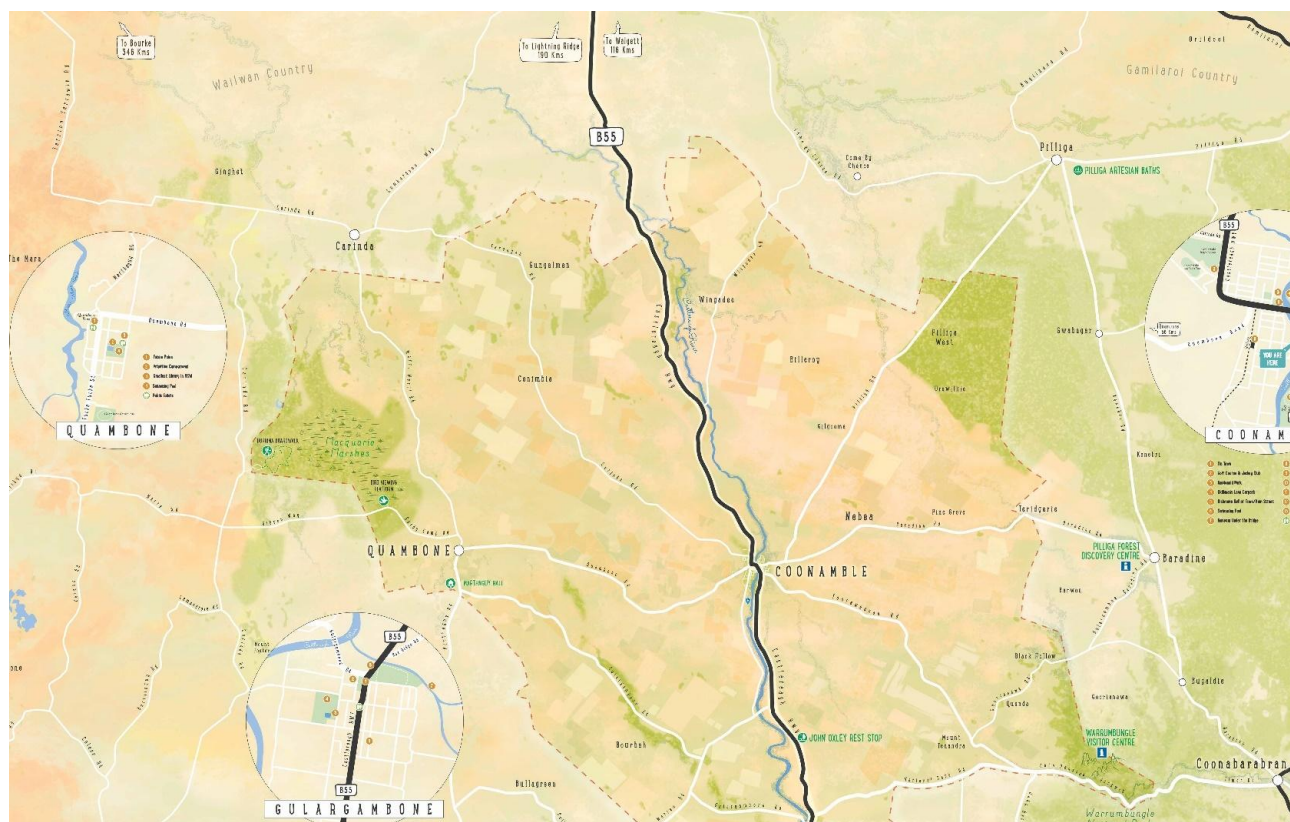
Coonamble Shire

Coonamble LGA has an area of 9,955 square kilometres and is located on the traditional lands of the Wailwan and Gamilaraay people. Coonamble Shire is part of the Orana Region of Central Northern NSW and is bounded by the Shires of Walgett to the north, Warrumbungle in the east, Gilgandra to the south and Warren in the west. Coonamble LGA encompasses the township of Coonamble and the villages of Gulargambone and Quambone.

Coonamble LGA has strong connection to its Aboriginal heritage and culture, with 33.9 percent (Census, 2021) of the community identifying as Aboriginal.

Agriculture is the dominant industry in the Shire with 26 percent (Census, 2021) of the local labour force employed in the agricultural sector. The community and families who make their livelihoods from the agriculture industry also contribute to the identity and feel of this vibrant and diverse community. Dryland broadacre crops, sheep and cattle are the dominant agriculture commodities produced.

Coonamble is situated on the Castlereagh River, which runs through the town, dividing east from west. Quambone is the gateway to the Macquarie Marshes, a rich ecological wetland and growing tourism hotspot. The Coonamble Shire has a diverse array of signature events, including: the annual Coonamble Rodeo and Campdraft, the largest event of its kind in the southern hemisphere; Pave The Way To Gular, a vibrant cultural and artistic event; the Coonamble Show; the Gulargambone Show; the Quambone Polo-crosse Carnival; and the bi-annual Coonamble Ag Field Day.



COONAMBLE SHIRE SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE

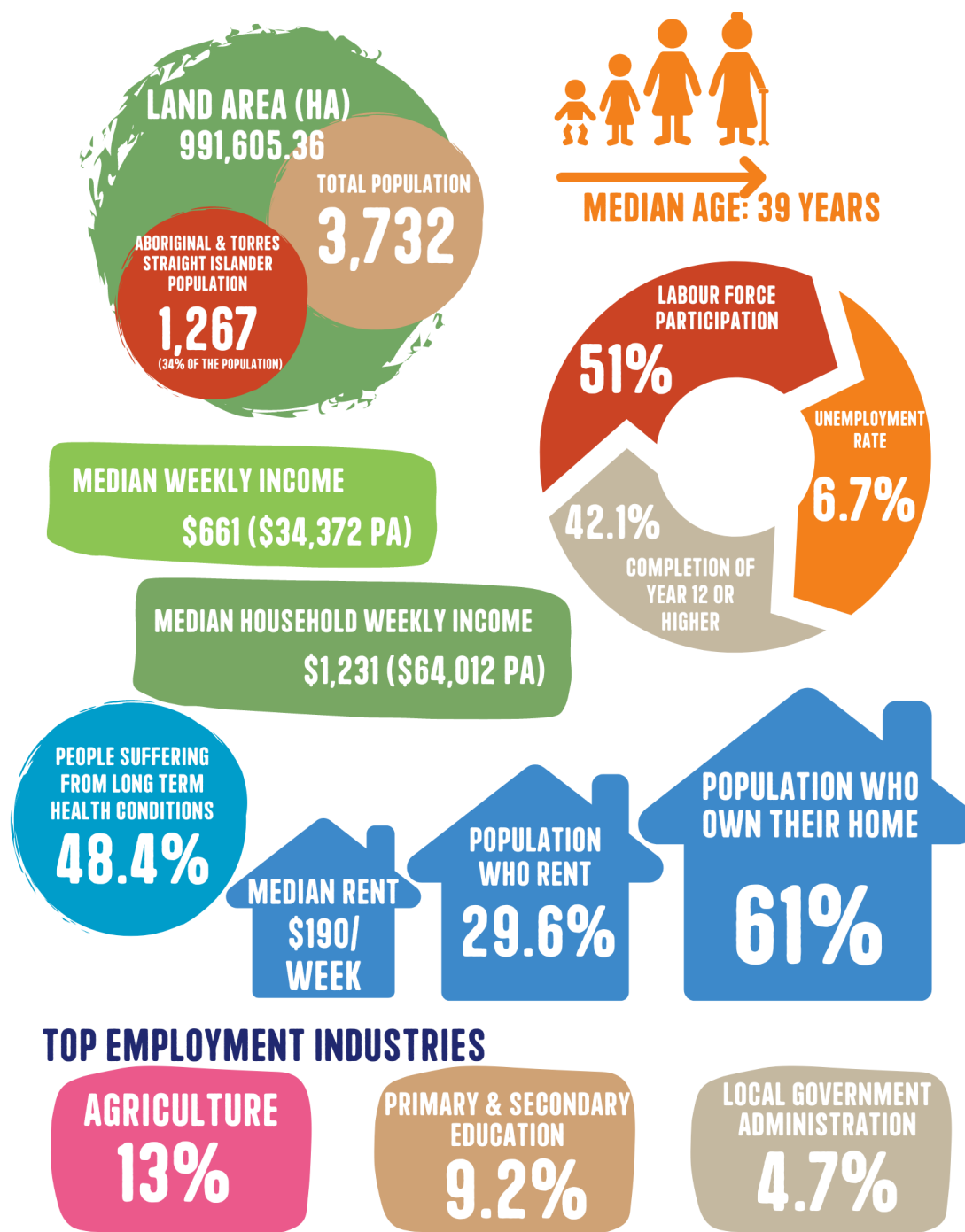


Diagram 2: Socio Economic Profile (Census 2021).

Governance

Councillors

Coonamble Shire Council has a total of nine elected Councillors, including the Mayor. The Local Government election held in September 2024 elected the following Councillors:



Mayor Dan Keady
Elected in September 2024
Elected as Mayor October 2024



Cr Steve Butler
Elected to Council in
September 2024.
Elected as Deputy Mayor
October 2024.



Cr Adam Cohen
Elected to Council in
September 2024.



Cr Karen Churchill
Elected to Council in
September 2024



Cr Paul Fisher
Elected to Council in
September 2024



Cr Marg Garnsey
Elected to Council in
September 2024.



Cr Pip Goldsmith
Elected to Council in
September 2024.



Cr Al Karanouh
Elected to Council in
September 2024.



Cr Paul Wheelhouse
Elected to Council in
September 2024.

Council meetings

Ordinary meetings of Council are held on the second Wednesday of the month, excluding January. Members of the public are invited to attend. Council's August meeting was held in Quambone and the March meeting was held in Gulargambone.

Correspondence to be considered by Council must be lodged at least 10 days prior to the meeting to be included on the agenda. Only matters classified as 'urgent businesses' by the General Manager, received after that time, may be included.

Council delegates

The following Councillors were appointed as representatives to a number of external committees:

COMMITTEE	COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVE
Bush Fire Management Committee	Mayor Keady and Cr Butler
Local Emergency Management Committee	Mayor Keady
Outback Arts	Mayor Keady and Cr Goldsmith
Coonamble Together Partnership Group	Mayor Keady and Cr Karanouh
North Western Library Cooperative	Cr Churchill
Castlereagh Macquarie Weeds County Council	Cr Fisher, Cr Garnsey and Cr Churchill
Coonamble and District Chamber of Commerce	Cr Goldsmith and Cr Cohen
Quambone Resources Committee	Cr Garnsey

Governance Framework and Reporting

Council operates in a complex and dynamic regulatory framework, which requires significant resources to be deployed for compliance and reporting.

The key documents related to Council decision-making and good governance are the Code of Conduct and Code of Meeting Practice.

Additionally, Council has a suite of Policies that establishes operational integrity and consistency.

The *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* and the Office of Local Government's *Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit* require Council to have an Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC), a robust risk management framework, and an effective internal audit function.

The ARIC continuously reviews and provides independent advice to the General Manager and the governing body of Council on legislative requirements, risk management, governance arrangements, and service delivery. Council's ARIC is comprised of the Chairperson, two independent members, and one non-voting Councillor member. During the 2024/2025 financial year, the ARIC members were:

Chairperson	Graeme Fleming
Independent Member	Meredith Caelli
Independent Member	Sam Helweh
Non-voting Councillor member	Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Decision Making

Nine elected Councillors make decisions on behalf of the community at Council meetings. The General Manager is responsible for ensuring implementation and delivery of Council's resolutions and day-to-day operations.

External Controls

Council's powers and functions are primarily established in the NSW *Local Government Act 1993*. A significant number of other Acts inform Council's activity, including compliance with Federal and State Government legislation, NSW Ombudsman, Office of Local Government, Independent Commission Against Corruption and SafeWork NSW.

Community Strategic Plan 2025-2035

The 10-year Community Strategic Plan establishes the high-level community objectives across the areas of Social, Economic, Environment, Infrastructure and Leadership.

The community consultation process conducted every four years for the establishment of the Community Strategic Plan endeavours to capture services and projects sought by the community. These range across the full gambit of community needs. The delivery of some of these needs are within Council's resources, while others can only be achieved through political representations to the State and Federal Government.

Delivery Program

Council's four-year Delivery Program is the program of works and services that will be delivered by Council during the elected term. It is directly linked to the objectives and strategies within the Community Strategic Plan.

Resourcing Plans

The Resourcing Plans comprise of the Long-Term Financial Plan, Workforce Management Plan and the Asset Management Plans. These plans outline how Council will achieve the objectives of the Delivery Program in terms of money, people and physical assets.

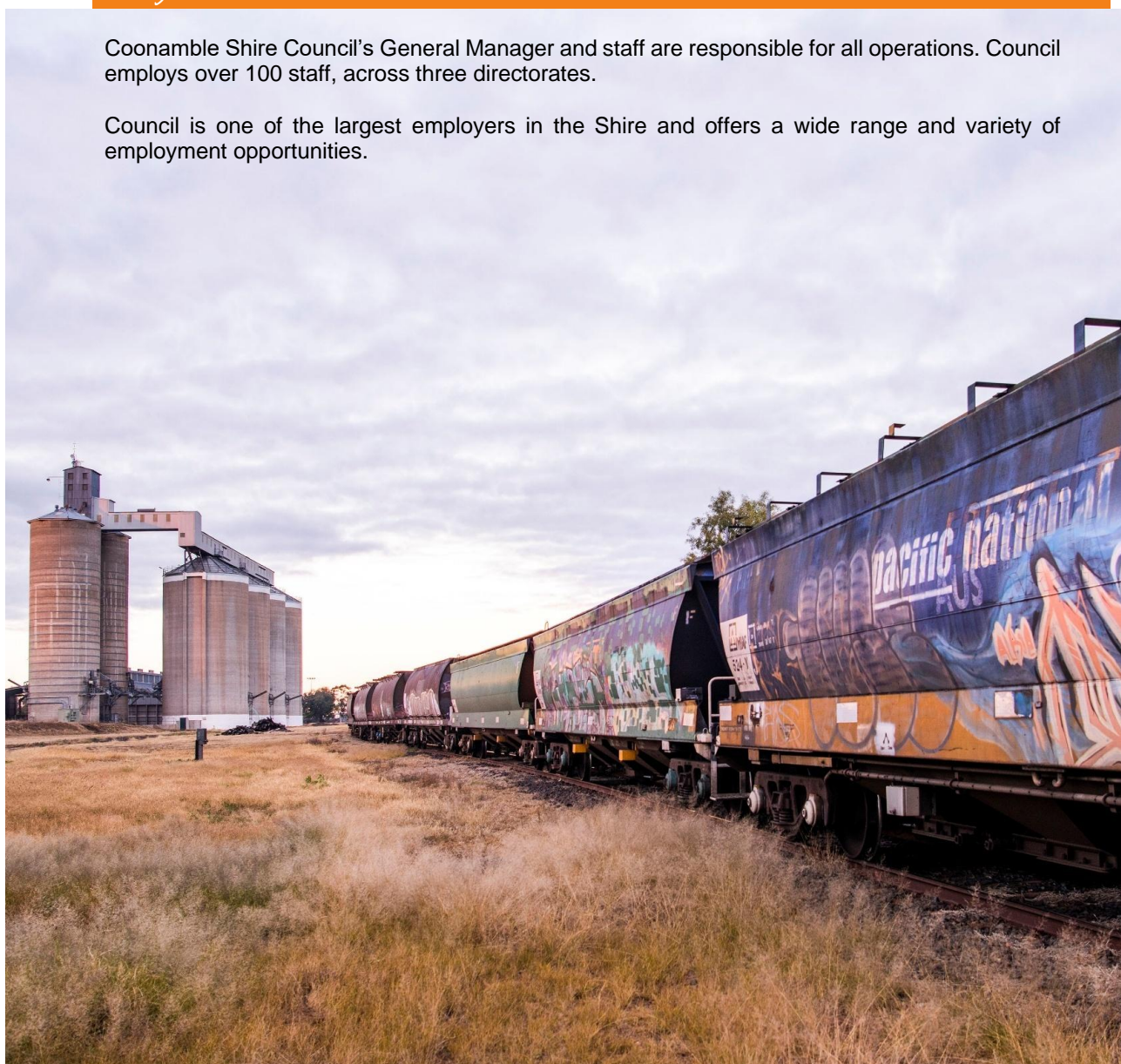
Operational Plan

The Operational Plan identifies the specific actions and resourcing that will be undertaken to be achieved each year. The budget included in the Operational Plan determines works, services and projects to be completed as well as the rates, fees and charges.

Organisational Structure and Workforce

Coonamble Shire Council's General Manager and staff are responsible for all operations. Council employs over 100 staff, across three directorates.

Council is one of the largest employers in the Shire and offers a wide range and variety of employment opportunities.



Executive Leadership

General Manager	Mr Paul Gallagher (Resigned 1 July 2025) Mr Phillip Perram (Commenced 18 June 2025)
Director Corporate Services	Mr Bruce Quarmby
Director Infrastructure Services	Mrs Kerrie Murphy
Director Community, Planning, Development and Environment	Mr Barry Broe
Executive Manager Corporate Governance	Ms Jenni Maundrell

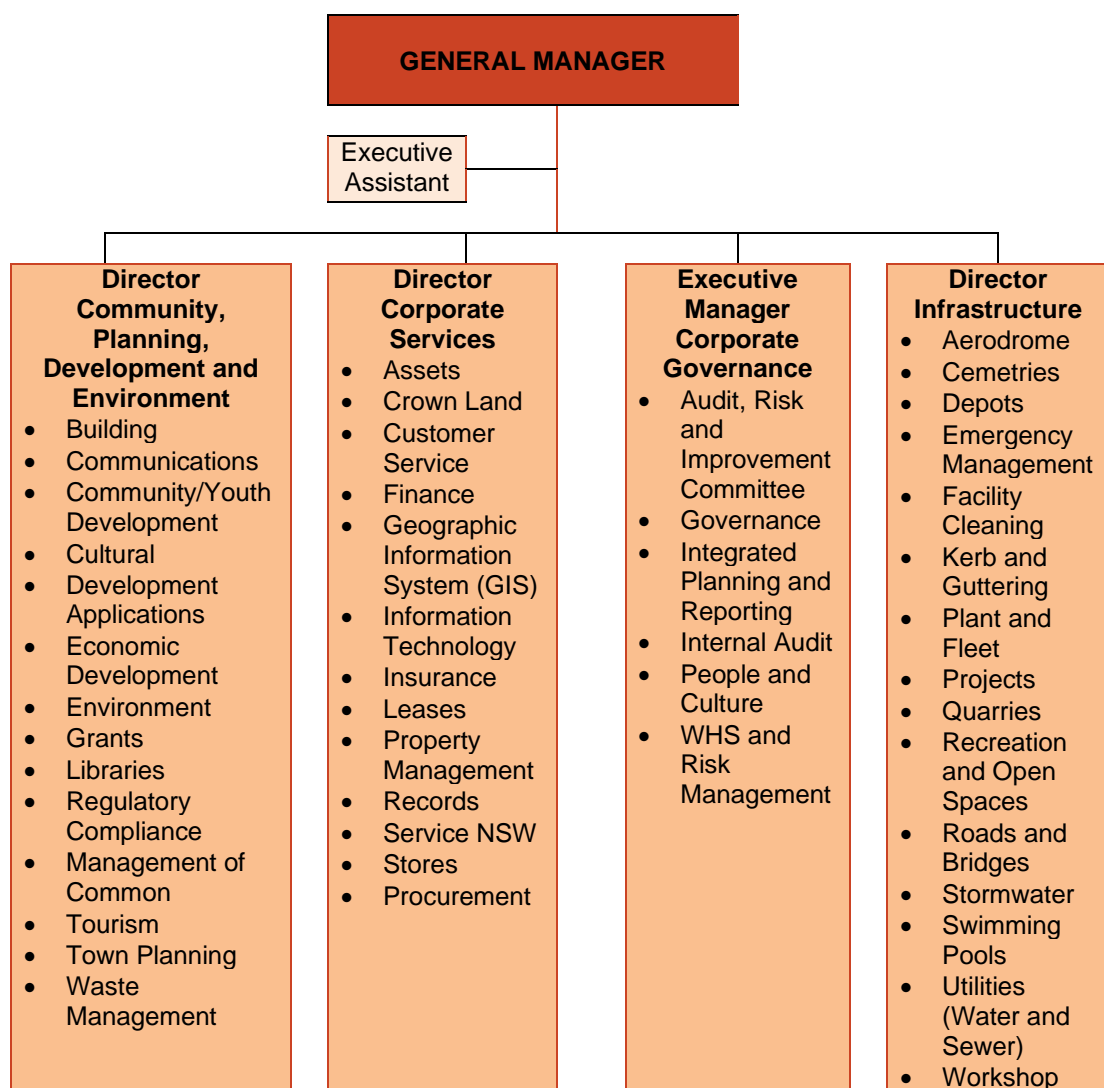


Diagram 3: Organisational Structure

Recognition of Long Serving Staff

Each year, Council proudly recognises the dedicated employees whose commitment and service help shape our organisation and our community.

This year, Council is delighted to celebrate those who have reached significant service milestones with Council. Council extends its appreciation and gratitude for their years of service.

- Raquel Pickering – 25 years
- Daniel Blattman – 20 years
- Craig Nichols – 20 years
- Anthony Smith – 20 years
- Frederick Holland – 10 years
- Rodney Page – 10 years
- Robert Tosh – 10 years
- Daniel Pawley – 5 years
- Kaitlyn Primmer – 5 years

Professional Development

Each year Council provides opportunities for staff, trainees and volunteers to attend training and professional development activities including seminars and conferences. Formal training activities ensure skilled and knowledgeable staff, resulting in better service to the community through the professional delivery of services and management of assets.

For the 2024-2025 year, 95 staff attended various training opportunities and workshops, seminars and conferences.



4.0 Progress Update

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS

The Community Strategic Plan 2025-2035 (CSP) was endorsed in June 2025. The CSP identifies our values, strengths, challenges and opportunities for the future development and growth of the Coonamble Local Government Area.

DELIVERY PROGRAM AND OPERATIONAL PLAN PROGRESS

The Annual Report outlines the progress made and key achievements of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan in 2024 to 30 June 2025.

As of 30 June 2025, of the 75 actions to be progressed, 20 actions were complete and 46 were progressing and 1 was not progressing and 18 Not Due to Start. The full Progress Update Report 2024 - 2025 for the Delivery Program and Operational Plan can be found in Appendix A. The following chart provides a status breakdown of the 75 actions.

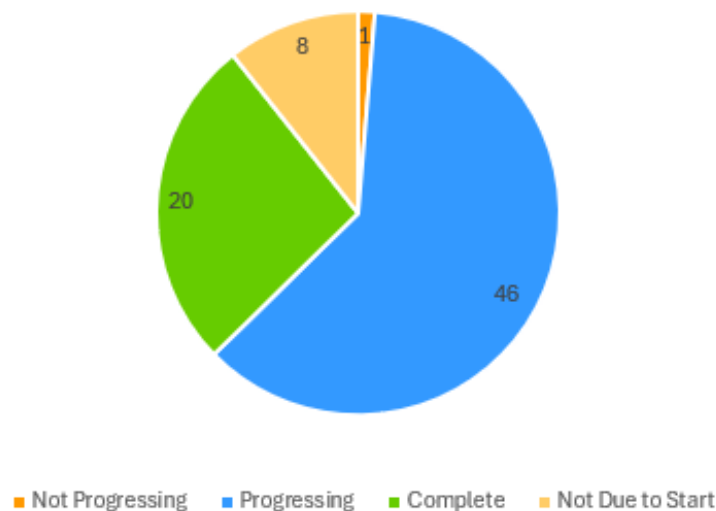


Diagram 4: Status of Delivery Program and Operations Plan Actions.

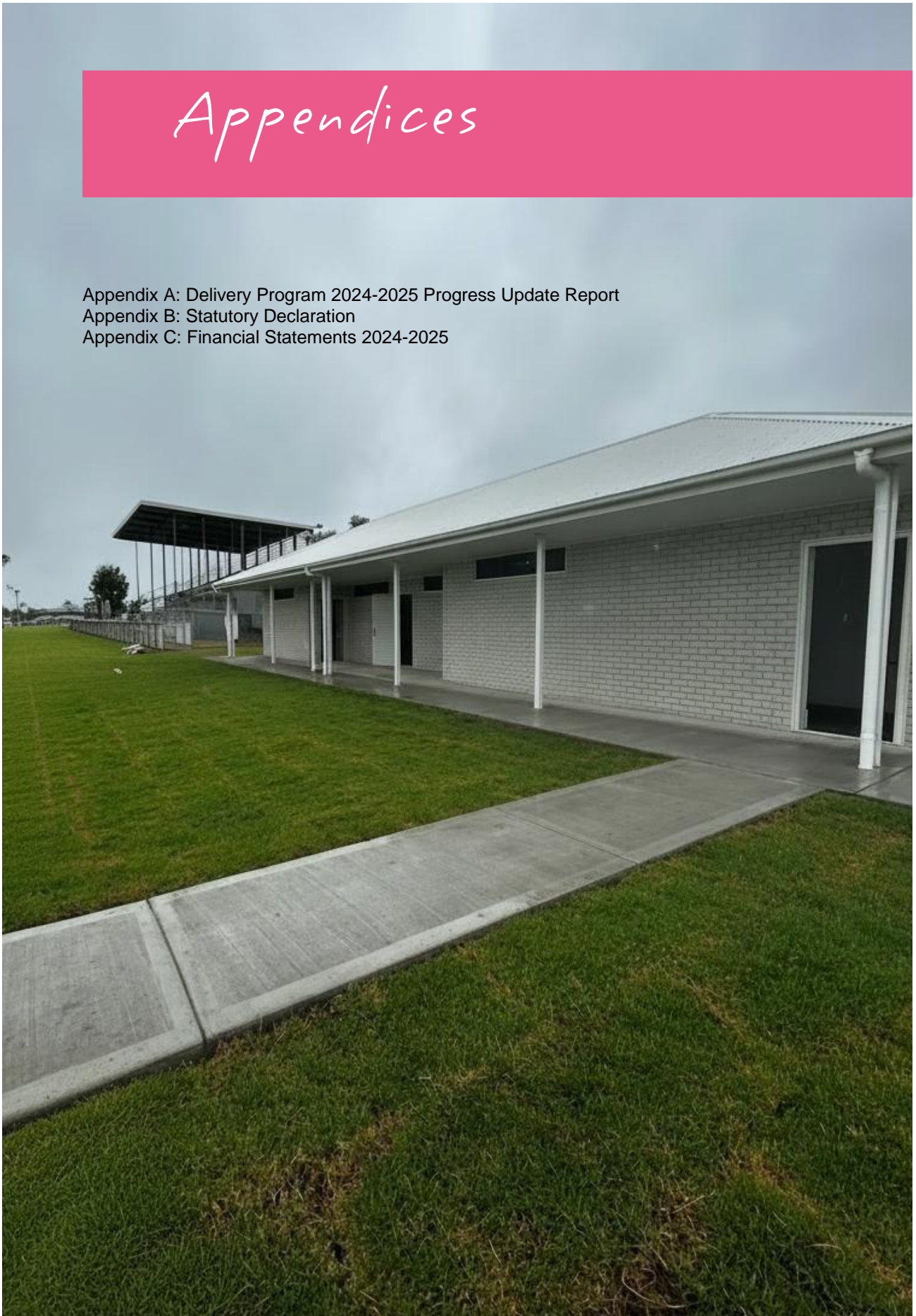
5.0 Statutory Declaration

The matters within the Statutory Declaration are required to be reported by Council under Section 428(4), Section 406(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (Appendix B).



Appendices

Appendix A: Delivery Program 2024-2025 Progress Update Report
Appendix B: Statutory Declaration
Appendix C: Financial Statements 2024-2025





Section 4 Reporting on Delivery Program

The Delivery Program 2025/2026 – 2028/2029 provides for works, services and projects over Council’s four-year term. The annual Operational Plan provides the budget to enable these works, services and projects, with some completed within the first year, some over two or more years and some not scheduled for 3 or 4 years.


Coonamble Shire Council has been seriously impacted by the attraction and retention of staff. This impact has seen up to one third of staff positions vacant which had limited business as usual and the delivery of works, services and projects.


Theme: Our Community


We are connected, cohesive and vibrant

Initiate and contribute to effective and needs-based community programs which enhance engagement


Improve community and youth services through enhanced programs, procedures and processes.


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P1.1.1.1 Promote and support the development of a whole of community Youth Interagency Framework which builds on collaboration.	Youth Interagency Framework developed.	Progressing	50%	Analysis of Youth Services has been completed with the Youth Interagency Framework proposed to be incorporated in the Community Development Strategy.	

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P1.1.1.2 Build on well attended and vibrant youth programs and initiatives including school holiday programs and Youth Council	Number of youth programs and initiatives increase in line with the service provided.	Progressing	50%	Council successfully planned and delivered 10 weeks of programming across the four school holiday periods, engaging 15 local stakeholders and service providers. These programs included Gulargambone and Quambone.	

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P1.1.1.3 Prepare relevant procedures and policies which results in safe, well attended and enhanced programs	Procedures and policies created and adopted.	Progressing	10%	Council is developing concepts for inclusion in the Community Development Strategy which will impact policies and procedures.	

Enhance safer regulatory and compliance strategies and operations


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P1.1.2.1 Review Council's regulatory and compliance services including policies, procedures and community engagement tools.	Review completed.	Progressing	30%	Council's focus during this year has been on the strategic plans – Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Operational Plan. The review of the services, policies and procedures will follow in future years.	

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P1.1.2.2 Develop an action plan to address the housing issues within our communities.	Action Plan developed for housing strategy.	Progressing	10%	The Housing Strategy is progressing and scheduled for completion in April 2026.	

We are healthier


Improve access to health services locally.


Connect with key health service stakeholders and collaboratively advocate for enhanced local health services

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P1.2.1.1 Action the Economic Development Strategy 2021 (2.3.1) to work with our community's health services stakeholders to understand and address gap areas in our health services via a gap analysis.	Gap analysis undertaken.	Not Due to Start	0%	Scheduled for completion in future years.	


We feel safe, secure and supported**Create safe places, spaces and feelings.**

Collaborate successfully to deliver programs, projects and initiatives which make our community safe and resilient.


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P1.3.1.1 Actively participate in initiatives for the reduction of crime including maintaining and improving our connections with local command, interagency and other service providers.	Number of initiatives undertaken and continues to increase	Progressing	50%	Council contributed to crime prevention and community safety through regular participation in monthly interagency meetings, quarterly service provider gatherings, and engagement with groups such as Safer Coonamble.	


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P1.3.1.2 Achieve crime prevention through environmental design	Number of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) undertaken.	Completed	100%	CPTED principles are considered in all planning and design processes and during the development assessment process.	


Ensure we contribute to and plan for disaster preparedness, response and resilience.

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P1.3.2.1 Implement Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP) (2021)'s recommendation and actions	Number of recommendations and actions completed.	Progressing	20%	Implementation of the recommendations and actions from the FRMP are progressing, with further implementation requiring funding in future budgets.	

Authorise domestic animal control initiatives which are successful in reducing issues for our community.

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P1.3.4.1 Investigate future opportunities for animal welfare and the pound facility.	Opportunities identified.	Not Due to Start	0%	Council staff are currently investigating grant opportunities.	


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P1.3.4.2 Deliver an animal welfare program.	Animal welfare program developed and delivered.	Completed	100%	Council offers a subsidised desexing program for pensioners pets in partnership with North West Vets. Council rehomed 81 dogs and 12 cats during the year.	
	Number of programs undertaken and number of take up.				


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P1.3.4.3 Educate and engage with the community and animal owners to improve understanding on companion animal management.	Number of correspondence sent to community and animal owners regarding animal welfare and management.	Completed	100%	Council regularly provides social media on responsible ownership and animal welfare. The Regulatory Officer routinely engages with the community. All impounded companion animals' engagement with their owners, if able to be identified.	
	Number of engagements.				


Our connection to our culture is stronger than ever

Deliver and support cultural initiatives which strengthen connection to country and traditional and unique identities.


Facilitate creative and artistic initiatives that strengthens our connection to our identities, culture and our land.


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P2.1.1.1 Implement the Public Arts Policy, and appoint members to the Public Art Panel.	Public Art Policy implemented.	Progressing	80%	Implementation of the Coonamble Region Art Trail through Stronger Country Communities Funding (Round 5) has required the appointment of a Public Arts Advisory Panel. Several nominations were received and appointed by Council.	
	Public Art Panel appointed.				

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P2.1.1.2 Upon funding approval, construct public art elements of the Masterplan including the Coonamble Region Art Trail.	Coonamble Region Art Trail completed.	Progressing	20%	Funding approved through the Stronger Country Communities Fund (Round 5). Project Manager and consultant appointed. Project development to continue into the next financial year.	

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P2.1.1.3 Support and deliver creative and cultural programs which strengthens our community's identity and connection to each other.	Number of programs and events supported.	Complete	100%	A suite of activities has been conducted involving collaborating with service providers. Activities included Seniors Week events, youth events and the school holiday programs. Council supported all events through promotion, financial assistance or participation.	


Deliver dynamic and diverse cultural services.


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P2.1.2.1 Coordinate dynamic library programs and projects which increase our community's engagement and maintains their satisfaction with, our library service	Number of library programs and projects delivered.	Complete	100%	Council provides library services in Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone. The Coonamble library had 4005 visits during 2024/2025 and hosted 15 events and programs including seniors activities and playgroups.	

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P2.1.2.2 Provide opportunities to the Aboriginal and Multicultural members of our communities in cultural activities.	Number of events supported. NAIDOC Week Events	Complete	100%	NAIDOC week activities was supported and financially assisted by Council.	

Plan, support and deliver an exciting and diverse community events scene where our community and our visitors can celebrate, engage and connect.

Encourage, host and promote dynamic and vibrant program of events and activities


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P2.2.1.1 Identify and invest in infrastructure and upgrades which facilitate the hosting of events in the LGA	Number of upgrades undertaken. Number of investments.	Progressing	25%	<p>The Annual Report 'Highlights' detail a considerable number of projects that enhance event attraction including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrading of changerooms and the amenities at Coonamble Sportsground. The construction of a dedicated women's changerooms at Coonamble Sportsgrounds. Council made financial contributions to The Plaza Theatre. Works were also completed at the Quambone Racecourse Reserve (access) and at the Coonamble Showground (lighting). 	

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P2.2.1.2 Deliver and build capacity of our community to host and attract regular and signature events.	Number of building capacity programs/training delivered.	Progressing	10%	<p>A focus on tourism and agri-tourism events assists the promotion through the Real Country Destination Strategy.</p> <p>Signature events included the 'Plated in the Paddock' and the Vision Splendid.</p>	

We are the community of good sports


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

Build capacity through sporting, recreation and community initiatives to sustain and/or grow their offering to the community


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P3.1.1.1 Deliver grant funding application support to sporting, recreation and community organisations to sustain and grow their offering to the community	Number of grant applications applied. Number of grant applications successful.	Completed	100%	Three successful grant applications were made for the upgrade of facilities at the Coonamble Sportsground (2), and the changerooms and a canteen facility at Gulargambone Sportsground.	

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

Progress the Masterplan for MacDonald Park Precinct.

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P3.2.1.1 Community consultation for MacDonald Park Masterplan undertaken.	Community consultation completed for MacDonald Park Masterplan.	Completed	100%	Consultation is complete.	


Further advance the Coonamble Sportsground facility to meet the needs and expectations of our local, regional and state sporting and recreation stakeholders.

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
P3.2.2.1 Improve and attract funding for our sporting facilities across the LGA including; completed Coonamble Sportsground's female changerooms and public amenities; completed Gulargambone Sportsground canteen and amenities.	Additional funding for sporting facilities pursued.	Progressing	75%	Coonamble Sportsground's female changerooms and public amenities upgrades completed.	
	Gulargambone Sportsground canteen and amenities completed.			Canteen and amenities upgrade at Gulargambone Sportsground are under construction.	
	Coonamble Sportsground's female changerooms and amenities completed.				


Theme: Our Economy


Our economy is sustainable, prosperous and diversified
Grow our reputation as an LGA of choice to live, work and invest.


Develop and deliver Coonamble LGA brand building initiatives as per the Economic Development Strategy 2021 and including the LGA's workforce challenges.


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
ED1.1.1.1 Real Country Strategy progressed including business case for the associated tourism infrastructure. Funding pursued.	Progression of the Real Country Strategy to the point of being able to pursue funding.	Progressing	70%	<p>The Real Country Destination Strategic Plan was adopted by the three participating Councils (Coonamble, Gilgandra and Warrumbungle Shires) in December 2024.</p> <p>Monthly meetings have been held involving tourism staff from each Council, developing holiday itineraries for visitors, marketing where possible, and the creation of merchandise.</p> <p>Business Plans for tourism infrastructure have not yet been developed.</p>	


Progress strategic Economic Development and Growth priority projects: Coonamble CBD precinct including laneway and carparking, and beautification projects at Quambone and Gulargambone.


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
ED1.1.2.1 Masterplan priority project: Street Tree Transition Planting 2033 for Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone - consultation complete, planting commenced.	Community consultation of Street Tree Transition Planting 2033 completed.	Completed	100%	Implementation of the plan is continuing with planting of trees across the Shire.	
	Initial tree planting commenced.				

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
ED1.1.2.2 Masterplan priority project: Progress reactivation opportunities/projects for Coonamble CBD including property development	CBD reactivation projects progressed	Progressing	15%	Council developed a heritage paint colour scheme for each shopfront of the Coonamble CBD to 'refresh' its look. Council has funding in the 2025/2026 budget for 'business activation'.	

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
ED1.1.2.3 Masterplan priority project; Active travel priority projects delivered inline with PAMP and Cycleway Plan including Coonamble Sportsground walking loop and Limerick street.	Walking loop and Limerick street walking path complete.	Progressing	90%	Limerick Street footpath completed. Coonamble Sportsground walking loop completed. Preliminary design for walkway from Coonamble Hospital to River Road, Coonamble was completed.	
	Active travel priority projects progressing.				


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
ED1.1.2.4 Masterplan priority project; Commission way finding and interpretative signage audit and plan for the LGA.	Way finding audit and plan commenced.	Progressing	35%	An audit of wayfinding and interpretative signage was undertaken in Quambone and Gulargambone, with new signage produced and installed in Quambone.	

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
ED1.1.2.5 Masterplan priority project; Complete Smith Park upgrades (seats,bins,chairs).	Upgrades completed in Smith Park.	Progressing	5%	Investigations being undertaken.	

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
ED1.1.2.6 Masterplan priority project; Woodchip mulch introduced in high maintenance areas to reduce maintenance and costs.	Woodchip mulching integrated into tree planting program to minimise works.	Progressing	5%	Program to commence during summer 2025/2026.	


Develop our economy including the visitor economy, e.g. the establishment of an Artesian Bore Bath experience.

Progress the Artesian Bore Bath facility.

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
ED1.2.1.1 Finalise site selection and detailed design for the Artesian Bore Bath facility.	Site selected. Detailed design complete.	Progressing	20%	The Coonamble Racecourse Reserve Crown Land has been selected. Concepts were in development to enable the commencement of detailed design.	

Adopt strategies which produce adequate and quality education choices for our community, from early childhood to tertiary and beyond.

Support and engage with our community and education providers to ensure our community's education needs from early childhood to tertiary, are understood and met


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
ED1.3.1.1 Commence an education mapping exercise for the LGA to understand the needs and priorities of our community and education providers.	Education mapping exercise commenced.	Completed	100%	An education mapping exercise for the Local Government Area identified that attracting additional trained staff to the area was the biggest constraint.	


Theme: Our Infrastructure

Our road network makes it possible for our economy, industries and community to prosper


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

Plan and achieve strategic and efficient roads programs and operations.


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.1.2.1 Increase the capacity and efficiency of our roads teams through training, development and operations.	Capacity and capability of road teams increased.	Completed	100%	Professional development of staff in road maintenance practices has been completed. Council implemented a program of works that incorporated use of hired plant to extend the reach of works and increase capacity.	


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.1.2.2 Deliver road maintenance inline with new Road Maintenance Hierarchy.	Roads Maintenance Hierarchy implemented.	Progressing	10%	Roads Hierarchy is progressing with the report for Council for adoption scheduled late 2025.	


Engage successfully with the community to achieve improved understanding of the needs and expectations of our community in regards to our road network.

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.1.3.1 Progress our engagement with the community via the Roads committee.	Number of meetings in line with terms of references.	Completed	100%	Community was engaged with works undertaken and reported monthly in Council report. The Roads Committee was dissolved by Council.	


Develop and deliver strategies for our road network which maximises external funding opportunities.

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.1.4.3 Maximise external funding opportunities for our road network. Block, Reg Road	External funding to output ratio maximised.	Completed	100%	Funding has been maximised for roads with over \$35 million in external funding.	


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.1.4.1 Deliver funded disaster works across road network.	Disaster works delivered on time and on budget.	Progressing	80%	Council continues to complete the significant flood restoration works with AGRN987 work completed and AGRN1034 work is progressing with a view to being completed in late 2025.	


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.1.4.2 Road Condition Audit undertaken and finalised.	Road Condition Audit completed.	Not Due to Start	0%	An independent condition assessment was undertaken in 2023/2024, with the next assessment scheduled for 2025/2026.	


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


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.1.5.1 Achieve 50% completion of the Toorweenah Rd upgrade project. Completed on time and on budget	50% completion rate.	Progressing	10%	REF and hydrology completed. Side roads identified and culverts purchased. Preliminary works in progress which will allow tenders to be called in late 2025 and construction to commence in early 2026.	

Our water infrastructure and services are fit for our community and our future
Strengthen our strategic approach to the management of our water infrastructure and services.
Complete, adequately resource and successfully implement strategic plans for our water infrastructure

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.2.1.2 Adopt the Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan.	IWCMP adopted. IWCMP supporting asset management and the leveraging of funding opportunities.	Progressing	80%	Council's Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan nearing completion with a draft expected in 2025/2026.	


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.2.1.1 Implement the Drought Management Plan including the Water Loss Management Program.	Commence delivery of the Water Loss Management Program.	Progressing	70%	<p>Council completed a full water balance 'quest' in conjunction with the Western Water Alliance.</p> <p>A strategy is being developed based on the 'quest' findings.</p> <p>Council has approved a consultant to work on the Integrated Water Cycle Management (IWCN) to update the Drought Management Plan.</p>	


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.2.1.3 Implement the Water Infrastructure Asset Management Plan (AMP) including progression of the new reservoir for Coonamble.	Implementation inline with AMP actions.	Progressing	10%	The Water Infrastructure Asset Management Plans are scheduled for completion in late 2025.	
	Progression made with Coonamble's new reservoir.				


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.2.1.4 Implement best practice water pricing policy.	Implementation of best practice water pricing policy complete.	Progressing	10%	Best practice water pricing policy will be developed following the adoption of the IWCN.	

Our sewerage and urban drainage infrastructure and services are fit for our community and our future
Improve our strategic approach to the management of our sewerage infrastructure and services.

Complete, adequately resource and successfully implement strategic plans for our sewerage infrastructure.


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.3.1.1 Complete a feasibility analysis of options for the Coonamble Sewerage Treatment Plant, and design phase commenced.	Coonamble Sewerage Treatment Plant design work commenced.	Progressing	25%	The design of the new Sewage Treatment Plant will be completed in 2025/2026.	
	Feasibility study for the Coonamble Sewerage Treatment Plant completed.				


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.3.1.2 Introduce Trade Waste Policy amnesty period and receive trade waste applications from commercial operators.	Trade waste amnesty period occurring and applications reviewed.	Progressing	20%	The Trade Waste Policy is scheduled to progress in 2025/2026.	

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.3.1.3 Implement the sewerage infrastructure Asset Management Plan (AMP).	Implementation inline with sewerage infrastructure AMP actions.	Progressing	10%	The Sewer Infrastructure Asset Management Plans are scheduled for completion in late 2025.	

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

Complete, adequately resource and successfully implement strategic plans for our urban drainage infrastructure.


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.4.1.1 Implement the kerb and gutter Asset Management Plan (AMP).	Implementation inline with kerb and gutter AMP actions.	Progressing	10%	The Kerb and Gutter Infrastructure Asset Management Plans are scheduled for completion in early 2026.	

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.4.1.2 Implement the stormwater infrastructure Asset Management Plan (AMP).	Implementation of Stormwater infrastructure inline with AMP actions.	Progressing	10%	The Stormwater Infrastructure Asset Management Plans are scheduled for completion in early 2026.	


Our essential assets and infrastructure enables our community and economy to prosper


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

Successfully represent the interests of our community with regards to rail freight


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.5.1.2 Monitor the implementation of the Master Inland Rail Development Agreement (MIRDA).	Monitoring and ongoing dialogue occurring with ARTC regarding MIRDA.	Completed	100%	Communications between Council and Inland Rail were ongoing. Discussions with Inland Rail in respect of road realignment and hydrology impacts are scheduled for 2026.	

Create and adopt strategies and operations which improve the quality and efficiency of the Coonamble Livestock Regional Market


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.5.2.1 Develop the Asset Management Plan for the Coonamble Regional Livestock Market.	Saleyard Asset Management Plan commenced.	Not Due to Start	0%	The Saleyard Asset Management Plans are scheduled for completion in 2026.	

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.5.2.2 All parties operating in accordance with the Saleyard Advisory Committee Charter.	Charter being adhered to by all stakeholders.	Completed	100%	Council continues to operate within the Saleyards Advisory Committee Charter.	


Develop and implement strategies and operations which deliver quality and well managed Council assets and infrastructure to the community.

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.5.3.1 Develop and implement strategies and operations which deliver quality and well managed Council assets and infrastructure to the community	Strategies and operations for well managed Council assets and infrastructure implemented and adopted.	Completed	100%	Strategies have been developed and are being implemented to improve management of Council assets.	


Develop and implement strategies, management processes and operations which optimise Quarry operations.

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.5.4.1 Implement the Quarry Management Action Plan.	Quarry Management Action Plan implemented.	Progressing	50%	Quarry Management Action Plan is being reviewed prior to implementation.	

Deliver plant and fleet management efficiencies.

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.5.5.1 Improve efficiencies within plant and fleet management through continuous review.	Number of plant and fleet management reviews completed.	Completed	100%	Council's independent Auditor has reviewed the plant and fleet management practices with recommendations to be implemented.	

Deliver a Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) which achieves balance between the Council's financial capabilities and the community's aspirations, and is a quality decision making and problem solving tool.


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
I1.5.6.1 The projections within the LTFP reflect the financial projections contained in the Asset Management Plans.	LTFP ratio to Asset Management Plans' projection are sustainable.	Progressing	5%	Council asset management plans are scheduled for completion in the 2025/2026 financial year.	


Theme: Our Country


Our community has confidence in our strategic land use planning framework

Amend and create planning frameworks that strengthen the balance of competing land use interests, and minimises risks to our community including the availability of suitable residential land and adequate affordable housing.


Achieve flood risk management strategies and projects.

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
E1.1.1.1 Complete Stage 5 of the Coonamble Flood Levee	Stage 5 Coonamble Flood Levee completed.	Progressing	50%	Council is working to finalise Deed of Agreements and Easements prior to commencement of construction.	


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
E1.1.1.2 Draft Development Control Plans to include flood planning area development controls.	DCP adopted by Council.	Not Due to Start	0%	Scheduled for completion in future years with funding to be sought in the 2026/2027 budget.	


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
E1.1.1.3 Implement Council's Floodplain Risk Management Study.	Number of recommendations and actions of the Floodplain Risk Management Study completed.	Not Due to Start	0%	Development Control Plans will be reviewed once the lodged planning proposals are finalised.	

Develop a housing strategy to address affordability and availability of residential land and housing

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
E1.1.2.1 Prepare housing strategy.	Housing strategy prepared and finalised.	Progressing	10%	Funding was received in May 2025 to undertake a Housing Strategy. The strategy is scheduled to be completed in April 2026.	

Implement Planning and Development Approvals Process which enhances operational efficiencies.


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
E1.1.3.1 Condition of Consent Framework uploaded to the NSW Planning Portal.	Uploading of the Condition of Consent Framework to the NSW Planning Portal completed.	Progressing	15%	The finalisation of standard conditions of development consent is scheduled for future years.	

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
E1.1.3.2 Update and establish all Development Control Plans	DCPs reviewed and adopted.	Not Due to Start	0%	Scheduled for future years with a budget allocation being sought in 2026/2027.	


We are more sustainable and we contribute to the bigger environmental picture

Support environmental initiatives which grow our contribution to broader environmental outcomes for future generations.

Support stakeholders such as the Macquarie County Council, Local Land Services and Landcare whose plans and operations deliver greater environmental outcomes in our community

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
E1.2.1.1 Continue our involvement and support with our environmental service partners.	Continued involvement and participation with our environment stakeholders and groups.	Completed	100%	Council engaged with the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council, Local Land Services and Landcare. Council collaborates with NetWaste to improve environmental outcomes for waste management at Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone facilities.	


As community expectations evolve, simultaneously evolve our involvement with initiatives which deliver greater environmental outcomes in our community.

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
E1.2.2.1 Engage with community on environmental expectations and adapt to evolving requirements for Local Government's role in delivering environmental outcomes.	Number of engagements offered and participation rate by community in engagements on the community's environmental expectations.	Progressing	80%	Waste management initiatives continue to improve environmental outcomes and sustainability. Compliance works continued at the former landfill site at Wingadee Street Coonamble.	

We are winning our war on our waste

Improve our strategies, plans and programs so that we successfully balance the sustainable waste expectations of our community within the resources available to us.

Create and adopt new and evolved waste management strategies and operations which reduce the gap between our community's sustainable waste expectations and satisfaction levels.


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
E1.3.1.1 Review the Waste Management Strategy	Review of the Waste Management Strategy completed.	Not Due to Start	0%	Scheduled for 2025/2026.	

Theme: Our Leadership

Our community leaders enrich and empower us

Support and contribute to initiatives which build our capacity within to grow and nurture leadership in our community.


Support and contribute to initiatives which fosters and recognises leadership within our community

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
L1.1.1.1 Continue Council's involvement with recognising community leadership	Number of community engagement initiatives and programs implemented.	Progressing	70%	<p>Council continues to celebrate community achievements through the Australia Day nominations and awards.</p> <p>The Community Development Strategy scheduled for completion in December 2025 will include initiatives for community leadership development.</p> <p>Council's proactive involvement in the Youth Empowerment Program has offered skills to the leaders of the future.</p>	

Our community believes in the integrity of Council's decision

Strengthen our engagement and consultation with our local community and stakeholders including increasing community participation in decision making.


Employ quality engagement and communication tools and strategies, including Council's Community Engagement Strategy, which achieves increased community's participation in decision making.

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
L1.2.1.1 Evolve community engagement tools and methods to achieve increased community participation.	Number of Community engagement initiatives and programs implemented.	Completed	100%	Extensive community consultation sessions were held throughout the year for major projects and Council's Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Operational Plan.	


Deliver successful strategies and operations which increase the community's confidence in the integrity and capability of Coonamble Shire Council.

Complete and adopt the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee's (ARIC) Strategic Four-Year Plan.


As of 31 December 2022 - ARIC Terms of Reference and Charter adopted by Council. ARIC Chairperson appointed who unfortunately was unable to fulfil the role. Second EOI conducted with ARIC appointed in December 2022.

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
L1.3.1.1 The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee commence review and analysis of the organisation.	First ARIC meeting held.	Completed	100%	The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) was fully convened in 2024. The Committee has developed a new four-year plan.	


Adopt the eight elements of good governance practices at the essence of operations and decision making.

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
L1.3.2.1 Adopt the eight elements of good governance and receive adequate training to deliver. Rule of law; transparency; responsiveness; consensus orientated; equity and inclusiveness; effectiveness and efficiency; accountability; participation.	Governance training delivered and attended by all.	Progressing	80%	Councillors have received governance training during induction. Governance training is continuing for Council Staff.	
	Good governance principles adopted.			<p>Transparency has been enhanced by the provision of a Councillors newsletter that addresses operational matters outside the purview of the Council to assist Councillors in their response to ratepayers and residence.</p> <p>The monthly review of customer requests has addressed responsiveness and effectiveness.</p> <p>Accountability has been improved with ARIC operations and the commencement of internal audit functions.</p>	


Deliver communication and marketing strategies which achieve brand building and maximises engagement with our community.


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
L1.3.3.1 Develop more inclusive communication outreach to increase engagement and communication with target groups.	Number of engagement and communication with target groups to outreach ratio.	Progressing	50%	<p>A communications strategy was developed.</p> <p>Two community surveys identified a continued focus on Facebook as a medium for the quick disbursement of news from Council together with the continued use of the local newspaper and radio.</p>	


Achieve organisational decision making which is strategic and not ad hoc.

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
L1.3.4.1 Continue to review, develop and adopt policies, strategies and plans which gives clear framework and leads to strategic decision making.	Number of policies reviewed and adopted which leads to strategic decision making.	Progressing	50%	Council continued to review its suite of policies and procedures with 8 policies reviewed. A program of policy reviews has been established for 2025/2026.	


Achieve redundancy within our organisational structure and provide effective pathways for our people by successfully becoming a learning organisation.

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
L1.3.5.1 Deliver innovative workplace solutions which increase our attraction and retention of talent.	Attraction and retention rate against State average.	Progressing	30%	Council's focus has been on the recruitment of staff with vacancies having reduced to 30 full time equivalent positions.	
	Number of workplace solutions to attract and retain talent and uptake level.			The recent implementation of recruitment software will enable increased efficiency in recruitment.	

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
L1.3.5.2 Resource the Annual Training Plan which facilitates the successful delivery of commitments made in the Delivery Plan and Operational Plan.	Annual Training Plan resourced and delivered.	Progressing	50%	Annual staff appraisals are conducted to identify current training needs. Training has been delivered as identified in the Annual Training Plan within the Operational Plan budget.	


DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
L1.3.5.3 Implement WH&S systems and strategies which achieve operational efficiencies and improves our safety culture.	WH&S systems and strategies continuously updated and improved.	Progressing	20%	An audit of all WHS Policies and Procedures has commenced. The current workers compensation injury claims data has been reviewed.	


Complete a Service Delivery Review for the whole of organisation and deliver a full Service Delivery Review Program for rollout in Jul 2024.

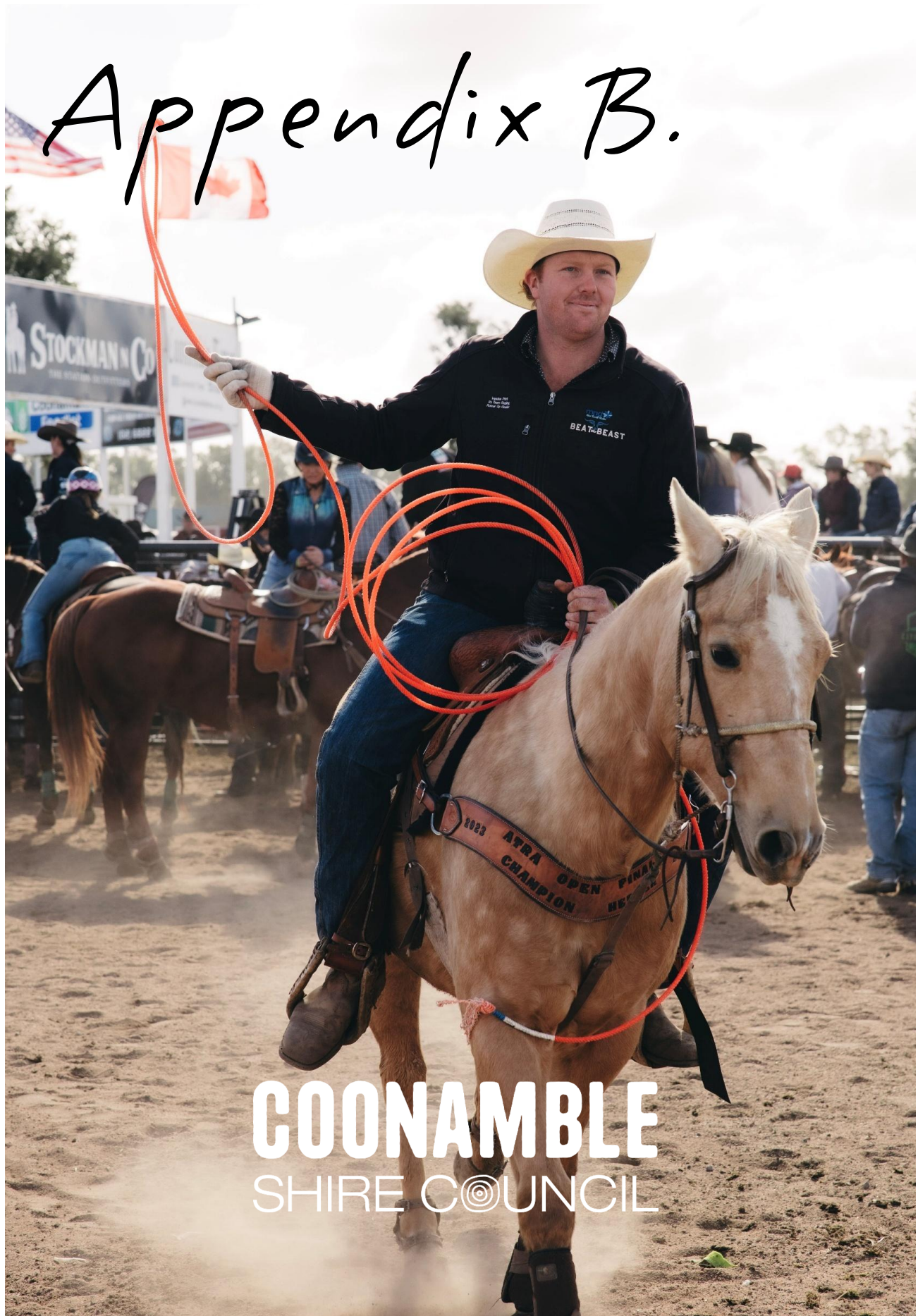
DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
L1.3.6.1 Capture existing Service Levels across all relevant operations and functions.	Service Delivery Review Program developed and actioned.	Not Progressing	0%	The Service Delivery Review Program was not resourced and cannot commence until the completion of the suite of AMPs.	

Succeed in placing customers and the community at the heart of service delivery and succeed in achieving a culture of continuous improvement.

Develop and adopt strategies including Customer Service Excellence which positively influences the way we think and do business

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
L1.4.1.1 Develop customer focused procedures including; Customer Service Policy; Complaints Handling; Customer Response System so that our people and systems achieve closed loop/double loop learning.	Relevant customer focused documentation and policies developed.	Progressing	40%	Council is developing a Customer Service Policy. The procedure will be developed following the adoption of the Policy.	

DP Action Name	Target	Status	Progress	Annual Comment	Indicator
L1.4.1.2 Deliver a long term solution to records management	Record Management system implemented.	Progressing	50%	The implementation of the Records Management System has progressed, with digitisation of half of the physical records completed. Training is ongoing.	



5.0 Statutory Declaration

The following matters are required to be reported by Council under Section 428(4), Section 406(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* and are listed with the corresponding clause number.

Local Government Act 1993

Section 428(4) (a) Council's Audited Financial Reports – refer Appendix B

SECTIONS 428(4)(b) ATTESTATION AND NON-COMPLIANT STATEMENT

The following statement was endorsed by Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) during the August 2024 ARIC meeting.

Coonamble Shire Council has an audit, risk and improvement committee, risk management framework and internal audit function that operate in compliance with the following requirements except as may be otherwise provided below:

Audit, risk and improvement committee Requirement		Compliance
1	Council has appointed an audit, risk and improvement committee that comprises of an independent chairperson and at least two independent members (section 428A of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> , section 216C of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
2	The chairperson and all members of Council's audit, risk and improvement committee meet the relevant independence and eligibility criteria prescribed under the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i> and have not exceeded the membership term limits prescribed under the Regulation (sections 216D, 216E, 216F, 216G of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
3	Council has adopted terms of reference for its audit, risk and improvement committee that are informed by the model terms of reference approved by the Departmental Chief Executive of the Office of Local Government and the committee operates in accordance with the terms of reference (section 216K of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
4	Council provides the audit, risk and improvement committee with direct and unrestricted access to the general manager and other senior management and the information and resources necessary to exercise its functions (section 216L of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
5	Council's audit, risk and improvement committee exercises its functions in accordance with a four-year strategic work plan that has been endorsed by the governing body and an annual work plan that has been developed in consultation with the governing body and senior management (Core requirement 1 of the Office of Local Government's	Non-compliant

	<i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW).</i>	
6	Council's audit, risk and improvement committee provides the governing body with an annual assessment each year, and a strategic assessment each council term of the matters listed in section 428A of the Local Government Act 1993 reviewed during that term (Core requirement 1 of the Office of Local Government's Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW).	Non-compliant
7	The governing body of Council reviews the effectiveness of the audit, risk and improvement committee at least once each council term (Core requirement 1 of the Office of Local Government's Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW).	Non-compliant

Membership

The chairperson and membership of the audit, risk and improvement committee are:

Chairperson	Graeme Fleming	14 December 2022	13 December 2026
Independent member	Meredith Caelli	19 June 2024	18 June 2028
Independent member	Sam Helweh	19 June 2024	18 June 2028
Councillor member1	Cr Barbara Deans	19 June 2024	13 September 2024
Councillor member	Cr Phillipa Goldsmith	13 November 2024	September 2028

Risk Management

Requirement		Compliance
8	Council has adopted a risk management framework that is consistent with current Australian risk management standard and that is appropriate for the council's risks (section 216S of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
9	Council's audit, risk and improvement committee reviews the implementation of its risk management framework and provides a strategic assessment of its effectiveness to the governing body each council term (section 216S of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Non-compliant

Internal Audit

Requirement		Compliance
10	Council has an internal audit function that reviews the council's operations and risk management and control activities (section 216O of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
11	Council's internal audit function reports to the audit, risk and improvement committee on internal audit matters (sections 216M, 216P and 216R of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
12	Council's internal audit function is independent and internal audit activities are not subject to direction by the council (section 216P of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant

13	Council has adopted an internal audit charter that is informed by the model internal audit charter approved by the Departmental Chief Executive of the Office of Local Government and the internal audit function operates in accordance with the charter (section 216O of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021).	Compliant
14	Council has appointed a member of staff to direct and coordinate internal audit activities or is part of a shared arrangement where a participating council has appointed a staff member to direct and coordinate internal audit activities for all participating councils (section 216P of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021).	Compliant
15	Internal audit activities are conducted in accordance with the International Professional Practices Framework (Core requirement 3 of the Office of Local Government's Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW).	Compliant
16	Council provides the internal audit function with direct and unrestricted access to staff, the audit, risk and improvement committee, and the information and resources necessary to undertake internal audit activities (section 216P of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021).	Compliant
17	Council's internal audit function undertakes internal audit activities in accordance with a four-year strategic work plan that has been endorsed by the governing body and an annual work plan that has been developed in consultation with the governing body and senior management (Core requirement 3 of the Office of Local Government's Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW).	Non-compliant
18	Council's audit, risk and improvement committee reviews the effectiveness of the internal audit function and reports the outcome of the review to the governing body each council term (section 216R of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021).	Non-compliant

Non-compliance with the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*

I advise that Coonamble Shire Council has not complied with the following requirements prescribed under the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* with respect to the operation of its audit, risk and improvement committee:

Non-compliance	Reason	Alternative measures being implemented	How the alternative measures achieve equivalent outcomes
Council's audit, risk and improvement committee exercises its functions in accordance with a four-year strategic work plan that has been endorsed by the governing body and an annual work plan that has been developed in consultation with the governing body and senior management (Core requirement 1 of the Office of Local Government's <i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW</i>).	While the four-year work plan and annual plans were developed by the ARIC and senior management, they had not yet been endorsed by the governing body by 1 July 2025.	To be endorsed by the governing body 2025.	Strategic work plan and annual plan due to be endorsed by the governing body in 2025.
Council's audit, risk and improvement committee provides the governing body with an annual assessment each year, and a strategic assessment each council term of the matters listed in section 428A of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> reviewed during that term (Core requirement 1 of the Office of Local Government's <i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW</i>).	The framework has not yet been in place for a full Council term and so this has not occurred.	Programmed to occur in the 2025/26 financial year.	Compliant from 2025/26.
The governing body of Council reviews the effectiveness of the audit, risk and improvement committee at least once each council term (Core requirement 1 of the Office	The framework has not yet been in place for a full Council term and so this has not occurred.	Programmed to occur in the 2025/26 financial year.	Compliant from 2025/26.

of Local Government's <i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW</i>).			
Council's audit, risk and improvement committee reviews the implementation of its risk management framework and provides a strategic assessment of its effectiveness to the governing body each council term (section 216S of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	The framework has not yet been in place for a full Council term and so this has not occurred.	Programmed to occur in the 2025/26 financial year.	Compliant from 2025/26.
Council's internal audit function undertakes internal audit activities in accordance with a four-year strategic work plan that has been endorsed by the governing body and an annual work plan that has been developed in consultation with the governing body and senior management (Core requirement 3 of the Office of Local Government's <i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW</i>).	While the four-year work plan and annual plans were developed, they had not yet been endorsed by the governing body by 1 July 2025.	To be endorsed by the governing body 2025.	Strategic work plan and annual plan due to be endorsed by the governing body in 2025.
Council's audit, risk and improvement committee reviews the effectiveness of the internal audit function and reports the outcome of the review to the governing body each council term (section 216R of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	The framework has not yet been in place for a full Council term and so this has not occurred.	Programmed to occur in the 2025/26 financial year.	Compliant from 2025/26.

These processes, including the alternative measures implemented, demonstrate that Coonamble Shire Council has established and maintained frameworks, systems, processes and procedures for appropriately managing audit and risk within the council.

SECTIONS 428(4)(c)-(d) MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT

Introduction

This Modern Slavery Statement is provided by Coonamble Shire Council in accordance with Section 428 (4) of the NSW Local Government Act 1993.

This statement outlines Council's commitment to combatting modern slavery and the measures we have implement during this reporting period to reduce the risk of our procurement activities resulting in or contributing to human rights violations.

The legislation is new, and this is the second year of reporting requirements for Local Government in NSW. Coonamble Shire Council is committed to developing and implementing a three (3) year action plan to ensure that not does Council comply with the requirements of the Act, but also seeks to further refine and improve Council's processes and procedures on an ongoing basis.

Organisational Structure and Supply Chain

Coonamble Shire Council is rural Council located in the Orana region of NSW and covers an area of 9,955 square kilometres. Council has approximately 100 fulltime equivalent staff spread across its three departments.

With an annual operational budget of approximately \$34 million, Council's procurement function is decentralised given its three-department structure. Council recognises the importance of taking steps to ensure that goods and services procured by and for the Council are not the product of modern slavery.

Council's supply chain can be broken down into the following categories.

Supply Chain Category
Road's maintenance and construction services
Raw materials – infrastructure construction
Professional Services (law, town planning, engineering, project management etc.)
Solid Waste Services
Building maintenance services – Electrician, Plumber, Builders
Chemicals – water treatment
Plant and equipment
Quarry operations
Recreational Facilities services
Utilities
Stationary, IT products & licencing
After hours/holiday programs – food and services

Policy

Coonamble Shire Council adopted a Modern Slavery Prevention Policy in October 2023. The policy outlines Council's commitment to preventing and addressing modern slavery in all its procurement activities.

Outcomes

Implementation of the above policy has resulted in the following actions undertaken and future initiatives planned in relation to Council's procurement processes.

Activity	Description	Actions Taken	Future Initiatives
Staff Awareness and Training	Staff awareness of modern slavery and Council's policy and expectations	Communicated to specific staff.	All Staff have been made aware of Council's policy and expectations towards modern slavery. New staff are referred to the Policy as part of their induction. The activity will be included in Council's action plan to be carried out.
	Staff training	Training provided to specific staff.	Training will be provided to all staff. The activity will be included in Council's action plan to be carried out.
Supplier engagement	Awareness of Council's policy and expectations	Council has introduced a Terms and Conditions of Purchase Orders which includes a section on Modern Slavery which references the Council expectations of the supplier once a order has been place.	An education program for Council suppliers is to be included in Council's action plan to be carried out.
	Supplier training	Council is yet to action.	Supplier training will be included in Council's action plan to be carried out.
	Supplier self-assessment questionnaire (SAQ)	SAQ has been developed. The document has been incorporated into Council's suite of RFT documentation.	SAQ to be distributed to Council suppliers. The activity will be included in Council's action plan to be carried out.
	High risk supplier engagement	Council is yet to action.	Council control measures to be further developed and refined. The activity will be included in Council's action plan to be carried out.
Risk Assessment	Inherent risk assessment at a category level	Draft risk assessment has been completed, further review and action is still required.	The draft risk assessment at category level is to be reviewed by Council management. The activity will be included in Council's action plan to be carried out.
	Pre-purchase checklist to identify higher risk procurements	Check list currently being drafted.	Once completed the pre-purchase checklist for high-risk procurements will be reviewed and implemented.
	Supplier risk assessment – existing suppliers	Council is yet to action.	A review will be scheduled in year one (1) of Council's action plan.
	Supplier risk assessment – new and potential suppliers	Purchasing from LGP Contracts and utilising modern slavery risk ratings. For purchases not on LGP Contracts Council will utilise the SAQ	These works will be scheduled into year one (1) of Council's action plan.
Tendering and contracting	Modern slavery tender criteria	Since the adoption of the policy in late 2023, Council has been including a modern slavery tender criterion as part of its standard RFT documentation.	The inclusion of Modern slavery tender criteria into Council contracts has commenced.
	Procurement process/procedure		

	includes the requirement to assess that the tendered price allows for at least the minimum level of wages and other entitlements required by law.		
	Modern slavery contract clauses	A modern slavery contract clause has been developed and will be included as standard in Council contract documentation.	The inclusion of Modern contract clause into Council contracts has commenced.
	Supplier Code of Conduct	Council has adopted a Statement of Business Ethics, which identifies the expected behaviour of suppliers	The Statement of Business Ethics has been adopted and formal public notice of its adoption will be carried out.
Reporting and Grievance Mechanisms	Confidential reporting mechanism/process for staff, contractors, community to report concerns related to modern slavery.	Council is yet to action.	A review of systems is to be undertaken to incorporate confidential reporting mechanisms for both staff and the community to report concerns related to modern slavery.
Response and Remedy Framework	Response and remedy framework involving actions, such as facilitation of access to health, legal or psychosocial services, financial compensation, and prevention of future harm.	Council is yet to action.	Council is yet to plan.
Monitoring and Review	Monitoring and review of the effectiveness of modern slavery related processes.	As this is first year under the new legislation, this is too early to action.	Monitor and review of the policy and processes will be programmed into year two and three of the Council action plan.

Management of High Risk Categories

Category	Due Diligence Measure	Progress	Planned
ICT Hardware	Supplier engagement	Council is awaiting guidance before commencing	Council intends to use peak industry bodies to provide guidance to Council.
	Modern slavery risk assessment of suppliers	Council is using LGP Contracts modern slavery risk ratings.	Nothing is planned.
	Modern slavery tender criteria	A criterion has been developed and will be included in the assessment process.	The inclusion of Modern slavery tender criteria into Council contracts has commenced.
	Modern slavery contract clauses	The clause has been developed and will be included in future contracts.	The inclusion of Modern contract clause into has commenced.
	Supplier Code of Conduct	Council has adopted a Statement of Business Ethics, which	The Statement of Business Ethics has been adopted

		identifies the expected behaviour of suppliers	and formal public notice of its adoption will be carried out.
	Contract KPIs in relation to modern slavery in place	Council is yet to action.	Development of KPI's is to be included in Council's action plan.
	KPI measurement	Council is yet to action.	Development of KPI's is to be included in Council's action plan.
Renewable energy (Solar Panels)	Supplier engagement	Awaiting guidance before commencing.	Council intends to use peak industry bodies to provide guidance to Council.
	Modern slavery risk assessment of suppliers	Council is using LGP Contracts modern slavery risk ratings.	Nothing is planned.
	Modern slavery tender criteria	A criterion has been developed and will be included in the assessment process.	The inclusion of Modern slavery tender criteria into Council contracts has commenced.
	Modern slavery contract clauses	The clause has been developed and will be included in future contracts.	The inclusion of Modern contract clause into has commenced.
	Supplier Code of Conduct	Developed and in place/ Yet to be actioned	The development of a supplier Code of Conduct will be included in Council's action plan.
	Contract KPIs in relation to modern slavery in place		
	KPI measurement	Council is yet to action.	Development of KPI's is to be included in Council's action plan.
Cleaning services	Supplier engagement	Awaiting guidance before commencing.	Council intends to use peak industry bodies to provide guidance to Council.
	Modern slavery risk assessment of suppliers	Council is using LGP Contracts modern slavery risk ratings.	Nothing is planned.
	Modern slavery tender criteria	A criterion has been developed and will be included in the assessment process.	The inclusion of Modern slavery tender criteria into Council contracts has commenced.
	Modern slavery contract clauses	The clause has been developed and will be included in future contracts.	The inclusion of Modern contract clause into has commenced.
	Supplier Code of Conduct	Council has adopted a Statement of Business Ethics, which identifies the expected behaviour of suppliers	The Statement of Business Ethics has been adopted and formal public notice of its adoption will be carried out.

	Contract KPIs in relation to modern slavery in place		
	KPI measurement	Council is yet to action.	Development of KPI's is to be included in Council's action plan.

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

CLAUSE 132 RATES AND CHARGES WRITTEN OFF

Rates and charges totalling \$306,098.01 were written off during the 2024 - 2025 financial year.

Pensioner Rebates	\$102,149.87
Write-off interest under Hardship Policy	\$ Nil

Council received a Government subsidy of 55% of Pensioner Write-offs during the year. The 2024 - 2025 subsidy amounted to \$56,167.25.

REG CL 186 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

In 2024 - 2025 the Mayor and Councillors received the following training and development:

- Induction Program – all Councillors
- Code of Conduct – all Councillors
- Mayoral mentoring program – Mayor Daniel Keady
- Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee
 - Country Councils' ARIC Conference – Cr Phillipa Goldsmith
 - LGNSW ARIC Training – Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Additionally, the Mayor and Councillors attended:

- Annual Country Mayors Association Meetings:
 - Mayor Daniel Keady
- LG NSW Annual Conference:
 - Cr Margaret Garnsey

CLAUSE 217(1) (A) OVERSEAS VISITS

No overseas trips were undertaken by Council representatives during the 2024 - 2025 year.

CLAUSE 217(1) (A1)**COUNCILLOR EXPENSES**

The 2024 - 2025 fees for Councillors of the Coonamble Shire have been determined by Council within the limits approved by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal as:

Councillor	\$11,870 per annum
Mayor	\$34,390 per annum

The total expenditure during the 2024 - 2025 year was:

Councillors' Fees	\$105,854.26
Mayoral Fees	\$ 20,993.18
Delegates' Expenses	\$ 6,441.73
Travel/Sustenance	\$ 15,199.19
Training	\$ 11,305.14
Councillor – other expenses	\$ 4,282.24
Total	<u>\$164,075.74</u>

CLAUSE 217 (1) (A1)

- (i) There is no dedicated office equipment made available to the Mayor or any individual councillor. Council does provide office facilities and access to Council communications equipment that may be used by Councillors in carrying out their civic functions.
- (ii) No communication facilities were provided to Councillors.
- (v) No interstate visits were undertaken by Councillors during the 2024 - 2025 year.
- (vii) There was no expense paid to any person who accompanied any Councillor in the performance of their civic function.
- (viii) No expenses were paid to any person for the provision of care for a child or an immediate family member of a Councillor to allow the Councillor to perform their civic function.

CLAUSE 217 (1) (A2)**CONTRACTS AWARDED BY COUNCIL**

Council awarded the following contracts in excess of \$6,000,000 during the 2024 - 2025 financial year:

Awarded To	Goods/Services Provided	Total contract amount (ex GST)
Batterline	Hire of Plant & Trucks	\$1,121,431.72
Rollers Australia	Hire of Plant & Trucks	\$1,075,316.48
Western Tree Management	Hire of Plant & Trucks	\$240,702.45
WTC Group Australia Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant & Trucks	\$192,512.15
Winsman Group Pty Ltd	Construction of the new Gulargambone Sportsground Amenities Building	\$554,000.00
TWS Evolution Pty Ltd	Design & construct Yarran St Sewage Pump Station	\$426,000.00
Lee & Co Operations	Coonamble Swimming Pool Management	\$574,732.00
Levy Group Pty Ltd	Coonamble & Gulargambone Youth Accommodation	\$1,494,755.00
Winsman Group Pty Ltd	Coonamble Sportsground Amenities Building	\$556,000.00
Tuff Commercial Pty Ltd	Coonamble Tennis Court Resurfacing	\$193,714.80

CLAUSE 217 (1) (A3)**SUMMARY OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

Council costs in regard to legal proceedings for 2024 - 2025 amounted to \$130,228.00

CLAUSE 217 (1) (A4)**SUBSIDISED PRIVATE WORKS**

Council did not undertake any subsidised private works during the year.

CLAUSE 217 (1) (A5)**DONATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER SECTION 356**

A total of \$75,100.00 was donated or contributed by Council during the year. Council has provided significant financial assistance to community organisations including:

Coonamble CWA Rates	\$1,100.00
Campbell Town City Council	\$3,000.00
Coonamble Challenge & Campdraft	\$2,000.00
Coonamble Greyhound Racing Club	\$3,000.00
Coonamble Rodeo and Campdraft	\$12,000.00
Coonamble Show Society Incorporated	\$5,000.00
Coonamble Neighbourhood Centre	\$1,000.00
Coonamble Amateur Theatrical Society	\$2,000.00
Coonamble Golf Club Pty Ltd	\$1,000.00
Coonamble Challenge & Campdraft	\$2,000.00

Gular Racecourse & Showground	\$1,500.00
Gulargambone Working Dogs Incorporated	\$1,000.00
Gulargambone Bowling Club Pty Ltd	\$1,000.00
Coonamble Meals On Wheels	\$2,500.00
Rotary Club	\$250.00
Coonamble High School	\$225.00
Coonamble Public School	\$100.00
Gulargambone Central School	\$100.00
Quambone Public School	\$225.00
St Brigid's Catholic Primary School	\$100.00
St Barnabas Anglican Church	\$2,000.00
Cats Amateur Theatre Club	\$2,000.00
Coonamble Community Radio	\$10,000.00
Coonamble Clay Target Club	\$10,000.00
Coonamble District Education Foundation	\$2,000.00
Gular Racecourse and Showground	\$4,000.00
Coonamble Meals On Wheels	\$2,000.00
Quambone Resources Committee	\$2,000.00
Coonamble Royal Far West	\$2,000.00

In addition to the financial assistance, Council provided in-kind support for events at the Coonamble Showground, totalling more than \$56,303.94.

CLAUSE 217 (1) (A6) DELEGATIONS TO EXTERNAL BODIES

Council has delegated the following functions to the organisations listed below:

- (i) **Castlereagh Macquarie County Council** undertakes noxious weed control across the Local Government Area.

CLAUSE 217 (1) (A7) COMPANIES IN WHICH COUNCIL HELD A CONTROLLING INTEREST

Council held no controlling interest in any Company.

CLAUSE 217 (1) (A8) PARTNERSHIPS, COOPERATIVES, JOINT VENTURES TO WHICH COUNCIL WAS A PARTY

Coonamble Shire Council is a member of the *North Western Library Service*, a cooperative providing library services to the Shires of Bogan, Coonamble, Gilgandra and Warren. The quality of library services are significantly enhanced by this participation.

CLAUSE 217 (1) (A9) EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (EEO)

Council's policy provides an environment of equal employment opportunity in its workplace. Council believes that EEO creates a more diverse workplace, which results in better provisions to the community. Council's EEO Management Plan comprises four key strategies for an effective approach to EEO.

Activities undertaken during 2024 - 2025 are as follows:

1. Policies and procedures – All policies and procedures conform with EEO principles:

- EEO information included in new staff inductions.
 - New Employee Assistance Program provider appointed.
 - All staff advised of counselling services available.
2. Communication and awareness – All staff understand EEO principles and their responsibilities and rights in relation to EEO:
 - Current EEO information posted on staff notice boards.
 - EEO Management Plan is included in induction package and reviewed by new staff at induction with responsibilities are conveyed to new Managers/Supervisors.
 3. Training and development:
 - Training and development policy and procedures reflects EEO principles.
 4. Implementation, evaluation and review – EEO Management Plan is successfully implemented, effectively evaluated and periodically reviewed:
 - Staff with specific responsibilities in relation to the implementation of the EEO Management Plan are identified, responsibilities communicated during induction.
 - EEO Management Plan activities monitored and reviewed.

CLAUSE 217 (1) (B) GENERAL MANAGER REMUNERATION

Total remuneration of the General Manager during the 2024 - 2025 year was \$634,181 (including end of employment payment with leave entitlements).

CLAUSE 217 (1) (C) SENIOR STAFF – REMUNERATION

The General Manager is the only designated Senior Staff position.

CLAUSE 217 (1) (D) LABOUR STATISTICS – COUNCIL

The Secretary of the Department of Planning and Environment has stipulated that reported data is to be as of 4 December 2024.

Number of persons directly employed by Council	Number of persons who performed paid work as at 4 December 2024
Permanent full-time basis	91
Permanent part-time basis	7
Casual basis	22
Under a fixed-term contract	1
Number of persons employed by the Council who are senior staff for the purposes of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>	1
Number of persons engaged by the Council, under a contract or other arrangement with the person's employer, that is wholly or principally for the labour of the person, and	3
Number of persons supplied to the Council, under a contract or other arrangement with the person's employer, as an apprentice or trainee.	0

CLAUSE 217 (1) (E) STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Council did not levy any charge for stormwater management services during 2024 - 2025.

CLAUSE 217 (1) (F) COMPANION ANIMALS ACT AND REGULATION

Pets add another dimension to our lives, bringing constant companionship, friendship and loyalty and trust. It is mandatory under the *Companion Animals Act 1998* that pet owners ensure their cats and dogs are microchipped for identification and registered with their local Council. Animal control is an important function of Council, and the following information is provided to ensure Council's activities during the year in relation to enforcing and ensuring compliance with the *Companion Animals Act 1998* and the *Companion Animals Regulation 2018*:

Companion animal control report and statistics

In 2024/2025, Council had two (2) regulatory compliance staff employed, one (1) employee left the organisation during the reporting period. Recruitment to fill this vacancy has not been successful. Contractors were engaged during the reporting period to assist with animal control and enforcement.

Regulatory Compliance Data for 2024/2025	Number
Total Companion Animals Impounded	154
- Dogs	126
- Cats	28
% of Impounded Companion Animals Rehomed*	60.4%
% of Impounded Animals Returned to their Owners	9.8%
% of Impounded Animals Euthanised	28.6%
Total Number of Companion Animals Registered	26
Dog Attack Reports Received	9

* Note: Includes dogs and cats released to rehoming organisations and animals sold from Council's impounding facility.

Funding Spent on Companion Animal Activities	Amount (\$)
Salaries	\$61,803.22
Contractors Expenses	\$13,395.00
Operational Expenditure	\$83,651.56
Total	\$158,849.78

Income Generated from Companion Animal Activities	Amount (\$)
Impounding Fees	\$1410.00
Registration Fees	\$1384.40

Penalty Infringement Notices	\$2960.00
Total	\$5754.40

These statistics are consistent with previous years. Pet owners rarely claim their impounded animals.

The low rate of impounded dogs returned to owners is a concern for Council. Generally, animals are not microchipped or registered, leading to Council's inability to return animals to their owners. Despite Council's previous free microchipping days, registration can be a cost prohibitive exercise for some and lack of awareness on the issue despite Council's numerous attempts to engage with customers through correspondence and social media. There were no free microchipping days offered last financial year.

Other Statutory Information reporting requirements

SWIMMING POOLS REGULATION 2018 (SP REG) CL 23 SWIMMING POOLS ACT 1992 (SP ACT), S 22F (2)

Private swimming pool inspection by type	Number
Tourist & Visitor Accommodation	1
Premises with two (2) or more dwellings	0
Residential	5
Certificate Issued	Number
Resulted in issue of Certificate of Compliance under s22d of SP ACT	6
Resulted in issue of Certificate of Non-compliance	Nil
Resulted in issue of Certificate under s30C of the SP Act	Nil

OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT CAPITAL EXPENDITURE GUIDELINES

Capital Works Reporting

There were no capital works projects requiring reporting for Council in 2023 - 2024.

CARERS RECOGNITION ACT 2010 S8(2)

Council is not considered a 'human services agencies' under the Act in 2024 - 2025 and are therefore not required to report on compliance with the Act.

DISABILITY INCLUSION ACT S13

Council has a Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP).

The Plan demonstrates Council's commitment to improving access and inclusion and identifies what Council can do to promote and achieve equality for residents and visitors to the Coonamble Shire. Council has scheduled the review of the Plan in the next financial year.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING & ASSESSMENT ACT 1979 S7.5(5)

Compliance and effect of relevant planning agreements. Council had no relevant planning agreements in force in 2024 - 2025.

ENVIRONMENT PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT REGULATION 2021 CL 218A (1)

Council has no relevant contributions plans in 2024 - 2025.

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 1994, S220ZT (2)

Council is not responsible for any relevant threat and abatement plan in 2024 - 2025.

PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES ACT 1994

SECTION 31 PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES REGULATION 2011 CL 4

Council must report annually on its obligations under the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994. The report for the year ended 30 June 2025, advised that there had been no Public Interest Disclosures (PID) during the financial year.

Disclosure Activity Type	Made By Public Officials Performing Their Day-To-Day Functions	Under a Statutory or Other Legal Obligation	All Other PIDS
Number of public officials who have made a public interest disclosure	0	0	0
Number of public interest disclosures received	0	0	0
Number of public interest disclosures received relating to each of the following:	0	0	0
(i) corrupt conduct,	0	0	0
(ii) maladministration,	0	0	0
(iii) serious and substantial waste of public money or local government money (as appropriate),	0	0	0
(iv) government information contraventions,	0	0	0
(v) local government pecuniary interest contraventions,	0	0	0
Number of public interest disclosures finalised	0	0	0

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION (PUBLIC ACCESS) ACT 2009, S 125(1)

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION (PUBLIC ACCESS) REGULATION 2018, CL 8, SCHEDULE 2

Clause 8A: Details of the review carried out by the agency under section 7 (3) of the Act during the reporting year and the details of any information made publicly available by the agency as a result of the review.

Review Carried Out by the Agency	Information Made Publicly Available by the Agency
Yes	No

The Following Disclosure Were Made Public, Pecuniary Interest Disclosure and Related Parties. Information Relating to Approved Development Applications.
None

Clause 8B: The total number of access applications received by the agency during the reporting year (including withdrawn applications but not including invalid applications)

Total Number of Applications Received
1

Clause 8C: The total number of access applications received by the agency during the reporting year that the agency refused either wholly or partly, because the application was for the disclosure of information referred to in Schedule 1 to the Act (information for which there is conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure)

Number Of Applications Refused	Wholly	Partly	Total
	0	0	0
Percentage of Total	0%	0%	

STATISTICAL INFORMATION ABOUT ACCESS APPLICATIONS (SCHEDULE 2)

TABLE A - NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS BY TYPE OF APPLICATION AND OUTCOME										
Applicant by type	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether the information is held	Application withdrawn	Total	% of Total
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private sector business	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not-for-profit organisation or community group	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Member of public (by legal representative)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	100
Member of public (other)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100
% of Total	0	0	0	100%	0	0	0	0		

* More than one decision can be made in respect of a particular access application. If so, a recording must be made in relation to each such decision. This also applies to Table B

TABLE B - NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS BY TYPE OF APPLICATION AND OUTCOME										
Applicant by type	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether the information is held	Application withdrawn	Total	% of Total
Personal information application *	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	100%
Access information (other than personal information applications)	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access information that are partly personal information applications and partly others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	100%
% of Total				100						

*A personal information application is an access application for personal information (as defined in clause 4 of Schedule 4 to the Act) about the applicant (the applicant being an individual).

TABLE C: INVALID APPLICATIONS		
Reason For Invalidity	No. Of Applications	% Of Total
Application does not comply with formal requirements (section 41 of the Act).	0	0%
Application is for excluded information of the agency (section 43 of the Act).	0	0%
Application contravenes restraint order (section 110 of the Act).	0	0%
Total Number of invalid applications received.	0	0%
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications.	0	0%

TABLE D: CONCLUSIVE PRESUMPTION OF OVERRIDING PUBLIC INTEREST AGAINST DISCLOSURE: MATTERS LISTED IN SCHEDULE 1 TO ACT		
	No. Of Times Consideration Used *	% Of Total
Overriding secrecy laws	0	0%
Cabinet information	0	0%
Executive Council information	0	0%
Contempt	0	0%
Legal professional privilege	0	0%
Excluded information	0	0%
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	0	0%
Transport safety	0	0%
Adoption	0	0%
Care and protection of children	0	0%
Ministerial code of conduct	0	0%
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0	0%
Privilege general – Sch 1 (5A)	0	0%
Information provided to High-Risk Offenders Assessment Committee	0	0%
TOTAL	0	0%

* More than one public interest consideration may apply in relation to a particular access application and, if so, each such consideration is to be recorded (but only once per application). This also applies in relation to Table E.

TABLE E: OTHER PUBLIC INTEREST CONSIDERATIONS AGAINST DISCLOSURE: MATTERS LISTED IN TABLE TO SECTION 14 OF ACT		
	Number of occasions when application not successful	% of Total
Responsible and effective government	0	0%
Law enforcement and security	0	0%
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	0	0%
Business interests of agencies and other persons	0	0%
Environment, culture, economy and general matters	0	0%
Secrecy provisions	0	0%
Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information Legislation	0	0%
Total	0	

TABLE F: TIMELINESS		
	No of applications	% of Total
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	0	0%
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	1	100%
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0	0%
Total	1	100

TABLE G: NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS REVIEWED UNDER PART 5 OF THE ACT (BY TYPE OF REVIEW AND OUTCOME)				
	Decision Varied	Decision Upheld	Total	% of Total
Internal review	0	0	0	0%
Review by Information Commissioner*	0	0	0	0%
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of the Act	0	0	0	0%
Review by ADT	0	0	0	0%
Total	0	0	0	0%

*The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions but can make recommendations to the original decision-maker. The data in this case indicates that a recommendation to vary or uphold the original decision has been made by the Information Commissioner.

TABLE H: APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW UNDER PART 5 OF THE ACT (TYPE BY APPLICANT)		
	No. of applications for review	% of Total
Applications by access applicants	0	0%
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see section 54 of the Act)	0	0%

TABLE I: APPLICATIONS TRANSFERRED TO OTHER AGENCIES.		
	Number of applications transferred	% of Total
Agency-Initiated Transfers	0	0%
Applicant – Initiated Transfers	0	0%
Total	0	0%

Appendix C.

COONAMBLE
SHIRE COUNCIL

Coonamble Shire Council

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2025



Coonamble Shire Council

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2025



Coonamble Shire Council**General Purpose Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

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Coonamble Shire Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Understanding Council's Financial Statements

Introduction

Each year NSW local governments are required to present audited financial statements to their council and community.

What you will find in the Statements

The financial statements set out the financial performance, financial position and cash flows of Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

The format of the financial statements is standard across all NSW Councils and complies with both the accounting and reporting requirements of Australian Accounting Standards and requirements as set down by the Office of Local Government.

About the Councillor/Management Statement

The financial statements must be certified by senior staff as 'presenting fairly' the Council's financial results for the year and are required to be adopted by Council – ensuring both responsibility for and ownership of the financial statements.

About the Primary Financial Statements

The financial statements incorporate five "primary" financial statements:

1. The Income Statement

Summarises Council's financial performance for the year, listing all income and expenses. This statement also displays Council's original adopted budget to provide a comparison between what was projected and what actually occurred.

2. The Statement of Comprehensive Income

Primarily records changes in the fair value of Council's Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

3. The Statement of Financial Position

A 30 June snapshot of Council's financial position indicating its assets, liabilities and "net wealth".

4. The Statement of Changes in Equity

The overall change for the year (in dollars) of Council's "net wealth".

5. The Statement of Cash Flows

Indicates where Council's cash came from and where it was spent. This statement also displays Council's original adopted budget to provide a comparison between what was projected and what actually occurred.

About the Notes to the Financial Statements

The Notes to the Financial Statements provide greater detail and additional information on the five primary financial statements.

About the Auditor's Reports

Council's financial statements are required to be audited by the NSW Audit Office.

In NSW the auditor provides 2 audit reports:

1. an opinion on whether the financial statements present fairly the Council's financial performance and position, and
2. their observations on the conduct of the audit, including commentary on the Council's financial performance and financial position.

Who uses the Financial Statements?

The financial statements are publicly available documents and must be presented at a Council meeting between seven days and five weeks after the date of the audit report.

The public can make submissions to Council up to seven days subsequent to the public presentation of the financial statements.

Council is required to forward an audited set of financial statements to the Office of Local Government.

Coonamble Shire Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Statement by Councillors and Management

Statement by Councillors and Management made pursuant to Section 413 (2c) of the *Local Government Act 1993*

The attached general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the *Local Government Act 1993* and the regulations made thereunder,
- the Australian Accounting Standards issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board
- the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- present fairly the Council's operating result and financial position for the year
- accord with Council's accounting and other records.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 10 September 2025.



Daniel Keady

Mayor

10 September 2025



Steven Butler

Councillor

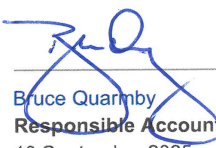
10 September 2025



Phillip Perram

General Manager

10 September 2025



Bruce Quarmby

Responsible Accounting Officer

10 September 2025

Coonamble Shire Council | Income Statement | for the year ended 30 June 2025

Coonamble Shire Council

Income Statement

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Original unaudited budget 2025 \$ '000		Notes	Actual 2025 \$ '000	Actual 2024 \$ '000
Income from continuing operations				
8,288	Rates and annual charges	B2-1	7,960	7,518
10,277	User charges and fees	B2-2	10,335	7,319
1,602	Other revenues	B2-3	1,825	1,097
13,593	Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	B2-4	10,385	13,459
18,401	Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	B2-4	4,308	8,904
1,221	Interest and investment income	B2-5	1,334	1,795
116	Other income	B2-6	117	82
—	Net gain from the disposal of assets	B4-1	82	835
53,498	Total income from continuing operations		36,346	41,009
Expenses from continuing operations				
13,021	Employee benefits and on-costs	B3-1	11,784	9,528
14,293	Materials and services	B3-2	13,220	11,669
46	Borrowing costs	B3-3	32	25
1,054	Other expenses	B3-5	1,051	1,029
28,414	Total expenses from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets		26,087	22,251
25,084	Operating result from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets		10,259	18,758
6,688	Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	B3-4	8,057	7,669
18,396	Operating result from continuing operations		2,202	11,089
18,396	Net operating result for the year attributable to Council		2,202	11,089
5	Net operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes		(2,106)	2,185

The above Income Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Coonamble Shire Council | Statement of Comprehensive Income | for the year ended 30 June 2025

Coonamble Shire Council

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2025

		2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
	Notes		
Net operating result for the year – from Income Statement		2,202	11,089
Other comprehensive income:			
Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequent to operating result			
Gain (loss) on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	10,355	63,957
Total items which will not be reclassified subsequent to operating result		10,355	63,957
Total other comprehensive income for the year		10,355	63,957
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to Council		12,557	75,046

The above Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Coonamble Shire Council | Statement of Financial Position | as at 30 June 2025

Coonamble Shire Council

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	C1-1	3,875	9,713
Investments	C1-2	22,250	19,750
Receivables	C1-4	13,217	14,353
Inventories	C1-5	928	1,809
Other		397	361
Total current assets		40,667	45,986
Non-current assets			
Receivables	C1-4	1,665	606
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)	C1-6	439,721	424,308
Right of use assets	C2-1	103	27
Investments accounted for using the equity method	D2-2	109	102
Total non-current assets		441,598	425,043
Total assets		482,265	471,029
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	C3-1	2,757	3,568
Income received in advance	C3-1	407	359
Contract liabilities	C3-2	7,444	8,404
Lease liabilities	C2-1	38	29
Borrowings	C3-3	51	49
Employee benefit provisions	C3-4	2,144	1,911
Total current liabilities		12,841	14,320
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liabilities	C2-1	57	—
Borrowings	C3-3	303	354
Employee benefit provisions	C3-4	115	105
Provisions	C3-5	921	779
Total non-current liabilities		1,396	1,238
Total liabilities		14,237	15,558
Net assets		468,028	455,471
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus		210,129	207,927
IPPE revaluation surplus	C4-1	257,899	247,544
Council equity interest		468,028	455,471
Total equity		468,028	455,471

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Coonamble Shire Council | Statement of Changes in Equity | for the year ended 30 June 2025

Coonamble Shire Council

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025			2024		
		Accumulated surplus \$ '000	IPPE revaluation surplus \$ '000	Total equity \$ '000	Accumulated surplus \$ '000	IPPE revaluation surplus \$ '000	Total equity \$ '000
Opening balance at 1 July		207,927	247,544	455,471	196,838	183,587	380,425
Net operating result for the year		2,202	–	2,202	11,089	–	11,089
Other comprehensive income							
Gain (loss) on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	–	10,355	10,355	–	63,957	63,957
Other comprehensive income		–	10,355	10,355	–	63,957	63,957
Total comprehensive income		2,202	10,355	12,557	11,089	63,957	75,046
Closing balance at 30 June		210,129	257,899	468,028	207,927	247,544	455,471

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Coonamble Shire Council | Statement of Cash Flows | for the year ended 30 June 2025

Coonamble Shire Council

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Original unaudited budget 2025 \$ '000		Notes	Actual 2025 \$ '000	Actual 2024 \$ '000
Cash flows from operating activities				
Receipts:				
8,287	Rates and annual charges		7,792	7,263
9,588	User charges and fees		12,034	8,854
1,421	Interest received		1,246	1,824
39,601	Grants and contributions		14,314	18,438
—	Bonds, deposits and retentions received		27	93
1,595	Other		2,877	4,407
Payments:				
(10,806)	Payments to employees		(11,310)	(9,023)
(16,961)	Payments for materials and services		(15,701)	(15,298)
(31)	Borrowing costs		(31)	(25)
—	Bonds, deposits and retentions refunded		(6)	(100)
(1,040)	Other		(1,341)	(1,164)
31,654	Net cash flows from operating activities	G1-1	9,901	15,269
Cash flows from investing activities				
Receipts:				
42,000	Sale of investments		40,750	29,500
—	Sale of real estate assets		139	48
80	Proceeds from sale of IPPE		316	1,101
Payments:				
(42,000)	Purchase of investments		(43,250)	(18,000)
(34,089)	Payments for IPPE		(13,612)	(24,659)
(34,009)	Net cash flows from investing activities		(15,657)	(12,010)
Cash flows from financing activities				
Payments:				
(48)	Repayment of borrowings		(49)	(46)
(33)	Principal component of lease payments		(33)	(38)
(81)	Net cash flows from financing activities		(82)	(84)
(2,436)	Net change in cash and cash equivalents		(5,838)	3,175
6,538	Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		9,713	6,538
4,102	Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	C1-1	3,875	9,713
24,536	plus: Investments on hand at end of year	C1-2	22,250	19,750
28,638	Total cash, cash equivalents and investments		26,125	29,463

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Coonamble Shire Council

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A About Council and these financial statements

A1-1 Basis of preparation

These financial statements were authorised for issue by Council on 10 September 2025. Council has the power to amend and reissue these financial statements in cases where critical information is received from public submissions or where the OLG directs Council to amend the financial statements.

The material accounting policy information related to these consolidated financial statements are set out below.

These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Australian Accounting Interpretations, the *Local Government Act 1993* (Act) and *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (Regulation), and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting. Council is a not for-profit entity. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and certain classes of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment and investment property.

Significant accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Council's accounting policies. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the Council and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

Council makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future.

The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year include:

- (i) estimated fair values of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment – refer Note C1-6.
- (ii) employee benefit provisions – refer Note C3-4.
- (iii) asset remediation/restoration - refer Note C3-5.

Significant judgements in applying the Council's accounting policies

- (i) Impairment of receivables

Council has made a significant judgement about the impairment of a number of its receivables – refer Note C1-4.

Monies and other assets received by Council

The Consolidated Fund

In accordance with the provisions of Section 409(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW), all money and property received by Council is held in the Council's Consolidated Fund unless it is required to be held in the Council's Trust Fund.

Cash and other assets of the following entities have been included as part of the Consolidated Fund:

- General purpose operations
- Water service
- Sewerage service

Volunteer services

Council has no material reliance on volunteer services and there is no financial impact on the financial statements as presented.

A1-1 Basis of preparation (continued)

New accounting standards and interpretations issued but not yet effective

New accounting standards and interpretations issued but not yet effective

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2025 reporting period. Council has not applied any pronouncements before its operative date in the annual reporting period beginning 1 July 2024.

As at the date of authorisation of these financial statements Council does not consider that any of these new (and still to be applied) standards and interpretations are likely to have a material impact on the Council's future financial statements, financial position, financial performance or cash flows.

New accounting standards adopted during the year

During the year Council adopted all accounting standards and interpretations (as issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board) which were mandatorily effective from the first time at 30 June 2025.

The following new standard is effective for the first time at 30 June 2025:

- ***AASB 2022-10 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Fair Value Measurement of Non-Financial Assets of Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities.***

B Financial Performance

B1 Functions or activities

B1-1 Functions or activities – income, expenses and assets

Income, expenses and assets have been directly attributed to the following functions or activities. Details of those functions or activities are provided in Note B1-2.

	Income		Expenses		Operating result		Grants and contributions		Carrying amount of assets	
	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Functions or activities										
Administration	12,832	15,555	6,150	5,197	6,682	10,358	2,915	7,833	44,971	51,057
Public order and safety	541	598	1,097	1,087	(556)	(489)	15	50	5,944	5,765
Health	4	17	475	448	(471)	(431)	1	4	–	–
Environment	1,190	673	2,226	2,080	(1,036)	(1,407)	90	16	19,290	18,633
Community service and education	875	673	554	782	321	(109)	898	673	922	443
Housing and community amenities	344	257	598	698	(254)	(441)	111	40	10,097	10,259
Water supplies	2,266	2,057	2,283	1,658	(17)	399	124	105	25,164	24,478
Sewerage supplies	1,594	1,421	1,181	1,231	413	190	94	7	25,359	19,687
Recreation and culture	1,284	841	2,802	2,362	(1,518)	(1,521)	1,863	769	23,780	17,480
Mining, manufacturing and construction	2,127	2,672	3,469	4,529	(1,342)	(1,857)	–	–	2,439	9,153
Transport and Communication	12,682	15,609	11,989	8,641	693	6,968	8,431	12,678	319,900	309,056
Economic Affairs	607	636	1,320	1,207	(713)	(571)	150	188	4,399	4,582
Other	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	436
Total functions and activities	36,346	41,009	34,144	29,920	2,202	11,089	14,693	22,363	482,265	471,029

B1-2 Components of functions or activities

Details relating to the Council's functions or activities as reported in B1-1 are as follows:

Administration

Includes Council's Governance function, Corporate support and other support services, Engineering works and any Council policy compliance.

Public order and safety

Includes Council's Fire and Emergency Services Levy, Fire protection, Emergency services, Animal control and other public order and safety.

Health

Includes administration and inspection costs for Health services.

Environment

Includes Noxious plants and insect/vermin control; other Environmental protection: Solid waste management, including domestic waste; other waste management; other sanitation; and garbage, street cleaning, drainage, and stormwater management.

Community service and education

Includes Administration and education; Aged and disabled services; Youth services and programs; other community services.

Housing and community amenities

Includes Public Cemeteries; Public conveniences; Street lighting; Town planning; other community amenities, including housing development and accommodation.

Water supplies

Includes all Council Water services.

Sewerage supplies

Includes all Council Sewer services.

Recreation and culture

Includes Public Libraries; Museums; Community centres; Public halls and performing arts venues; Sporting grounds and venues; Swimming pools; Parks and gardens; and other sporting, recreational and cultural services.

Mining, manufacturing and construction

Includes Building control; Quarries and pits and mineral resources.

Transport and Communication

Includes Sealed and Unsealed roads, Bridges, Footpaths, Parking areas, and Aerodromes under Council control.

Economic Affairs

Includes Camping areas and Caravan parks; Tourism and area promotion; Industrial development promotion; Saleyards and markets; Real estate development and other business undertakings.

B2 Sources of income**B2-1 Rates and annual charges**

	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Ordinary rates		
Residential	838	812
Farmland	4,497	4,324
Business	190	180
Less: pensioner rebates (mandatory)	(38)	(40)
Rates levied to ratepayers	5,487	5,276
Pensioner rate subsidies received	20	22
Total ordinary rates	5,507	5,298
Annual charges (pursuant to s496, 496A, 496B, 501 & 611)		
Domestic waste management services	602	494
Water supply services	844	808
Sewerage services	1,035	948
Less: pensioner rebates (mandatory)	(64)	(64)
Annual charges levied	2,417	2,186
Pensioner annual charges subsidies received:		
– Water	11	11
– Sewerage	10	10
– Domestic waste management	15	13
Total annual charges	2,453	2,220
Total rates and annual charges	7,960	7,518

Council has used 2022 year valuations provided by the NSW Valuer General in calculating its rates.

Material accounting policy information

Rates and annual charges are recognised as revenue at the beginning of the rating period to which they relate. Prepaid rates are recognised as a financial liability until the beginning of the rating period.

Pensioner rebates relate to reductions in rates and certain annual charges for eligible pensioners' place of residence in the local government council area.

Pensioner rate subsidies are received from the NSW Government to provide a contribution towards the pensioner rebates and are recognised within the underlying revenue item based on their substance.

B2-2 User charges and fees

	Timing	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Specific user charges (per s502 - specific 'actual use' charges)			
Water supply services	2	1,111	835
Sewerage services	2	227	137
Waste management services (non-domestic)	2	248	100
Total specific user charges		1,586	1,072
Other user charges and fees			
(i) Fees and charges – statutory and regulatory functions (per s608)			
Building regulation	2	32	43
Building services – other	2	4	4
Planning and building regulation	2	–	1
Private works – section 67	2	8	–
Regulatory/ statutory fees	2	3	13
Registration fees	2	5	11
Section 10.7 certificates (EP&A Act)	2	15	23
Section 603 certificates	2	12	14
Town planning	2	77	64
Other	2	3	4
Total fees and charges – statutory/regulatory		159	177
(ii) Fees and charges – other (incl. general user charges (per s608))			
Caravan park	2	51	30
Cemeteries	2	93	100
Park rents	2	1	1
Quarry revenues	2	1,799	2,629
Transport for NSW works (state roads not controlled by Council)	2	6,209	2,924
Saleyards	2	121	64
Sundry sales	2	8	8
Swimming centres	2	8	11
Waste disposal tipping fees	2	146	49
Water connection fees	2	10	3
Private works	2	35	149
Recreational grounds fees	2	40	45
Other	2	69	57
Total fees and charges – other		8,590	6,070
Total other user charges and fees		8,749	6,247
Total user charges and fees		10,335	7,319
Total user charges and fees		10,335	7,319

Material accounting policy information

Revenue arising from user charges and fees is recognised when or as the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided.

The performance obligation relates to the specific services which are provided to the customers and generally the payment terms are within 30 days of the provision of the service or in some cases such as caravan parks, the customer is required to pay on arrival or a deposit in advance. There is no material obligation for Council in relation to refunds or returns.

Where an upfront fee is charged the fee is recognised on a straight-line basis over the expected life of the membership.

Licences granted by Council are all either short-term or low value and all revenue from licences is recognised at the time that the licence is granted rather than over the term of the licence.

B2-3 Other revenues

	Timing	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Legal fees recovery – rates and charges (extra charges)	2	53	51
Commissions and agency fees	2	116	109
Diesel rebate	1	437	88
Insurance claims recoveries	2	105	80
Recycling income (non-domestic)	2	76	5
Sales – general	2	63	43
Reimbursement – bushfire	2	527	536
Other	1	448	185
Total other revenue		1,825	1,097

Timing of revenue recognition for other revenue

Other revenue recognised over time (1)	1,028	408
Other revenue recognised at a point in time (2)	797	689
Total other revenue	1,825	1,097

Material accounting policy information for other revenue

Where the revenue is earned for the provision of specified goods / services under an enforceable contract, revenue is recognised when or as the obligations are satisfied.

Statutory fees and fines are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided, the payment is received or when the penalty has been applied, whichever occurs first.

Other revenue is recorded when the payment is due, the value of the payment is notified, or the payment is received, whichever occurs first.

B2-4 Grants and contributions

		Operating 2025 \$ '000	Operating 2024 \$ '000	Capital 2025 \$ '000	Capital 2024 \$ '000
	Timing				
General purpose grants and non-developer contributions (untied)					
General purpose (untied)					
Current year allocation					
Financial assistance	1	623	550	–	–
Payment in advance - future year allocation					
Financial assistance	1	3,578	5,241	–	–
Amount recognised as income during current year		4,201	5,791	–	–
Special purpose grants and non-developer contributions (tied)					
Cash contributions					
Water supplies	1	124	50	–	55
Sewerage services	2	–	–	94	7
Bushfire and emergency services	2	–	–	–	50
Employment and training programs	2	202	15	–	–
Community care	2	25	108	–	–
Community centres	2	–	1	–	–
Economic development	2	71	2	–	–
Environmental programs	2	3	16	–	–
Floodplain management	2	–	–	66	–
Library – per capita	1	79	72	–	–
Recreation and culture	2	–	–	649	714
Street lighting	2	41	40	–	–
Storm/flood damage	2	1,416	3,267	32	53
Transport (other roads and bridges funding)	2	553	73	2,242	5,586
Community Drought Program	2	–	100	–	–
Other specific grants	2	–	–	–	2,012
Transport (roads to recovery)	2	1,209	1,859	–	–
Community services	2	866	584	–	–
Paving	2	–	25	97	360
Recreation and culture	2	150	39	1,128	67
Transport for NSW contributions (regional roads, block grant)	1	1,445	1,417	–	–
Total special purpose grants and non-developer contributions – cash		6,184	7,668	4,308	8,904
Total special purpose grants and non-developer contributions (tied)		6,184	7,668	4,308	8,904
Total grants and non-developer contributions		10,385	13,459	4,308	8,904
Comprising:					
– Commonwealth funding		7,025	11,050	1,193	2,293
– State funding		3,360	2,409	3,115	6,611
		10,385	13,459	4,308	8,904

continued on next page

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B2-4 Grants and contributions (continued)**Unspent grants and contributions**

Certain grants and contributions are obtained by Council on the condition they be spent in a specified manner or in a future period but which are not yet spent in accordance with those conditions are as follows:

	Operating 2025 \$ '000	Operating 2024 \$ '000	Capital 2025 \$ '000	Capital 2024 \$ '000
Unspent grants and contributions				
Unspent funds at 1 July	4,623	5,996	5,982	3,820
Add: Funds received and recognised as revenue in the current year	420	880	643	5,594
Less: Funds recognised as revenue in previous years that have been spent during the reporting year	(972)	(1,513)	–	–
Less: Funds received in prior year but revenue recognised and funds spent in current year	(894)	(740)	(1,153)	(3,432)
Unspent funds at 30 June	3,177	4,623	5,472	5,982

Material accounting policy information**Grants and contributions – enforceable agreement with sufficiently specific performance obligations**

Grant and contribution revenue from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations is recognised as or when control of each performance obligations is transferred.

The performance obligations vary according to the agreement but include achievement of specified levels of service, delivery of specific goods or services or the completion of agreed asset development. Payment terms vary depending on the terms of the grant, cash is received upfront for some grants and on the achievement of certain payment milestones for others.

Performance obligations may be satisfied either at a point in time or over time and this is reflected in the revenue recognition pattern. Point in time recognition occurs when the beneficiary obtains control of the goods / services at a single time (e.g. completion of the project when a report / outcome is provided), whereas over time recognition is where the control of the services is ongoing throughout the project (e.g. provision of community health services through the year).

Where control is transferred over time, generally the input methods being either costs or time incurred are deemed to be the most appropriate methods to reflect the transfer of benefit.

Capital grants

Capital grants received by Council under an enforceable contract for the acquisition or construction of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment to identified specifications which will be under Council's control on completion are recognised as revenue as and when the obligation to construct or purchase is completed.

For construction projects, this is generally as the construction progresses in accordance with costs incurred since this is deemed to be the most appropriate measure of the completeness of the construction project.

For acquisitions of assets, the revenue is recognised when the asset is acquired and controlled by the Council.

Other grants and contributions

Assets, including cash, received from other grants and contributions are recognised at fair value when the asset is received. Council considers whether there are any related liability or equity items associated with the asset which are recognised in accordance with the relevant accounting standard.

Once the assets and liabilities have been recognised then income is recognised for any remaining asset value at the time that the asset is received.

Coonamble Shire Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2025

B2-5 Interest and investment income

	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Interest on financial assets measured at amortised cost		
– Overdue rates and annual charges (incl. special purpose rates)	158	124
– Cash and investments	1,176	1,671
Total interest and investment income (losses)	1,334	1,795
Interest and investment income is attributable to:		
Unrestricted investments/financial assets:		
Overdue rates and annual charges (general fund)	57	46
General Council cash and investments	845	1,181
Restricted investments/funds – external:		
Water fund operations	179	233
Sewerage fund operations	234	322
Domestic waste management operations	19	13
Total interest and investment income	1,334	1,795

B2-6 Other income

	Notes	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Rental income			
Other lease income			
Residential Premises		43	24
Leaseback fees - council vehicles		21	14
Council Land - NEI		41	27
Aerodrome Lease Fees		5	3
Total rental income	C2-2	110	68
Net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method			
Joint ventures		7	14
Total other income		117	82

B3 Costs of providing services**B3-1 Employee benefits and on-costs**

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Salaries and wages	9,250	7,637
Employee leave entitlements (ELE)	946	941
Superannuation	1,079	805
Workers' compensation insurance	611	312
Fringe benefit tax (FBT)	146	72
Other	416	385
Total employee costs	12,448	10,152
Less: capitalised costs	(664)	(624)
Total employee costs expensed	11,784	9,528
Number of 'full-time equivalent' employees (FTE) at year end	111	91

Material accounting policy information*Retirement benefit obligations*

All employees of the Council are entitled to benefits on retirement, disability or death. Council contributes to various defined benefit plans and defined contribution plans on behalf of its employees.

Superannuation plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

Council participates in a defined benefit plan under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme, however, sufficient information to account for the plan as a defined benefit is not available and therefore Council accounts for its obligations to defined benefit plans on the same basis as its obligations to defined contribution plans, i.e. as an expense when it becomes payable – refer to Note E3-1 for more information.

B3-2 Materials and services

	Notes	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Raw materials and consumables		6,135	3,434
Contractor and consultancy costs			
– Administration		555	497
– Building, electrical, plumbing		643	325
– Community Services		434	536
– Planning		175	173
– Quarry		1,094	2,302
– Water Supply		84	4
– Recreation		200	178
– Waste management		644	991
– Aerodrome Grounds Maintenance		8	55
Contractor and consultancy costs – other		90	138
Audit Fees	F2-1	94	101
Advertising		139	91
Bank charges		26	26
Computer software charges		251	204
Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses	F1-2	229	195
Electricity and heating		349	372
Election expenses		54	–
Insurance		666	616
Office expenses (including computer expenses)		88	74
Postage		20	26
Printing and stationery		25	33
Royalties		116	137
Street Cleaning		109	108
Street lighting		124	144
Subscriptions and publications		97	117
Telephone and communications		56	64
Training costs (other than salaries and wages)		195	208
Travel expenses		237	231
Valuation fees		26	25
Other expenses		63	99
Legal expenses:			
– Legal expenses: planning and development		4	4
– Legal expenses: other		190	108
Other		–	53
Total materials and services		13,220	11,669

B3-3 Borrowing costs

(i) Interest bearing liability costs

Interest on leases	9	1
Interest on overdraft	1	–
Interest on loans	22	24
Total borrowing costs expensed	32	25

B3-4 Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets

	Notes	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Depreciation and amortisation			
Plant and equipment		1,616	1,333
Office equipment		59	59
Land improvements (depreciable)		–	21
Infrastructure:	C1-6		
– Buildings – non-specialised		194	134
– Buildings – specialised		560	592
– Other structures		616	552
– Roads		3,663	3,659
– Bridges		174	167
– Footpaths		55	33
– Stormwater drainage		131	180
– Water supply network		505	462
– Sewerage network		432	400
Right of use assets	C2-1	23	38
Reinstatement, rehabilitation and restoration assets:			
– Quarry assets	C3-5, C1-6	29	39
Total depreciation, amortisation and impairment for non-financial assets		8,057	7,669

Material accounting policy information**Depreciation and amortisation**

Depreciation and amortisation are calculated using the straight line method to allocate their cost over their estimated useful lives. Useful lives are included in Note C1-6 for IPPE assets and Note C2-1 for right of use assets.

Impairment of non-financial assets

Council assets held at fair value that are not held primarily for their ability to generate net cash flow, and that are deemed to be specialised, are no longer required to be tested for impairment under AASB 136. This is because these assets are assessed on an annual basis to ensure that the carrying amount is not materially different from fair value and therefore an impairment loss would be captured during this assessment.

Other assets that do not meet the criteria above are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets (cash-generating units). Non-financial assets that suffered an impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

Impairment losses for revalued assets are firstly offset against the amount in the revaluation surplus for the class of asset, with only the excess to be recognised in the Income Statement.

Coonamble Shire Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2025

B3-5 Other expenses

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Other		
Contributions/levies to other levels of government	69	69
– Emergency services levy (includes FRNSW, SES, and RFS levies)	736	751
– Other contributions/levies	171	133
Donations, contributions and assistance to other organisations (Section 356)	75	76
Total other	1,051	1,029
Total other expenses	1,051	1,029

B4 Gains or losses**B4-1 Gain or loss from the disposal, replacement and de-recognition of assets**

	Notes	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Gain (or loss) on disposal of property (excl. investment property)			
Proceeds from disposal – property		129	–
Less: carrying amount of property assets sold/written off		(54)	–
Gain (or loss) on disposal		75	–
Gain (or loss) on disposal of plant and equipment			
	C1-6		
Proceeds from disposal – plant and equipment		187	1,101
Less: carrying amount of plant and equipment assets sold/written off		(225)	(268)
Gain (or loss) on disposal		(38)	833
Gain (or loss) on disposal of real estate assets held for sale			
	C1-5		
Proceeds from disposal – real estate assets		139	48
Less: carrying amount of real estate assets sold/written off		(94)	(46)
Gain (or loss) on disposal		45	2
Gain (or loss) on disposal of investments			
	C1-2		
Proceeds from disposal/redemptions/maturities – investments		40,750	29,500
Less: carrying amount of investments sold/redeemed/matured		(40,750)	(29,500)
Gain (or loss) on disposal		–	–
Net gain (or loss) from disposal of assets		82	835

B5 Performance against budget

B5-1 Material budget variations

Council's original budget was adopted by the Council on 19 June 2024 and is not required to be audited. The original projections on which the budget was based have been affected by a number of factors. These include state and federal government decisions, including new grant programs, changing economic activity, environmental factors, and by decisions made by Council.

While these General Purpose Financial Statements include the original budget adopted by Council, the Act requires Council to review its financial budget on a quarterly basis, so it is able to manage the variation between actuals and budget that invariably occur during the year.

Material variations of more than 10% between original budget and actual results or where the variance is considered material by nature are explained below.

Variation Key: **F** = Favourable budget variation, **U** = Unfavourable budget variation.

\$ '000	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2025 ----- Variance -----	
Revenues				
Rates and annual charges	8,288	7,960	(328)	(4)% U
User charges and fees	10,277	10,335	58	1% F
Other revenues	1,602	1,825	223	14% F
Council adopted a conservative approach for estimating the level of other revenue that was expected to be received in the 2024-2025 financial year.				
Operating grants and contributions	13,593	10,385	(3,208)	(24)% U
During the 2024-2025 Financial year, Council's revenue from Operational grants was negatively impacted by two (2) major factors. The first being a significant reduction in the prepaid portion of the Financial Assistance Grant that was received in the 2024-2025 financial year when compared to the prepaid portion received previously. Secondly, during 2024-2025 Council did not complete works on a number of Grant funded operational programs. These works have been scheduled for completion in the 2025-2026 financial year.				
Capital grants and contributions	18,401	4,308	(14,093)	(77)% U
During the 2024-2025 financial year the delivery of a two (2) planned grant funded capital projects were delayed whilst Council continued with the necessary planning and establishment processes. As the delivery of the works were delayed Council was unable to recognise the revenue for these projects.				
Interest and investment revenue	1,221	1,334	113	9% F
Net gains from disposal of assets	—	82	82	∞ F
Council adopted a conservative approach with budgeting for gains from the disposal of assets by budgeting for a zero gain. This approach was chosen given the unknown timing of the completion of sales of real estate and land.				
Other income	116	117	1	1% F
Expenses				
Employee benefits and on-costs	13,021	11,784	1,237	10% F
Materials and services	14,293	13,220	1,073	8% F
Borrowing costs	46	32	14	30% F
During the 2024-2025 financial year the proposed loan was identified as not being required due to changes in the delivery of Council's Capital works program. As such, the loan was not drawn down.				
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	6,688	8,057	(1,369)	(20)% U
At the time of preparing the 2024-2025 Operational Budget, the additional increase in depreciation due to the revaluation of Council's Transport Infrastructure assets was unknown. Coupled with this, the impact of the indexation of Council's other asset values and the subsequent flow on effect on the depreciation values was also unknown.				

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Coonamble Shire Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2025

B5-1 Material budget variations (continued)

\$ '000	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2025	
			----- Variance -----	
Other expenses	1,054	1,051	3	0% F

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B5-1 Material budget variations (continued)

\$ '000	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2025 ----- Variance -----	
Statement of cash flows				
Cash flows from operating activities	31,654	9,901	(21,753)	(69)% U
Due to the delay in the delivery of a number of grant funded programs Council did not receive the level of grant funds anticipated to be recieved in the 2024-2025 financial year.				
Also, due to the delay of the issue of water consumption notices and corresponding due dates being in August 2025, payment of the notices will predominantly be received in the 2025-2026 financial year.				
Cash flows from investing activities	(34,009)	(15,657)	18,352	(54)% F
Council's actual level of cash flows from investing activities were less then budgeted for the 2024-2025 financial year due to delays in the delivery of planned capital works programs.				
Cash flows from financing activities	(81)	(82)	(1)	1% U

Coonamble Shire Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2025

C Financial position**C1 Assets we manage****C1-1 Cash and cash equivalents**

	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Cash assets		
Cash on hand and at bank	1,375	5,713
Cash equivalent assets		
– Deposits at call	1,500	4,000
– Short-term deposits	1,000	–
Total cash and cash equivalents	3,875	9,713
Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents		
Total cash and cash equivalents per Statement of Financial Position	3,875	9,713
Balance as per the Statement of Cash Flows	3,875	9,713

C1-2 Financial investments

	2025 Current \$ '000	2025 Non-current \$ '000	2024 Current \$ '000	2024 Non-current \$ '000
Debt securities at amortised cost				
Long term deposits	22,250	–	19,750	–
Total financial investments	22,250	–	19,750	–
Total cash assets, cash equivalents and investments	26,125	–	29,463	–

Coonamble Shire Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2025

C1-3 Restricted and allocated cash, cash equivalents and investments

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
(a) Externally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments		
Total cash, cash equivalents and investments	26,125	29,463
Less: Externally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments	(16,865)	(19,775)
Cash, cash equivalents and investments not subject to external restrictions	9,260	9,688
External restrictions		
External restrictions – included in liabilities		
External restrictions included in cash, cash equivalents and investments above comprise:		
Specific purpose unexpended grants – general fund	6,797	8,270
External restrictions – included in liabilities	6,797	8,270
External restrictions – other		
External restrictions included in cash, cash equivalents and investments above comprise:		
Specific purpose unexpended grants (recognised as revenue) – general fund	1,852	2,233
Specific purpose unexpended grants (recognised as revenue) – water fund	–	102
Water fund	3,474	3,654
Sewer fund	4,605	5,150
Domestic waste management	137	366
External restrictions – other	10,068	11,505
Total external restrictions	16,865	19,775

Cash, cash equivalents and investments subject to external restrictions are those which are only available for specific use by Council due to a restriction placed by legislation or third-party contractual agreement.

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
(b) Internal allocations		
Cash, cash equivalents and investments not subject to external restrictions	9,260	9,688
Less: Internally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments	(9,176)	(9,190)
Unrestricted and unallocated cash, cash equivalents and investments	84	498

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C1-3 Restricted and allocated cash, cash equivalents and investments (continued)

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000

Internal allocations

At 30 June, Council has internally allocated funds to the following:

Building and Premises	510	571
Community	183	156
Corporate	1,690	1,839
General	1,523	1,583
Housing	100	100
Mines	1,563	1,642
Public	43	43
Recreation	76	111
Transportation	3,213	3,041
Governance	275	104
Total internal allocations	9,176	9,190

Cash, cash equivalents and investments not subject to external restrictions may be internally allocated by resolution or policy of the elected Council.

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000

(c) Unrestricted and unallocated

Unrestricted and unallocated cash, cash equivalents and investments	84	498
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C1-4 Receivables

	2025 Current \$ '000	2025 Non-current \$ '000	2024 Current \$ '000	2024 Non-current \$ '000
Rates and annual charges	562	688	631	451
Interest and extra charges	78	235	58	167
User charges and fees	3,311	952	4,188	123
Accrued revenues				
– Other income accruals	2	–	21	–
Government grants and subsidies	9,142	–	9,723	–
Net GST receivable	315	–	–	–
Total	13,410	1,875	14,621	741
Less: provision for impairment				
Rates and annual charges	(135)	(160)	(195)	(100)
User charges and fees	(58)	(50)	(73)	(35)
Total provision for impairment – receivables	(193)	(210)	(268)	(135)
Total net receivables	13,217	1,665	14,353	606

	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Movement in provision for impairment of receivables		
Balance at the beginning of the year	403	403
Balance at the end of the year	403	403

Material accounting policy information

Receivables are included in current assets, except for those with maturities greater than 12 months after the reporting date which are classified as non-current assets.

Receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

Cash flows relating to short-term receivables are not discounted if the effect of discounting is immaterial.

Impairment

Impairment of financial assets measured at amortised cost is recognised on an expected credit loss (ECL) basis.

When determining whether the credit risk of a financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition, and when estimating ECL, the Council considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on Council's historical experience and informed credit assessment, and including forward-looking information.

When considering the ECL for rates debtors, Council takes into account that unpaid rates represent a charge against the rateable property that will be recovered when the property is next sold. For non-rates debtors, Council uses the presumption that an asset which is more than 30 days past due has seen a significant increase in credit risk.

The Council uses the presumption that a financial asset is in default when:

- the other party is unlikely to pay its credit obligations to the Council in full, without recourse by the Council to actions such as realising security (if any is held) or
- the financial assets (for non-rates debtors) are more than 90 days past due.

Credit losses are measured as the present value of the difference between the cash flows due to the entity in accordance with the contract, and the cash flows expected to be received. This is applied using a probability weighted approach.

On initial recognition of the asset, an estimate of the expected credit losses for the next 12 months is recognised. Where the asset has experienced significant increase in credit risk then the lifetime losses are estimated and recognised.

C1-4 Receivables (continued)

Council uses the simplified approach for trade receivables where the expected lifetime credit losses are recognised on day 1.

There has been no change in the estimation techniques or significant assumptions made during the current reporting period.

The Council writes off a trade receivable when there is information indicating that the debtor is in severe financial difficulty and there is no realistic prospect of recovery, e.g. when the debtor has been placed under liquidation or has entered into bankruptcy proceedings, or when the receivables are over 1 year past due, whichever occurs first.

None of the receivables that have been written off are subject to enforcement activity.

Where the Council renegotiates the terms of receivables due from certain customers, the new expected cash flows are discounted at the original effective interest rate and any resulting difference to the carrying value is recognised in profit or loss.

Rates and annual charges outstanding are secured against the property.

Coonamble Shire Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2025

C1-5 Inventories

	2025 Current \$ '000	2025 Non-current \$ '000	2024 Current \$ '000	2024 Non-current \$ '000
(i) Inventories at cost				
Real estate for resale	–	–	94	–
Stores and materials	280	–	243	–
Trading stock	648	–	1,472	–
Total inventories at cost	928	–	1,809	–
Total inventories	928	–	1,809	–

(ii) Other disclosures

	Notes	2025 Current \$ '000	2025 Non-current \$ '000	2024 Current \$ '000	2024 Non-current \$ '000
(a) Details for real estate development					
Industrial/commercial		–	–	94	–
Total real estate for resale		–	–	94	–
(Valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value)					
Represented by:					
Acquisition costs		–	–	94	–
Total costs		–	–	94	–
Total real estate for resale		–	–	94	–
Movements:					
Real estate assets at beginning of the year		94	–	140	–
– WDV of sales (expense)	B4-1	(94)	–	(46)	–
Total real estate for resale		–	–	94	–

(b) Current inventories not anticipated to be settled within the next 12 months

The following inventories and other assets, even though classified as current are not expected to be recovered in the next 12 months;

Material accounting policy information

Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods

Costs are assigned to individual items of inventory on the basis of weighted average costs.

Land held for resale

Cost is assigned by specific identification and includes the cost of acquisition, and development and borrowing costs during development.

C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

By aggregated asset class	At 1 July 2024			Asset movements during the reporting period								At 30 June 2025		
	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount	Additions renewals ¹	Additions new assets	Carrying value of disposals	Depreciation expense	WIP transfers	Adjustments and transfers	Revaluation decrements to equity (ARR)	Revaluation increments to equity (ARR)	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Capital work in progress	11,274	–	11,274	2,072	1,717	–	–	(6,696)	–	–	–	8,367	–	8,367
Office equipment	1,138	(849)	289	–	–	–	(59)	–	–	–	–	1,138	(908)	230
Plant and equipment	16,237	(6,686)	9,551	720	964	(225)	(1,616)	68	(16)	–	–	17,352	(7,906)	9,446
Land:														
– Crown land	1,181	–	1,181	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1,181	–	1,181
– Operational land	3,578	–	3,578	–	–	(54)	–	–	–	–	–	3,524	–	3,524
– Community land	742	–	742	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	742	–	742
Infrastructure:														
– Buildings – non-specialised	4,985	(272)	4,713	49	10	–	(194)	–	102	(207)	–	4,815	(342)	4,473
– Buildings – specialised	40,770	(17,120)	23,650	55	749	–	(560)	1,543	(102)	–	1,119	45,500	(19,046)	26,454
– Other structures	41,466	(11,125)	30,341	400	137	–	(616)	218	16	–	716	43,322	(12,110)	31,212
– Roads	294,397	(33,968)	260,429	4,526	799	–	(3,663)	4,472	–	–	6,135	304,117	(31,419)	272,698
– Bridges	32,123	(4,616)	27,507	–	–	–	(174)	–	–	–	1,192	33,517	(4,992)	28,525
– Footpaths	5,100	(642)	4,458	–	–	–	(55)	–	–	–	288	5,431	(740)	4,691
– Stormwater drainage	13,136	(5,355)	7,781	–	6	–	(131)	–	–	–	55	13,231	(5,520)	7,711
– Water supply network	31,294	(11,623)	19,671	73	27	–	(505)	16	–	–	587	32,244	(12,375)	19,869
– Sewerage network	32,208	(13,775)	18,433	345	573	–	(432)	379	–	–	470	33,708	(13,940)	19,768
Reinstatement, rehabilitation and restoration assets (refer Note C3-5):														
– Quarry assets	749	(39)	710	–	–	–	(29)	–	(227)	–	–	522	(68)	454
– Tip assets	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	376	–	–	376	–	376
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	530,378	(106,070)	424,308	8,240	4,982	(279)	(8,034)	–	149	(207)	10,562	549,087	(109,366)	439,721

(1) Renewals are defined as the replacement of existing assets (as opposed to the acquisition of new assets).

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Coonamble Shire Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2025

C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

	At 1 July 2023			Asset movements during the reporting period									At 30 June 2024		
	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount	Additions renewals ¹	Additions new assets	Carrying value of disposals	Depreciation expense	WIP transfers	Adjustments and transfers	Decapitalisation of WIP	Revaluation decrements to equity (ARR)	Revaluation increments to equity (ARR)	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount
By aggregated asset class	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Capital work in progress	6,394	–	6,394	2,918	5,567	–	–	(3,397)	–	(208)	–	–	11,274	–	11,274
Office equipment	3,333	(2,761)	572	42	11	–	(59)	–	(277)	–	–	–	1,138	(849)	289
Plant and equipment	12,336	(8,077)	4,259	5,199	743	(268)	(1,333)	–	277	–	–	674	16,237	(6,686)	9,551
Land:															
– Crown land	1,181	–	1,181	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1,181	–	1,181
– Operational land	3,148	–	3,148	–	362	–	–	–	–	–	–	68	3,578	–	3,578
– Community land	742	–	742	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	742	–	742
Infrastructure:															
– Buildings – non-specialised	6,180	(1,214)	4,966	315	408	–	(134)	65	(610)	–	(297)	–	4,985	(272)	4,713
– Buildings – specialised	36,655	(14,916)	21,739	811	826	–	(592)	–	610	–	–	256	40,770	(17,120)	23,650
– Other structures	39,694	(10,621)	29,073	934	378	–	(573)	–	–	–	–	528	41,466	(11,125)	30,341
– Roads	276,121	(75,646)	200,475	5,984	–	–	(3,659)	2,351	–	–	–	55,278	294,397	(33,968)	260,429
– Bridges	27,903	(4,568)	23,335	14	–	–	(167)	33	–	–	–	4,292	32,123	(4,616)	27,507
– Footpaths	1,950	(602)	1,348	80	351	–	(33)	331	–	–	–	2,381	5,100	(642)	4,458
– Stormwater drainage	13,564	(5,508)	8,056	–	35	–	(180)	–	–	–	(130)	–	13,136	(5,355)	7,781
– Water supply network	29,406	(10,339)	19,067	443	67	–	(462)	466	–	–	–	90	31,294	(11,623)	19,671
– Sewerage network	30,180	(12,378)	17,802	63	–	–	(400)	151	–	–	–	817	32,208	(13,775)	18,433
Reinstatement, rehabilitation and restoration assets (refer Note C3-5):															
– Quarry assets	549	–	549	–	–	–	(39)	–	200	–	–	–	749	(39)	710
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	489,336	(146,630)	342,706	16,803	8,748	(268)	(7,631)	–	200	(208)	(427)	64,384	530,378	(106,070)	424,308

(1) Renewals are defined as the replacement of existing assets (as opposed to the acquisition of new assets).

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C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

Material accounting policy information

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment are held at fair value. Independent comprehensive valuations are performed at least every five years, however, the carrying amount of assets is assessed by Council at each reporting date to confirm that it is not materially different from current fair value.

Water and sewerage network assets are indexed at each reporting period in accordance with the Rates Reference Manual issued by DCCEEW.

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Plant and equipment	Years	Other equipment	Years
Office equipment	5 to 10	Playground equipment	5 to 15
Office furniture	10 to 20	Benches, seats etc.	10 to 20
Computer equipment	4		
Vehicles	5 to 8	Buildings	
Heavy plant/road making equipment	5 to 8	Buildings: masonry	50 to 100
Other plant and equipment	5 to 15	Buildings: other	20 to 40
Water and sewer assets		Stormwater assets	
Dams and reservoirs	80 to 100	Drains	80 to 100
Bores	20 to 40	Culverts	50 to 80
Reticulation pipes: PVC	70 to 100	Flood control structures	80 to 100
Reticulation pipes: other	25 to 80		
Pumps and telemetry	15 to 20		
Transportation assets		Other infrastructure assets	
Formation	Infinite	Bulk earthworks	Infinite
Sub-Base	100 to 200	Swimming pools	50
Base	45 to 60	Unsealed roads	20
Sealed roads: surface	20 to 30	Other open space/recreational assets	20 to 50
Unsealed roads: surface	20 to 30		
Bridge: Box Culvert	60 to 100		
Bridge: Standard	100 to 175		
Road pavements	45 to 60		
Kerb, gutter and footpaths	40 to 100		

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

Land under roads

Land under roads is land under roadways and road reserves including land under footpaths, nature strips and median strips.

Council has elected not to recognise land under roads acquired before 1 July 2008. Land under roads acquired after 1 July 2008 is recognised in accordance with the IPPE accounting policy.

Crown reserves

Crown reserves under Council's care and control are recognised as assets of the Council. While ownership of the reserves remains with the Crown, Council retains operational control of the reserves and is responsible for their maintenance and use in accordance with the specific purposes to which the reserves are dedicated.

Improvements on Crown reserves are also recorded as assets, while maintenance costs incurred by Council and revenues relating to the reserves are recognised within Council's Income Statement.

Rural Fire Service assets

Under Section 119 of the Rural Fire Services Act 1997 (NSW), "all firefighting equipment purchased or constructed wholly or from money to the credit of the Fund is to be vested in the council of the area for or on behalf of which the firefighting equipment has been purchased or constructed".

C2 Leasing activities

C2-1 Council as a lessee

Office equipment

Leases for office equipment are generally for low value assets, except for significant items such as photocopiers. The leases are for between 1 and 3 years with no renewal option, the payments are fixed, however, some of the leases include variable payments based on usage.

(a) Right of use assets

	Office Equipment \$ '000	Total \$ '000
2025		
Opening balance at 1 July	27	27
Additions to right-of-use assets	99	99
Depreciation charge	(23)	(23)
Balance at 30 June	103	103
2024		
Opening balance at 1 July	64	64
Depreciation charge	(38)	(38)
Other movement	1	1
Balance at 30 June	27	27

(b) Lease liabilities

	2025 Current \$ '000	2025 Non-current \$ '000	2024 Current \$ '000	2024 Non-current \$ '000
Lease liabilities	38	57	29	—
Total lease liabilities	38	57	29	—

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C2-1 Council as a lessee (continued)**(c) The maturity analysis**

The maturity analysis of lease liabilities based on contractual undiscounted cash flows is shown in the table below:

	< 1 year \$ '000	1 – 5 years \$ '000	> 5 years \$ '000	Total \$ '000	Total per Statement of Financial Position \$ '000
2025					
Cash flows	45	62	–	107	95
2024					
Cash flows	29	–	–	29	29
		2025 Current \$ '000	2025 Non-current \$ '000	2024 Current \$ '000	2024 Non-current \$ '000
Total lease liabilities relating to unrestricted assets		38	57	29	–
Total lease liabilities		38	57	29	–

(d) Income Statement

The amounts recognised in the Income Statement relating to leases where Council is a lessee are shown below:

	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Interest on lease liabilities	9	1
Depreciation of right of use assets	23	38
	32	39

(e) Statement of Cash Flows

Total cash outflow for leases	42	38
	42	38

(f) Leases at significantly below market value – concessionary / peppercorn leases**Material accounting policy information**

Council has elected not to separate non-lease components from lease components for any class of asset and has accounted for payments as a single component.

The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises: the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration, less any lease incentives received. The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the lease term on a straight-line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of asset accounting policy.

C2-1 Council as a lessee (continued)

Exceptions to lease accounting

Council has applied the exceptions to lease accounting for both short-term leases (i.e. leases with a term of less than or equal to 12 months) and leases of low-value assets. Council recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Leases at significantly below market value / Concessionary leases

Council has elected to measure the right of use asset arising from the concessionary leases at cost which is based on the associated lease liability at initial recognition.

C2-2 Council as a lessor

Operating leases

Council leases out a number of properties and /or plant and equipment to community groups; these leases have been classified as operating leases for financial reporting purposes and the assets are included in the Statement of Financial Position as:

- property, plant and equipment - where the rental is incidental, or the asset is held to meet Council's service delivery objective (refer note C1-6).

The amounts recognised in the Income Statement relating to operating leases where Council is a lessor are shown below:

	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Lease income (excluding variable lease payments not dependent on an index or rate)	110	68
Total income relating to operating leases for Council assets	110	68

C2-2 Council as a lessor (continued)

Reconciliation of IPPE assets leased out as operating leases

	Plant & Equipment 2025 \$ '000	Plant & Equipment 2024 \$ '000	Buildings 2025 \$ '000	Buildings 2024 \$ '000	Land 2025 \$ '000	Land 2024 \$ '000	Other Structures 2025 \$ '000	Other Structures 2024 \$ '000
Opening balance as at 1 July	786	439	2,702	2,214	1,103	1,103	429	258
Additions renewals	100	227	—	—	—	—	—	—
Additions new assets	—	230	—	—	—	—	—	167
Carrying value of disposals	—	(62)	—	—	(54)	—	—	—
Depreciation expense	(127)	(104)	(42)	(62)	—	—	(28)	(25)
Adjustments and transfers	—	56	—	382	—	—	—	—
Revaluation increments to equity (ARR)	—	—	199	168	—	—	13	29
Closing balance as at 30 June	759	786	2,859	2,702	1,049	1,103	414	429

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C2-2 Council as a lessor (continued)

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000

(iii) Maturity analysis of undiscounted lease payments to be received after reporting date for all operating leases:

Maturity analysis of future lease income receivable showing the undiscounted lease payments to be received after reporting date for operating leases:

< 1 year	120	82
1–2 years	123	84
2–3 years	125	86
3–4 years	127	87
4–5 years	130	89
> 5 years	133	90
Total undiscounted lease payments to be received	758	518

C3 Liabilities of Council

C3-1 Payables

	2025 Current \$ '000	2025 Non-current \$ '000	2024 Current \$ '000	2024 Non-current \$ '000
Payables				
Goods and services – operating expenditure	902	–	1,398	–
Goods and services – capital expenditure	748	–	989	–
Accrued expenses:				
– Borrowings	1	–	–	–
– Salaries and wages	667	–	375	–
– Other expenditure accruals	28	–	7	–
Other payables	104	–	174	–
Security bonds, deposits and retentions	209	–	188	–
ATO – net GST payable	–	–	437	–
Other	98	–	–	–
Total payables	2,757	–	3,568	–
Income received in advance				
Payments received in advance	407	–	359	–
Total income received in advance	407	–	359	–
Total payables	3,164	–	3,927	–

Current payables not anticipated to be settled within the next twelve months

	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
The following liabilities, even though classified as current, are not expected to be settled in the next 12 months.		
Payables – security bonds, deposits and retentions	152	139
Total payables	152	139

Payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the council prior to the end of financial year that are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

Coonamble Shire Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2025

C3-2 Contract Liabilities

		2025	2025	2024	2024
		Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
	Notes	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Grants and contributions received in advance:					
Unexpended capital grants (to construct Council controlled assets)	(i)	7,396	—	8,217	—
Unexpended operating grants (received prior to performance obligation being satisfied)	(ii)	48	—	187	—
Total contract liabilities		7,444	—	8,404	—

Notes

(i) Council has received funding to construct assets including sporting facilities, water supply and other infrastructure. The funds received are under an enforceable contract which require Council to construct an identified asset which will be under Council's control on completion. The revenue is recognised as Council constructs the asset and the contract liability reflects the funding received which cannot yet be recognised as revenue. The revenue is expected to be recognised in the next 12 months.

(ii) The contract liability relates to grants received prior to the revenue recognition criteria in AASB 15 being satisfied since the performance obligations are ongoing.

Revenue recognised that was included in the contract liability balance at the beginning of the period

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Grants and contributions received in advance:		
Capital grants (to construct Council controlled assets)	1,626	3,376
Operating grants (received prior to performance obligation being satisfied)	574	740
Total revenue recognised that was included in the contract liability balance at the beginning of the period	2,200	4,116

Significant changes in contract liabilities

The contract liabilities have arisen on adoption of AASB 15 and AASB 1058. Previously income received in advance was recognised for reciprocal contracts. The increase in a contract liability is primarily due to grants in the scope of AASB 15 and capital grants received by Council to acquire or construct assets which will be under Council's control. Previously, revenue was recognised on receipt of the funds.

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C3-2 Contract Liabilities (continued)

C3-3 Borrowings

	2025 Current \$ '000	2025 Non-current \$ '000	2024 Current \$ '000	2024 Non-current \$ '000
Loans – unsecured	51	303	49	354
Total borrowings	51	303	49	354

(a) Changes in liabilities arising from financing activities

	2024		Non-cash movements				2025
	Opening Balance \$ '000	Cash flows \$ '000	Acquisition \$ '000	Fair value changes \$ '000	Acquisition due to change in accounting policy \$ '000	Other non-cash movement \$ '000	Closing balance \$ '000
Loan – unsecured	403	(49)	–	–	–	–	354
Lease liability (Note C2-1)	29	(33)	99	–	–	–	95
Total liabilities from financing activities	432	(82)	99	–	–	–	449

	2023		Non-cash movements				2024
	Opening Balance \$ '000	Cash flows \$ '000	Acquisition \$ '000	Fair value changes \$ '000	Acquisition due to change in accounting policy \$ '000	Other non-cash movement \$ '000	Closing balance \$ '000
Loan – unsecured	449	(46)	–	–	–	–	403
Lease liability (Note C2-1)	66	(37)	–	–	–	–	29
Total liabilities from financing activities	515	(83)	–	–	–	–	432

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C3-3 Borrowings (continued)**(b) Financing arrangements**

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000

Total facilities

Total financing facilities available to Council at the reporting date are:

Bank overdraft facilities ¹	500	500
Credit cards/purchase cards	50	35

Total financing arrangements

550	535
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Drawn facilities

Financing facilities drawn down at the reporting date are:

Undrawn facilities

Undrawn financing facilities available to Council at the reporting date are:

– Bank overdraft facilities	500	500
– Credit cards/purchase cards	50	35

Total undrawn financing arrangements

550	535
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Additional financing arrangements information**Breaches and defaults**

During the current and prior year, there were no defaults or breaches on any of the loans.

(1) The bank overdraft facility may be drawn at any time and may be terminated by the bank without notice.

Coonamble Shire Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2025

C3-4 Employee benefit provisions

	2025	2025	2024	2024
	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Annual leave	981	–	847	–
Long service leave	1,163	115	1,064	105
Total employee benefit provisions	2,144	115	1,911	105

Current employee benefit provisions not anticipated to be settled within the next twelve months

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000

The following provisions, even though classified as current, are not expected to be settled in the next 12 months.

Provisions – employees benefits	1,136	943
	1,136	943

Description of and movements in provisions

	ELE provisions		
	Annual leave	Long service leave	Total
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
2025			
At beginning of year	847	1,169	2,016
Additional provisions	722	344	1,066
Amounts used (payments)	(588)	(235)	(823)
Total ELE provisions at end of year	981	1,278	2,259
2024			
At beginning of year	736	855	1,591
Additional provisions	575	404	979
Amounts used (payments)	(464)	(90)	(554)
Total ELE provisions at end of year	847	1,169	2,016

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C3-4 Employee benefit provisions (continued)

Material accounting policy information

Long-term employee benefit obligations

The liability for long-service leave and annual leave that is not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures, and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

C3-5 Provisions

	2025 Current \$ '000	2025 Non-Current \$ '000	2024 Current \$ '000	2024 Non-Current \$ '000
Asset remediation/restoration:				
Asset remediation/restoration (future works)	–	921	–	779
Total provisions	–	921	–	779

Description of and movements in provisions

	Other provisions	
	Asset remediation \$ '000	Total \$ '000
2025		
At beginning of year	779	779
Changes to provision:		
– Revised discount rate	(234)	(234)
Additional provisions	376	376
Total other provisions at end of year	921	921
2024		
At beginning of year	549	549
Additional provisions	230	230
Total other provisions at end of year	779	779

Material accounting policy information

Provisions are recognised when Council has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, and the amount has been reliably estimated.

Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole. A provision is recognised even if the likelihood of an outflow with respect to any one item included in the same class of obligations may be small.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date. The discount rate used to determine the present value reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as a borrowing cost.

C3-5 Provisions (continued)

Nature and purpose of provisions

Asset remediation

The asset remediation provision represents the present value estimate of future costs Council will incur to restore, rehabilitate and reinstate the tip and quarry as a result of past operations.

Asset remediation – quarries

Restoration

Close-down and restoration costs include the dismantling and demolition of infrastructure, and the removal of residual materials and remediation of disturbed areas. Estimated close-down and restoration costs are provided for in the accounting period when the obligation arising from the related disturbance occurs, whether this occurs during the development or during the operation phase, based on the net present value of estimated future costs.

Provisions for close-down and restoration costs do not include any additional obligations which are expected to arise from future disturbance. The costs are estimated on the basis of a closure plan. The cost estimates are calculated annually during the life of the operation to reflect known developments, e.g. updated cost estimates and revisions to the estimated lives of operations, and are subject to formal review at regular intervals.

Rehabilitation

Where rehabilitation is conducted systematically over the life of the operation, rather than at the time of closure, provision is made for the estimated outstanding continuous rehabilitation work at each reporting date, and the cost is charged to the Income Statement.

Provision is made for the estimated present value of the costs of environmental clean-up obligations outstanding at the reporting date. These costs are charged to the Income Statement. Movements in the environmental clean-up provisions are presented as an operating cost, except for the unwinding of the discount which is shown as a borrowing cost.

Remediation procedures generally commence soon after the time the damage, remediation process, and estimated remediation costs become known, but may continue for many years depending on the nature of the disturbance and the remediation techniques.

As noted above, the ultimate cost of environmental remediation is uncertain and cost estimates can vary in response to many factors, including changes to the relevant legal requirements, the emergence of new restoration techniques, or experience at other locations. The expected timing of expenditure can also change, for example in response to changes in quarry reserves or production rates. As a result, there could be significant adjustments to the provision for close down and restoration and environmental clean-up, which would affect future financial results.

Other movements in the provisions for close-down and restoration costs, including those resulting from new disturbance, updated cost estimates, changes to the estimated lives of operations, and revisions to discount rates, are capitalised within property, plant and equipment. These costs are then depreciated over the lives of the assets to which they relate.

Close-down and restoration costs are a normal consequence of tip and quarry operations, and the majority of close-down and restoration expenditure is incurred at the end of the life of the operations. Although the ultimate cost to be incurred is uncertain, Council estimates the respective costs based on feasibility and engineering studies using current restoration standards and techniques.

C4 Reserves

C4-1 Nature and purpose of reserves

IPPE Revaluation Surplus

The infrastructure, property, plant and equipment revaluation reserve is used to record increments / decrements of non-current asset values due to their revaluation.

D Council structure

D1 Results by fund

General fund refers to all Council activities other than water and sewer. All amounts disclosed in this note are gross i.e. inclusive of internal charges and recoveries made between the funds. Assets and liabilities shown in the water and sewer columns are restricted for use for these activities.

D1-1 Income Statement by fund

	General 2025 \$ '000	Water 2025 \$ '000	Sewer 2025 \$ '000
Income from continuing operations			
Rates and annual charges	5,965	958	1,037
User charges and fees	8,817	1,271	247
Interest and investment revenue	921	179	234
Other revenues	1,810	7	8
Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	10,261	124	—
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	4,214	—	94
Net gains from disposal of assets	82	—	—
Other income	117	—	—
Total income from continuing operations	32,187	2,539	1,620
Expenses from continuing operations			
Employee benefits and on-costs	11,044	435	305
Materials and services	11,402	1,345	473
Borrowing costs	32	—	—
Other expenses	1,051	—	—
Total expenses from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	23,529	1,780	778
Operating result from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	8,658	759	842
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	7,120	505	432
Operating result from continuing operations	1,538	254	410
Net operating result for the year	1,538	254	410
Net operating result attributable to each council fund	1,538	254	410
Net operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	(2,676)	254	316

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D1-2 Statement of Financial Position by fund

	General 2025 \$ '000	Water 2025 \$ '000	Sewer 2025 \$ '000
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	2,778	729	368
Investments	15,268	2,745	4,237
Receivables	11,211	1,474	532
Inventories	928	—	—
Other	397	—	—
Total current assets	30,582	4,948	5,137
Non-current assets			
Receivables	1,508	157	—
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	399,416	20,083	20,222
Investments accounted for using the equity method	109	—	—
Right of use assets	103	—	—
Total non-current assets	401,136	20,240	20,222
Total assets	431,718	25,188	25,359
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	2,531	154	72
Income received in advance	277	130	—
Contract liabilities	7,444	—	—
Lease liabilities	38	—	—
Borrowings	51	—	—
Employee benefit provision	2,144	—	—
Total current liabilities	12,485	284	72
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liabilities	57	—	—
Borrowings	303	—	—
Employee benefit provision	115	—	—
Provisions	921	—	—
Total non-current liabilities	1,396	—	—
Total liabilities	13,881	284	72
Net assets	417,837	24,904	25,287
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus	180,730	15,899	13,500
IPPE revaluation surplus	237,107	9,005	11,787
Council equity interest	417,837	24,904	25,287
Total equity	417,837	24,904	25,287

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D2 Interests in other entities

D2-1 Subsidiaries

Council has no interest in any controlled entities (subsidiaries).

	Council's share of net assets	
	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Council's share of net assets		
Net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method – assets		
Joint ventures	109	102
Total net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method – assets	109	102
Total Council's share of net assets	109	102

D2-2 Interests in joint arrangements

Net carrying amounts – Council's share

	Nature of relationship	Place of business	Interest in ownership		2025	2024
			2025	2024	\$ '000	\$ '000
North Western Library Service	Joint venture	Coonamble	25.0%	25.0%	109	102
Total carrying amounts – material joint ventures					109	102

Material joint ventures

Council has incorporated the following joint venture into its consolidated financial statements.

Details

	Principal activity	Measurement method
North Western Library Service	Provision of Library Services	At cost

Relevant interests and fair values

	Interest in outputs		Proportion of voting power	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
North Western Library Service	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%

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D2-2 Interests in joint arrangements (continued)

Summarised financial information for joint ventures

	Northern Western Library Service	
	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Statement of financial position		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	137	152
Non-current assets	301	258
Net assets	438	410
Statement of comprehensive income		
Income	279	267
Other expenses	(252)	(210)
Profit/(loss) from continuing operations	27	57
Profit/(loss) for the period	27	57
Total comprehensive income	27	57
Share of income – Council (%)	25.0%	25.0%
Profit/(loss) – Council (\$)	7	14
Total comprehensive income – Council (\$)	7	14
Reconciliation of the carrying amount		
Opening net assets (1 July)	327	313
Profit/(loss) for the period	7	14
Closing net assets	334	327
Council's share of net assets (%)	25.0%	25.0%
Council's share of net assets (\$)	109	102

County Councils

Council is a member of the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council, a body corporate established under the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) to control noxious weeds. Council is one of five constituent members and does not have significant influence over the County Council.

Accordingly, the County Council has not been consolidated in the financial statements.

E Risks and accounting uncertainties

E1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held

Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks including (1) price risk, (2) credit risk, (3) liquidity risk and (4) interest rate risk.

The Council's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Council.

Council does not engage in transactions expressed in foreign currencies and is therefore not subject to foreign currency risk.

Financial risk management is carried out by Council's finance section under policies approved by the Council.

The fair value of Council's financial assets and financial liabilities approximates their carrying amount.

A comparison by category of the carrying amounts and fair values of Council's financial assets are recognised in the financial statements is presented below.

	Carrying value 2025 \$ '000	Carrying value 2024 \$ '000	Fair value 2025 \$ '000	Fair value 2024 \$ '000
Financial assets				
Measured at amortised cost				
Cash and cash equivalents	3,875	9,713	3,875	9,713
Receivables	14,882	14,959	14,881	14,959
Investments				
– Debt securities at amortised cost	22,250	19,750	22,250	19,750
Total financial assets	41,007	44,422	41,006	44,422
Financial liabilities				
Payables	2,757	3,568	2,758	3,568
Loans/advances	354	403	354	403
Total financial liabilities	3,111	3,971	3,112	3,971

Council's objective is to maximise its return on cash and investments whilst maintaining an adequate level of liquidity and preserving capital.

Council's finance area manages the cash and Investments portfolio with the assistance of independent advisors.

Council has an investment policy which complies with the Local Government Act 1993 and Minister's investment order 625. This policy is regularly reviewed by Council and its staff and an investment report is tabled before Council on a monthly basis setting out the portfolio breakup and its performance as required by Local Government regulations.

The risks associated with the instruments held are:

- **Price risk** – the risk that the capital value of Investments may fluctuate due to changes in market prices, whether these changes are caused by factors specific to individual financial instruments or their issuers or are caused by factors affecting similar instruments traded in a market.
- **Interest rate risk** – the risk that movements in interest rates could affect returns and income.
- **Liquidity risk** – the risk that Council will not be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.
- **Credit risk** – the risk that the investment counterparty will not complete their obligations particular to a financial instrument, resulting in a financial loss to Council – be it of a capital or income nature.

Council manages these risks (amongst other measures) by diversifying its portfolio and only purchasing investments with high credit ratings or capital guarantees.

E1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held (continued)

(a) Market risk – interest rate and price risk

	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
The impact on the result for the year and equity of a reasonably possible movement in the price of investments held and interest rates is shown below. The reasonably possible movements were determined based on historical movements and economic conditions in place at the reporting date.		
Impact of a 1% movement in interest rates		
– Equity / Income Statement	217	303
Impact of a 10% movement in price of investments		
– Equity / Income Statement	–	–

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E1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held (continued)

(b) Credit risk

Council's major receivables comprise (i) rates and annual charges and (ii) user charges and fees.

Council manages the credit risk associated with these receivables by monitoring outstanding debt and employing stringent debt recovery procedures. Council also encourages ratepayers to pay their rates by the due date through incentives.

The credit risk for liquid funds and other short-term financial assets is considered negligible, since the counterparties are reputable banks with high quality external credit ratings.

There are no significant concentrations of credit risk, whether through exposure to individual customers, specific industry sectors and/or regions.

The level of outstanding receivables is reported to Council monthly and benchmarks are set and monitored for acceptable collection performance.

Council makes suitable provision for doubtful receivables as required and carries out credit checks on most non-rate debtors.

There are no material receivables that have been subjected to a re-negotiation of repayment terms.

Credit risk profile

Receivables – rates and annual charges

Credit risk on rates and annual charges is minimised by the ability of Council to recover these debts as a secured charge over the land; that is, the land can be sold to recover the debt. Council is also able to charge interest on overdue rates and annual charges at higher than market rates which further encourages payment.

	Not yet overdue \$ '000	overdue rates and annual charges < 5 years \$ '000	≥ 5 years \$ '000	Total \$ '000
2025				
Gross carrying amount	–	1,181	69	1,250
2024				
Gross carrying amount	–	1,064	123	1,187

Receivables - non-rates and annual charges

Council applies the simplified approach for non-rates and annual charges debtors to provide for expected credit losses, which permits the use of the lifetime expected loss provision at inception. To measure the expected credit losses, non-rates and annual charges debtors and contract assets have been grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due.

The loss allowance provision is determined as follows. The expected credit losses incorporate forward-looking information.

	Not yet overdue \$ '000	0 - 30 days \$ '000	Overdue debts 31 - 60 days \$ '000	61 - 90 days \$ '000	> 91 days \$ '000	Total \$ '000
2025						
Gross carrying amount	13,293	474	25	48	195	14,035
Expected loss rate (%)	0.61%	1.82%	3.29%	4.50%	7.50%	0.76%
ECL provision	81	9	1	2	15	108
2024						
Gross carrying amount	13,538	474	25	48	195	14,280
Expected loss rate (%)	0.60%	1.82%	3.29%	4.50%	7.50%	0.75%
ECL provision	81	9	1	2	15	108

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E1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held (continued)

(c) Liquidity risk

Payables, lease liabilities and borrowings are both subject to liquidity risk; that is, the risk that insufficient funds may be on hand to meet payment obligations as and when they fall due.

Council manages this risk by monitoring its cash flow requirements and liquidity levels, and by maintaining an adequate cash buffer. Payment terms can be extended, and overdraft facilities drawn upon in extenuating circumstances.

Borrowings are also subject to interest rate risk: the risk that movements in interest rates could adversely affect funding costs. Council manages this risk through diversification of borrowing types, maturities and interest rate structures.

The finance team regularly reviews interest rate movements to determine if it would be advantageous to refinance or renegotiate part or all of the loan portfolio.

The timing of cash flows presented in the table below to settle financial liabilities reflects the earliest contractual settlement dates. The timing of expected outflows is not expected to be materially different from contracted cashflows.

The amounts disclosed in the table are the undiscounted contracted cash flows for non-lease liabilities (refer to Note C2-1(b) for lease liabilities) and therefore the balances in the table may not equal the balances in the Statement of Financial Position due to the effect of discounting.

	Weighted average interest rate %	Subject to no maturity \$ '000	payable in: ≤ 1 Year \$ '000	1 - 5 Years \$ '000	> 5 Years \$ '000	Total cash outflows \$ '000	Actual carrying values \$ '000
2025							
Payables	0.00%	209	2,549	–	–	2,758	2,757
Borrowings	5.40%	–	51	303	–	354	354
Total financial liabilities		209	2,600	303	–	3,112	3,111
2024							
Payables	0.00%	188	3,380	–	–	3,568	3,568
Borrowings	5.40%	–	49	286	68	403	403
Total financial liabilities		188	3,429	286	68	3,971	3,971

E2-1 Fair value measurement

The Council measures the following asset and liability classes at fair value on a recurring basis:

– Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

The fair value of assets and liabilities must be estimated in accordance with various accounting standards for either recognition and measurement requirements or for disclosure purposes.

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement requires all assets and liabilities measured at fair value to be assigned to a 'level' in the fair value hierarchy as follows:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

Fair value measurement hierarchy								
Notes	Date of latest valuation		Level 2 Significant observable inputs		Level 3 Significant unobservable inputs		Total	
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Recurring fair value measurements								
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment								
	C1-6							
Plant and equipment			–	–	9,446	9,551	9,446	9,551
Office Equipment			–	–	230	289	230	289
Crown land	01/07/2022	01/07/2022	–	–	1,181	1,181	1,181	1,181
Operational land	01/07/2022	01/07/2022	–	–	3,524	3,578	3,524	3,578
Community land	01/07/2022	01/07/2022	–	–	742	742	742	742
Buildings – non-specialised	30/06/2023	30/06/2023	1,471	1,774	3,002	2,939	4,473	4,713
Buildings – specialised	30/06/2023	30/06/2023	–	–	26,454	23,650	26,454	23,650
Other Structures	30/06/2023	30/06/2023	–	–	31,212	30,341	31,212	30,341
Roads	30/06/2024	30/06/2024	–	–	272,698	260,429	272,698	260,429
Bridges	30/06/2024	30/06/2024	–	–	28,525	27,507	28,525	27,507
Footpaths	30/06/2024	30/06/2024	–	–	4,691	4,458	4,691	4,458
Stormwater Drainage	30/06/2024	30/06/2024	–	–	7,711	7,781	7,711	7,781
Water Supply network	30/06/2022	30/06/2022	–	–	19,869	19,671	19,869	19,671
Sewerage network	30/06/2022	30/06/2022	–	–	19,768	18,433	19,768	18,433
Quarry Assets	30/06/2023	30/06/2023	–	–	454	710	454	710
Tip Assets	30/06/2025		–	–	376	–	376	–
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment			1,471	1,774	429,883	411,260	431,354	413,034

Transfers between level 1 and level 2 fair value hierarchies

During the year, there were no transfers between level 1 and level 2 fair value hierarchies for recurring fair value measurements.

E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

Valuation techniques

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)

Plant and Equipment, Office Equipment and Furniture and Fittings

Plant and Equipment, Office Equipment and Furniture and Fittings are valued at cost but are disclosed at fair value in the notes. The carrying amount of these assets is assumed to approximate fair value due to the nature of the items. Examples of assets within these classes are as follows:

- Plant and Equipment - Graders, trucks, rollers, tractors and motor vehicles.
- Office Equipment - Computers, photocopiers, calculators etc.
- Furniture & Fittings - Chairs, desks and display boards.

There has been no change to the valuation process during the reporting period.

Operational and Community Land

Operational and Community Land are based on either the Land Value provided by the Valuer-General or where the Valuer-General did not provide a Land Value having regard to the highest and best use for the land. Operational Land is based on the Valuer value as these are representative of the actual market values in the Coonamble Shire LGA. As these rates were not considered to be observable market evidence they have been classified as level 3.

There has been no change to the valuation process during the reporting period.

Buildings - Non-Specialised and Specialised

Non-Specialised and Specialised Buildings were revalued utilising APV Valuers & Asset Management consultants during the 2022/2023 financial year with an effective date of 30/06/2023. To ensure the appropriate carrying fair value, Council have applied the indicies as provided by APV Valuers and Asset Management Consultants, to the desktop valuation completed at 30/06/2025.

Depending on the specific asset the valuation approach may have included the adoption of a singular or multiple techniques.

- The Market approach has been applied where there is a principal market which provides observable evidence of the Fair Value of the asset
- The income approach has been applied for assets where the income generating capability of the asset provides the best estimate of the assets Fair Value
- The Cost approach was used for assets which are not commonly traded. Typically, these include assets that public and not-for-profit sector entities use to provide services to the public for no or minimal charge

There has been no change to the valuation process during the reporting period

Other Structures

Other Structures were also revalued utilising APV Valuers & Asset Management consultants during the 2022/2023 financial year with an effective date of 30/06/2023. To ensure the appropriate carrying fair value, Council has applied the indicies as provided by APV Valuers and Asset Management Consultants, to the desktop valuation completed at 30/06/2025.

The various asset types identified included Airport Assets, Fences, Hardstand and Internal Roads, Landscaping, Land Improvements, Bulk Earthworks, Lighting, Miscellaneous, Park Assets, Pool Assets, Saleyards and Sporting Equipment.

Depending on the specific asset the valuation approach may have included the adoption of a singular or multiple techniques.

- The Market approach has been applied where there is a principal Market which provides observable evidence of the Fair Value of the asset
- The income approach has been applied for assets where the income generating capability of the asset provides the best estimate of the assets Fair Value
- The Cost approach was used for assets which are not commonly traded. Typically these include assets that public and not-for-profit sector entities use to provide services to the public for no or minimal charge

There has been no change to the valuation process during the reporting period.

Roads

Roads were revalued utilising APV Valuers & Asset Management consultants during the 2023/2024 financial year with an effective date of 30/06/2024.

E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

Roads comprise road carriageway, roadside shoulders and kerb and gutter. No market-based evidence (Level 2) inputs are available therefore Level 3 valuation inputs were used for this class.

Bridges

Bridges were also revalued utilising APV Valuers & Asset Management consultants during the 2023/2024 financial year with an effective date of 30/06/2024.

While all bridges were physically inspected and unit rates based on square metres were used there was no reliable market evidence (Level 2) as other inputs (such as estimates of residual value and pattern of consumption) require extensive professional judgement that impacts significantly on the final determination of fair value.

There has been no change to the valuation process during the reporting period.

Footpaths

Footpaths were also revalued utilising APV Valuers & Asset Management consultants during the 2023/2024 financial year with an effective date of 30/06/2024.

There has been no change to the valuation process during the reporting period.

Drainage Infrastructure

Drainage Infrastructure Assets were revalued utilising APV Valuers & Asset Management consultants during the 2023/2024 financial year with an effective date of 30/06/2024.

Assets within this class comprise culverts, open channels, storm water pipes, pits and other storm water structures.

The 'Cost Approach' estimated the replacement cost for each asset by componentising the assets into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors. While the unit rates based on linear metres of certain diameter pipes and prices per pit or similar could be supported from market evidence (Level 2) other inputs (such as estimates of pattern of consumption, residual value, asset condition and useful life) required extensive professional judgement and impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value. Additionally due to limitations in the historical records of very long lived assets there is uncertainty regarding the actual design, specifications and dimensions of some assets.

There has been no change to the valuation process during the reporting period.

Water Supply Network

Assets within this class comprise reservoirs, pumping stations and, water pipelines.

The 'Cost Approach' estimated the replacement cost for each asset by componentising the assets into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors. While the unit rates based on linear metres of certain diameter pipes and prices per pit or similar may be supported from market evidence (Level 2) other inputs (such as estimates of pattern of consumption, residual value, asset condition and useful life) required extensive professional judgement and impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value. Additionally due to limitations in the historical records of very long lived assets there is uncertainty regarding the actual design, specifications and dimensions of some assets.

These assets were revalued by APV Valuers Pty Ltd with effective date of 30 June 2022. To ensure the appropriate carrying fair value, Council have applied the indicies as provided by APV Valuers and Asset Management consultants, to the desktop valuation completed at 30/06/2024.

Sewerage Network

Assets within this class comprise treatment works, pumping stations and, sewerage mains.

The 'Cost Approach' estimated the replacement cost for each asset by componentising the assets into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors. While the unit rates based on linear metres of certain diameter pipes and prices per pit or similar may be supported from market evidence (Level 2) other inputs (such as estimates of pattern of consumption, residual value, asset condition and useful life) required extensive professional judgement and impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value. Additionally due to limitations in the historical records of very long lived assets there is uncertainty regarding the actual design, specifications and dimensions of some assets.

These assets were revalued by APV Valuers Pty Ltd with effective date of 30 June 2022. To ensure the appropriate carrying fair value Council have applied the indicies as provided by APV Valuers and Asset Management consultants, to the desktop valuation completed at 30/06/2024.

E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

Swimming Pools

Assets within this class comprise Council's outdoor swimming pool. The swimming pool was valued externally by APV Valuers & Asset Management with an effective date of 30/06/2023. The approach estimated the replacement cost for each pool by componentising its significant parts.

While some elements of gross replacement values may be supported from market evidence (Level 2 input) other inputs (such as estimates of pattern of consumption, residual value, asset condition and useful life) required extensive professional judgement and impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value.

Previously these assets had been valued internally by Council staff.

E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3)

Significant unobservable valuation inputs used (for level 3 asset classes) and their relationship to fair value.

The following table summarises the quantitative information relating to the significant unobservable inputs used in deriving the various level 3 asset class fair values.

	Valuation technique/s	Unobservable inputs
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		
Buildings non specialised	A combination of the market approach and the cost approach has been used by external consultants to approximate fair value	Gross replacement cost, Asset condition, Remaining useful life, Residual value
Buildings Specialised	A combination of the market approach and the cost approach has been used by external consultants to approximate fair value	Gross replacement cost, Asset condition, Remaining useful life, Residual value
Other Structures	Cost approach has been used to approximate fair value	Gross replacement cost, Asset condition, Remaining useful life, Residual value
Road Infrastructure	Cost approach used to approximate fair value	Gross replacement cost, Asset condition, Remaining useful life, Residual value
Stormwater drainage	Cost approach used to approximate fair value	Gross replacement cost, Asset condition, Remaining useful life, Residual value
Water Supply	Cost approach used to approximate fair value	Gross replacement cost, Asset condition, Remaining useful life, Residual value
Sewerage network	Cost approach used to approximate fair value	Gross replacement cost, Asset condition, Remaining useful life, Residual value
Plant & Equipment	Cost approach used to approximate fair value	Gross replacement cost, Remaining useful life, Residual value
Operational land	Land values obtained from the NSW Valuer General	Land value based on price per square meter
Community land	Land values obtained from the NSW Valuer General	Land value based on price per square meter
Crown Land	Land values obtained from the NSW Valuer General	Land value based on price per square meter
Quarry Assets	Cost approach used to approximate fair value.	Gross replacement cost, Asset condition, Remaining useful life, Residual value

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E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

A reconciliation of the movements in recurring fair value measurements allocated to Level 3 of the hierarchy by class of assets is provided below:

	Water supply network		Sewerage network		Plant and equipment		Operational / Crown Land	
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Opening balance	19,671	19,067	18,433	17,802	9,840	4,831	3,578	3,148
Total gains or losses for the period								
Other movements								
Transfers from/(to) another asset class	–	–	–	–	(16)	–	–	–
Purchases (GBV)	116	976	1,297	214	1,752	5,995	–	362
Disposals (WDV)	–	–	–	–	(225)	(268)	(54)	–
Depreciation and impairment	(505)	(462)	(432)	(400)	(1,675)	(1,392)	–	–
Revaluation increment to ARR	587	90	470	817	–	674	–	68
Closing balance	19,869	19,671	19,768	18,433	9,676	9,840	3,524	3,578

	Community / Crown Land		Buildings non-specialised		Building specialised		Other structures	
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Opening balance	1,923	1,923	2,939	3,549	23,650	21,739	30,341	29,074
Total gains or losses for the period								
Other movements								
Transfers from/(to) another asset class	–	–	102	(566)	(102)	610	16	–
Purchases (GBV)	–	–	59	339	2,347	1,637	755	1,312
Depreciation and impairment	–	–	(189)	(86)	(560)	(592)	(616)	(573)
Revaluation increment to ARR	–	–	91	(297)	1,119	256	716	528
Closing balance	1,923	1,923	3,002	2,939	26,454	23,650	31,212	30,341

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E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

	Roads infrastructure		Stormwater drainage		Quarry assets		Tip Assets	
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Opening balance	292,394	225,158	7,781	8,056	710	549	–	–
Total gains or losses for the period								
Other movements								
Purchases (GBV)	9,797	9,144	6	35	–	–	–	–
Depreciation and impairment	(3,892)	(3,859)	(131)	(180)	(29)	(39)	–	–
Revaluation increment to ARR	7,615	61,951	55	(130)	–	–	–	–
Rounding & other movement	–	–	–	–	(227)	200	376	–
Closing balance	305,914	292,394	7,711	7,781	454	710	376	–

	Total	
	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Opening balance	411,260	334,896
Transfers from/(to) another asset class	–	44
Purchases (GBV)	16,129	20,014
Disposals (WDV)	(279)	(268)
Depreciation and impairment	(8,029)	(7,583)
Revaluation increment to ARR	10,653	63,957
Rounding & other movement	149	200
Closing balance	429,883	411,260

Highest and best use

All of Council's non-financial assets are considered as being utilised for their highest and best use.

E3-1 Contingencies

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position, but their knowledge and disclosure is considered relevant to the users of Council's financial report.

LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED

1. Guarantees

(i) Defined benefit superannuation contribution plans

Council is party to an Industry Defined Benefit Plan under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme, named The Local Government Superannuation Scheme – Pool B (the Scheme) which is a defined benefit plan that has been deemed to be a 'multi-employer fund' for purposes of AASB119 Employee Benefits for the following reasons:

- Assets are not segregated within the sub-group according to the employees of each sponsoring employer.
- The contribution rates have been the same for all sponsoring employers. That is, contribution rates have not varied for each sponsoring employer according to the experience relating to the employees of that sponsoring employer.
- Benefits for employees of all sponsoring employers are determined according to the same formulae and without regard to the sponsoring employer.
- The same actuarial assumptions are currently used in respect of the employees of each sponsoring employer.

Given the factors above, each sponsoring employer is exposed to the actuarial risks associated with current and former employees of other sponsoring employers, and hence shares in the associated gains and losses (to the extent that they are not borne by members).

Description of the funding arrangements.

Pooled Employers are required to pay future service employer contributions and past service employer contributions to the Fund.

The future service employer contributions were determined using the new entrant rate method under which a contribution rate sufficient to fund the total benefits over the working life-time of a typical new entrant is calculated. The current future service employer contribution rates are:

Division B	1.9 times member contributions for non-180 Point Members; Nil for 180 Point Members*
Division C	2.5% salaries
Division D	1.64 times member contributions

* For 180 Point Members, Employers are required to contribute 9.5% from 1 July 2025 of salaries to these members' accumulation accounts in line with current level Super Guarantee contributions, which are paid in addition to members' defined benefits.

The past service contribution for each Pooled Employer is a share of the total past service contributions of \$20.0 million per annum for 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2024, apportioned according to each employer's share of the accrued liabilities as at 30 June. These past service contributions are used to maintain the adequacy of the funding position for the accrued liabilities. Given the funding position of the Fund at 30 June 2024, it was recommended to cease these past contributions effective 1 January 2025.

The adequacy of contributions is assessed at each actuarial investigation which will be conducted annually.

Description of the extent to which Council can be liable to the plan for other Council's obligations under the terms and conditions of the multi-employer plan

As stated above, each sponsoring employer (Council) is exposed to the actuarial risks associated with current and former employees of other sponsoring employers and hence shares in the associated gains and losses.

However, there is no relief under the Fund's trust deed for employers to walk away from their defined benefit obligations. Under limited circumstances, an employer may withdraw from the plan when there are no active members, on full payment of outstanding additional contributions. There is no provision for allocation of any surplus which may be present at the date of withdrawal of the Council.

There are no specific provisions under the Fund's trust deed dealing with deficits or surplus on wind-up.

E3-1 Contingencies (continued)

The amount of Council employer contributions to the defined benefit section of the Local Government Superannuation Scheme and recognised as an expense for the year ending 30 June 2025 was \$88,868.44. The last formal valuation of the Scheme was performed by the Fund Actuary, Richard Boyfield FIAA as at 30 June 2024.

Council's expected contribution to the plan for the next annual reporting period is \$40,698.00

The estimated employer reserves financial position for the Pooled Employers at 30 June 2025 is:

Employer reserves only *	\$millions	Asset Coverage
Assets	2,197.6	
Past Service Liabilities	2,092.0	105%
Vested Benefits	2,130.4	103.2%

* excluding member accounts and reserves in both assets and liabilities.

The share of any funding surplus or deficit that is broadly attributed to Council is estimated to be in the order of 0.23% as at 30 June 2025.

Council's share of that deficiency cannot be accurately calculated as the Scheme is a mutual arrangement where assets and liabilities are pooled together for all member councils. For this reason, no liability for the deficiency has been recognised in Council's accounts. Council has a possible obligation that may arise should the Scheme require immediate payment to correct the deficiency.

The key economic long term assumptions used to calculate the present value of accrued benefits are:

Investment return	6.0% per annum
Salary inflation *	3.5% per annum
Increase in CPI	2.5% per annum

The contribution requirements may vary from the current rates if the overall sub-group experience is not in line with the actuarial assumptions in determining the funding program; however, any adjustment to the funding program would be the same for all sponsoring employers in the Pooled Employers group.

(ii) Statewide Limited

Council is a member of Statewide Mutual, a mutual pool scheme providing liability insurance to local government.

Membership includes the potential to share in either the net assets or liabilities of the fund depending on its past performance. Council's share of the net assets or liabilities reflects Council's contributions to the pool and the result of insurance claims within each of the fund years.

The future realisation and finalisation of claims incurred but not reported to 30 June this year may result in future liabilities or benefits as a result of past events that Council will be required to fund or share in respectively.

(iii) StateCover Limited

Council is a member of StateCover Mutual Limited and holds a partly paid share in the entity.

StateCover is a company providing workers compensation insurance cover to the NSW local government industry and specifically Council.

Council has a contingent liability to contribute further equity in the event of the erosion of the company's capital base as a result of the company's past performance and/or claims experience or as a result of any increased prudential requirements from APRA.

These future equity contributions would be required to maintain the company's minimum level of net assets in accordance with its licence requirements.

(iv) Other guarantees

Council has provided no other guarantees other than those listed above.

E3-1 Contingencies (continued)

2. Other liabilities

(i) Third party claims

The Council is involved from time to time in various claims incidental to the ordinary course of business including claims for damages relating to its services.

Council believes that it is appropriately covered for all claims through its insurance coverage and does not expect any material liabilities to eventuate.

(ii) Garbage Depot Reinstatement

Garbage is disposed of in pits at the Coonamble Depot. When a new pit is required the old pit is reinstated at the same time as the digging of the new pit. As a result reinstatement costs are expensed each year. Should current practices change, it will be necessary to consider the need to establish a Garbage Depot Remediation provision.

(iii) Gravel Pits Reinstatement

Council's practice with regard to remediation of road reserve and private property gravel pits to construct water storage for future road maintenance or a farm dam in return for the use of material where feasible. If this is not feasible for whatever reason then the pit is scarified and seeded upon completion of works undertaken and expensed accordingly, therefor future remediation costs are zero.

ASSETS NOT RECOGNISED

(i) Infringement notices/fines

Fines and penalty income, the result of Council issuing infringement notices is followed up and collected by the Infringement Processing Bureau.

Council's revenue recognition policy for such income is to account for it as revenue on receipt.

Accordingly, at year end, there is a potential asset due to Council representing issued but unpaid infringement notices.

Due to the limited information available on the status, value and duration of outstanding notices, Council is unable to determine the value of outstanding income.

F People and relationships

F1 Related party disclosures

F1-1 Key management personnel (KMP)

Key management personnel (KMP) of the council are those persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the council, directly or indirectly.

The aggregate amount of KMP compensation included in the Income Statement is:

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Compensation:		
Short-term benefits	1,282	783
Post-employment benefits	116	74
Other long-term benefits	32	27
Total	1,430	884

continued on next page

F1-1 Key management personnel (KMP) (continued)

Other transactions with KMP and their related parties

Council has determined that transactions at arm's length between KMP and Council as part of Council delivering a public service objective (e.g. access to library or Council swimming pool by KMP) will not be disclosed.

Nature of the transaction	Ref	Transactions during the year \$ '000	Outstanding balances including commitments \$ '000	Terms and conditions	Impairment provision on outstanding balances \$ '000	Impairment expense \$ '000
2025						
Quarry Sales	1	118	35		—	—
Supply of Materials	2	82	—		—	—
Provision of Contract Services	3	311	—		—	—
Provision of long-term accommodation	5	17	—		—	—
Sponsorship of Local Events	6	63	—		—	—
2024						
Provision of Contract Services	3	203	—		—	—
Provision of Information Technology Equipment	4	42	—		—	—
Provision of long-term accommodation	5	14	—		—	—

- 1 Council supplies various materials from its Quarry operations to the public. Of these sales to the public a KMP is an owner operator of a business that purchases product from the Quarry, further sales were made to a close relatives of a KMP.All product is sold as per Council's adopted fees and charges
- 2 As per Council's Operational Budget and Plan, Council was required to source materials as part of its operations . In accordance with Council's procurement policy quotations were sought and quotations received with the works awarded in accordance with normal commercial terms. A KMP is a part owner of one of the businesses that provided Council with materials .
- 3 As per Council's Operational Budget and Plan, Council was required to engage contractors to provide various contract services for Council throughout the year. In accordance with Council's adopted procurement policy quotations were sought and received with the works awarded in accordance with normal commercial terms. Of these contractors awarded works two (2) are controlled by either a KMP or a close relative of a KMP.
- 4 As per Council's Operational Budget and Plan , Council was required to procure quantities of I.T equipment from various suppliers throughout the year. In accordance with Council's adopted procurement policy quotations were sought and received with the works awarded in accordance with normal commercial terms. Of these suppliers awarded Council orders , one (1) was controlled by a close relative of a KMP.
- 5 During the 2024/2025 Operational year, due to a shortfall in Council provided accommodation, Council was required to source additional housing to accommodate Council staff. A KMP is the owner of one the premises rented by Council.

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F1-1 Key management personnel (KMP) (continued)

6 As per Council's adopted Operational Plan and Budget, Council sponsored various community events. A KMP is a member of the executive of a community organisation committee that received sponsorship from Council.

F1-2 Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
The aggregate amount of Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses included in materials and services expenses in the Income Statement are:		
Mayoral fee	21	23
Councillors' fees	106	88
Other Councillors' expenses (including Mayor)	102	84
Total	229	195

F1-3 Other related parties

		Transactions during the year \$ '000	Outstanding balances including commitments \$ '000	Terms and conditions	Impairment provision on outstanding balances \$ '000	Impairment expense \$ '000
	Ref					
2025						
Library Services	1	7	–	Membership of Library Co-op	–	–
2024						
Library Services	1	14	–	Membership of Library Co-op	–	–

1 Council is a member of a Joint venture being the North Western Library Co-operative with three other Councils, each council contributes and equal amount to the joint venture each year for the operation of the service which is to purchase books and e-resources for the benefit of the residents and ratepayers in the four local government areas.

F2 Other relationships**F2-1 Audit fees**

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000

During the year, the following fees were incurred for services provided by the auditor of Council, related practices and non-related audit firms

Auditors of the Council - NSW Auditor-General:**(i) Audit services**

Audit of financial statements	94	101
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G Other matters

G1-1 Statement of Cash Flows information

Reconciliation of Operating Result

	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Net operating result from Income Statement	2,202	11,089
Add / (less) non-cash items:		
Depreciation and amortisation	8,057	7,669
(Gain) / loss on disposal of assets	(82)	(835)
Unwinding of discount rates on reinstatement provisions	(234)	—
Share of net (profits)/losses of associates/joint ventures using the equity method	(7)	(14)
Movements in operating assets and liabilities and other cash items:		
(Increase) / decrease of receivables	77	(3,017)
(Increase) / decrease of inventories	787	(326)
(Increase) / decrease of other current assets	(36)	(134)
Increase / (decrease) in payables	(496)	10
Increase / (decrease) in accrued interest payable	1	—
Increase / (decrease) in other accrued expenses payable	313	114
Increase / (decrease) in other liabilities	(340)	(35)
Increase / (decrease) in contract liabilities	(960)	323
Increase / (decrease) in employee benefit provision	243	425
Increase / (decrease) in other provisions	376	—
Net cash flows from operating activities	9,901	15,269

G2-1 Commitments

Capital commitments (exclusive of GST)

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000

Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:

Property, plant and equipment

Buildings	1,862	2,453
Plant and equipment	491	50
Water Infrastructure	252	178
Sewer Infrastructure	125	583
Other Structures	830	1,115
Road infrastructure	9,386	10,086
Total commitments	12,946	14,465

These expenditures are payable as follows:

Within the next year	9,349	10,614
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	3,597	3,851
Total payable	12,946	14,465

Sources for funding of capital commitments:

Unrestricted general funds	700	380
Future grants and contributions	4,053	4,245
Unexpended grants	7,109	8,282
Externally restricted reserves	377	881
Internally restricted reserves	632	477
Unexpended loans	75	200
Total sources of funding	12,946	14,465

Details of capital commitments

The capital commitments relate primarily to the completion of the following grant funded programs listed below, coupled with the completion of planned upgrades to Council's water and sewer infrastructure.

- Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund.
- Regional and Local Roads Repair Program.
- NSW Local Government Recovery Grant Program
- Roads of Strategic Importance Program.
- Youth Empowerment Program.

G3-1 Events occurring after the reporting date

There are no other known events after the reporting period which would give rise to a material impact on the reported results or financial position.

End of the audited financial statements

H Additional Council disclosures (unaudited)

H1-1 Council information and contact details

Principal place of business:

80 Castlereagh Street
Coonamble NSW 2829

Contact details**Mailing Address:**

PO Box 249
Coonamble NSW 2829

Telephone: 02 68271900

Facsimile: 02 68221626

Opening hours:

8:30am - 5:00pm
Monday to Friday

Internet: www.coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au

Email: council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au

Officers

Phillip Perram
General Manager

Bruce Quarmby
Responsible Accounting Officer

Auditors

Auditor General of NSW

Elected members

Cr. Daniel Keady
Mayor

Councillors

Cr. Steven Butler (Deputy Mayor)
Cr. Karen Churchill
Cr. Adam Cohen
Cr. Paul Fisher
Cr. Marg Garnsey
Cr. Pip Goldsmith
Cr. Al Karanouh
Cr. Paul Wheelhouse

Other information

ABN: 19 499 848 443



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Report on the general purpose financial statements

Coonamble Shire Council

To the Councillors of Coonamble Shire Council

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Coonamble Shire Council (the Council), which comprise the Statement by Councillors and Management, the Income Statement and Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2025, the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2025, the Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information and other explanatory information.

In my opinion:

- the Council's accounting records have been kept in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Chapter 13, Part 3, Division 2 (the Division)
- the financial statements:
 - have been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the requirements of the Division
 - are, in all material respects, consistent with the Council's accounting records
 - present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at 30 June 2025, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards
- all information relevant to the conduct of the audit has been obtained
- no material deficiencies in the accounting records or financial statements have come to light during the audit.

My opinion should be read in conjunction with the rest of this report.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under the standards are described in the 'Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements' section of my report.

I am independent of the Council in accordance with the requirements of the:

- Australian Auditing Standards
- Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 'Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)' (APES 110).

Parliament promotes independence by ensuring the Auditor-General and the Audit Office of New South Wales are not compromised in their roles by:

- providing that only Parliament, and not the executive government, can remove an Auditor-General
- mandating the Auditor-General as auditor of councils
- precluding the Auditor-General from providing non-audit services.

I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with APES 110.

I believe the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Other Information

The Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025 includes other information in addition to the financial statements and my Independent Auditor's Report thereon. The Councillors are responsible for the other information. At the date of this Independent Auditor's Report, the other information I have received comprise the special purpose financial statements and Special Schedules (the Schedules).

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information. Accordingly, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion on the other information. However, as required by the *Local Government Act 1993*, I have separately expressed an opinion on the special purpose financial statements and Special Schedule - Permissible income for general rates.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude there is a material misstatement of the other information, I must report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

The Councillors' Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Local Government Act 1993*, and for such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to:

- obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error
- issue an Independent Auditor's Report including my opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect material misstatements. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions users take based on the financial statements.

A description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. The description forms part of my auditor's report.

The scope of my audit does not include, nor provide assurance:

- that the Council carried out its activities effectively, efficiently and economically
- on the Original Budget information included in the Income Statement, Statement of Cash Flows, and Note B5-1 'Material budget variations'
- on the Special Schedules. A separate opinion has been provided on Special Schedule - Permissible income for general rates
- about the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited financial statements on any website where they may be presented
- about any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the financial statements.



Hong Wee Soh
Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

30 October 2025
SYDNEY



Cr Daniel Keady
Mayor
Coonamble Shire Council
PO BOX 249
COONAMBLE NSW 2829

Contact: Hong Wee Soh
Phone no: 02 9275 7397
Our ref: R008-1981756498-7251

30 October 2025

Dear Mayor

**Report on the Conduct of the Audit
for the year ended 30 June 2025
Coonamble Shire Council**

I have audited the general purpose financial statements (GPFS) of the Coonamble Shire Council (the Council) for the year ended 30 June 2025 as required by section 415 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act).

I expressed an unmodified opinion on the Council's GPFS.

My audit procedures did not identify any instances of material non-compliance with the financial reporting requirements in Chapter 13, Part 3, Division 2 of the LG Act and the associated regulation or a material deficiency in the Council's accounting records or financial statements. The Council's:

- accounting records were maintained in a manner and form to allow the GPFS to be prepared and effectively audited
- staff provided all accounting records and information relevant to the audit.

This Report on the Conduct of the Audit (the Report) for the Council for the year ended 30 June 2025 is issued in accordance with section 417 of the Act. The Report:

- must address the specific matters outlined in the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting 2024-25
- may include statements, comments and recommendations that I consider to be appropriate based on the conduct of the audit of the GPFS.

This Report should be read in conjunction with my audit opinion on the GPFS issued under section 417(2) of the Act.

INCOME STATEMENT

Financial performance

	2025	2024	Variance
	\$m	\$m	%
Rates and annual charges revenue	8.0	7.5	6.7 ↑
Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes revenue	10.4	13.5	23.0 ↓
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes revenue	4.3	8.9	51.7 ↓
Operating result from continuing operations	2.2	11.1	80.2 ↓
Net Operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	(2.1)	2.2	>100 ↓

Operating result from continuing operations

This graph shows the operating result from continuing operations for the current and prior two financial years.

Council's operating result from continuing operations for the year was \$8.9 million lower than the 2023–24 result.

In 2024-25, depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets expense (\$8.1 million) increased by \$0.4 million (5.2 per cent) due to significant asset additions and valuation increases in recent years.

The decrease in the operating result is primarily due to reduced revenue from grants and contributions and incurring expenses funded by grants received from prior years.



The net operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes was a deficit of \$2.1 million. Refer to 'Grants and contributions revenue' below for details.

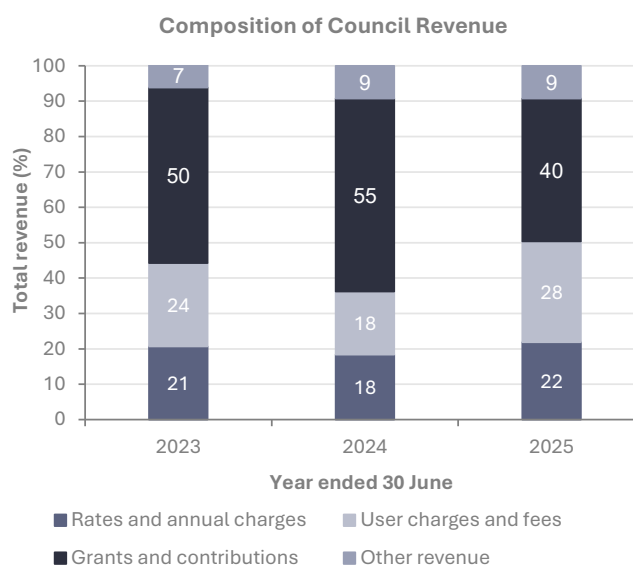
Income

Council revenue

This graph shows the composition of Council's revenue recognised for the current and prior two financial years.

Council revenue (\$36.4 million) decreased by \$4.6 million (11.3 per cent) in 2024–25 due to:

- rates and annual charges revenue (\$8 million) increased by \$0.5 million (6.7 per cent)
- user charges and fees revenue (\$10.4 million) increased by \$3 million (41.5 per cent) due to increased Transport for NSW works
- grants and contributions revenue (\$14.7 million) decreased by \$7.7 million (34.3 per cent) – see additional details below.

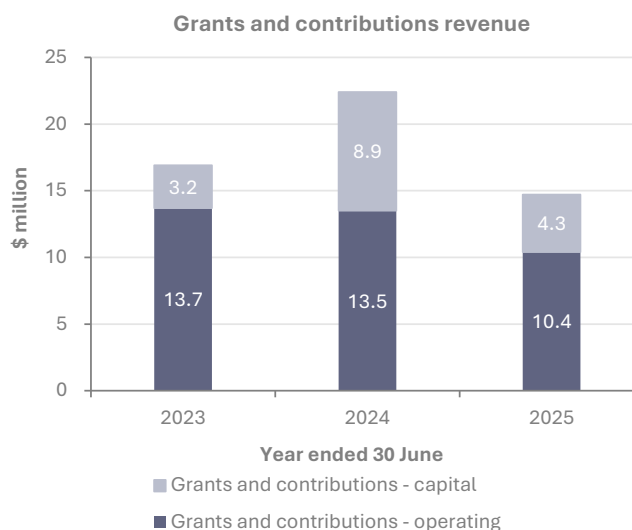


Grants and contributions revenue

This graph shows the amount of grants and contributions revenue recognised for the current and prior two financial years.

Grants and contributions revenue (\$14.7 million) decreased by \$7.7 million (34.3 per cent) in 2024–25 due to:

- a decrease in specific purpose operating grants of \$1.4 million, primarily relating to roads and flood damage funding
- a decrease in capital grants of \$4.6 million, primarily relating to roads and other capital projects funding
- receiving 50 per cent of the financial assistance grants for 2025-26 in advance compared to receiving 85 per cent for 2024-25 in 2023-24.



CASH FLOWS

Statement of cash flows

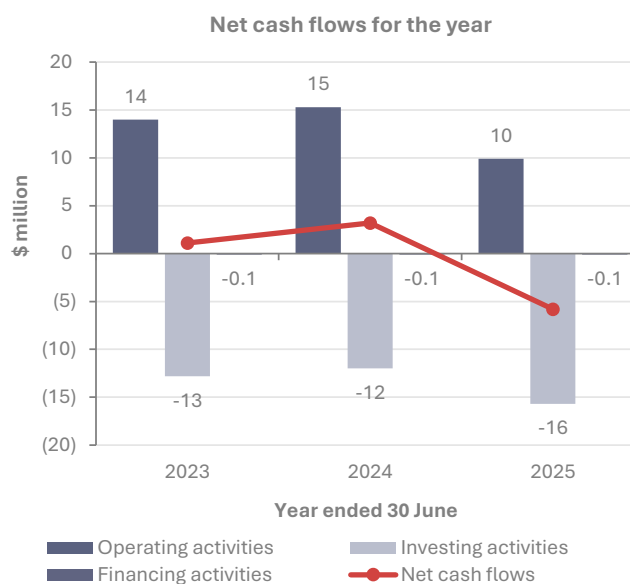
The Statement of Cash Flows details the Council's inflows and outflows of cash over a specific period. It helps in assessing the Council's ability to generate cash to fund its operations, pay off debts, and support future projects. It also aids in identifying any pressures or issues in the Council operating in a financially sustainable manner.

This graph shows the net cash flows for the current and prior two financial years.

The net cash outflows for the year were \$5.8 million (inflow of \$3.2 million in 2023-24).

In 2024-25 the net cashflows:

- from operating activities decreased by \$5.4 million, mainly due to reduced receipts of grants and contributions
- used in investing activities increased by \$3.7 million, mainly due the redemption and purchases of investments in long term deposits
- used in financing activities was consistent with the prior year.



FINANCIAL POSITION

Cash, cash equivalents and investments

This section of the Report provides details of the amount of cash, cash equivalents and investments recorded by the Council at 30 June 2025.

Externally restricted funds are the cash, cash equivalents and investments that can only be used for specific purposes due to legal or contractual restrictions.

Cash, cash equivalents, and investments without external restrictions can be allocated internally by the elected Council's resolution or policy. These allocations are matters of Council policy and can be changed or removed by a Council resolution.

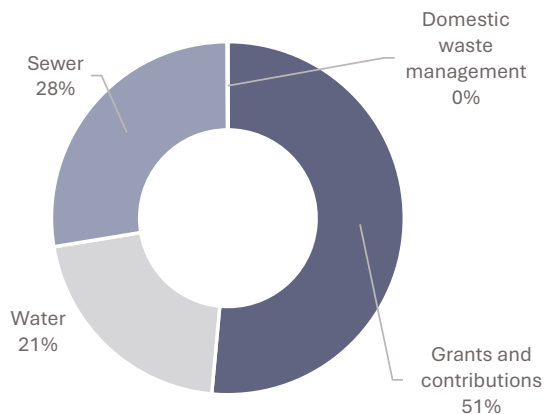
Cash, cash equivalents and investments	2025	2024	Percentage of total cash and investments 2025	Commentary
	\$m	\$m	%	
Total cash, cash equivalents and investments	26.1	29.5		Externally restricted balances are those which are only available for specific use due to a restriction placed by legislation or third-party contract. A breakdown of the sources of externally restricted balances is included in the graph below.
Restricted and allocated cash, cash equivalents and investments:				Internal allocations are determined by council policies or decisions, which are subject to change.
• External restrictions	16.9	19.8	64.8	
• Internal allocations	9.2	9.2	35.2	

This graph shows the sources of externally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments.

In 2024-25 the Council's main sources of externally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments include:

- grants and contributions of \$8.6 million which decreased by \$2 million
- water fund of \$3.5 million which decreased by \$0.2 million
- sewer fund of \$4.6 million which decreased by \$0.6 million.

Source of externally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments



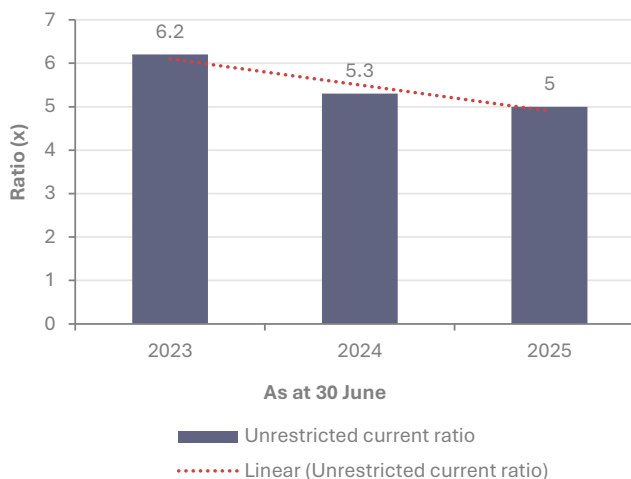
Council liquidity

This graph shows the Council's unrestricted current ratio for the current and prior two financial years.

The unrestricted current ratio is specific to local government and represents council's ability to meet its short-term obligations as they fall due. It measures the ratio of unrestricted current assets to current liabilities less specific purpose liabilities.

In 2023-24, the average unrestricted current ratio was an average of 5.6 times for rural councils.

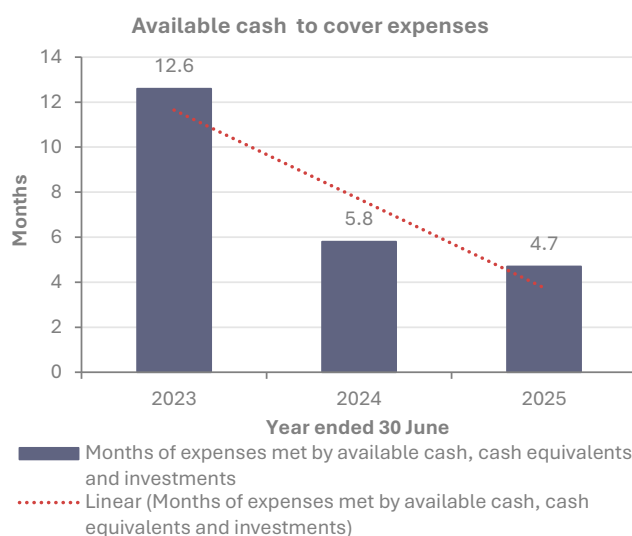
Unrestricted current ratio



This graph shows the number of months of general fund expenses (excluding depreciation and borrowing costs), Council can fund from its available cash, cash equivalents and investments (not subject to external restrictions).

Further details on cash, cash equivalents and investments including the sources of external restrictions are included in the section above.

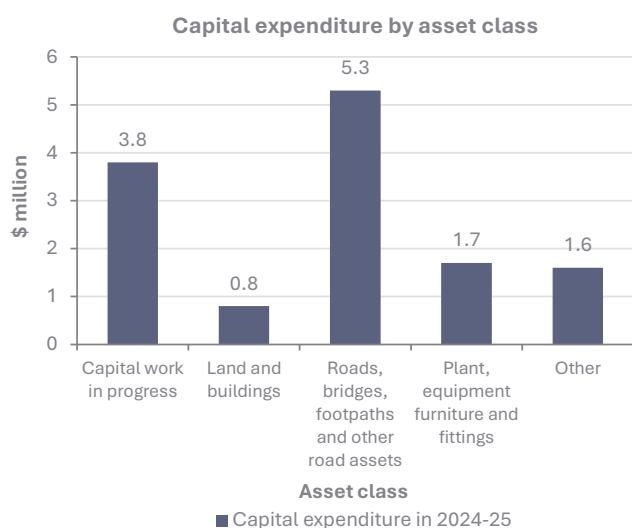
In 2023–24, the available cash to cover expenses was an average of 8 months for rural councils.



Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

This graph shows how much the Council spent on renewing and purchasing assets in 2024-25.

Council renewed \$8.2 million of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment during the 2024-25 financial year including \$4.5 million spent on roads. A further \$5 million was spent on new assets including \$1.7 million on plant and equipment.



Soh

Hong Wee Soh
 Associate Director - Financial Audit
 Delegate of the Auditor-General

Coonamble Shire Council

SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2025



Coonamble Shire Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

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Background

- i. These Special Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared for the use by both Council and the Office of Local Government in fulfilling their requirements under National Competition Policy.
- ii. The principle of competitive neutrality is based on the concept of a 'level playing field' between persons/entities competing in a market place, particularly between private and public sector competitors.

Essentially, the principle is that government businesses, whether Commonwealth, state or local, should operate without net competitive advantages over other businesses as a result of their public ownership.

- iii. For Council, the principle of competitive neutrality and public reporting applies only to declared business activities.

These include **(a)** those activities classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as business activities being water supply, sewerage services, abattoirs, gas production and reticulation, and **(b)** those activities with a turnover of more than \$2 million that Council has formally declared as a business activity (defined as Category 1 activities).

- iv. In preparing these financial statements for Council's self-classified Category 1 businesses and ABS-defined activities, councils must **(a)** adopt a corporatisation model and **(b)** apply full cost attribution including tax-equivalent regime payments and debt guarantee fees (where the business benefits from Council's borrowing position by comparison with commercial rates).

Coonamble Shire Council**Special Purpose Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Statement by Councillors and Management**Statement by Councillors and Management made pursuant to the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting**

The attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- NSW Government Policy Statement, *Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government*
- Division of Local Government Guidelines, *Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality*
- The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting
- Sections 3 and 4 of the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water's (DCCEEW) *Regulatory and assurance framework for local water utilities, July 2022*

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- present fairly the operating result and financial position for each of Council's declared business activities for the year,
- accord with Council's accounting and other records; and
- present overhead reallocation charges to the water and sewerage businesses as fair and reasonable.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 10 September 2025.


Daniel Keady
Mayor

10 September 2025


Steven Butler
Councillor

10 September 2025


Phillip Perram
General Manager

10 September 2025


Bruce Quarmby
Responsible Accounting Officer

10 September 2025

Coonamble Shire Council | Income Statement of water supply business activity | for the year ended 30 June 2025

Coonamble Shire Council

Income Statement of water supply business activity
for the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Income from continuing operations		
Access charges	958	920
User charges	1,262	933
Fees	9	3
Interest and investment income	179	233
Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	124	50
Other income	7	81
Total income from continuing operations	2,539	2,220
Expenses from continuing operations		
Employee benefits and on-costs	435	356
Materials and services	1,332	830
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	505	462
Water purchase charges	13	12
Total expenses from continuing operations	2,285	1,660
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	254	560
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	—	55
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	254	615
Surplus (deficit) from all operations before tax	254	615
Less: corporate taxation equivalent (25%) [based on result before capital]	(64)	(140)
Surplus (deficit) after tax	190	475
Plus accumulated surplus	15,645	15,030
Plus adjustments for amounts unpaid:		
— Corporate taxation equivalent	64	140
Closing accumulated surplus	15,899	15,645
Return on capital %	1.3%	2.8%
Subsidy from Council	581	287
Calculation of dividend payable:		
Surplus (deficit) after tax	191	475
Less: capital grants and contributions (excluding developer contributions)	—	(55)
Surplus for dividend calculation purposes	191	420
Potential dividend calculated from surplus	95	210

Coonamble Shire Council | Income Statement of sewerage business activity | for the year ended 30 June 2025

Coonamble Shire Council**Income Statement of sewerage business activity**
for the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Income from continuing operations		
Access charges	1,037	950
User charges	243	164
Fees	4	4
Interest and investment income	234	322
Other income	8	10
Total income from continuing operations	1,526	1,450
Expenses from continuing operations		
Employee benefits and on-costs	305	361
Materials and services	473	474
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	432	400
Total expenses from continuing operations	1,210	1,235
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	316	215
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	94	7
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	410	222
Surplus (deficit) from all operations before tax	410	222
Less: corporate taxation equivalent (25%) [based on result before capital]	(79)	(54)
Surplus (deficit) after tax	331	168
Plus accumulated surplus	13,090	12,868
Plus adjustments for amounts unpaid:		
– Corporate taxation equivalent	79	54
Closing accumulated surplus	13,500	13,090
Return on capital %	1.6%	1.1%
Subsidy from Council	525	600
Calculation of dividend payable:		
Surplus (deficit) after tax	331	168
Less: capital grants and contributions (excluding developer contributions)	(94)	(7)
Surplus for dividend calculation purposes	237	161
Potential dividend calculated from surplus	119	81

Coonamble Shire Council | Income Statement of Quarry | for the year ended 30 June 2025

Coonamble Shire Council

Income Statement of Quarry

for the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025 Category 2 \$ '000	2024 Category 2 \$ '000
Income from continuing operations		
User charges	3,392	4,031
Other income	296	355
Total income from continuing operations	3,688	4,386
Expenses from continuing operations		
Employee benefits and on-costs	303	425
Materials and services	2,872	3,841
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	171	264
Total expenses from continuing operations	3,346	4,530
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	342	(144)
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	342	(144)
Surplus (deficit) from all operations before tax	342	(144)
Less: corporate taxation equivalent (25%) [based on result before capital]	(86)	–
Surplus (deficit) after tax	256	(144)
Plus accumulated surplus	9,153	9,297
Plus adjustments for amounts unpaid:		
– Corporate taxation equivalent	86	–
Closing accumulated surplus	9,495	9,153
Return on capital %	13.6%	(5.2)%
Subsidy from Council	–	264
Calculation of dividend payable:		
Surplus (deficit) after tax	257	(144)
Surplus for dividend calculation purposes	257	–
Potential dividend calculated from surplus	128	–

Coonamble Shire Council | Statement of Financial Position of water supply business activity | as at 30 June 2025

Coonamble Shire Council**Statement of Financial Position of water supply business activity**

as at 30 June 2025

	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	729	1,011
Investments	2,745	2,745
Receivables	1,474	679
Total current assets	4,948	4,435
Non-current assets		
Receivables	157	129
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	20,083	19,687
Total non-current assets	20,240	19,816
Total assets	25,188	24,251
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Payables	154	63
Income received in advance	130	125
Total current liabilities	284	188
Total liabilities	284	188
Net assets	24,904	24,063
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	15,899	15,645
IPPE revaluation surplus	9,005	8,418
Total equity	24,904	24,063

Coonamble Shire Council | Statement of Financial Position of sewerage business activity | as at 30 June 2025

Coonamble Shire Council**Statement of Financial Position of sewerage business activity**

as at 30 June 2025

	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	368	913
Investments	4,237	4,237
Receivables	532	372
Total current assets	5,137	5,522
Non-current assets		
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	20,222	18,956
Total non-current assets	20,222	18,956
Total assets	25,359	24,478
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Payables	72	71
Total current liabilities	72	71
Total liabilities	72	71
Net assets	25,287	24,407
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	13,500	13,090
IPPE revaluation surplus	11,787	11,317
Total equity	25,287	24,407

Coonamble Shire Council | Statement of Financial Position of Quarry | as at 30 June 2025

Coonamble Shire Council

Statement of Financial Position of Quarry

as at 30 June 2025

	2025 Category 2 \$ '000	2024 Category 2 \$ '000
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	6,837	5,423
Inventories	635	1,459
Receivables	61	263
Total current assets	7,533	7,145
Non-current assets		
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	2,507	2,787
Total non-current assets	2,507	2,787
Total assets	10,040	9,932
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Provisions	545	779
Total current liabilities	545	779
Total liabilities	545	779
Net assets	9,495	9,153
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	9,495	9,153
Total equity	9,495	9,153

Note – Material accounting policy information

A statement summarising the supplemental accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the special purpose financial statements (SPFS) for National Competition Policy (NCP) reporting purposes follows.

These financial statements are SPFS prepared for use by Council and the Office of Local Government. For the purposes of these statements, the Council is a non-reporting not-for-profit entity.

The figures presented in these special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement criteria of relevant Australian Accounting Standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and Australian Accounting Interpretations.

The disclosures in these special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (Act), the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (Regulation) and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

The statements are prepared on an accruals basis. They are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, fair value of non-current assets. Certain taxes and other costs, appropriately described, have been imputed for the purposes of the National Competition Policy.

The Statement of Financial Position includes notional assets/liabilities receivable from/payable to Council's general fund. These balances reflect a notional intra-entity funding arrangement with the declared business activities.

National Competition Policy

Council has adopted the principle of 'competitive neutrality' in its business activities as part of the National Competition Policy which is being applied throughout Australia at all levels of government. The framework for its application is set out in the June 1996 NSW Government Policy statement titled 'Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government'. *The Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality* issued by the Office of Local Government in July 1997 has also been adopted.

The pricing and costing guidelines outline the process for identifying and allocating costs to activities and provide a standard for disclosure requirements. These disclosures are reflected in Council's pricing and/or financial reporting systems and include taxation equivalents, Council subsidies, and returns on investments (rate of return and dividends paid).

Declared business activities

In accordance with Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality, Council has declared that the following are to be considered as business activities:

Category 1

(where gross operating turnover is over \$2 million)

Council does not operate any Category 1 business activities.

Category 2

(where gross operating turnover is less than \$2 million)

a. Water Supply Service

Comprising the whole of the water supply operations and net assets servicing Coonamble Shire.

b. Sewerage Service

Comprising the whole of the sewerage reticulation and treatment operations and net assets system servicing Coonamble Shire.

c. Quarry Operations

Extraction and production of road making materials.

Taxation equivalent charges

Council is liable to pay various taxes and financial duties. Where this is the case, they are disclosed as a cost of operations just like all other costs.

However, where Council does not pay some taxes which are generally paid by private sector businesses, such as income tax, these equivalent tax payments have been applied to all Council-nominated business activities and are reflected in Special Purpose Financial Statements.

Note – Material accounting policy information (continued)

For the purposes of disclosing comparative information relevant to the private sector equivalent, the following taxation equivalents have been applied to all Council-nominated business activities (this does not include Council's non-business activities):

Notional rate applied (%)

Corporate income tax rate – 25% (23/24 25%)

Land tax – the first \$1,075,000 of combined land values attracts **0%**. For the combined land values in excess of \$1,075,000 up to \$6,571,000 the rate is **1.6% + \$100**. For the remaining combined land value that exceeds \$6,571,000 a premium marginal rate of **2.0%** applies.

Payroll tax – **5.45%** on the value of taxable salaries and wages in excess of \$1,200,000.

In accordance with the DCCEEW's regulatory and assurance framework, a payment for the amount calculated as the annual tax equivalent charges (excluding income tax) must be paid from water supply and sewerage business activities.

The payment of taxation equivalent charges, referred to in the regulatory and assurance framework as a 'dividend for taxation equivalent', may be applied for any purpose allowed under the *Local Government Act, 1993*.

Achievement of substantial compliance to DCCEEW's regulatory and assurance framework is not a prerequisite for the payment of the tax equivalent charges, however the payment must not exceed \$3 per assessment.

Income tax

An income tax equivalent has been applied on the profits of the business activities.

Whilst income tax is not a specific cost for the purpose of pricing a good or service, it needs to be taken into account in terms of assessing the rate of return required on capital invested.

Accordingly, the return on capital invested is set at a pre-tax level - gain/(loss) from ordinary activities before capital amounts, as would be applied by a private sector competitor. That is, it should include a provision equivalent to the corporate income tax rate, currently 25% (23/24 25%).

Income tax is only applied where a gain/ (loss) from ordinary activities before capital amounts has been achieved.

Since the taxation equivalent is notional – that is, it is payable to Council as the 'owner' of business operations - it represents an internal payment and has no effect on the operations of the Council. Accordingly, there is no need for disclosure of internal charges in the SPFS.

The rate applied of 25% is the equivalent company tax rate prevalent at reporting date. No adjustments have been made for variations that have occurred during the year.

Local government rates and charges

A calculation of the equivalent rates and charges for all Category 1 businesses has been applied to all assets owned, or exclusively used by the business activity.

Loan and debt guarantee fees

The debt guarantee fee is designed to ensure that Council business activities face 'true' commercial borrowing costs in line with private sector competitors. In order to calculate a debt guarantee fee, Council has determined what the differential borrowing rate would have been between the commercial rate and Council's borrowing rate for its business activities.

(i) Subsidies

Government policy requires that subsidies provided to customers, and the funding of those subsidies, must be explicitly disclosed. Subsidies occur where Council provides services on a less than cost recovery basis. This option is exercised on a range of services in order for Council to meet its community service obligations. The overall effect of subsidies is contained within the Income Statements of business activities.

(ii) Return on investments (rate of return)

The NCP policy statement requires that councils with Category 1 businesses 'would be expected to generate a return on capital funds employed that is comparable to rates of return for private businesses operating in a similar field'.

Note – Material accounting policy information (continued)

Funds are subsequently available for meeting commitments or financing future investment strategies. The rate of return is disclosed for each of Council's business activities on the Income Statement.

The rate of return is calculated as follows:

Operating result before capital income + interest expense

Written down value of I,PP&E as at 30 June

As a minimum, business activities should generate a return equal to the Commonwealth 10 year bond rate which is 4.16% at 30/6/25.

(iii) Dividends

Council is not required to pay dividends to either itself (as owner of a range of businesses) or to any external entities.

Local government water supply and sewerage businesses are permitted to pay an annual dividend from its water supply or sewerage business surplus.

Each dividend must be calculated and approved in accordance with the DCCEEWS regulatory and assurance framework and must not exceed:

- 50% of this surplus in any one year, or
- the number of water supply or sewerage assessments at 30 June 2025 multiplied by \$30 (less the payment for tax equivalent charges, not exceeding \$3 per assessment).

In accordance with the DCCEEWS regulatory and assurance framework a Dividend Payment form, Statement of Compliance, Unqualified Independent Financial Audit Report and Compliance Audit Report are required to be submitted to DCCEEWS.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Report on the special purpose financial statements

Coonamble Shire Council

To the Councillors of Coonamble Shire Council

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying special purpose financial statements (the financial statements) of Coonamble Shire Council's (the Council) Declared Business Activities, which comprise the Statement by Councillors and Management, the Income Statement of each Declared Business Activity for the year ended 30 June 2025, the Statement of Financial Position of each Declared Business Activity as at 30 June 2025 and the Material accounting policy information note.

The Declared Business Activities of the Council are:

- water supply
- sewerage
- quarry

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council's declared Business Activities as at 30 June 2025, and their financial performance for the year then ended, in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards described in the Material accounting policy information note and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting 2024–25 (LG Code).

My opinion should be read in conjunction with the rest of this report.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under the standards are described in the 'Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements' section of my report.

I am independent of the Council in accordance with the requirements of the:

- Australian Auditing Standards
- Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 'Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)' (APES 110).

Parliament promotes independence by ensuring the Auditor-General and the Audit Office of New South Wales are not compromised in their roles by:

- providing that only Parliament, and not the executive government, can remove an Auditor-General
- mandating the Auditor-General as the auditor of councils
- precluding the Auditor-General from providing non-audit services.

I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with APES 110.

I believe the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

Without modifying my opinion, I draw attention to the Material accounting policy information note to the financial statements which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements have been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Council's financial reporting responsibilities under the LG Code. As a result, the financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose.

Other Information

The Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025 includes other information in addition to the financial statements and my Independent Auditor's Report thereon. The Councillors are responsible for the other information. At the date of this Independent Auditor's Report, the other information I have received comprise the general purpose financial statements and Special Schedules (the Schedules).

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information. Accordingly, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion on the other information. However, as required by the *Local Government Act 1993*, I have separately expressed an opinion on the general purpose financial statements and Special Schedule 'Permissible income for general rates'.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude there is a material misstatement of the other information, I must report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

The Councillors' Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and for determining that the accounting policies, described in the Material accounting policy information note to the financial statements, are appropriate to meet the requirements in the LG Code. The Councillors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to:

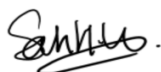
- obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error
- issue an Independent Auditor's Report including my opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect material misstatements. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions users take based on the financial statements.

A description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. The description forms part of my auditor's report.

The scope of my audit does not include, nor provide assurance:

- that the Council carried out its activities effectively, efficiently and economically
- about the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited financial statements on any website where they may be presented
- about any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the financial statements.



Hong Wee Soh
Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

30 October 2025
SYDNEY

Coonamble Shire Council

SPECIAL SCHEDULES
for the year ended 30 June 2025



Coonamble Shire Council

Special Schedules

for the year ended 30 June 2025

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Coonamble Shire Council | Permissible income for general rates | for the year ended 30 June 2025

Coonamble Shire Council

Permissible income for general rates

	Notes	Calculation 2024/25 \$ '000	Calculation 2025/26 \$ '000
Notional general income calculation ¹			
Last year notional general income yield	a	5,377	5,581
Plus or minus adjustments ²	b	(7)	(10)
Notional general income	c = a + b	5,370	5,571
Permissible income calculation			
Percentage increase	d	4.50%	4.70%
Plus percentage increase amount ³	f = d x (c + e)	242	262
Sub-total	g = (c + e + f)	5,612	5,833
Plus (or minus) last year's carry forward total	h	(20)	11
Sub-total	j = (h + i)	(20)	11
Total permissible income	k = g + j	5,592	5,844
Less notional general income yield	l	5,581	5,850
Catch-up or (excess) result	m = k - l	11	(6)
Carry forward to next year ⁴	p = m + n + o	11	(6)

Notes

- (1) The notional general income will not reconcile with rate income in the financial statements in the corresponding year. The statements are reported on an accrual accounting basis which include amounts that relate to prior years' rates income.
- (2) Adjustments account for changes in the number of assessments and any increase or decrease in land value occurring during the year. The adjustments are called 'supplementary valuations' as defined in the *Valuation of Land Act 1916 (NSW)*.
- (3) The 'percentage increase' is inclusive of the rate-peg percentage, and/or special variation and/or Crown land adjustment (where applicable).
- (4) Carry-forward amounts which are in excess (an amount that exceeds the permissible income) require Ministerial approval by order published in the *NSW Government Gazette* in accordance with section 512 of the Act. The OLG will extract these amounts from Council's Permissible income for general rates Statement in the financial data return (FDR) to administer this process.

Coonamble Shire Council | Permissible income for general rates | for the year ended 30 June 2025



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Special Schedule – Permissible income for general rates

Coonamble Shire Council

To the Councillors of Coonamble Shire Council

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying Special Schedule – Permissible income for general rates (the Schedule) of Coonamble Shire Council (the Council) for the year ending 30 June 2026.

In my opinion, the Schedule is prepared, in all material respects in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting 2024–25 (LG Code) and is in accordance with the books and records of the Council.

My opinion should be read in conjunction with the rest of this report.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under the standards are described in the 'Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Schedule' section of my report.

I am independent of the Council in accordance with the requirements of the:

- Australian Auditing Standards
- Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 'Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)' (APES 110).

Parliament promotes independence by ensuring the Auditor-General and the Audit Office of New South Wales are not compromised in their roles by:

- providing that only Parliament, and not the executive government, can remove an Auditor-General
- mandating the Auditor-General as auditor of councils
- precluding the Auditor-General from providing non-audit services.

I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with APES 110.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

Without modifying my opinion, I draw attention to the special purpose framework used to prepare the Schedule. The Schedule has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Council's reporting obligations under the LG Code. As a result, the Schedule may not be suitable for another purpose.

Other Information

The Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025 includes other information in addition to the Schedule and my Independent Auditor's Report thereon. The Councillors are responsible for the other information. At the date of this Independent Auditor's Report, the other information I have received comprise the general purpose financial statements, special purpose financial statements and Special Schedule 'Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2025.

My opinion on the Schedule does not cover the other information. Accordingly, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion on the other information. However, as required by the *Local Government Act 1993*, I have separately expressed an opinion on the general purpose financial statements and the special purpose financial statements.

In connection with my audit of the Schedule, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the Schedule or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude there is a material misstatement of the other information, I must report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

The Councillors' Responsibilities for the Schedule

The Councillors are responsible for the preparation of the Schedule in accordance with the LG Code. The Councillors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the Schedule that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the Schedule, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Schedule

My objectives are to:

- obtain reasonable assurance whether the Schedule as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error
- issue an Independent Auditor's Report including my opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect material misstatements.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions users take based on the Schedule.

A description of my responsibilities for the audit of the Schedule is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar8.pdf. The description forms part of my auditor's report.

Coonamble Shire Council | Permissible income for general rates | for the year ended 30 June 2025

The scope of my audit does not include, nor provide assurance:

- that the Council carried out its activities effectively, efficiently and economically
- about the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited Schedule on any website where it may be presented
- about any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the Schedule.



Hong Wee Soh
Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

30 October 2025
SYDNEY

Coonamble Shire Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2025

Asset Class	Asset Category	Estimated cost to bring assets to satisfactory standard	Estimated cost to bring to the agreed level of service set by Council	2024/25 Required maintenance ^a	2024/25 Actual maintenance	Net carrying amount	Gross replacement cost (GRC)	Assets in condition as a percentage of gross replacement cost				
		\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	1	2	3	4	5
Buildings	Buildings	1,320	1,678	322	311	30,927	50,315	20.5%	23.1%	33.5%	22.9%	0.0%
	Sub-total	1,320	1,678	322	311	30,927	50,315	20.5%	23.1%	33.5%	22.9%	0.0%
Other structures	Other structures	1,842	2,434	226	357	31,212	40,332	54.7%	8.1%	18.7%	18.6%	0.0%
	Sub-total	1,842	2,434	226	357	31,212	40,332	54.7%	8.1%	18.7%	18.6%	0.0%
Roads	Roads	2,048	2,358	1,630	2,160	267,448	296,687	36.9%	39.8%	21.7%	1.4%	0.1%
	Bridges	—	41	28	11	28,525	33,517	71.9%	28.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Footpaths	16	24	47	64	4,691	5,431	49.3%	24.1%	26.2%	0.0%	0.5%
	Kerb & Gutter	378	486	15	7	5,250	7,430	49.1%	28.3%	19.7%	2.4%	0.4%
	Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	2,442	2,909	1,720	2,242	305,914	343,065	40.8%	38.1%	19.6%	1.3%	0.2%
Water supply network	Water supply network	1,697	2,796	295	669	19,869	32,244	27.2%	40.5%	21.0%	10.3%	0.9%
	Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	1,697	2,796	295	669	19,869	32,244	27.2%	40.5%	21.0%	10.3%	1.0%
Sewerage network	Sewerage network	2,479	4,071	325	452	19,768	33,708	23.1%	13.5%	44.2%	19.1%	0.1%
	Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	2,479	4,071	325	452	19,768	33,708	23.1%	13.5%	44.2%	19.1%	0.1%
Stormwater drainage	Stormwater drainage	1,190	1,623	26	20	7,711	13,231	9.6%	22.8%	62.1%	2.3%	3.2%
	Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	1,190	1,623	26	20	7,711	13,231	9.6%	22.8%	62.1%	2.3%	3.2%
Total – all assets		10,970	15,511	2,914	4,051	415,401	512,895	37.1%	32.4%	23.7%	6.5%	0.3%

(a) Required maintenance is the amount identified in Council's asset management plans.

Infrastructure asset condition assessment 'key'

1	Excellent/very good	No work required (normal maintenance)
2	Good	Only minor maintenance work required
3	Satisfactory	Maintenance work required
4	Poor	Renewal required

continued on next page

Coonamble Shire Council | Page 7 of 11

Coonamble Shire Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2025 (continued)

5 **Very poor** Urgent renewal/upgrading required

Coonamble Shire Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2025

Infrastructure asset performance indicators (consolidated) *

	Amounts 2025 \$ '000	Indicator 2025	Indicators 2024 2023		Benchmark
Buildings and infrastructure renewals ratio					
Asset renewals ¹	9,170	144.87%	185.58%	95.60%	> 100.00%
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	6,330				
Infrastructure backlog ratio					
Estimated cost to bring assets to a satisfactory standard	10,970	2.59%	2.26%	3.25%	< 2.00%
Net carrying amount of infrastructure assets	423,768				
Asset maintenance ratio					
Actual asset maintenance	4,051	139.02%	120.74%	161.22%	> 100.00%
Required asset maintenance	2,914				
Cost to bring assets to agreed service level					
Estimated cost to bring assets to an agreed service level set by Council	15,511	3.02%	2.74%	4.72%	
Gross replacement cost	512,895				

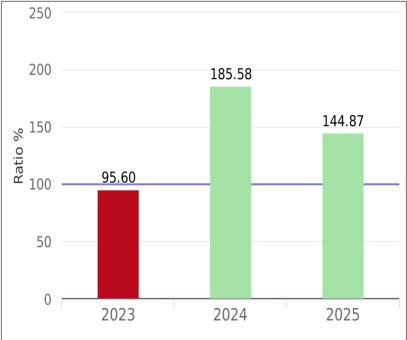
(*) All asset performance indicators are calculated using classes identified in the previous table.

(1) Asset renewals represent the replacement and/or refurbishment of existing assets to an equivalent capacity/performance as opposed to the acquisition of new assets (or the refurbishment of old assets) that increases capacity/performance.

Coonamble Shire Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2025

Buildings and infrastructure renewals ratio



Buildings and infrastructure renewals ratio

To assess the rate at which these assets are being renewed relative to the rate at which they are depreciating.

Commentary on result
24/25 ratio 144.87%

Council has sufficiently funded the renewal of its infrastructure greater than that of the rate of which depreciation is being incurred.

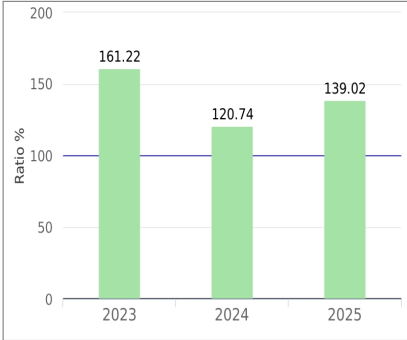
Benchmark: — > 100.00%

Source of benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

Ratio achieves benchmark

Ratio is outside benchmark

Asset maintenance ratio



Asset maintenance ratio

Compares actual vs. required annual asset maintenance. A ratio above 1.0 indicates Council is investing enough funds to stop the infrastructure backlog growing.

Commentary on result
24/25 ratio 139.02%

During the 2024-2025 financial year, Council funding towards asset maintenance funding increased when compared to the prior year.

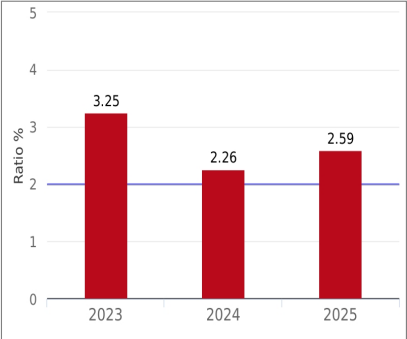
Benchmark: — > 100.00%

Source of benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

Ratio achieves benchmark

Ratio is outside benchmark

Infrastructure backlog ratio



Infrastructure backlog ratio

This ratio shows what proportion the backlog is against the total value of a Council's infrastructure.

Commentary on result
24/25 ratio 2.59%

Whilst Council's 2024/25 infrastructure renewal program exceeded the required renewal ratio, the infrastructure backlog ratio has slightly increased from its previous result too the 2024-2025 result of 2.59%.

Further infrastructure renewal programs have been included in Council's adopted 2025-2026 Operational Plan and Budget which should improve future results.

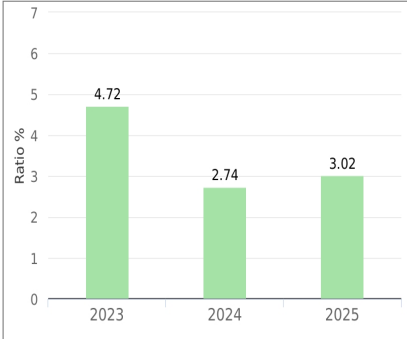
Benchmark: — < 2.00%

Source of benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

Ratio achieves benchmark

Ratio is outside benchmark

Cost to bring assets to agreed service level



Cost to bring assets to agreed service level

This ratio provides a snapshot of the proportion of outstanding renewal works compared to the total value of assets under Council's care and stewardship.

Commentary on result
24/25 ratio 3.02%

Due to the community's expectation of higher levels of service from Council assets, this ratio is indeed higher than the Council's Infrastructure Backlog ratio.

Coonamble Shire Council | Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2025

Coonamble Shire Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2025

Infrastructure asset performance indicators (by fund)

\$ '000	General fund		Water fund		Sewer fund		Benchmark
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	
Buildings and infrastructure renewals ratio							
Asset renewals ¹	324.87%	204.51%	44.36%	99.57%	137.96%	33.25%	> 100.00%
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment							
Infrastructure backlog ratio							
Estimated cost to bring assets to a satisfactory standard	1.77%	1.64%	8.45%	5.33%	12.26%	11.28%	< 2.00%
Net carrying amount of infrastructure assets							
Asset maintenance ratio							
Actual asset maintenance	127.72%	113.33%	226.78%	159.09%	139.08%	136.39%	> 100.00%
Required asset maintenance							
Cost to bring assets to agreed service level							
Estimated cost to bring assets to an agreed service level set by Council	0.96%	1.78%	4.34%	6.69%	6.04%	11.62%	
Gross replacement cost							

(1) Asset renewals represent the replacement and/or refurbishment of existing assets to an equivalent capacity/performance as opposed to the acquisition of new assets (or the refurbishment of old assets) that increases capacity/performance.

