



BUSINESS PAPER

Ordinary Council Meeting Thursday, 15 May 2025

Date: Thursday, 15 May 2025

Time: 9:00 AM

**Location: Shire Chamber
Coonamble**

The Mayor and Councillors are bound by the Oath / Affirmation of Office made at the start of the Council term to undertake their civic duties in the best interests of the people of Coonamble Shire and to faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities, and discretions vested in them under the Local Government Act or any other Act, to the best of their skill and judgement. It is also a requirement that the Mayor and Councillors disclose conflicts of interest in relation to items listed for consideration on the Agenda or which are considered at this meeting in accordance with Council's Code of Conduct and Code of Meeting Practice.

**Paul Gallagher
General Manager**

Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held in the Shire Chamber, Coonamble on Thursday, 15 May 2025 at 9:00 AM.

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1 OPENING MEETING**2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

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

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

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Coonamble Shire Council held on Wednesday, 9 April 2025 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings of the meeting.



MINUTES

**Ordinary Council Meeting
Wednesday, 9 April 2025**

**MINUTES OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE
ON WEDNESDAY, 9 APRIL 2025 AT 9:06 AM**

PRESENT: Mayor Daniel Keady, Deputy Mayor Steven Butler, Cr Karen Churchill, Cr Adam Cohen, Cr Paul Fisher, Cr Margaret Garnsey, Cr Phillipa Goldsmith, Cr Ahmad Karanouh, Cr Paul Wheelhouse

IN ATTENDANCE: Paul Gallagher (General Manager), Bruce Quarmby (Director Corporate Services), Kerrie Murphy (Director Infrastructure), Barry Broe (Director Community, Planning, Development & Environment), Jennifer Maundrell (Executive Manager Corporate Governance), Deborah Tatton (Acting Executive Support Officer)

1 OPENING MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting at 9:06am, advising the attendees of the following:

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

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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

3 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil

4 APOLOGIES/APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

Nil

5 DEPUTATION/DELEGATIONS

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**RESOLUTION 2025/78**

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Karen Churchill

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Coonamble Shire Council held on Wednesday, 12 March 2025 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings of the meeting.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

7 DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

CR M. GARNSEY – Declared a pecuniary interest in Item 10.6 – Bore Bath Project – being a board member of the Crown Trust over land referred to in the report.

CR P. WHEELHOUSE – Declared a pecuniary interest in Item 12.3 – Core and Cluster Project – as a contractor that may supply services on the project.

CR P. WHEELHOUSE – Declared a pecuniary interest in Item 12.4 – Housing Project – as a contractor that may supply services on the project.

8 MAYORAL MINUTE**MAYORAL MINUTE****RESOLUTION 2025/79**

Moved: Cr Paul Fisher

Seconded: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

That the Mayoral Minute for April 2025 be noted.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and

Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

SECTION A - MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY COUNCIL

SECTION B - MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

9 COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION 2025/80

Moved: Cr Karen Churchill

Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey

That the report of the Local Traffic Committee and the recommendations from the minutes of the Meeting held on 21 November 2024 be adopted.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

10.1 CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLUTION 2025/81

Moved: Cr Adam Cohen

Seconded: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

That the Correspondence Report April 2025 be received and noted.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.2 COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS/ACTIONS UPDATE**RESOLUTION 2025/82**

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Karen Churchill

That Council notes the information contained in the April 2025 Resolutions/Actions Update.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.3 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MONTHLY REPORT**RESOLUTION 2025/83**

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

That Council notes the information in the April 2025 Community Development report.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.4 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & GROWTH**RESOLUTION 2025/84**

Moved: Cr Paul Fisher

Seconded: Cr Karen Churchill

That Council notes the Economic Development and Growth report.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.5 PLANNING, REGULATORY & COMPLIANCE PROGRESS REPORT**RESOLUTION 2025/85**

Moved: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Steven Butler

That the Planning, Regulatory and Compliance Progress Report be noted.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

9:35am

Cr Garnsey left the meeting.

10.6 BORE BATH PROJECT**RESOLUTION 2025/86**

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Steven Butler

That Council:

- 1. Notes the status of the Bore Bath Project.**
- 2. Notes the project plan.**
- 3. Notes the work already done to get the project progressing on the new site.**
- 4. Approves the continuation of the process to become Crown Land Managers and seek an interim tenure licence.**
- 5. Approves the process to submit an application to acquire the land.**
- 6. Notes the intention to submit a grant variation to the grant body and its scope.**
- 7. Notes that a further report will be provided on the strategic opportunities available and potential disposal of the land owned by council on River Road.**
- 8. Forms a Bore Bath Committee at the next project workshop comprising of three councillors to work with Council staff on the project moving forward.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

9:57am

Cr Garnsey returned to the meeting.

10.7 YOUTH ACCOMMODATION PROJECT

RESOLUTION 2025/87

Moved: Cr Paul Fisher

Seconded: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

That Council notes:

- 1. The status and program.**
- 2. That a variation to the grant has been approved, giving an extension of time to the end of September 2025, and also approving the scope change.**
- 3. That Expressions of Interest for a Service Provider will be called by 30 May 2025.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.8 COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING STRATEGY

RESOLUTION 2025/88

Moved: Cr Margaret Garnsey

Seconded: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

That Council:

- 1. Revitalises and keeps the Weekly Connect newspaper advertisement and works with the local newspaper proprietor to better engage with the community.**
- 2. Approves the re-introduction of a quarterly Community Connect newsletter to be mailed out with rates notices, starting in July 2025.**
- 3. Resubscribes to the Western Plains App.**
- 4. Utilises community engagement opportunities with the local radio station.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.9 WASTE MANAGEMENT REPORT APRIL 2025

RESOLUTION 2025/89

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

That the monthly report on waste management activities be received and noted.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

The meeting was suspended for morning tea at 10:32am and resumed at 10:56am.

10:58am

Cr Cohen left the meeting.

11:02am

Cr Cohen returned to the meeting.

10.10 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES - WORKS IN PROGRESS

RESOLUTION 2025/90

Moved: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

Seconded: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

That the information be received and noted on the works in progress within Council's Infrastructure Directorate.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.11 TOORAWEEAH ROAD UPGRADE - MONTHLY STATUS UPDATE**RESOLUTION 2025/91**

Moved: Cr Paul Fisher

Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey

- 1. That the report be received and noted on the progress of the Tooraweenah Road Upgrade Project.**
- 2. That Council approves a variation to transfer an additional \$212,180.00 from the Transport Reserve to and increase the vote for 2024/25 Plant Fund to cover the costs of the purchase for amenities as listed within this report.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.12 COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**RESOLUTION 2025/92**

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Adam Cohen

That Council notes the information contained in the Community Strategic Plan update report.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.13 COONAMBLE SHIRE MASTERPLAN**RESOLUTION 2025/93**

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Karen Churchill

- 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 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.**
- 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.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.14 COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY**RESOLUTION 2025/94**

Moved: Cr Margaret Garnsey

Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher

That Council receives and notes the information contained in the Community Satisfaction Survey report.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.15 2023-24 OLG COMPLAINT STATISTICS

RESOLUTION 2025/95

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher

That Council receives and notes the information contained in the 2023/24 OLG Complaints statistics report

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.16 STATUS OF INVESTMENTS - MARCH 2025

RESOLUTION 2025/96

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

That Council receives and notes the list of investments from 1 March 2025 to 28 March 2025 and that these investments comply with section 625(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* and Council's Investment Policy.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.17 RATES AND CHARGES COLLECTIONS - MARCH 2025

RESOLUTION 2025/97

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Karen Churchill

That Council receives and notes the information provided in the rates and charges collections report.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.18 GOVERNMENT GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES RECEIVABLE UPDATE**RESOLUTION 2025/98**

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey

That Council receive and note the information contained in the April 2025 Government grants and receivables update.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.19 FORMATION OF DONATIONS COMMITTEE**RESOLUTION 2025/99**

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey

- 1. That Council notes the information in the Formation of Donations Committee report.**
- 2. That Council nominates the Mayor, Cr Churchill, Cr Butler and the General Manager (or his/her delegate) as delegates to the Donations Committee.**
- 3. That once formed, the Donations Committee agree on a suitable meeting date and time to be held during May 2025.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

11 NOTICES OF MOTIONS/QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE/RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

12 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**RESOLUTION 2025/100**

Moved: Cr Paul Fisher

Seconded: Cr Adam Cohen

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to

the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993:

12.1 Tender T372425OROC Supply and Delivery of Traffic Safety Signage

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - d(i) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

12.2 Tender T382425OROC Supply and Delivery of Stationery

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - d(i) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

12.3 Core and Cluster Project

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - d(i) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

12.4 Housing Project

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - d(i) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

12.5 Sons of the Soil (SOTS)

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

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

12.1 TENDER T372425OROC SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF TRAFFIC SAFETY SIGNAGE**RESOLUTION 2025/101**

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

- 1. That Council awards Tender T372425OROC Supply and Deliver of Traffic Safety Signage to the tenderer representing best value as a Panel Source Supplier for the Period 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2027, and**
- 2. That a provision be allowed for a 12-month extension based on satisfactory supplier performance, which may take this contract through to 31 March 2028**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

12.2 TENDER T382425OROC SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF STATIONERY**RESOLUTION 2025/102**

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey

- 1. That Council awards Tender T382425OROC Supply and Delivery of Stationery to the tenderer representing best value as a Panel Source Supplier for the period 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2027, and**
- 2. That a provision be allowed for a 12-month extension based on satisfactory supplier performance, which may take this contract through to 31 March 2028.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

12.3 CORE AND CLUSTER PROJECT**RESOLUTION 2025/103**

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey

That Council:

- 1. Notes the status of the project.**
- 2. Notes the estimated cost of providing the connecting services of sewer and water.**
- 3. Notes the draft conditions proposed for the land sale contract regarding land ownership, should the project not occur.**
- 4. Approves that the service connection work be funded out of the budget line-item Residential Development – Preliminary Costs, with these costs ultimately to be recovered from the sale of the land.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad Karanouh

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

12.4 HOUSING PROJECT**RESOLUTION 2025/104**

Moved: Cr Paul Fisher

Seconded: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

That Council:

- 1. Notes the status of the Housing Project and the program ahead.**
- 2. Notes the summary of the key contract terms.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad Karanouh

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

12.5 **SONS OF THE SOIL (SOTS)**

RESOLUTION 2025/105

Moved: Cr Margaret Garnsey
Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher

That Council:

- 1. Notes the information in this report.**
- 2. Notes that the DA was not submitted either within the contract timeframe (of 15 September 2024) or within the further extra time provided to the developer to 31 March 2025 as per Council Resolution 2025/7.**
- 3. Seeks legal advice with the intent to cancel the contract due to the developer not meeting the timeframe requirements.**
- 4. Conducts market sounding of interested purchasers and potential leaseholders.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

RESOLUTION 2025/106

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith
Seconded: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

The Meeting closed at 12:51pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council held on 14 May 2025.

.....
CHAIRPERSON

7 DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

8 MAYORAL MINUTE

MAYORAL MINUTE

File Number: M3
Author: Daniel Keady-Mayor
Authoriser: Daniel Keady, Mayor
Annexures: Nil

I am pleased to deliver the Mayoral report for May.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE.

I would like to pass on the Council's congratulations to the Director Infrastructure Ms Kerrie Murphy for her award "*highly commended*" presented by the NSW/ACT IPWEA at the Engineering Excellence Awards - Public Works Leader of the Year. I am advised it is a highly contested and a very prestigious award.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RMCC TECHNICAL OFFICER

I would like to pass on the Council's congratulations to the Council's RMCC Technical Officer Ms Darcie Holmes-Smith for her nomination for NSW/ACT IPWEA Engineering Excellence Awards - David Abbott Award (under 35), I am advised this is also a highly contested and a very prestigious award. Whilst she may not have taken the award, she is a winner in our eyes.

INVITATION TO ATTEND EID IN DUBBO

I am honoured to have been invited by our IT Manager and the Dubbo Bangladeshi community to attend Eid al-Fitr which is known as the festival of the breaking of the fast as it comes right after the Holy Month of Ramadan. The General Manager and senior staff attended the night along with representatives from Dubbo Regional Council. The Bangli culture was showcased on the night in beautiful traditional attire, food and dancing and I would like to pass my thanks onto Amdad and his family for this kind invitation.

MEETING WITH THE LAND COUNCIL

I attended the Land Council board meeting with the General Manager and Director – Community, Planning, Development & Environment to discuss the planning for NAIDOC week celebrations. Whilst we were there, we also briefly discussed the process of obtaining some of the adjoining land owned by the Land Council adjacent to the new SES HQ for the purpose of building a new FRNSW HQ.

MEETING WITH THE MINISTER ROADS AND REGIONAL TRANSPORT AND MEMBER BARWON

I attended a meeting at the council chambers on Tuesday 22 April 2025 with the Minister for Roads and Regional Transport in New South Wales the Hon. Jenny Aitchison and the Member for Barwon Roy Butler. They were accompanied by Ms Holly Davies Director, Region Community Partner at TfNSW.

The Minister had made a commitment to visit western Councils and discuss issues pertaining to the LGA's. The General Manager provided an overview of the works going on within the Shire and briefed her on current NSW road grant funded projects and raised the issues surrounding natural disaster funding and sought advice on

further funding opportunities for critical road infrastructure within the Shire that cater for the large haulage such as the Quambone Road and Corinda Road to name a few. We also took the opportunity to raise the recent air ambulance issue and concern should this action of air services being directed to other airports continue. Roy Butler has committed to representation on behalf of the Coonamble LGA and seeking funding for the installation of animal proof fencing at the Coonamble Airport to facilitate safe operations of air medical services to the Coonamble LGA.

ANZAC DAY CEROMONY

It is with honour that I attended the ANZAC day service and presented a wreath on the cenotaph on behalf of Council.

COUNTRY MAYORS MEETING

As I prepare this report the next CMA meeting is scheduled prior to this Council meeting on 9 May and has a Health theme, the confirmed guest speakers are:

- NSW Minister for Regional Health, the Hon. Ryan Park MP
- NSW Shadow Minister for Regional Health, Mr. Gurmeh Singh MP
- Dr. Richard Colbran, CEO, NSW Rural Doctors Network
- Mr. Mario Barone, President, Pharmacy Guild of Australia NSW Branch
- Mrs. Christine Corby AM, CEO, Walgett Aboriginal Medical Service
- Mrs. Jill Ludford PSM, Chief Executive - Murrumbidgee Local Health District (talking on Local Health Advisory Councils)

EVENTS CALENDAR

March was a busy time on the events calendar, with the Seniors Week Luncheon and Zoo trip, along with the Coonamble Challenge and Campdraft.

April has shaped up to be just as busy, with a Night on the Town, Youth Week, the Waste2Art competition, school holidays, Anzac Day and several workshops and entertainment events. The forward calendar is below:

- 10 May, Marthaguy Picnic Races
- 7 June, Gulargambone Show
- 6-9 June, Coonamble Rodeo and Campdraft

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayoral Minute for April 2025 be noted.

SECTION A - MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY COUNCIL

SECTION B - MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

9 COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 CASTLEREGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL (CMCC) FEBRUARY 2025 UPDATE

File Number: C6 and N7

Author: Margaret Garnsey-Councillor
Paul Fisher-Councillor

Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager

Annexures: 1. CMCC April 2025 Report [↓](#) 

PURPOSE

To provide Council an update and a copy of the meeting from the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council (CMCC) held on 28 April 2025 meeting.

BACKGROUND

CMCC is a local government authority for weed management control in the Walgett, Coonamble, Warren, Gilgandra and Warrumbungle Shire Council areas. The committee meets quarterly.

Council's role is to work with landowners and occupiers to help them meet their general biosecurity duty as part of the Biosecurity Act 2015.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

CSP: Strategy 17. Support environmental initiatives which grow our contribution to broader environmental outcomes for future generations

(b) Financial Considerations

None directly relating to this report.

COMMENTARY

The CMCC met on 28 April 2025

The Committee Report is attached for Council reference.

As a representative to the Board on behalf of Council I enquired about roadside weed spraying and sought advice from the General Manager as to the CMCC providing a quote for roadside weed spraying.

MANEX comment

Obtaining a quote from CMCC is out of order with regards to the current procurement policies, as we currently have a panel tender for these works in place. In December 2024 Council resolved to have a panel supply arrangement for the spraying and slashing of roadsides which runs until December 2026. If we were to go and invite a quote for a service that we already have a panel source arrangement in place, this will put Council in a questionable position with regards to our procurement (Note; CMCC didn't submit a bid for this process). Council could only approach CMCC for a quote if our panel source suppliers are unavailable.

Aside from funding the chemical control works, the roadside hazard funding from the RFS has been withdrawn across the entire region which was used to fund the

slashing of local roads, our current funding model doesn't factor the utilisation of roadside spraying so we will have to look at the up-and-coming draft 25/26 budget. At this point in time, we are not confident that the RFS hazard reduction money will be reinstated. Previously the RFS funded roadside slashing via a hazard reduction program, when they withdrew this funding there was little notice provided, and we are endeavouring to develop a budget item into the RFS hazard reduction documentation going forward along with our neighbouring LGA's to try and get the funding reinstated into the program.

Going forward, staff think that it would be a more appropriate course of action to call for expressions of interest for the control of noxious weeds on Council owned/controlled property instead. Whilst this would be open to the market it would then provide CMCC the opportunity to submit a bid along with other interested parties. This would be a panel source tender and a resource that would also support council services and teams within Council.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

Request for quotations and tenders are conducted in accordance with council procurement policy and guidelines and the Local Government Act and Regulations.

(b) Legal Implications

Biosecurity Act

(c) Social Implications

Nil

(d) Environmental Implications

There are environment implications with ensuring works are conducted in accordance with the Biosecurity Act

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

Nil

(f) Risk Implications

Nil

CONCLUSION

The CMCC discussed several matters at its meeting on 28 April 2025 and the agenda is attached as a record of the meeting, at the time of presenting this report the minutes had not been released.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Receive and note the report from the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council meeting held 28 April 2025.**
- 2. Continue to lobby the RFS to reinstate funding for hazard reduction on roadside verges.**



Presented to Coonamble Shire Council Meeting,
Thursday 15th May, 2025

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Meeting
28th April, 2025 commencing at 11.05 am.

Attended by Cr Fisher & Cr Garnsey

Member Induction Session – Monday 28th April 2025 – 10:00am – 11:00am

- *Model Code of Conduct*
- *Code of Meeting Practice*
- *Business Activity Strategic Plan 2025/26 to 2034/35*
- *Delivery Programme 2025/26 to 2028/29*
- *Operational Plan 2025/2026*
- *Long Term Financial Plan 2025/26 to 2034/35*
- *Asset Management Plan 2025/26 to 2034/35*
- *Workforce Strategy 2025/26 to 2028/29*

Council Meeting – Monday 28th April 2025 – 11:00am to 12:30pm

OPENING OF MEETING

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

PUBLIC PRESENTATION - Nil

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING

MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 24th FEBRUARY 2025

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

MACQUARIE & LACHLAN VALLEYS WEEDS COMMITTEE

NORTHWEST REGIONAL WEEDS OFFICERS MEETING

SITUATION REPORT – PARTHENIUM WEED – NEWELL HIGHWAY SOUTH OF NARRABRI NSW

SITUATION REPORT 2 – PARTHENIUM WEED – NEAR WALGETT NSW

ITEM 7.5 MINUTES – WESTERN REGIONAL WEED COMMITTEE

REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

COUNCIL'S DECISION ACTION REPORT – APRIL 2025

CIRCULARS RECEIVED FROM THE NSW OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CASH ON HAND AND INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 28th FEBRUARY 2025 & 31st MARCH 2025

ADOPTION OF ORGANISATION STRUCTURE

PECUNIARY INTEREST RETURN – NEW MEMBERS

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY BY COUNCIL TO GENERAL MANAGER

ADOPTION OF MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT

ADOPTION OF MODEL CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE

THIRD QUARTER OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR 2024/2025

QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT – MARCH 2025

INew POLICIES

IMPORTANT DATES – UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

DRAFT 2025/26 OPERATIONAL PLAN, LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 25/26 to 34/35, BUSINESS ACTIVITY

STRATEGIC PLAN 25/26 TO 34/35, ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN 22/26 TO 34/35 AND WORKFORCE

STRATEGY 25/26 TO 28/29

BIOSECURITY REPORT

QUARTERLY BIOSECURITY REPORT

QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

CONFIRMATION DATE OF NEXT MEETING

CLOSE OF MEETING

10 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

10.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - WATER AND SEWER

File Number: C-13, S-4, W1-1-2

Author: Steven Butler-Councillor

Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager

Annexures: Nil

NOTICE OF MOTION

I Cr Steven Butler submit the following Notice of Motion:

Water and Sewer Infrastructure Review

BACKGROUND

ISSUES

RELEVANCE TO INTERGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

An allocation of \$150k is contained in the draft 2025 / 26 budget for the purpose of undertaking the water and sewerage revaluation and condition assessment.

MANEX advise that asset revaluation includes an accounting process of adjusting the carrying value of an asset to reflect its current fair market value. This is done to ensure the asset is recorded at a value that represents its true worth, rather than just the original purchase price or depreciated value.

It also requires the asset to have a condition rating attached to each asset and is done in accordance with the OLG Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting, NSW Treasury TPP14-01 Accounting Policy: Valuation of Physical Non-Current Assets at Fair Value and IPWEA Australian Infrastructure Financial Management Guidelines.

LEGAL / POLICY IMPLICATIONS

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement

AASB 136 Impairment of Assets

AASB 116 Property, Plant and Equipment

AASB 140 Investment Properties

AASB 5 Assets Held for Sale

OLG Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

NSW Treasury TPP14-01 Accounting Policy: Valuation of Physical Non-Current Assets at Fair Value

IPWEA Australian Infrastructure Financial Management Guidelines

MANEX COMMENTRY

Council is yet to receive a briefing on the asset management portfolio. This is scheduled for a July / August workshop to allow the Integrated Planning & Reporting (IP&R) and budget process to be finalised.

The NoM provides the direction which is required for the next legislative class of asset revaluation for water and sewerage and intended to provide a condition report across the entire network for Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone.

By way of background, Council has aging water and sewerage infrastructure; this is evident with two major sewer pump station failures and the recent bore failure. A detailed analysis is required to review the age and where the infrastructure sits within the age lifecycle and a condition assessment assigned to each individual asset.

It is apparent that routine maintenance has not been properly undertaken for quite some years and maintenance has been one of reactive more so than proactive. There was a loss of substantial knowledge through this section of Council with the retirement of long-standing employees resulting in a turnover of short-term appointments.

Council is, as is all NSW Local Government entities, required to revalue their assets over three (3) to five (5) years in accordance with the financial reporting which then feeds the financial statements to reflect the current fair value of these assets, aiding in informed decision-making about resource allocation and performance and renewal.

Council is also required to have an integrated water management plan which is a holistic and collaborative approach to the way we plan for and manage all elements of the water cycle. Integrated Water Cycle Management (IWCM) considers how the delivery of water, wastewater and stormwater services can contribute to water security, public and environmental health and urban amenity and also provide a 20-year capital works replacement program.

Staff have sought funding from the state government to review the IWCM document and would normally engage the Public Works to undertake this review (estimated cost can range from \$150-200k and is based on 80% grant and 20% Council funding).

ISO 55000 Asset Management Standards and IPWEA Practice Note 7: Water Supply & Sewerage, IPWEA Practice Note12: Useful life of infrastructure provide the guidelines direction and guidance in the process of condition and performance assessment for Water Supply and Sewerage assets.

Condition and performance assessment are undertaken at three levels:

- Level 1 Routine operation and maintenance data assessment. Relevant data captured as part of the on-going operation and maintenance process is analysed to gain an understanding of asset condition and performance;
- Level 2 Formalised asset inspection/condition assessment. This will include a planned and structured inspection of the asset portfolio which should include a representative sample and a risk-based sample of the portfolio; and
- Level 3 Detailed investigation. Undertaken as required and where shown to be cost-effective.

A condition assessment and asset revaluation process are a systematic approach to evaluating the current state and fair value of an asset, typically conducted to inform maintenance, renewal, and investment decisions. It involves inspecting the asset, measuring key parameters, and using various methods to determine its current value and future economic benefit.

The cost of inspecting and rating the entire network is cost prohibitive, it is recognised within the industry that sample condition rating is undertaken across the network to determine the extent of rating associated to each asset category.

The process would generally involve independent, internal or external, professionally qualified valuers to conduct fixed asset valuations. Council uses a recognised company called APV and a program called APV Value Pro which is accepted by the auditors for this process.

The timeframe for implementation is estimated to be:

- June 2025 – seek formal quotations via Request for Quote (RFQ);
- July 2025 - issue of a purchase order for the consultant to undertake the water and sewerage revaluation and condition assessment;
- August/Sept 2025 – commence the inspections and revaluation of assets;
- Early March 2026 – first draft of reports for discussion and presentation for pre- audit review;
- April 2026 – final report and a workshop presentation to Council on the state of assets;
- April 2026 – report on the revaluation presented to ARIC and auditors.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 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 the assets across various conditions and not the entire network due the cost.**
- 4. Hold a workshop once the revaluation and condition assessment process are completed.**

10.2 NOTICE OF MOTION - TOORAWEEAH ROAD**File Number: R-8-32-1****Author: Steven Butler-Councillor****Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager****Annexures: Nil****PURPOSE**

I Cr Steven Butler submit the following Notice of Motion:

Tooraweenah Road

BACKGROUND

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

ISSUES

MANEX advise that when funding was announced in May 2019, the project scope was based solely on the 'desk-top' exercise without any design or quantity survey.

RELEVANCE TO INTERGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

MANEX advise that the capital cost of the project is funded by the Federal Government's Roads of Strategic Importance Program (ROSI). The funded budget is \$41.2

The project grant funding covers the scope of works and cost of delivery. Any external audit will require funding by Council.

LEGAL / POLICY IMPLICATIONS**MANEX COMMENTRY**

The original estimate for this project was based on a 'desk-top exercise', finalised in late 2018 for the entire length of the road. This estimate included the following scope of work:

Sealed section

- Road rehabilitation of areas;
- Heavy Patching of areas;
- Bitumen seal;

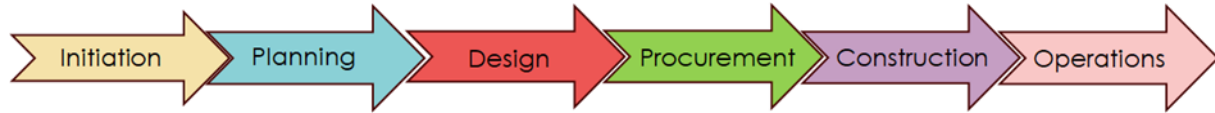
Unsealed section

- Earthworks to widen road;
- Widening of existing box culverts to match road widening;

- One additional 'large' box culvert

Due to the nature of how this project has come about and been managed historically, there are multiple legacy issues that Council is dealing with that should have been identified and actioned in previous phases

The stages of project development are best displayed below:



The original designer was engaged in July 2022. As of July 2023, multiple variations had been submitted with only 80% design received. Due to the extremely poor performance of this contractor, the contract was terminated.

After this, the 80% design was **peer reviewed** by another company which was when the hydrology issues were identified. Another designer was engaged to undertake the hydrology assessment and to update the design. The design process was finalised in August 2024 with construction plans issued.

The absence of a Project Plan to date has been acknowledged. This is currently in progress and will be finalised in June 2025.

The initial engagement of the Project Manager in February 2022 included the following:

- The initial engagement was based on the project being delivered solely by contractors.
- Phase 1 Preconstruction Activities – Project Manager was to prepare specification, prepare tender, release/manage tender, assess tender and prepare Council report to award tender – all in conjunction with the Manager Roads.
- Phase 2 Construction Activities – manage construction contractors on behalf of Council, act as single point of contract between the Principal and Contractor, assess payment claims, report monthly to the Principal, assess payment claims and variations, supervision of the works – assisting the Manager Roads where necessary.

Western Project Services (WPS, now known as Projence) have excellent experience in road construction projects and are a preferred supplier of TfNSW. References listed in the WPS offer included the Newell Highway Upgrade – Mungle Back Creek to Boggabilla (\$200M) and the Parkes Bypass (\$190M).

TfNSW reference checks highly recommended WPS. In addition, their total workforce comprises approximately 50 multi-disciplinary staff, based in Parkes, Bathurst and Coffs Harbour. WPS have ISO accredited integrated management systems for WHS, Quality and Environment and performed well with respect to the financial viability assessment.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council.

- 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:**
 - a) Methodology**
 - b) Procurement**
 - c) Project budget and forecasts**
 - d) Key risk**
- 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**
- 3 Receives A bi-monthly workshop to be conducted with council by the Project Manager (Projence) and relevant expert as required (ie ecologist) for a briefing on the progress of the project.**
- 4 Council continues to receive a monthly progress report on the projects.**
- 5 That the report from the Project Manager consultant (Projence) be presented to ARIC with respect to managing the risks associated with the project**

10.3 NOTICE OF MOTION - QUARRY**File Number:** C-13, Q-1**Author:** Steven Butler-Councillor**Authoriser:** Paul Gallagher, General Manager**Annexures:** Nil**PURPOSE**

I Cr Steven Butler submit the following Notice of Motion:

Quarry Review

BACKGROUND**ISSUES****RELEVANCE TO INTERGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK****FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

MANEX advise that there is an allocation within the existing 2025 / 26 budget for the purpose of getting a consultant to commence a report.

LEGAL / POLICY IMPLICATIONS

MANEX advises that the quarry falls within the Work Health and Safety (WHS), (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act 2013 and Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2022 which apply to all mines and petroleum sites in NSW. These laws support the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* and Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017 and provide additional provisions for work health and safety issues unique to mines and petroleum sites.

MANEX COMMENTRY

Council would recall the workshops and recent briefing that the current plant is quite old, and that the equipment has had minimal maintenance performed which has resulted in significant repairs being required.

Work is continuing at the Quarry to address the compliance issues with regards to the Regulators and removal of the notices. This process has identified that the existing mine plan is ineffective and will require a major review and update to the plan to enable operations to recommence.

As part of this review and the recent establishment of the Quarry committee, staff have already had preliminary discussions with contractors that are specialists in this area.

The Quarry committee will shortly convene to determine the terms of reference and what will be required to develop a brief to call for a Request for Quotation (RFQ) for

suitably qualified consultants. This work was recognised and there is an allocation within the existing 2024 / 25 budget to fund the work.

The NoM provides the direction which was always intended. That is, to seek a report that encompasses a detailed financial analysis across the entire operation and management of the site with respect to private v's council operation, type of plant (fixed v's Mobile), operational cost and plant and machinery required, long term sustainability, WHS and regulatory compliance.

It must be noted that work must continue to address the outstanding notices received from the Regulator after their inspection on 21 January 2025. From the 13 notices issued, Council has provided information to the regulator for 12 of these. One (1) of the notices is presently being worked on. At this point Council has not heard back from the Regulators regarding the closing out of these notices. It is anticipated that another inspection will be undertaken by the Regulators prior to these notices being closed out.

From the 13 Notices, we have:

- Seven (7) of the Notices have been cleared.
- Three (3) of the Notices have been sought to have the timeframe extended due to the nature of the notices being dependant on contractor availability.
- Three (3) of the Notices have ongoing work being carried out.

The timeframe for implementation is estimated to be:

- Late May 2025 Quarry Committee to convene, determine the terms of reference for the committee and scope of work for the development of a brief to seek an RFQ.
- Early July – RFQ called on the open market seeking a consultant.
- Late September – review and analysis of RFQ submissions. A report will then be provided to the Quarry committee with a time frame required to complete a report and a successful consultant. A progress report will also be submitted to the October Council meeting.
- October / November – Anticipate the consultant to begin work with timeframe to be determined based on consultant availability.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council seeks an independent report from a suitable qualified consultant with quarry experience on the future operation of the Quarry that includes.

- a) Develop an operating management plan for operation of the complex, life expectancy of material, plant requirement, investment costs, overall performance and key risks.**
- b) The brief to include analysis of the options for the site to be operated by Council run or privately operated, or a combination of both.**
- c) The brief to include consideration and benefits of fixed plant v's mobile plant.**

- d) A workshop to be conducted with council once the report is received.**
- e) Note that the quarry committee will convene late May.**

10.4 NOTICE OF MOTION - EMERGENCY COONAMBLE AIRPORT PROCEDURES

File Number: C-13, A-5

Author: Margaret Garnsey-Councillor

Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager

Annexures: Nil

NOTICE OF MOTION

I Cr Margaret Garnsey submit the following Notice of Motion:

Emergency Coonamble Airport Procedures

BACKGROUND

Recently an emergency night medical evacuation was unable to be completed at the Coonamble airport as it was assessed by the Royal Flying Doctor Service that a landing at the Coonamble airport was not possible due to the high risk from Kangaroos.

However, only a few months ago the new Royal Flying Doctor Service jet for Western NSW was successfully landed and the patient delivered to Mascot airport Sydney in a very efficient and timely fashion.

We need to immediately request that a new updated Risk Assessment is completed noting that emergency vehicles will be supplied to ensure that the airstrip is free of kangaroos and completely safe to land before a fatality is incurred.

I would also like to request that the kangaroo population that has become domesticated and resides near the airstrip be eradicated or relocated as quickly as possible.

ISSUES

- National Parks and Wildlife issue the permits for the culling of wildlife.
- Kangaroos on the runaway are a common occurrence (across all country airports) and Air Ambulance and the Royal Flying Doctor Service would normally advise the Airport Reporting Officer that they are landing, a 'roo' run is then conducted prior to their landing.
- Concern emanates mostly around nighttime landings.
- There are several other concerns if this action of air services being directed to other airports are to continue being.
 - a. The road ambulance is required to have two ambulance officers in attendance (a driver and patient care) removing them from town doing transport duties when it is a 5-minute drive from the hospital to the airport which may impact on other local emergencies in a timely manner.

- b. Coonamble is a hub to many surrounding small communities, and this means these communities must travel further to be flown out.

RELEVANCE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

Nil

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Council will need to investigate grant funding opportunities or make provision in the draft budget.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The operation of the airport is in accordance with Civil Aviation Safety Authority guidelines. Fencing of the perimeter will need to be in accordance with obstacle limitation parameters.

The culling of kangaroos is subject to approval and issue of a permit through the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

MANEX COMMENTARY

Email advice provided by the General Manager that our Reporting Officer has spoken to the manager of air ambulance regarding access to air medical service at nighttime, and they reviewed their records surrounding this matter. They advised before every flight they do a risk assessment covering several factors which include but not limited to, fatigue weather, time etc.

They advised that after they had completed the risk assessment, that they had deemed it high risk to land in Coonamble and they chose Walgett which was still a risk but at a lower risk level and only an extra 20minutes flight time (no reference to ground travel time or road conditions).

The Coonamble airport doesn't have any restrictions on it; therefore, all emergency flights can still land in Coonamble.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Conducts a risk assessment in consultation with the Royal Flying Doctor Service, NSW Air Ambulance and the Civil Aviation Safety Authority on night-time emergency medical evacuations from the Coonamble Aerodrome.**
- 2. Engages with National Parks and Wildlife Service to manage the kangaroo population adjacent to the Coonamble Aerodrome.**
- 3. Council continue to investigate grant funding opportunities for fencing the perimeter of the Coonamble Aerodrome.**

10.5 COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS/ACTIONS UPDATE**File Number:** C17; C20**Author:** Deborah Tatton-Manager Finance & Procurement**Authoriser:** Paul Gallagher, General Manager**Annexures:** 1. Resolutions/Actions May 2025 Report (under separate cover) **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to enable Council to keep track of important Council resolutions.

BACKGROUND

Important and significant Council resolutions will be added to the list of items below, and a monthly update on the status will be provided by the responsible officer.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

Adopted Council resolutions should ideally link in with Council's suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework documents.

(b) Financial Considerations

The financial considerations relating to each item mentioned below would have been considered by Council as part of the original report that dealt with the matter.

COMMENTARY

Information about outstanding Council resolutions / actions and completed is shown in the attachment. The report has been adapted to allow for the layout requests from prior meetings.

RECOMMENDATION**That Council notes the information.**

10.6 CORRESPONDENCE**File Number: C20****Author: Paul Gallagher-General Manager****Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager****Annexures: Nil****CORRESPONDENCE**

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

Date	Information Sent	Author	In	Out	Sent
09/05/25	Email to Councillors – Invite for discussion with SOTS developer.	Director CPD & E		✓	✓
09/05/25	Email invite to Councillors – advising of two workshops on 11 June a) Project management for the Tooraweenah Rd b) Risk Management presentation Councils risk appetite	General Manager		✓	✓
09/05/25	Email to Councillors – advising Director CPD & E will be acting GM	General Manager		✓	✓
06/05/25	Email to Councillors – advising appointment and email contact for the Executive Assistant.	General Manager		✓	✓
06/05/25	Invite to Australia's Biggest Morning Tea fundraiser at Gular 22 May 2025 9am to 12am.	Customer service		✓	✓
05/05/25	Email to Councillors – CMA Media Release: NSW Country Mayors congratulate PM, with optimism.	CMA	✓	✓	✓
01/05/25	Email to Councillors – monthly update.	General Manager		✓	✓
01/05/25	Email to Councillors – successful grant application for Coonamble Shire Urban Housing Strategy.	General Manager		✓	✓
30/04/25	Email to Councillors – Confidential email regarding DA rejection.	General Manager		✓	✓
26/04/25	Email to Councillors – update advice on water supply and lifting of restrictions.	General Manager		✓	✓




26/04/25	Email to Councillors – Change of date for May and June meetings and CSP and draft budget workshop.	General Manager		✓	✓
26/04/25	Email to Councillors – Operational matter – resignation of Roads Manager.	General Manager		✓	✓
26/04/25	Email to Councillors – Confidential email regarding receipt of Legal advice.	General Manager		✓	✓
24/04/25	Email to Councillors – Draft unconfirmed March 2025 minutes.	Manager - Finance & Procurement		✓	✓
24/04/25	Email to Councillors – media release from the Country Mayors Association - in response to the Coalition's BBRF announcement.	CMA	✓	✓	✓
23/04/25	Email to Councillors – update advice on power and pump failure at water treatment plant.	General Manager		✓	✓
23/04/25	Email to Councillors – advice on power and pump failure at water treatment plant.	General Manager		✓	✓
17/04/25	Email to Councillors – update on projects.	Director CPD & E		✓	✓
16/04/25	Tentative invite to Councillors regarding Minister Harrison visit to the Core and Cluster site in Coonamble.	General Manager	✓		✓
15/04/25	Email to Councillors – media release from the Country Mayors Association - welcome Coalition funding pledge.	CMA	✓	✓	✓
14/04/25	Email to Councillors – communique release from the Country Mayors Association	CMA	✓	✓	✓
14/04/25	Email to Councillors – media release News from the Barwon electorate from the Member for Barwon – Roy Butler.	Roy Butler MP	✓	✓	✓
07/04/25	Email to Councillors – media release from the Murray Darling Association - 81st National Conference in Griffith NSW 29 September until 2nd October 2025.	MDA	✓	✓	✓
06/04/25	Email to Councillors – media release from the Country Mayors Association - Financial Assistance Grants.	CMA	✓	✓	✓

RECOMMENDATION

That the Correspondence Report May 2025 be received and noted.

10.7 DRAFT COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN, DELIVERY PROGRAM AND OPERATIONAL PLAN**File Number: C8****Author: Jenni Maundrell, Executive Manager Corporate Governance****Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager**

Annexures:

1. Draft Community Strategic Plan 2025-2035 (under separate cover) 
2. Draft Delivery Program 2025/26 - 2029/30 (under separate cover) 
3. Draft Operational Plan 2025/26 (under separate cover) 

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement of the draft:

- Community Strategic Plan 2025-2035
- Delivery Program 2025/26-2029/30
- Operational Plan 2025 / 26

BACKGROUND

NSW Councils are required to have a Community Strategic Plan (CSP) as part of their Integrated Planning and Reporting Requirement (IP&R). The CSP is the highest-level plan that a Council will prepare. The purpose of the CSP is to identify the community's main priorities and aspirations for the future and to plan strategies for achieving these goals. It guides all remaining strategies and plans and must be developed by Council with and on behalf of the community.

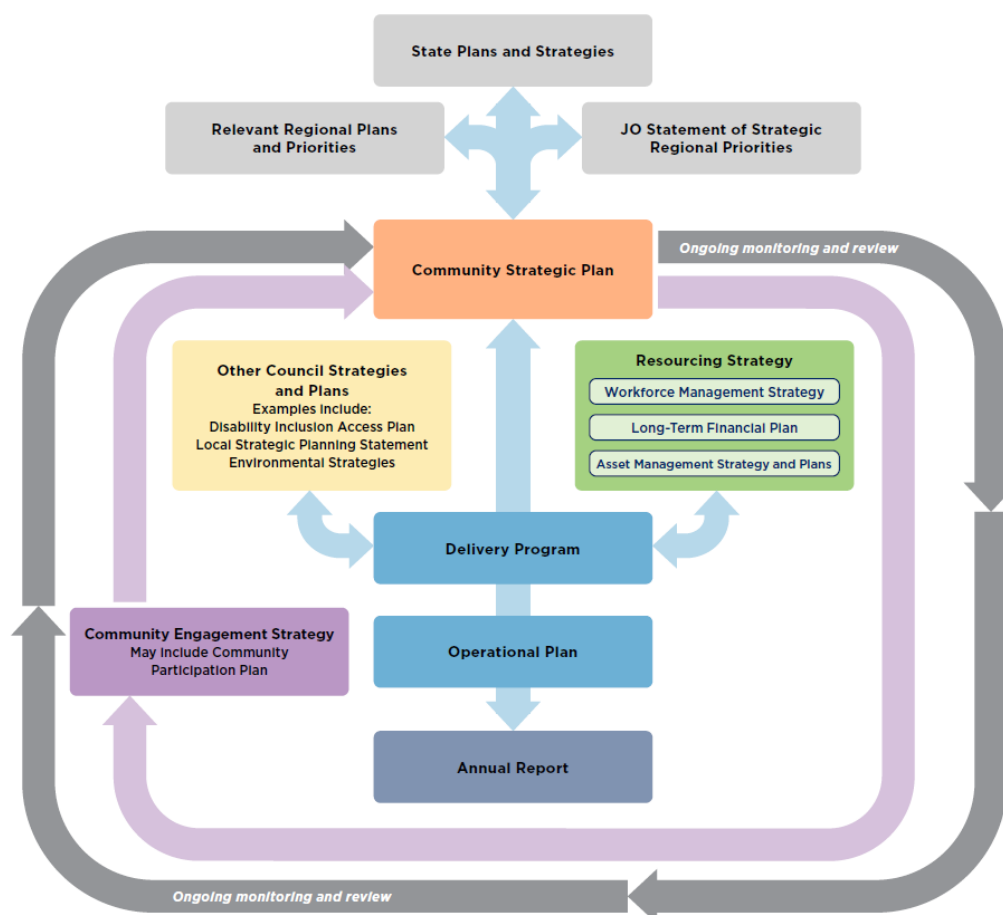


Figure 1: IP&R Framework

Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

The Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework recognises that most communities broadly share similar aspirations: a safe, healthy and vibrant place to live, a sustainable environment, a caring and engaged community, opportunities for employment, reliable infrastructure, etc. The main difference lies in how each community responds to these needs. The IP&R framework allows NSW councils to draw their various plans together, to understand how they interact and inform each another, and to get the maximum benefit from their efforts by planning holistically for the future.

The main components include:

- Community Strategic Plan.
- Resourcing Strategy.
- Delivery Program.
- Operational Plan.
- Annual Report.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

The information contained in this report is focused on key IP&R documents the draft Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

(b) Financial Considerations

The Operational Plan contains Council's annual budget for 2025/26.

COMMENTARY

The following is a summary of the requirements of section 402 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) regarding the Community Strategic Plan:

- Each local government area is to have a Community Strategic Plan that has been developed and endorsed by the council on behalf of its community.
- The Community Strategic Plan is to identify the main priorities and aspirations for the future of the local government area.
- The Community Strategic Plan must cover a minimum timeframe of 10 years.
- The Community Strategic Plan must establish strategic objectives together with strategies to achieve those objectives.
- The council must review the Community Strategic Plan before 30 June in the year following an ordinary election of council. The council may endorse the existing plan, or develop and endorse a new Community Strategic Plan, as appropriate, to ensure that the area has a Community Strategic Plan covering at least the next 10 years.

Section 404 of the Act deals with the requirement for councils to have a Delivery Program:

- A council must have a program (called its 'delivery program') detailing the principal activities to be undertaken by the council to perform its functions.
- The activities must include implementation of the strategies set out in the Community Strategic Plan.
- Activities must be performed within the resources available under the resourcing strategy.
- Councils must establish a new delivery program after each ordinary election of councillors to cover the principal activities of the council for the 4-year period commencing on 1 July following the election.

Finally, requirements regarding the Operational Plan are set out at section 405 of the Act:

- A council must have a plan (called its 'operational plan') that is adopted before the beginning of each financial year and details the activities to be engaged in by the council during the year as part of the delivery program covering that year.

Consultation Update

As in previous years, the full report for the consultation and engagement during this process will be provided with the Community Strategic Plan in June 2025. However, the following provides a summary to date on the consultation and engagement that has occurred to date and what is on the agenda during public exhibition.

Date	Tasks
25 November – 19 December 2024	Community Satisfaction Survey fieldwork
12 February 2025	Councillor workshop on the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework, including community strategic plan.

March 2025	Local communication campaign to promote CSP engagement. Survey posted online.
18-20 March 2025	Community consultation pop-up sessions held at Quambone, Coonamble and Gulargambone.

Summary of key consultation areas

Between the two surveys and the community pop-up sessions, around 300 people were engaged. Among the comments provided there were some key themes that came out:

- Words such as “build”, “opportunities”, “grow” and “caring” featured highly in community responses.
- On average, around 95% of respondents agree with the 16 goals set as part of the initial consultation.
- In addition, there were hundreds of comments and further information provided which will help us develop our CSP, Delivery Program and Operational plan.

Draft Community Strategic Plan – 2025 to 2035

Mandatory requirements and corporate touches

The Draft Community Strategic Plan 2025 to 2035 (‘CSP’) includes the mandatory requirements set out section 402 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. The survey consultation and online forums have assisted in revising some of the goals, and the subsequent strategies are now being drafted. As a corporate touch, an Acknowledgement of Country is provided along with a Councillors’ Message.

Vision

77.6% of respondents in the CSP survey either agreed or strongly agreed with the following vision statement:

“We are a united, vibrant and capable community, with our thoughts and actions centred on caring for community and caring for country, now and into the future.”

Despite the strong support for the vision statement, a number of comments indicated that the statement could be simplified. The working draft of the CSP is now proposing the following vision statement:

“We are a united, vibrant and capable community, focused on caring for each other and our country, now and into the future.”

Stakeholders

The CSP also outlines the number of stakeholders in delivering the goals and strategies of the CSP. It lists the key stakeholders and their role including:

Type	Explanation
Partner	Delivers services or projects in partnership with other organisations
Service Provider	Takes full responsibility for delivery services
Regulator	Has statutory responsibilities to ensure compliant service delivery
Funder	Funds other organisations to deliver services through grants or

	contracts
Advocator	Promotes the interests of the community to other decision-making organisations such as the State Government
Facilitator	Brings stakeholders together to help them understand their common objectives and assists them to plan and achieve them

Outline of sections relating to themes

The five themes are supported by functional areas of Council. As the CSP is a holistic document, some functions will have strategies in more than one theme.

Theme	Function Areas
Our Community	Community Development Economic Growth and Development (incl. Tourism) Parks and Urban Services
Our Economy	Economic Growth and Development (incl. Tourism)
Our Homes and Assets	Roads Utilities Contracts and Special Projects Assets Parks and Urban Services
Our Country	Planning, Regulatory and Compliance Waste, Recycling and Employment Initiatives
Our Leadership	Corporate Governance People and Culture WHS and Risk Management Finance and Procurement

The Delivery Program and Operational Plan are both informed by the CSP and reflect the themes, goals and aspirations identified in the CSP.

What's next?

The draft Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Operational Plan must be placed on public exhibition with submissions invited for at least 28 days. At the conclusion of the exhibition period, the draft CSP will be returned to Council with the Community Engagement Report for final endorsement.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

The Community Strategic Plan is being developed in line with section 402 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework Guidelines (2021) and the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework Handbook (2021).

(b) Legal Implications

Local Councils within the State of NSW have no option other than to comply with the IP&R requirements, as it is a legislative requirement.

(c) Social Implications

Once developed and adopted, the Community Strategic Plan will describe the community's vision and aspirations for a period of ten years.

(d) Environmental Implications

The potential environmental implications of the Community Strategic Plan could be positive for the LGA.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

The potential economic implications of the Community Strategic Plan could be positive for the LGA.

(f) Risk Implications

If Council is being seen by the NSW Office of Local Government and the community as not complying with the provisions of the Act and the associated IP&R requirements, there is a risk for Council to suffer reputational damage and the possibility of other measures being implemented to ensure that Council fulfills its obligations.

CONCLUSION

The draft CSP is now commended to Council for endorsement to be placed on public exhibition.

RECOMMENDATION**That Council:**

- 1. Endorse the draft Community Strategic Plan 2025-2035, Delivery Program 2025/26-2029/30 and Operational Plan 2025/26 to be placed on public exhibition with submissions invited for 28 days.**
- 2. Receives a further report on the Community Strategic Plan 2025-2035, Delivery Program 2025-2029 and Operational Plan 2025/26 following the exhibition period.**

10.8 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MONTHLY REPORT**File Number: C8****Author: Azita Sobhani-Community Services Manager
Raquel Pickering-Librarian****Authoriser: Barry Broe, Director Community, Planning, Development and Environment****Annexures: Nil****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the activities within Council's Community Development section for the month of April 2025.

BACKGROUND

The Community Development (CD) section focuses on our community and our people and the support that Council offers in the delivery of positive support and outcomes. A short summary of the key areas in the CD section as follows:

- **Youth & Community Services**

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

- **Library Services**

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

The Coonamble Library has two (2) satellite branches located in the villages of Gulargambone and Quambone. The Librarian buys stock that is rotated between all libraries and participates in book exchanges with Gulargambone and Quambone seven times per year. The Gulargambone Library is run under an agreement with the Gulargambone Rural Transaction Centre Committee. The Quambone Library is run by Council staff.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

Community Strategic Plan - P1 Community Services and Wellbeing.

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

(b) Financial Considerations

There are no financial considerations arising from this report.

COMMENTARY

This report presents a summary of community development activities for the previous month.

Coonamble Shire coordinates and delivers the following community services:

- School Holiday Program – Coonamble, Gulargambone & Quambone
- Youth Centre Gulargambone (After School & Holiday Activity)
- After School Care Quambone
- Library Services (Coonamble, Gulargambone, Quambone)
- Creating, coordinating and supporting events e.g. Seniors Week Luncheon
- Funding events e.g. the Interagency Resilience Day, October Wellbeing Day
- Youth Empowerment Program

Community Development

The Community Development Manager attended various meetings this month, including the Interagency meeting. The Community Development team successfully delivered the Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone April Holiday programs and the Youth Week 2025 Event.

YOUTH WEEK 2025



Coonamble - As part of the Coonamble Shire Council Youth Week 2025 celebrations, Council partnered with *Hearspace* and *Coonamble High School* to host an inspiring and thought-provoking session with Erfan Daliri. Erfan who is one of Australia's most sought-after speakers and a well-known social change advocate, spoken word artist, and youth empowerment facilitator with over 20 years' experience working with communities and organisations across Australia to build a more cohesive, equitable and connected society. Erfan is currently the CEO of Kind Enterprises, Director of Newkind Social Justice Conference and Chairman of the Board at the Centre for Social Equality.



The event aimed to engage students in meaningful discussions around social justice, and the power of the individual's values and community collaboration for development.



Headspace first introduced their programs and explained what they do. Student engagement consisted of over 50 students and their teachers ranging from years eight to twelve and were actively engaged, asking thoughtful questions and sharing reflections. Many commented on how the workshop inspired them, helping them to feel empowered and heard. Both the teachers and support staff who attended commented on the positive feedback they had received.



This event was seen as a highlight for the youth receiving a lot of positive feedback. It achieved its goals of inspiring, empowering and encouraging youth to see themselves as agents of change. The session interspersed with music, video clips, rap poems and engaging questions, created a safe and uplifting space for conversation and set a strong precedent for future Youth Week activities and council-school partnerships.



The event concluded with a short address from Councillor Adam Cohen, reiterating the values, ideals and hopes that Erfan had filled the day with, asking that the students continue to do their best for themselves, their families and their community.

We would like to thank Headspace for partnering with Council, presenting,



providing a BBQ lunch with the help of Clontarf staff, interacting with the youth in attendance, Youth Empowerment Program for attending and engaging with youth, Councillor Cohen for his encouraging words to the young attendees, and a very grateful thanks goes to Coonamble High School and their representatives Terrie Parsons, Ben Sheaves, Wanita Glover and Damian Lee for their great assistance that made the day possible.

Gulargambone – to celebrate Youth Week 2025 Coonamble Shire Council, in collaboration with Redi.E, hosted a vibrant Easter Disco and Fun Day in Gulargambone. This event aimed to engage local young people in a positive, fun,

and inclusive environment while providing opportunities for social connection, celebration, and community building.

Activities included Easter-themed games and craft activities, music and dance at the Youth Disco, free BBQ lunch and refreshments provided by Council and Redi.E, giveaways of Easter Eggs and chocolates, informal chats and positive engagement between youth, Redi.E staff, and Council staff.

Around 50 young people and 20 adults from Gulargambone and surrounds attended, and the participation from children, youth, and local families created a strong sense of community involvement. Council and Redi.E staff supported the event's delivery and ensured a safe, inclusive environment.

APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS



The Community Development Team has been working with external stakeholders to provide a great program in Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone. The theme for the April holidays is Health and Wellbeing.

Throughout the April 2025 school holidays, a range of engaging, inclusive, and free activities were held across the Coonamble Shire for local children, young people, and families. These initiatives were made possible through collaboration between Council staff and community partners, creating a supportive and fun environment for youth during the break.

Outcomes and impact from holiday activities include positive feedback received from community members and service providers, strengthened collaboration between Council, REDI.e, MacKillop Family Services, Mission Australia, Headspace, Coonamble Shire Council, and Coonamble Aboriginal Health Service, the promotion of healthy social interaction, mental wellbeing, and literacy during the school holiday period and the reinforcement of community engagement with local service offerings.

We would especially like to thank Mission Australia for going out to Gulargambone and Quambone to hold an Easter Egg Hunt and Council staff from Quambone After School Care for holding a craft morning as well.

Many thanks to REDI.E staff in Gulargambone for again collaborating with Council staff in helping to deliver a great program to Gulargambone. We rely on REDI.E to help us with staffing and venues for all our Gulargambone activities.



With three public holidays during this holiday period, it has reduced the number of activities. We hope that the activities we did have for our community are well attended and deliver a great deal of enjoyment.

Coonamble - Mission Australia – Easter Bunny Visit, Craft, and Easter Egg Hunt Held at the REDi.e Youth Centre. This vibrant event featured a visit from the Easter Bunny, who greeted children and handed out treats, a craft



session with Easter-themed activities and a community Easter Egg Hunt which was well-attended and enthusiastically received

The event offered families an opportunity to gather in a festive and safe environment while promoting creativity and social connection among children. Council staff attended and helped during the activity.



Coonamble Library - The library hosted its Annual 0-5 years Easter Egg Hunt, which brought together young readers and their families to celebrate the season. In addition to the egg hunt, families explored the library's children's collection. Staff interacted with children and parents, engaging with them. The event strengthened engagement between the library and local families, particularly those with young children. The library also hosted a movie day showing Moana 2 with light refreshments for children and families. With over 20 bags of popcorn and bottled water handed out, the turnout was great.



Coonamble Aboriginal Health Service – Social and Emotional Wellbeing Day. This valuable event focused on mental health and holistic wellbeing, with highlights including: The Walkabout Barber, offering free haircuts to indigenous community members, interactive wellbeing sessions for youth and families and a free community BBQ that fostered connection and conversation.



The event created a culturally safe space for Aboriginal families and young people to relax, connect, and learn about mental health services and support networks.

Headspace and Fair Dinkum Choices – presented a healthy food and hygiene morning at the REDL.e Coonamble Youth Centre. It was fascinating to watch the kids wash their hands then inspect them under the Fair Dinkum Choices blacklight to see just how successful they were in cleaning them. Headspace let us know all about their Headspace Outreach Program (HOP) and how they can help both indigenous and non-indigenous youth in our shire. The programme offers a youth friendly and culturally informed support network for young people aged 12-25 years to improve mental health literacy, increase help seeking behaviours and provide referrals to appropriate services. People can self-refer to this service.



Quambone – Both Council and Mission Australia ran activities in Quambone these school holidays. Council ran an Easter Craft session attended by a number of children and their parents/carers. They started the day creating Easter Egg iced biscuits, allowing the children to choose their icing colours and decorate their biscuits however they liked.

The children had fun decorating bunnies, making Easter wreaths, and engaging in a creative art science project. They used white oil pastels to draw lines, patterns or any images they desired on an egg, then applied water colour paint to reveal their masterpieces.



After spending so much time indoors, the children were then urged to go outside and enjoy the fresh air and sunshine, playing “Bobs and Statues” similar to the game “Freeze”, dancing to



music and then when the music stopped, either dropping to the ground or motionless like a statue depending on whether the teacher said “Bob” or “Statue”.

At the conclusion of the activity, we had some wonderful prizes up for grabs and the children enjoyed an amazing day.

Gulargambone – REDL.e was instrumental in enabling activities to be available in Gulargambone during the April holidays. With activities such as milkshakes, slime making, OZ Tag and Cricket the staff ran an amazing programme.

A highlight of the programme was a free Footy Clinic with guest NRLW player Taneka Todhunter. Hours of skills progression, games fun and prizes, this was an great activity.

Mission Australia also travelled to Gulargambone to hold an Easter Egg Hunt. This was a well attended event with children going home with chocolate stains on their shirts and full tummies! Thanks to Mission Australia for travelling to Gular to present this activity.



FIRST LIGHT – COONAMBLE YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM – April 2025

April has been an exciting and vibrant month for the Youth Empowerment Program, filled with a lot of growth, learning, and stronger connections. Our weekly sessions continued to build momentum, with both Junior Youth groups exploring important themes through hands-on activities. A key highlight for the month was our school holiday camp at Lake Keepit, which brought together the Junior Youth and Youth Champions for four days and three nights. From creative activities to physical challenges, every moment helped strengthen the bonds within the group and gave the youth valuable opportunities to learn from one another.



The first Junior Youth group, now running successfully for over a year, recently explored the theme of building strong families. Through an engaging activity, the group constructed a tower block by block, with each block representing positive qualities such as compassion, joy, kindness, and a spirit of consultation. As they identified harmful traits like anger and blame, they removed blocks, which helped them understand how negative behaviours can weaken family bonds. Through this experience, the youth gained a deeper appreciation of how their own actions and attitudes directly affect their families, and the importance of consciously nurturing positive qualities.



The second Junior Youth group recently created "Gratitude Jars" as a way to help them remember and appreciate the good things in their lives. Through this activity, the group discovered that focusing only on negative aspects can lead to negative actions, while actively noticing the positive can inspire greater happiness and kindness. This simple yet powerful exercise encouraged the youth to keep their attention on life's brighter moments.



The highlight of this month was the school holiday camp, which brought together both Junior Youth groups along with the Youth Champions.

The first evening included fun icebreaker activities and group sessions to help everyone get to know one another and share their hopes and dreams for the future. A key focus during these discussions was encouraging the youth to reflect on what they would like to become, how they plan to work towards their goals, and most importantly, how they can use their future careers to make a positive difference in the lives of others.



The day started with 30 minute stretches ensuring fitness levels stayed high through other activities. The mornings were about learning concepts. Afternoons embedded the concepts in recreational activities including a mud run, archery, and raft-building exercises designed to strengthen teamwork and communication; while also ensuring everyone got enough sun and kept their bodies active.



Morning exercise routines.

After exercise and breakfast, morning sessions encouraged groups to delve into concepts building on their cognitive and values development.

Afternoon sessions included recreational activities that embed the concepts in action for the participants. Raft making, mud run and archery encouraged the kids





Raft Building ensured groups learnt to collaborate together in problem solving instead of competing.



Archery encouraged habits of an orderly mind, such as focus, resilience, and analysing patterns.



Mud Run

Youth Champions supported the younger Junior Youth participants during the mud run, ensuring everyone safely completed each part of the course. Throughout the activity, Youth Champions took responsibility for the safety and wellbeing of the Junior Youth, making sure no



one was left behind. The rule was simple: we couldn't move to the next obstacle until the whole team had finished. This approach reinforced the spirit of teamwork and encouraged everyone to actively help one another.

To conclude the camp, the popular Tshirt design session on the last evening, encouraged young minds to put all that they

have learnt in an artistic expression. They each explained their designs and thoughts in a video and no doubt will carry with them the learning and the actual T shirt as memorabilia from their time together.

The last day and its sessions had each group of participants present what they had learned and gained from their experience. One group shared how they deepened their understanding of the concept of excellence, learning to set personal goals and reflected on how values such as truthfulness, trustworthiness, and justice shape their character and influence not just what goals they pursue, but how they pursue and get to them.



The other group performed a short play based on the story they are studying, about a 13-year-old girl who dreamt of becoming a nurse but faced financial barriers.



Through her efforts, consultations with her family, and her commitment to serving her community, she began to see new opportunities open before her. It was truly inspiring to see the creativity and insight the young people brought to their presentations, and how each participant took something meaningful from the camp experience.



LIBRARY SERVICES

Holiday Activities and Youth Week

The library staff have been working as a coherent team with the Community Development Department to provide an amazing programme for the April school holidays and a great Youth Week event. The library ran two holiday activities: the Annual Library Easter Egg Hunt and Movie Day. Both were very well attended with approx. 30 attending the movie day and 40 for the hunt.





Library Book Exchanges

Both the Quambone and Gulargambone libraries had a book exchange this month. The Coonamble library regularly exchanges books with both our satellite libraries so that we keep the books fresh and moving for our members.

Simultaneous Storytime

National Simultaneous Storytime 2025 will be held on Wednesday 21 May at 12noon. The book chosen by the Australian Library and Information Association who run the event is The Truck Cat by Deborah Frenkel. The librarian will issue invitations to pre-schools to attend the event at the library and will purchase copies of the books to be sent to all libraries and preschools in our shire.

LIBRARY STATISTICS (26 March 2025-24 April 2025)

Service	Loans	New M/ships	Wi-Fi (hrs)	Internet (people)	Internet (hours)	Kids Comp (children)	Junior Visits	Adult Visits
Coonamble	394	14	46	39	46	126	196	342
Gular	40	2						

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

Library Visits	Reference Enquiries	Technology Enquiries	Local History	VIC Enquiries
538	14	12	4	4

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

Senior Craft	Pre-School Visits	Seniors Tech	Seniors Cinema	Other
9	0	0	10	103

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

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

(b) Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

(c) Social Implications

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

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

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

(f) Risk Implications

There are no risk implications arising from this report.

CONCLUSION

The updates in this report provide information to Council on the key activities recently undertaken in Council's Community Development section.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the information in the May 2025 Community Development report.

10.9 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & GROWTH

File Number: D5

Author: Maddison Ward-Tourism & Events Officer

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

Annexures: 1. Grants for CPDE projects  

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on recent activities in the economic development and growth section.

BACKGROUND

The economic development and growth function is about facilitating the achievement of a more diversified economic base for the Local Government Area (LGA), enhancing business prospects, growth, productivity, incomes, employment and economic development.

The function facilitates the development of programs and activities that will stimulate economic development by assisting growth and retention of businesses, as well as aiming to reduce investment barriers, attract diverse, sustainable, and responsible new industry development and improve the profile of the Coonamble LGA.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

- ED1.2 Develop our economy, including the visitor economy.
- I1.5 Adopt successful strategies which maximise our community’s access to quality infrastructure and assets.

(b) Financial Considerations

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

COMMENTARY

Economic Development and Growth

The following summarises progress on key initiatives.

Coonamble Main Street Enhancement

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- Weight/load capacity for awnings in Coonamble’s main street determined ☒
- Integrity of awnings in Coonamble’s main street determined ☒
- Building owners advised of outcomes of inspections ☒
- Immediate remedial actions taken ☒
- Paint scheme colour palette received for awning painting project ☒
- Lighting determined to highlight Art Deco streetscape ☐

- CBD Precinct Masterplan developed ☐

Commentary: Remedial work was carried out in the main street in readiness for a Night on the Town event.

Housing Development

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- EOI seeking interest from developers done ☒
- Housing contract for modular homes signed ☒
- Deliver service connections ☒
- Subdivision DA ☐
- Manufacture housing components ☐
- Assemble first two houses on site ☐

Commentary: Council is delivering the services to the first two houses and progressing the DA for the subdivision. Simmons Groups has ordered the housing materials and submitted a DA for the first demo house.

Land and Industrial Development

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- Rezoning determined for more industrial land and for improved alignment of zoning to current usage across Coonamble township ☒
- Planning Report drafted for rezoning of the old sheepyards site ☒
- Planning Report drafted for rezoning of the Artesian bore bath project site ☒
- Planning Report drafted for house-keeping rezoning for such areas as the Coonamble Showground ☒
- Some Planning Reports ratified by Council ☒
- Council-ratified Planning Report submitted to the Department of Planning ☒

Commentary: Planning Proposals submitted to the Department of Planning to create an industrial zone at the old Coonamble Sheepyards and re-classify the Council land at the Limerick Street site to operational.

Youth Accommodation – Coonamble and Gulargambone

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- Advertise RFT for design-and-construction of the youth accommodation units at Coonamble and Gulargambone ☒
- Assess tenders for Youth Accommodation ☒
- Seek further quotations and consider scope adjustments to match budget ☒
- Award contract ☒
- Construction start ☐
- Operations Plan finalised ☐
- Build Youth Accommodation in Coonamble and Gulargambone ☐

Commentary: Contract has been awarded following negotiations post tender process. Cost is now affordable, within the grant funding provision. Designs are being prepared for each specific site. Approval to extend the project completion date to 30 September 2025 and approve the change of scope was successful. Operations plan being developed.

Real Country Regional Tourism Collaboration

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

Commentary: A three-year Calendar of Events across the three Shires is being finalised to ensure complementarity of event timing in each area.

Coonamble Region Art Trail (see separate report to May meeting)

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- Artist brief and project brief developed ☒
- Artist liaison confirmed ☒
- Public Art Advisory Panel appointed ☐
- Detailed submissions invited ☐
- Artworks produced and installed ☐

Commentary: The project manager has met with the Economic Development team and Director. Project brief to include design and costings for new Shire entrance signage. Initial consultations with local indigenous artists have taken place for some of the components of the project.

Grants (Community, Planning, Development & Environment led)

Grants completed & awaiting acquittal	Comment
Coonamble Sports Ground Walking Loop	Completion report - submitted 29 April 2025
Australia Day 2025	Completion report - submitted 30 April 2025
Seniors Week 2025	Completion report - commenced
Coonamble Riverside Caravan Park Redevelopment	Acquittal confirmed 29 April 2025
Coonamble Sports Ground Women's Change Rooms	Completion report - commenced

Further details on the above grants, their dollar value, due dates, and milestones are attached at the end of this report.

Grant submissions awaiting decisions

Submission	Amount sought	Announcement date
Quambone Racecourse Upgrades (CRIF)	\$315,510	May 2025
Coonamble Shire Urban Housing Strategy **	\$69,916	April 2025
Coonamble Heritage Reflections	\$25,000	May 2025
Open Streets Program (Vision Splendid)	\$350,000	1 May 2025
Coonamble Waste Management Facilities Upgrade (Landfill Consolidation program)	\$249,840	June 2025
Quambone Landfill Closure and establishment of a Waste Transfer Station (Landfill Consolidation program)	\$244,340	June 2025
Advisory Services and Training (Landfill Consolidation program)	\$17,770	June 2025

** On 1 May the State Government announced that we were successful with our submission for an Urban Housing Strategy, getting \$69,960.

The objective is to produce a clear plan for future housing in the shire to address the severe housing shortages in Coonamble Shire – both for purchase and rental.

The project will look at key issues like:

- The types of housing required by current residents and potential future residents
- The types of housing required by local residents
- The preferred type of housing, either purchase or rental
- Suitable land to provide for identified housing needs

Grants completed & awaiting acquittal	Comment
Coonamble Sports Ground Walking Loop	
Australia Day 2025	
Seniors Week 2025	

Pending grant submissions:

Submission	Amount sought	Announcement date
Quambone Racecourse Upgrades (CRIF)	\$315,510	May 2025

Coonamble Shire Urban Housing Strategy	\$69,916	April 2025
Coonamble Heritage Reflections	\$25,000	May 2025
Open Streets Program (Vision Splendid)	\$350,000	May 2025
Coonamble Waste Management Facilities Upgrade (Landfill Consolidation program)	\$249,840	June 2025
Quambone Landfill Closure and establishment of a Waste Transfer Station (Landfill Consolidation program)	\$244,340	June 2025
Advisory Services and Training (Landfill Consolidation program)	\$17,770	June 2025

Communications

Council continues to maintain its communication with the community through:

- 1 x weekly half-page advertisement, *Weekly Connect* in *The Coonamble Times* – advertising Requests for Quotations, Tenders and Expressions of Interest, policies and other reports currently on public exhibition and upcoming events for the community.
- Paid classified advertising for current tenders, requests for quotations, expressions of interest and positions vacant.
- Posts in the News column on the homepage of Council's website, on various topics as required.
- Posts in the Events Calendar hosted on Council's website.
- Posts on Council's Facebook page, on various topics including all media releases.
- Council's website – sharing all policies, plans and procedures, fees and charges, and documents for public exhibition, in the spirit of open and transparent governance.
- Media releases as required – on road conditions, project milestones, water supply interruptions, etc – distributed to print, radio and TV media across the Central West.

Facebook: During March, Council gained 11 new followers on its Facebook page, bringing the total number of followers to 3319, with 68% of followers being women and 32% men. During March, there were 36 posts to Facebook to communicate news and updates on various operational matters. Five posts recorded a reach of more than 1000 people, the highest being that for the illegal dumping of asbestos-containing materials, followed by another for the illegal dumping of rubbish, a job advertisement, the Seniors 'Gone Wild' Taronga Western Plains Zoo trip and the closure of the Smith Park Skate Park due to vandalism.

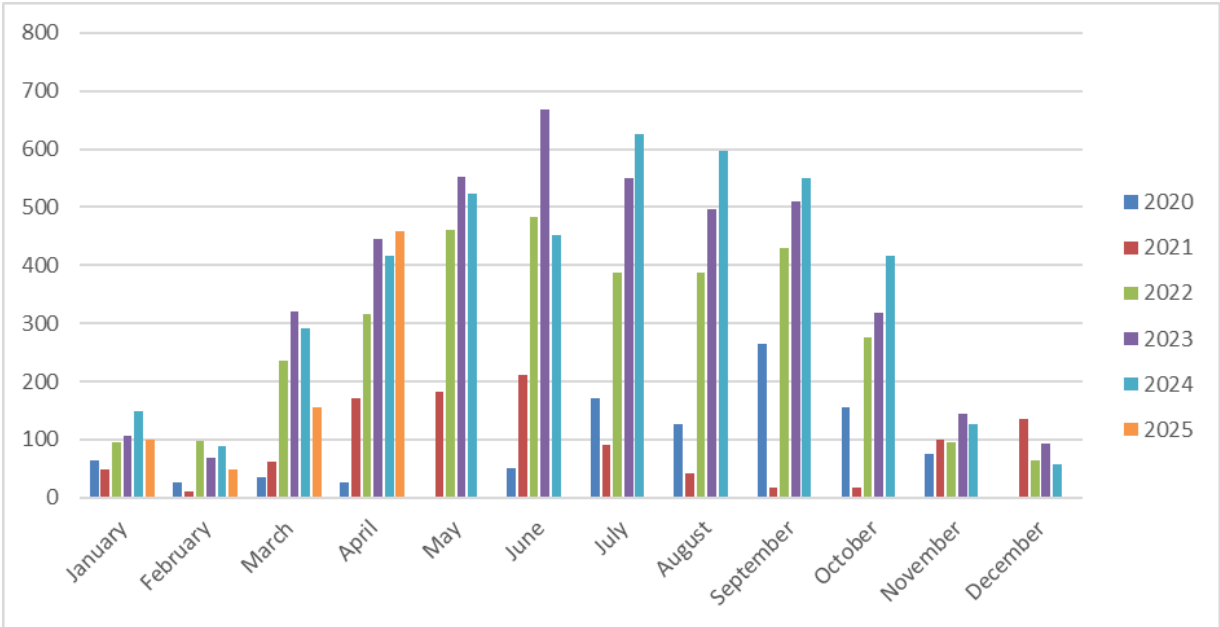
Weekly Connect

The weekly Connect has been revamped with the support of the local newspaper and is now clearer and less cluttered.

Tourism and visitation

Coonamble Information and Exhibition Centre

From March 26 to April 29, the Information and Exhibition Centre welcomed 459 visitors to Coonamble Shire, marking the highest April visitor count on record and a significant increase from the previous month. The surge can be attributed to cooler weather and road closures in surrounding areas, which redirected travellers to the Shire. Visitor information staff provided comprehensive support, helping travellers navigate new routes while promoting the attractions of Coonamble Shire and the Real Country region.



Visitor spending

In March 2025, overnight visitor numbers rose by 14% compared to March 2024, with spending surging by 38%. Overnight visitors are those travelling over 40km and staying consecutive days in the region.

Day visitors, travelling over 25km and staying at least 4 hours in a single day, increased by 9.54%, with spending up by 8.2% compared to the previous year. This data supports the significant economic value of developing tourism offerings that encourage overnight stays.

Overnight visitor spend

\$389K

↑ 38%

Overnight visitor count

2.2K

↑ 14%

Day visitor spend

\$74K

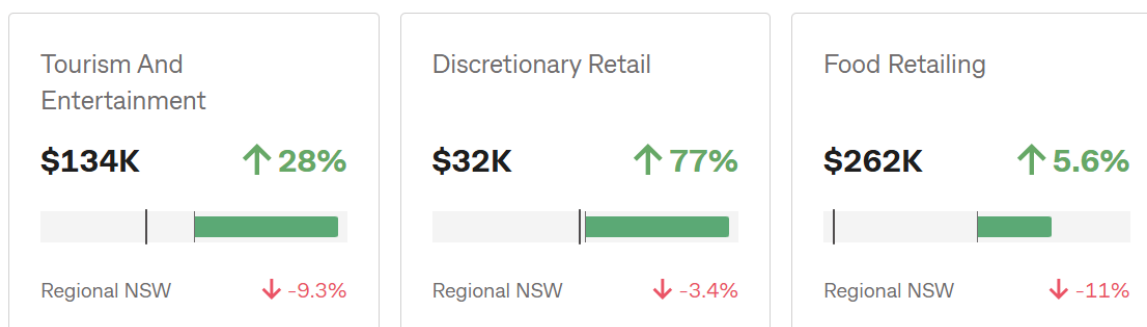
↑ 8.2%

Day visitor count

900

↑ 9.5%

Across popular categories of spending, the Coonamble Shire has not only increased its spending attraction with visitors compared with last year, but the degree of visitor spend in these categories is also performing significantly better than Regional NSW as a broad comparison as shown below.



Events

Upcoming events:

- Waste 2 Art community art exhibition and competition
Key dates:
Entries close: Friday, 9 May
Artwork delivery: Wednesday 7 May - Friday 9 May to Outback Arts
Official opening: Wednesday, 21st May
On exhibition: Monday 19 May - Friday 27 June
- 10 May, Marthaguy Picnic Races
- 3 June, Experience Development Workshop Coonamble by Destination NSW
Learn how to create, enhance, and deliver exceptional, bookable visitor experiences at this one-day Destination NSW Experience Development Workshop. Tailored for visitor economy businesses—such as accommodation providers, tour operators, attractions and farm gates—this workshop is ideal for those looking to develop or refine visitor experiences. Gain valuable insights on crafting memorable experiences, understanding diverse traveller needs, creating and improving bookable offerings, and accessing tools, resources, and support to elevate your business.
- 7 June, Gulargambone Show
- 6-9 June, Coonamble Rodeo and Campdraft

More information about events can be found on Council's website by selecting the 'Events' page. Local organisers are encouraged to also submit their events.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

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

(b) Legal Implications

There are no legal implications directly associated to this report.

(c) Social Implications

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

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications directly associated with this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

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

(f) Risk Implications

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

CONCLUSION

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

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council receives and notes the May 2025 Economic Development and Growth report.



Key Data on Community, Planning, Development and Environment Grant-Funded Projects in Progress
(at 1 April 2025)

Identifier		Value (ex GST)			Milestone Dates			
Name	Code	Grant	Co-contribution	Total	Due Date	M1	M2	M3
Youth Empowerment Program	RYIP-0270	\$989,680	-	\$989,680	30-Sep-25	24-Jan-24	31-Jul-24	24-Jan-25
Youth Accommodation (2 x 2BR and 1 x 3BR units)	RYIP-0270	\$1,584,000	-	\$1,584,000	30-Sep-25	24-Jan-24	31-Jul-24	24-Jan-25
Illegal Dumping Prevention (Baseline Data)	R16Stream1	\$19,080	-	\$19,080	15-Jul-25			
Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Grant	EDAEG55	\$30,000	-	\$30,000	15-Mar-26	15-Jun-25	15-Sep-25	
Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Grant	EDAEG61	\$30,000	-	\$30,000	15-Mar-26	15-Jun-25	15-Sep-25	
Coonamble Region Art Trail	SCCF5-0092	\$235,035	-	\$234,035	28-Feb-26			
Coonamble Artesian & Cultural Experience	RTAF-0068	\$5,500,000	\$1,250,000	\$6,750,000	27-Mar-26	21-Mar-24	20-Sep-24	27-Jun-25
Seniors Week	SF25015	\$5,000	-	\$5,000	30-May-25	16-Mar-25		
Youth Week	YW250045	\$3,412	\$2,588	\$6,000	30-May-25			

10.10 REGIONAL ART TRAIL**File Number:** 1.6**Author:** Maddison Ward-Tourism & Events Officer**Authoriser:** Barry Broe, Director Community, Planning, Development and Environment**Annexures:** Nil**PURPOSE**

To provide an update on the Regional Art Trail Project.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an overview and update on the Regional Art Trail project.

BACKGROUND

This project has a budget of \$235,035 and is funded through the Stronger Country Communities (Round 5).

The Coonamble Region Art trail builds on the existing scattered public art in the towns of Gulargambone and Coonamble, with the addition of further sculptural works in Gulargambone, murals in Coonamble, and contemplation circles in Coonamble and Quambone emphasising local Indigenous input.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

Part of the Economic development strategy supporting tourism.

(b) Financial Considerations

The project is grant funded.

COMMENTARY

This Art Trail will add another tourism product to grow a local tourism industry, thereby reducing dependence on the agricultural industry. The project will involve the design and construction of sculptures and painted artwork across the LGA to build the Coonamble Region Art Trail and development of the Trail marketing material.

The concept for this Art Trail project will see a design for the sculptural and painted art concept commissioned to allow construction by local artists (where possible) and metal workers, and will encourage a great sense of community pride and ownership of this public art.

It is important that the Galah sculptures have a connection to the current, completed town entrances. It is appropriate to have the sculptures maintain a connection across the LGA by incorporating use of the same or similar materiality, design, and theme, but allowing Gulargambone to have their own individual identity with the Galah.

Design and construction of a Tin Town Contemplation Circle with a sculpture arc around part of the circle will commemorate history and heritage, made up of a display utilising stencilled, rusted steel and corrugated iron. This project maintains the

memory of a now eroded temporary locality where Wailwan and Kamilaroi peoples and itinerant workers lived.

Design and construction of the Quambone Wailwan Contemplation Circle will have a similar sculpture arc around part of the circle, like the above-mentioned circle. This is to commemorate our heritage and connection to this land. The Wailwan Story is celebrated through the Totem Poles and information panels located in the park in Quambone. This sculpture will be an extension of this story.

Cultural tourism is recognised at a State and National level as being of significance to the tourism industry. The Coonamble LGA has begun to give recognition to the rich and living cultures of its Wailwan and Gamilaraay people through the participation of local artists in the design of the Information and Exhibition Centre and its internal décor, as well as in the design of the town entrance signs and bird sculptures.

The proposed Tin Town Contemplation Circle and Wailwan Contemplation Circles would give further tangible recognition to one-third of the Local Government Area's population of their association with the area.

It is intended – through other funding – to build an oral history library of stories from those who grew up in Tin Town and to have these accessible to visitors through the scanning of a discreet QR code plate at the Contemplation Circle, and similar access to 'The Wailwan Story' at the Wailwan Contemplation Circle in Quambone.

It is envisaged that the creation of this Coonamble Region Art Trail would encourage more visitors to stay overnight and spend more in either Coonamble, Gulargambone or Quambone.

Project Scope

The project will install sculptures at four sites across the LGA:

- Galah sculpture on the Northern entrance to Gulargambone (towards Coonamble)
- Galah sculpture on the Southern entrance to Gulargambone (towards Gilgandra)
- Tin Town Contemplation Circle with Kamilaroi & Wailwan design near the Castlereagh River, behind McDonald Park, Coonamble
- Wailwan Contemplation Circle in the RV primitive campsite in Quambone

The project will have painted artwork completed at two sites across the LGA:

- Painting of the bore shed, located in Smith Park, Coonamble
- Painting of the public toilet, located near Smith Park, Coonamble

Once sculptures and artwork are complete, an audit of all current and new artworks and the artists will be collated including strong images of the artwork which will then assist in creating the marketing material for the Art Trail. Which will include a DL flyer of the trail.

Project Management

A suitably qualified and culturally experienced project manager has been appointed to oversee the process and lead the engagement of various local stakeholders and

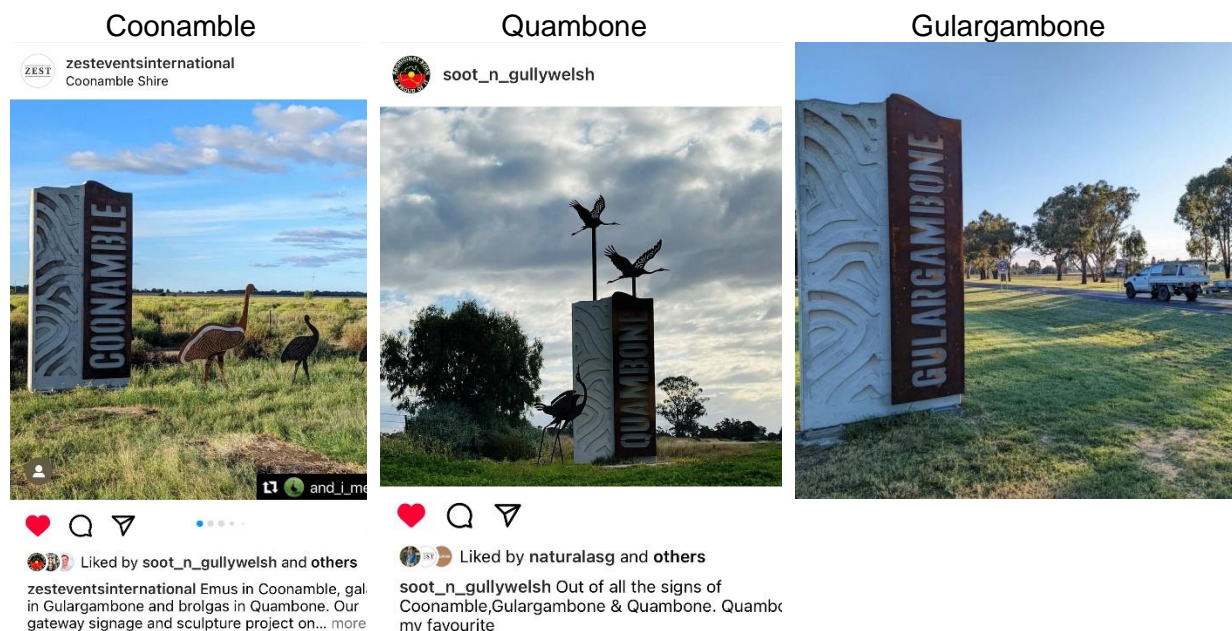
suppliers, ensuring regular communication between stakeholders and updates for the community.

The design component includes the creative design of four (4) sculptures and two (2) artworks across the LGA. The designer will be responsible for identifying materiality, ensuring structural engineering considerations, and providing installation and construction specifications. The Project Manager will be responsible for ensuring these deliverables.

The Project Manager will call for EOIs from local community members with the skills, tools and site available to allow for the construction of sculptures as per the design provided. These community members will be paid for their time, and materials will be provided. The Project Manager will call for EOIs from local contractors to install each sculpture at dedicated sites as identified and prescribed by the designer.

Site Images

Current town entrance signs.



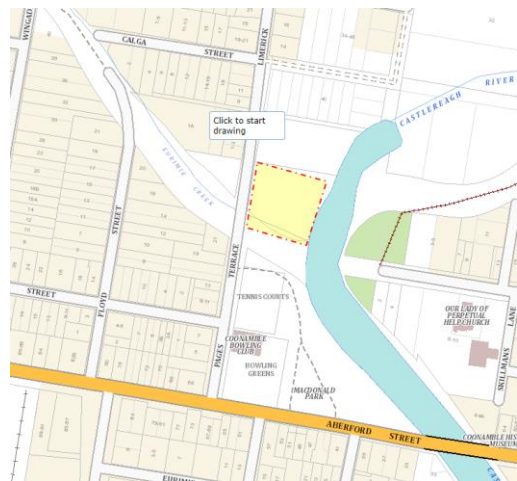
Bore shed



Public toilet



Location of Coonamble Tin Town contemplation circle



Location of Quambone contemplation circle



Public Art panel

The development of any public art is subject to Council's Public Art Policy that was adopted in 2021. The key guiding principles relating to the Coonamble Region Art Trail include:

- 6.1. Excellence in project initiation, concept, design and fabrication.
- 6.2. Transparent decision-making process.
- 6.4. Relationship to space.
- 6.5. Meaningful community engagement.
- 6.6. Contribution to the local economy.
- 6.7. Defined roles and responsibilities.

As part of the transparent decision-making process the Public Art Policy states that on projects of significance Council may convene a Public Art Advisory Panel (PAAP) to evaluate and assess public art proposals against the prescribed criteria of a project brief (in the case of commissions) or the guiding principles of the Public Art Policy (in the case of unsolicited submissions). Recommendations and endorsements for the implementation of public art projects will be submitted to Council by the PAAP.

Final approval of any public art projects will be made by Council.

The proposed panel is below:

- Mat Boney, Wayilwan - Coonamble Local Aboriginal Lands Council
- Nina Sands, Wayilwan - with direct family ties to Tin Town.
- Jamie-Lea Trindall - Executive Director, Outback Art. Regional Art Development Organisation for the region, also an Aboriginal artist and culturally competent.
- Uncle Sooty Welsh - Wayilwan Aboriginal Elder and professional artist, with family ties to Tin Town.

Delivery Program*April–May: Consultation and Concept Development*

Objective: Establish a strong foundation for the project through community engagement and stakeholder alignment.

Community Engagement:

- Continue ongoing conversations to raise awareness and gather initial community expectations and vision.
- Conduct targeted outreach to diverse community groups to ensure inclusivity.

Panel Formation:

- Maintain a small, skilled panel with cultural, community, and artistic expertise.
- Support panel members to act as ambassadors to bridge community input and project goals.

Stakeholder Meeting:

- The first formal meeting is scheduled (30 April–5 May) with key stakeholders and interested parties from the initial engagement.
- Agenda: Present project scope, gather feedback on vision, and bring panel members together.
- Output: Agreed-upon project vision statement, preliminary concept themes and any potential concerns raised.

Deliverables:

- Community feedback report summarising expectations and themes.
- Confirmed panel and stakeholder roles.

June–August: Artists and Design Development

Objective: Translate community input into tangible design concepts through artist collaboration.

Artist Engagement:

- Identify and onboard artists with relevant cultural and artistic expertise, prioritising local talent where possible.
- Brief artists on community feedback and project vision to guide their work.

Finalisation:

- Select final design concepts, ensuring alignment with community vision and practical constraints (e.g., budget, materials).
- Develop detailed design specifications (e.g., dimensions, materials, site requirements).

Deliverables:

- Artist contracts and briefs.
- Finalised design concepts with specifications.
- Community feedback summary from the design phase.

September–December: Construction and Fabrication

Objective: Produce high-quality art elements according to finalised designs.

Sculptural Elements:

- Fabricate sculptural components, ensuring adherence to design specifications and safety standards.
- Engage skilled artists or contractors as needed for specialised work.
- Prioritise sustainable or locally sourced materials where feasible.
- Prepare mural surfaces (e.g., cleaning, priming) and other installation sites to ensure readiness.

Quality Control:

- Conduct regular progress checks to ensure craftsmanship and alignment with designs.
- Involve artists and the panel in quality assurance to maintain vision integrity.

Deliverables:

- Completed sculptural elements and prepared surfaces.
- Inventory of sourced materials.

January–March: Installation

Objective: Safely and efficiently install art elements to create the art trail.

Installation Planning:

- Develop a detailed installation plan, including site logistics, safety protocols, and equipment needs.
- Coordinate with local authorities for permits or approvals (e.g., public space usage).

Execution:

- Install major elements (sculptures, murals, etc.) according to design specifications.
- Engage the community where/if appropriate.
- Conduct site inspections to ensure structural integrity and aesthetic alignment.

Deliverables:

- Fully installed art trail elements.
- Installation completion report with photos and stakeholder sign-off.

March–April: Artwork Audit and Promotion

Objective: Finalise and promote the art trail to maximise community impact.

Artwork Audit:

- Conduct a comprehensive audit of all artworks (existing and new) to document location and details.
- Capture high-quality images of each artwork for marketing and archival purposes.

Marketing Material Development:

- Create promotional materials, including a DL flyer for the art trail, digital content (e.g., social media posts), and a trail map.
- Highlight cultural and community significance in messaging to resonate with audiences.

Promotion:

- Launch a marketing campaign via community events, local media, and online platforms.
- Organise an opening event or guided tours to showcase the trail and engage the public.

Deliverables:

- Artwork audit report with images and documentation.
- Marketing materials (flyer, map, digital content).
- Launch plan and promotional campaign rollout.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

Supports the economic development strategy

(b) Legal Implications

There are no legal implications attached to this report.

(c) Social Implications

Benefits for local communities

(d) Environmental Implications

Will provide a better visual environment

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

Council will need to maintain the art assets

(f) Risk Implications

There are no risk implications attached to this report.

CONCLUSION

The Regional Art Trail project is progressing, and a detailed scope and status report is provided in this report.






RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council receives and notes the status of the Regional Art Trail project.**
- 2. That Council appoints Mr. Mat Boney, Ms. Nina Sands, Ms. Jamie-Lea Trindall and Uncle Sooty Welsh to the public art panel.**

10.11 REQUEST FOR REZONING - 145-147 CASTLEREAGH STREET**File Number:** P.1579**Author:** Lesley Duncan-Manager Regulatory, Planning & Compliance Services

Louise Abrahall-Compliance and Support Officer

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

- Annexures:**
1. R1 General Residential Zone - Land Use Table [↓](#) 
 2. E1 Local Centre Zone - Land Use Table [↓](#) 
 3. Letter Requesting Rezoning [↓](#) 
 4. Community Feedback [↓](#) 
 5. Land Zone Map and Site Map [↓](#) 

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to inform Councillors of correspondence received, requesting a spot rezoning at 145-147 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A rezoning request for one property has been received from the owner of 145-147 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble to rezone the land from R1 General Residential to E1 Local Centre, to allow for the development of a service station. A motel is currently located on the site, and it is proposed that this development would remain and operate in conjunction with the proposed service station.

Service stations are a prohibited land use in the R1 General Residential zone but are permissible with development consent in the E1 Local Centre zone.

After an initial review of the proposal, Council Planning staff have identified another pathway in which development for the purposes of a service station could be achieved. This would involve listing a service station as an additional permitted use on the property.

The advantage of using this provision is that it will allow the development of a service station without making other additional commercial land uses permissible on the site. This could make the approvals process easier. It is also preferable from a strategic planning perspective not to have one-off “spot” rezonings in an area.

Annexures 1 and 2 contain the R1 General Residential and E1 Local Centre land use tables, with Annexures 3 and 4 containing the rezoning request and community feedback. Annexure 5 contains maps showing the property location in relation to surrounding land use.

The planning proposal would require the support of Council for it to be lodged with the NSW Department of Planning. To prevent the proponents from incurring substantial costs in preparing documentation without an assurance of Council's endorsement, the owner sought preliminary feedback from Council prior to progressing the proposal.

The NSW Department of Planning maximum benchmark timeframes for processing of planning proposals can vary greatly, depending on the complexity of the proposal, and could be expected to take anywhere from 220 to 420 working days.

Should Council support the proposal in principle, the planning proposal for the option chosen would need to be formally submitted to Council for endorsement prior to it proceeding to assessment by the NSW Department of Planning. The proponent will be responsible for engaging a suitably qualified town planning professional to prepare this proposal.

BACKGROUND

The planning proposal process is generally split up into six stages and the table below provides a summary of these stages:

Stage 1 – Pre-Lodgement	A scoping proposal is provided to the Department and advice received in relation to the proposal to proceed with the Planning Proposal.
Stage 2 – Planning Proposal	The planning proposal is lodged via the NSW Planning Portal, and Council needs to consider whether to support or not support the proposal. If supported, the application will be referred to the Department for Gateway Determination.
Stage 3 – Gateway Determination	<p>The Gateway Determination is a key assessment point for the planning proposal and is undertaken by the Department. The Department will review the strategic and site-specific merit of a proposal and determine whether the planning proposal should proceed. The Gateway Determination is a checkpoint in the process to ensure that planning proposals without strategic merit are stopped before resources are committed.</p> <p>The Gateway Determination is undertaken by the Department. Even if Council has supported the proposal and sent it to the Department for Gateway Determination, the Department may choose to not support the proposal. This is beyond the control of Council.</p>
Stage 4 – Post Gateway	This stage enables a review of the Planning Proposal and to action conditions of the Gateway Determination prior to public exhibition. Once these requirements have been met, the updated Planning Proposal will be reviewed by the Department. If the Department is satisfied with the outcomes, the Planning Proposal will progress to public exhibition.
Stage 5 – Public Exhibition and Assessment	<p>Community participation and public exhibition are integral to the Local Environmental Plan making process. Consultation gives the community and government agencies a say on the merits of proposals prior to any final decision being made.</p> <p>Once exhibition is completed, the Planning Proposal is evaluated and assessed; and comments and concerns are addressed as appropriate. Based on this evaluation, a determination whether the LEP should be amended in accordance with the planning proposal will</p>

	be made.
Stage 6 – Finalisation	<p>This is the last stage in the Planning Proposal process and generally leads to the making of the LEP amendments, unless the proposal is not supported.</p> <p>If supported, by the end of this stage, the updated LEP will be made, notified and come into effect for the subject property. From the point of notification, the updated controls will apply to the property.</p>

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

The request is consistent with Goal 6 of the Community Strategic Plan – Our economy is sustainable, prosperous and diversified.

(b) Financial Considerations

There are no financial implications relevant to this report.

COMMENTARY

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

There are no governance or policy implications for this report. Any submitted planning proposal will need to comply the requirements of the NSW Planning's Local Environmental Plan Guideline.

(b) Legal Implications

There are no legal implications for this report. Any submitted planning proposal will need to comply with the requirements of NSW Planning's Local Environmental Plan Guideline.

(c) Social Implications

Any planning proposal submitted will be required to undergo extensive public exhibition in accordance with Council's Community Participation Plan.

(d) Environmental Implications

Nil to this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

Supporting the request can lead to a positive economic impact in the locality.

(f) Risk Implications

There is a risk that the proposal may not receive State approval.

CONCLUSION

The Council has two options to consider prior to the proposal progressing:

1. Advise the proponent to prepare a planning proposal to spot rezone the land from R1 General Residential to E1 Local Centre, or
2. Advise the proponent to prepare a planning proposal to list a service station as an additional permitted use on the land.

Alternatively, Council could choose not to support any changes on zoning or permitted uses on the site.

It is recommended that Council support option two (2) to list a service station as an additional permitted use, as this will facilitate the request without permitting other commercial land uses on the site.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council recommend to the proponent that they prepare a planning proposal to list a service station as an additional permitted use on 145-147 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble.

4/30/25, 1:21 PM

Coonamble Local Environmental Plan 2011 - NSW Legislation



NSW legislation

Coonamble Local Environmental Plan 2011

Current version for 10 November 2023 to date (accessed 30 April 2025 at 13:19)

[Part](#) > pt-cg1.Zone_R1

Zone R1 General Residential

1 Objectives of zone

- To provide for the housing needs of the community.
- To provide for a variety of housing types and densities.
- To enable other land uses that provide facilities or services to meet the day to day needs of residents.
- To avoid potential land use conflict and protect the amenity of residents.

2 Permitted without consent

Environmental protection works; Home occupations

3 Permitted with consent

Attached dwellings; Boarding houses; Building identification signs; Business identification signs; Business premises; Centre-based child care facilities; Community facilities; Dwelling houses; Group homes; Home industries; Hostels; Kiosks; Multi dwelling housing; Neighbourhood shops; Oyster aquaculture; Places of public worship; Pond-based aquaculture; Residential flat buildings; Respite day care centres; Roads; Semi-detached dwellings; Seniors housing; Shop top housing; Take away food and drink premises; Tank-based aquaculture; Any other development not specified in item 2 or 4

4 Prohibited

Agriculture; Air transport facilities; Airstrips; Amusement centres; Animal boarding or training establishments; Boat building and repair facilities; Car parks; Cemeteries; Charter and tourism boating facilities; Commercial premises; Crematoria; Depots; Eco-tourist facilities; Electricity generating works; Entertainment facilities; Extractive industries; Farm buildings; Farm stay accommodation; Forestry; Freight transport facilities; Function centres; Funeral homes; Heavy industrial storage establishments; Helipads; Highway service centres; Industrial retail outlets; Industrial training facilities; Industries; Local distribution premises; Marinas; Mooring pens; Mortuaries; Open cut mining; Port facilities; Public administration buildings; Recreation facilities (major); Registered clubs; Research stations; Restricted premises; Rural industries; Rural workers' dwellings; Service stations; Sewerage systems; Sex services premises; Signage; Storage premises; Transport depots; Truck depots; Vehicle body repair workshops; Vehicle repair stations; Warehouse or distribution centres; Waste or resource management facilities; Water recreation structures; Wharf or boating facilities; Wholesale supplies



NSW legislation

Coonamble Local Environmental Plan 2011

Current version for 10 November 2023 to date (accessed 30 April 2025 at 13:19)

[Part](#) > pt-cg1.Zone_E1

Zone E1 Local Centre

1 Objectives of zone

- To provide a range of retail, business and community uses that serve the needs of people who live in, work in or visit the area.
- To encourage investment in local commercial development that generates employment opportunities and economic growth.
- To enable residential development that contributes to a vibrant and active local centre and is consistent with the Council's strategic planning for residential development in the area.
- To encourage business, retail, community and other non-residential land uses on the ground floor of buildings.
- To reinforce the role of Coonamble Township as the main commercial centre for Coonamble.

2 Permitted without consent

Environmental protection works; Home occupations

3 Permitted with consent

Amusement centres; Boarding houses; Centre-based child care facilities; Commercial premises; Community facilities; Entertainment facilities; Function centres; High technology industries; Home industries; Hotel or motel accommodation; Information and education facilities; Local distribution premises; Medical centres; Oyster aquaculture; Places of public worship; Public administration buildings; Recreation facilities (indoor); Respite day care centres; Service stations; Shop top housing; Tank-based aquaculture; Veterinary hospitals; Any other development not specified in item 2 or 4

4 Prohibited

Agriculture; Air transport facilities; Airstrips; Animal boarding or training establishments; Cemeteries; Correctional centres; Crematoria; Depots; Eco-tourist facilities; Electricity generating works; Exhibition homes; Exhibition villages; Extractive industries; Farm buildings; Forestry; Freight transport facilities; Heavy industrial storage establishments; Helipads; Home occupations (sex services); Home-based child care; Industrial retail outlets; Industrial training facilities; Industries; Mooring pens; Open cut mining; Port facilities; Recreation facilities (major); Residential accommodation; Rural industries; Sex services premises; Storage premises; Truck depots; Warehouse or distribution centres; Waste or resource management facilities; Water treatment facilities; Wharf or boating facilities



11 March 2025

General Manager
PO Box 249
Coonamble NSW 2829

Dear Coonamble Shire Council,

Subject: Rezoning Request for Proposed Service Station Development

We are writing on behalf of our client, Sashi Bushan Mogula to formally request the rezoning of their property located at 145 – 147 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble NSW 2829 from R1: General Residential to E1: Local Centre. This request is made in consideration of several factors we believe will benefit both the community and local economy.

The property in question is currently operating as a Motel Business providing comfort and support to travellers, locals and the general public. It is currently underutilised in its residential capacity and is situated in an area that is increasingly transitioning towards industrial use.

The proposed rezoning will facilitate the establishment of a brand new developed service station providing access to heavy vehicles, campervans and general light vehicles. The service station will also comprise of a fully equipped convenience store with access to fresh essentials which is anticipated to bring significant economic benefits. These include job creation and support for local businesses. Additionally, we are committed to ensuring that the development adheres to all environmental and safety regulations to minimise any potential impact on the surrounding community. Whilst the property is still going to remain as a motel, the property is large enough to accommodate both business operations, with no impact to the residents within the accommodation as the service station will be at the front of the premises.

My client has conducted preliminary consultations with neighbouring property owners and local residents within the surrounding area and has received positive feedback regarding the proposed change. Furthermore, a detailed site analysis and impact assessment report will be provided upon request to support this application.

We kindly request the council to consider this rezoning application at the earliest convenience. We are prepared to meet and discuss this proposal in more detail and to address any concerns that may arise. Please find attached the necessary documentation, including an existing draft site plan, current zoning map, and letters of support from local stakeholders.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to your favourable response and am hopeful that together, we can contribute to the growth and prosperity of our community.

Warm regards,

Krystal Moujaber
Director
M Safe Consulting Pty Ltd

Level 1, 5 George Street
North Strathfield NSW
M Safe Consulting Pty Ltd | 69 694 211 807

E: info@msafe.com.au

W: www.msafe.com.au

M: 0477 070 552

January 2025

Letter of Support

Dear Council,

We, the undersigned residents of Coonamble are writing to express our strong support for the proposed service station development and the associated rezoning of the area at 145 – 147 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble NSW 2829.

Our community has long recognised the need for enhanced local amenities and services, and the introduction of a new service station promises to address several of these needs.

We know it's important to plan this carefully, so the new station fits in with what our community cares about and respects the environment. We trust that the developers will work with the local council to sort out any issues and make sure they address any potential problems.

In conclusion, we wholeheartedly support the proposed service station development and rezoning. We believe it will bring significant benefits to our community and help meet the growing needs of our residents. We kindly urge the planning committee to approve this proposal.

Date	Full Name	Address	Signature
19/2/25	Lachlan Mylecharane	63 Railway St	[Signature]
19.2.25	DIANNE TAYLOR	31 Wilga	[Signature]
19.2.25	Harley Terry	3 Limerick St	[Signature]
19.2.25	Alex Mylecharane	9 Maule St	[Signature]
19.2.25	Graham Shields	10 Bertram St	[Signature]

Local
Trades

January 2025

Letter of Support

Dear Council,

We, the undersigned residents of Coonamble are writing to express our strong support for the proposed service station development and the associated rezoning of the area at 145 – 147 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble NSW 2829.

Our community has long recognised the need for enhanced local amenities and services, and the introduction of a new service station promises to address several of these needs.

We know it's important to plan this carefully, so the new station fits in with what our community cares about and respects the environment. We trust that the developers will work with the local council to sort out any issues and make sure they address any potential problems.

In conclusion, we wholeheartedly support the proposed service station development and rezoning. We believe it will bring significant benefits to our community and help meet the growing needs of our residents. We kindly urge the planning committee to approve this proposal.

Date	Full Name	Address	Signature
22/2/25	Harold Shields	18 Wingate St	[Signature]
22/2/25	[Signature]	41 Park St	[Signature]
22/2/25	Tom Shields	Caswell St	[Signature]
22/2/25	Jimmy Swansborough	Aberford St	[Signature]
22/2/25	Rick Swansborough	Aberford St	[Signature]

Images below are looking at 145-147 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble from the opposite side of the street (Source: Google Maps, 02/05/2025)



Subject Site: 145-147 Castlereagh Street, COONAMBLE



Source: Six Maps NSW, (02/05/2025)

Subject Site in relation to surrounding properties.



Source: Six Maps NSW, (02/05/2025)

Land Zone Map



Source: NSW Planning Portal Spatial Viewer, 02/05/2025

10.12 PLANNING, REGULATORY & COMPLIANCE PROGRESS REPORT**File Number: E5****Author: Louise Abrahall, Compliance and Support Officer****Authoriser: Barry Broe, Director Community, Planning, Development and Environment****Annexures: Nil****PURPOSE**

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

BACKGROUND

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

Strategic Land Use Planning refers to updates to Council's planning instruments and is also included.

The following topics will be included in the Council Report where there is relevant information to report on:

- Compliance and Regulation

The *Local Government Act 1993*, *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* ('EP&A Act') and *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* are the main legislation providing provisions around environmental management. Compliance and regulation enforce individuals, organisations and businesses to comply with the relevant act or regulation. Environmental management can include the atmosphere, built environment, heritage, land, and water.

- Development Application Information

This information refers to development applications lodged in the Coonamble local government area. However, the consent authority is another authority and not Council or its delegated staff / contractors. This can include:

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

These types of development applications are rare.

- Strategic Land Use Planning

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

- Environmental Management

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

- Ranger's Monthly Report

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

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

P3.1.2. Inspection of Food Premises.

I3.3.1. Implementation Waste Management recommendations.

EN1.1.1. Enforcement of environmental regulations.

EN.1.1.2. Continue to review Local Environmental Plan.

EN.1.1.3. Ensure compliance with NSW Building Certification.

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

EN.1.1.5 Approvals completed within timeframe required.

P2.2.4 Controlling straying animals.

(b) Financial Considerations

There are no direct financial considerations with this report.

COMMENTARY

Development Applications Issued Under Delegated Authority

Information provided within this section of the report provides Council with information on what has been decided for the month under delegated authority and not subject to Council's endorsement or approval.

Individual development applications that require the elected Council's approval will be under its own separate Council business paper report with a recommendation to decide on the application.

Under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (GIPA Act), information in the form of Development Applications and its associated information is prescribed as 'open access information' by Clause 3 of Schedule 1 of the GIPA Act. This also

includes staff's development assessment report that is written prior to an application's determination. This provides a high level of transparency.

The following is a summary of applications determined under delegated authority.

April 2025			
Application Number	Description of Works	Address of Proposed Works	Approved Date
Development Applications			
DA006/2025	New shed and existing shed extensions	145 Carinda Road, Coonamble	01/04/2025
DA007/2025	New residential shed	118-120 Coonamble Street, Gulargambone	02/04/2025
DA002/2025	Subdivision – Rural (four lots into four lots)	6303 Carinda Road, Gungahman	08/04/2025
CC037/2024	Construction Certificate – Stage 2 Expansion of feedlot from 10,000 to 30,000 cattle	701 Quambone Road, Coonamble	16/04/2025
OC040/2023	Occupation Certificate – Stage 1 Expansion of existing feedlot for maintenance	701 Quambone Road, Coonamble	23/04/2025

Re-zoning of the old sheepyard site

Following Council's approval to proceed with this rezoning, the Planning Proposal was submitted to the state planning department for a gateway determination. At this decision point, the state planning department reviews the merits of the proposal and decides whether it can proceed to public consultation. They also state any conditions that need to be satisfied before the reclassification is approved.

Saleyards

No cattle sales were held during April 2025 due to the falling market prices and wet road conditions that prevented livestock from being transported to the saleyards. No income was received for April 2025. Scheduled saleyard maintenance is currently under way.

Saleyards

	April	Year to Date
Income	0	102,521.69
Expenditure	6,447	90,058.11
	12,463.58 Surplus	

Truck Wash

No income for April 2025 was available at the time of preparing the financial report below:

Truck Wash

	April	Year to Date
Income	0	51,265.43
Expenditure	277	8,086.59
	43,178.84 Surplus	

Companion Animals

The Regulatory Officer's report is provided for April. The following is a summary of companion animal statistics.

CORRESPONDENCE	April 2025	YTD 2025
Infringements (Animals)	0	0
Infringements (Other)	0	0
Change of Details	4	6
Microchipped dogs	2	5
Registrations	2	2

Companion Animal Seizure and Impounding Activities – April

Seizure Activities:	Dogs	Cats
Seized	0	0
Returned to Owner	0	0

Impounding Activities:	Dogs	Cats
Animals in pound at start of month	2	2
Incoming Animals	Dogs	Cats
Transferred from seizure activities	0	0
Abandoned or Stray	3	0
Surrendered	2	0
Total Animals in Pound	7	2

Outgoing Animals	Dogs	Cats
Released to Owner	0	0
Euthanised	1	0
Released to Rehoming Organisation	2	0
Sold	0	0

Died at Pound	0	0
Stolen from Pound	0	0
Escaped from Pound	0	0
Total Animals Leaving Pound	3	0
Animals in Pound at end of Month.	4	2

Dog Attacks

There was one dog attack reported during April 2025, which was investigated, with the dog owner removing and euthanising the attacking dog.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

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

(b) Legal Implications

There are no current legal implications arising from this report.

(c) Social Implications

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

(d) Environmental Implications

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

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

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

(f) Risk Implications

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









CONCLUSION

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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Planning, Regulatory and Compliance Progress Report for May be received and noted.

10.13 DA004/2025 - YARRAN STREET SUBDIVISION

- File Number:** DA004/2025
- Author:** Louise Abrahall-Compliance and Support Officer
- Authoriser:** Barry Broe, Director Community, Planning, Development and Environment
- Annexures:**
1. DA004/2025 - Development Assessment Report (under separate cover) 
 2. DA004/2025 - Clause 4.6 Assessment Report (under separate cover) 
 3. Statement of Environmental Effects (under separate cover) 
 4. Clause 4.6 - Request to Vary a Development Standard (under separate cover) 
 5. Subdivision Lot Size Map (under separate cover) 
 6. Due Diligence Assessment (under separate cover) 
 7. Engineering Plans (under separate cover) 
 8. Subdivision Staging (under separate cover) 

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present Council with the Development Assessment Report for Development Application DA004/2025 for the proposed subdivision of two (2) lots into 20 lots located at 70 and 78 Yarran Street, Coonamble (Lot 85 and Lot 87, DP 3693).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DA004/2025 relates to the proposed subdivision of two (2) lots into twenty (20) lots for the purpose of creating 19 residential lots, one (1) new sewerage pumping station and public reserve, including the construction of a new road.

The project is proposed to be constructed in two (2) stages (see Attachment):

Stage 1: Lot 7, Lots 13 to 20, with lot 20 being for a new Sewerage Pumping Station and public reserve.

Stage 2: Lots 1 to 6, Lots 8 to 12 and the construction of a new road.

The purpose of the development is to facilitate residential development with the proposed staged subdivision creating 19 allotments that comply with the minimum lot size requirement of 750m².

Although Lot 20 has an area of 487.5 m², it is the location of the new sewerage pump station and public reserve and therefore not a residential lot. The proposed Lot 20, and a Clause 4.6 variation is proposed to address the minimum lot size development standard.

In accordance with the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, the proposal is a Council-related development, and Council is the consent authority. The assessment of the proposal concludes that the development documentation has been completed to a standard that allows a thorough assessment of the proposed subdivision.

Site inspections have verified that the proposal can be carried out to meet the requirements of the Building Code of Australia. The proposed development is

assessed to be consistent with the Coonamble Local Environmental Plan 2011 and all relevant State Environmental Planning Policies. The proposal is permissible development within the R1 General Residential zone and fits within the locality. There are no significant impacts on the site or on adjacent lands and roads that cannot be properly addressed through appropriate conditions of consent.

It is recommended that the development application be approved, subject to the application appropriate conditions.

BACKGROUND

Council received a development application on 9 January 2025.

DA004/2025 proposes to subdivide two (2) lots into 20 lots for residential housing at 70 and 78 Yarran Street, Coonamble.

On 3 April 2023, the NSW Department of Planning introduced the Council-related development application conflict of interest guideline, to assist Councils as the consent authority, remain transparent throughout the entire development process. Under Section 30B of the *Environmental Planning and Regulation Act 2021*. The consent authority is required to provide a conflict-of-interest management statement, that specifies how Council will manage any conflicts of interest that may arise in connection with the development application.

The staging of the Yarran Street subdivision allows Council to endorse Stage 1 prior to the commencement of Stage 2. The development standards under Section 66A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021* will not be activated until Stage 2, when the road is constructed. A conflict-of-interest management statement will be required prior to commencing Stage 2 of the subdivision.

The application was notified to all landowners surrounding the proposed subdivision for a 14-day period from 12 February to 28 February 2025. The proposal was placed on public exhibition during this time via the Council website, the NSW Planning Portal and physically available to view at the Council Administration Centre. No submissions were received.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

This report relates to the 2024-2025 Delivery Plan Action E.1.1.3 – Implement planning and development approvals process which enhances operational efficiencies.

(b) Financial Considerations

Council has committed to constructing a new sewerage pump station to service the subdivision and surrounding properties.

COMMENTARY

The development application has been assessed in accordance with section 4.15 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

Section 375A of the *Local Government Act 1993* states the following:

Recording of Voting on Planning Matters'

(1) *In this section,*

“planning decision” means a decision made in the exercise of a function of a council under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 –

(a) including a decision relating to a development application, an environmental planning instrument, a development control plan or a development contribution plan under that Act, but

(b) not including the making of an order under Division 2A of Part 6 of that Act

(2) The general manager is required to keep a register of containing, for each planning decision made at a meeting of the council or a council committee, the names of the councillors who supported the decision and the names of any councillors who opposed (or are taken to have opposed) the decision.

(5) This section extends to a meeting that is closed to the public.

(b) Legal Implications

The approval of the Council-related development application for the staged subdivision of two (2) lots into 20 lots for residential development at 70 and 78 Yarran Street, Coonamble is permissible under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and the *Coonamble Local Environmental Plan 2011*.

The consent authority is required to manage council-related development conflicts of interest in accordance with Section 66A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*.

(c) Social Implications

There are no direct social implications arising from this report that have not been addressed in the development assessment report and through the proposed conditions recommended to be adopted by Council.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report that have not been addressed in the development assessment report and through the proposed conditions to be adopted by Council.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

There are no direct economic/asset management implications arising from this report that have not been addressed in the development assessment report and through the proposed conditions to be adopted by Council.

(f) Risk Implications

There are no direct risk implications arising from this report.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Coonamble Shire Council approve DA004/2025 for the Yarran Street subdivision of two (2) lots into 20 lots at Lot 85 DP 3693 and Lot 87 DP 3693, being 70 and 78 Yarran Street, Coonamble to be established in two (2) stages.

Stage One (1) will see Lot 7, Lots 13 to 20, with Lot 20 being for the new sewerage pumping station and public reserve.

Stage Two (2) will see Lots 1 to 6, Lots 8 to 12 and the construction of a new road.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves DA004/2025 for the Yarran Street subdivision of two (2) lots into twenty (20) lots in two (2) stages, on Lot 85 DP 3693 and Lot 87 DP 3693, being 70 and 78 Yarran Street, Coonamble, subject to the following conditions:

PART A – ADMINISTRATIVE CONDITIONS**General**

- 1) The development must be carried out in accordance with the following plans and documentation listed below and as endorsed by Council, except where amended by other conditions of this development consent:**

Plan No	Issue	Prepared by	Date
Plan of Subdivision - Sheet 001	1	RAP Surveying	8/6/2024
Plan of Subdivision – Sheet 002	1	RAP Surveying	10/4/2024
Plan of Subdivision – Sheet 003	1	RAP Surveying	10/4/2024
Staging Plan			

Notes:

- Any material alteration to the plans and/or documentation shall be submitted for the approval of Council. Such alterations may require the lodgement of an application to amend the consent under s4.55 of the Environmental Planning**

and Assessment Act 1979, or a new development application. No works other than those approved under this consent, shall be carried out without the prior approval of Council.

- *Where there is an inconsistency between the documents lodged with this application and the following conditions, the conditions shall prevail to the extent of that inconsistency.*

Erection of signs

- 2) A sign must be erected in a prominent position on any site on which subdivision work is being carried out:
 - a) Showing the name, address and telephone number of the principal certifying authority for the work, and
 - b) Showing the name of the principal contract (if any) for any building work and a telephone number on which that person may be contacted outside working hours, and
 - c) Stating that unauthorised entry to the work site is prohibited.

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

PART B – REQUIREMENTS BEFORE COMMENCEMENT OF ANY WORK

Before You Dig Australia

- 3) Prior to carrying out any works, an enquiry shall be undertaken with Before You Dig Australia for any relevant infrastructure plans.

Traffic and Pedestrian Management Plan

- 4) The applicant is to prepare and implement a Traffic Management Plan that provides necessary direction to traffic or pedestrian movement through or past the work site. The Traffic Management Plan is to be prepared by a suitably qualified person in accordance with the provisions of the relevant Australian Standards and is to be submitted to Council for approval PRIOR to its implementation.

Soil and Water Management Plan

- 5) The developer is to submit a Soil and Water Management Plan for the site. No building, engineering, or excavation work, or

topsoil stripping or vegetation removal, is to be carried out in relation to this development until such time as the plan has been approved by Council and the measures detailed in the plan are in place prior to works commencing.

The measures detailed in the plan are to remain in place until all landscaping is completed.

PART C – REQUIREMENTS BEFORE THE ISSUE OF A SUBDIVISION WORKS CERTIFICATE

Subdivision Works Certificate

- 6) The applicant is to obtain a Subdivision Works Certificate for each stage of the development.

Engineering Plans

- 7) The applicant is required to submit engineering plans and specifications relating to each stage of the development in relation to conditions 5, 9, 10 and 13.
- 8) The electrical detail design is to demonstrate compliance with NSW Planning publication: *Dark Sky Planning Guideline*.

PART D – REQUIREMENTS DURING WORKS

Engineering Inspections

- 9) The applicant is to arrange an inspection of the development/subdivision works by Council's Infrastructure Services Department, at the following stages of the development. This condition applies notwithstanding any private certification of the engineering works.

Inspection		Stage
A	Road Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following site regrading, and prior to installation of footway services Excavation and trimming of subgrade After compaction of sub-base After compaction of base, and prior to sealing Establishment of line and level for kerb and gutter placement

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsoil drainage • Road pavement surfacing • Pavement test results (compaction, strength)
B	Drainage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After laying of pipes and prior to backfill • Pits after rendering openings and installation of step irons
C	Erosion and Sedimentation Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to installation of erosion measures
D	All Development and/or Subdivision Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical completion
E	Road Openings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upon completion of works.

Design New Road to Engineering Standard

- 10) The proposed new road in Stage 2 of the development is to be designed in accordance with the requirements of *Coonamble Shire Council*.

Construct Road Shoulder, Kerb and Gutter

- 11) The road shoulder along the Yarran and Reid Street (proposed lots 7 and 20), and lots 13 - 19) frontages are to be constructed and sealed, and the barrier kerbing and guttering is to be constructed, to include the provision of street drainage where necessary for the full frontage of Stage One works.
- 12) The road shoulder along the Reid Street (proposed lot 6) is to be constructed and sealed, and the barrier kerbing and guttering is to be constructed, to include the provision of street drainage where necessary for the full frontage of Stage Two works.

Site Management

- 13) The site shall be managed so that:
- a) No additional filling shall be placed on the land which may impede the flow of flood waters,
 - b) Any clearing or drainage activities shall not alter the drainage patterns across the site
 - c) No landscaping or similar type structures shall be installed which will inhibit the flow of flood waters

- d) Any plant or goods stored upon the site shall be stored in a manner which will not allow pollution of flood waters
- e) All actions shall be taken upon the site which will minimise the effect of the property upon the flood waters.

Reticulation – Subdivision

- 14) The construction of water and sewer reticulation is to take place to service each residential lot and, where required the open space lot.

Easement for Sewer

- 15) The final plan of survey is to show an easement for sewer over all lots affected and in favour of Council. The easement is to be a minimum of 3 metres wide.

Environmental Site Management

- 16) There is to be no burning of waste material, felled trees or other material on the site.

Erosion and Sedimentation Control

- 17) Erosion and sediment control measures are to be established prior to commencement of construction for each stage of the development and maintained to prevent silt and sediment escaping the site or producing erosion. This work must be carried out and maintained in accordance with the Dept Housing – Soil and Water Management for Urban Development (The Blue Book).

Note: All erosion and sediment control measures must be in place prior to earthworks commencing.

Approved Hours of Construction

- 18) Construction work may only be undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Protection Authority – Draft Construction Noise Guideline as identified below:

Day	Hours
Monday to Friday	0700 to 1800
Saturday	0800 to 1300
Sunday or Public Holiday	No Work

Dust Suppression

- 19) The applicant will ensure that all machinery and traffic movement areas are continually watered down when in use in order to prevent raised dust from becoming a nuisance to neighbouring properties.

Waste

- 20) All waste associated with the construction works is to be appropriately collected, stored and disposed of at an approved waste facility.

PART E – REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO ISSUE OF SUBDIVISION CERTIFICATE

Subdivision Certificate Required

- 21) A Subdivision Certificate, pursuant to section 6.3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, as amended must be obtained from Council for each stage of the development, prior to its lodgement with Land Registry Services.

The Final Plan of Survey must be submitted to Council via the NSW Planning Portal.

Note: Council will only consider issuing a Subdivision Certificate in relation to this subdivision when it is satisfied that all conditions of development consent relevant to each stage have been complied with.

The development (each lot) shall be serviced with electricity, water and telecommunications and prior to the issue of a subdivision certificate the following documents shall be submitted to Council to demonstrate that the requirements of the public utility services have been met:

- a) Essential Energy: Notification of Arrangement OR Certificate of Acceptance
- b) Relevant Communications Authority: Notification of Arrangement OR Certificate of Acceptance

Electrical and Telecommunication Authorities – Subdivision

- 22) The developer is to furnish Council with documentary evidence that arrangements have been made, satisfactory to the appropriate electrical authority and the appropriate telecommunications authority, for the provision of street lighting and/or for the provision of electrical power and/or telephone lines, respectively, to serve each lot.

Works As Executed Plan

- 23) The applicant is to submit to Council an electronic copy of the works as executed plan for works for each stage of the subdivision. The plans are to be in .DWG format.

Note: The provision of a table of works as executed plan which details: the distance from the centre of the downstream manhole/pit to each sideline, house connection, and dead end; the depths to invert; and the length of such sidelines.

Note: The provision of information on the works as executed plans which details: road levels, road crossfalls and longitudinal grades.

Creation of Easements

- 24) The development will require the creation of an easement under Section 88B of the *Conveyancing Act 1919*:
- a) Stage 1: For drainage of sewage through proposed Lots 7, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 & 20.
 - b) Stage 2: For drainage of sewage through proposed Lots 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6.

Access

- 25) Designated access/egress driveways are required to be installed to service all proposed allotments prior to the release of the relevant subdivision certificate for each stage. All access/egress driveways shall be a minimum of 6 metres wide and constructed as concrete vehicular access. The driveways shall be constructed to the satisfaction of Council for the life of the development and must be constructed in accordance with Council requirements.

Reasons for Conditions:

Development Application No: 031/2024 was assessed using current procedures developed by the Coonamble Shire Council and other resource information. This includes:

- The requirements of Section 4.15 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* which states:

Section 4.15 Matters for consideration – general

In determining a development application, a consent authority is to take into consideration such of the following matters as are of relevance to the development the subject of the development application:

- (a) the provisions of:*
 - (i) any environmental planning instrument, and*
 - (ii) any draft environmental planning instrument that is or has been placed on public exhibition and details of which have been notified to the consent authority, and*
 - (iii) any development control plan, and*
 - (iv) any matters prescribed by the regulations that apply to the land to which the development application relates*
 - (b) the likely impacts of that development, including environmental impacts on both the natural and built environments and social and economic impacts in the locality,*
 - (c) the suitability of the site for the development,*
 - (d) any submissions made in accordance with this Act or the regulations,*
 - (e) the public interest.*
- The requirements of the Coonamble Local Environmental Plan 2011.
 - Field inspection and liaison between officers of the Coonamble Shire Council.

10.14 WASTE MANAGEMENT REPORT MAY 2025**File Number:** G 1-1**Author:** Janelle Whitehead-Manager Waste, Recycling & Employment**Authoriser:** Barry Broe, Director Community, Planning, Development and Environment**Annexures:** Nil**PURPOSE**

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Both delivery of existing operations and system improvements are continuing across the Shire.

Implementation of re-cycling is continuing to reduce landfill deposits and keep existing resources circulating within the economy, thereby reducing the need to use new resources.

BACKGROUND

Council is continuing to operate and improve the three waste facility sites at Coonamble, Gulargambone, and Quambone, and provide waste collection services.

There are many new initiatives in terms of services and facilities that could be implemented in waste. The focus is on a staged, fundable, and manageable roll-out of initiatives that is well communicated and efficiently delivered.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

All actions and strategies related to waste and the environment.

(b) Financial Considerations

Funding is needed to meet the ongoing operational costs, Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) compliance, purchase of plant and equipment and implementation of any new initiatives.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

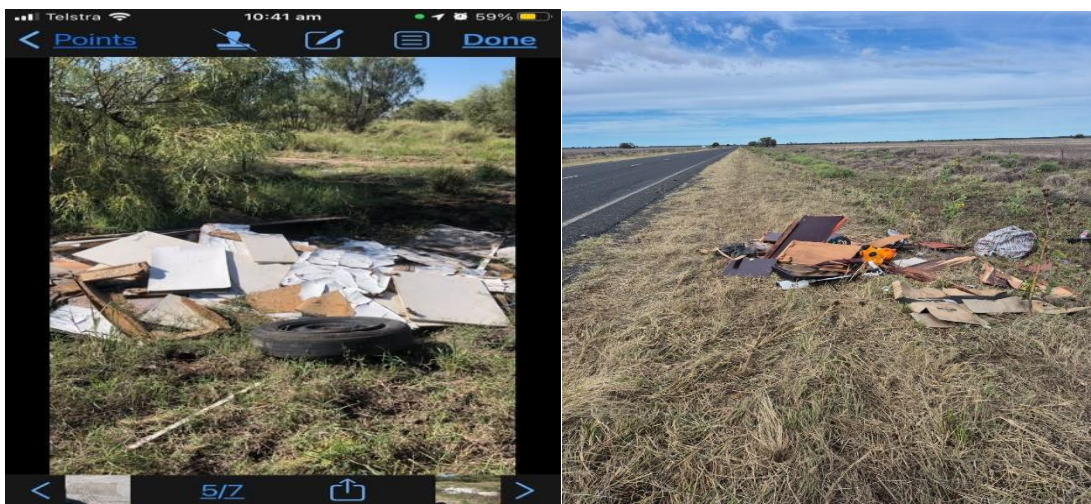
An analysis of the following key issues has been undertaken:

- *Addressing EPA compliance* – project started to clean up Stage 1 of the old landfill site using Caring for Country grant funding.
- *Recycling and tidying up* - Working with various contractors to remove a variety of waste products and get income, such as scrap metal, cardboard, eWaste, cash for cans, batteries and oils.
- *Focusing on cost and efficiencies* – e.g. how to operate the 3 stations cost-effectively, operating days & hours, staffing.
- *Community recycling centre* – one of the next strategic projects being planned. This will include moving to automatic counting of containers and finding a new location for it (existing shown below).



Illegal Dumping

Illegal dumping remains a real issue over the past weeks as illegal and potentially dangerous dumping of waste has occurred on roads, stock routes, Warana Weir, Mission sites and the Castlereagh River.



The old Tin Town site, Mary's hole and back Gular Road have been the latest target areas for dumping of household waste, asbestos and building materials. Both the Compliance section and waste management section will be working together to identify the culprits and clean up the sites.



RETURN & EARN 2024 & 2025						
	COONAMBLE		QUAMBONE		TOTAL	
Months	Total Bottles	Total Amount	Total Bottles	Total Amount	Total Bottles	Total Amount
June'2024	6,214	\$ 621.40			6,214	\$ 621.40
July'2024	58,508	\$ 5,850.80			58,508	\$ 5,850.80
August'2024	34,914	\$ 3,491.40	20,761	\$ 2,076.10	55,675	\$ 5,567.50
September'2024	66,092	\$ 6,609.20	20,440	\$ 2,044.00	86,532	\$ 8,653.20
October'2024	29,247	\$ 2,924.70	6,463	\$ 646.30	35,710	\$ 3,571.00
November'2024	37,275	\$ 3,727.50	5,837	\$ 583.70	43,112	\$ 4,311.20
December'2024	33,331	\$ 3,333.10	4,368	\$ 436.80	37,699	\$ 3,769.90
January'2025	64,856	\$ 6,485.60	4,222	\$ 422.20	69,078	\$ 6,907.80
February'2025	45,514	\$ 4,551.40	11,944	\$ 1,194.40	57,458	\$ 5,745.80
March'2025	50,343	\$ 5,034.30	4,395	\$ 439.50	54,738	\$ 5,473.80
April'2025	72,514	\$ 7,251.40	21,023	\$ 2,102.30	93,537	\$ 9,353.70
Grand Total	498,808	\$ 49,880.80	\$ 99,453.00	\$ 9,945.30	\$ 598,261.00	\$ 59,826.10

Return and Earn

Return and earn started in Coonamble and Quambone in June 2024. In the eleven months of operation residents have taken advantage of this initiative with 598,261 containers received and cash for the community of \$59,826.10.

Demand and Income

Coonamble statistics for April are shown below for the number of vehicles, tonnage and income.



Asbestos Pit

An asbestos pit is proposed at Coonamble to allow for friable and non-friable asbestos deposits. It will involve excavation of a large hole, secure fencing, and signage. It must adhere to EPA requirements of no visible emissions, triple wrapped and bagged, no leakage, no public access, covering of the waste within 24 hours of deposit and record keeping tracking all the deposits.



Drainage plan

A drainage management plan is needed to address the ponding at the main cell, and address compound and all-weather access issues. Implementing a cell drainage plan

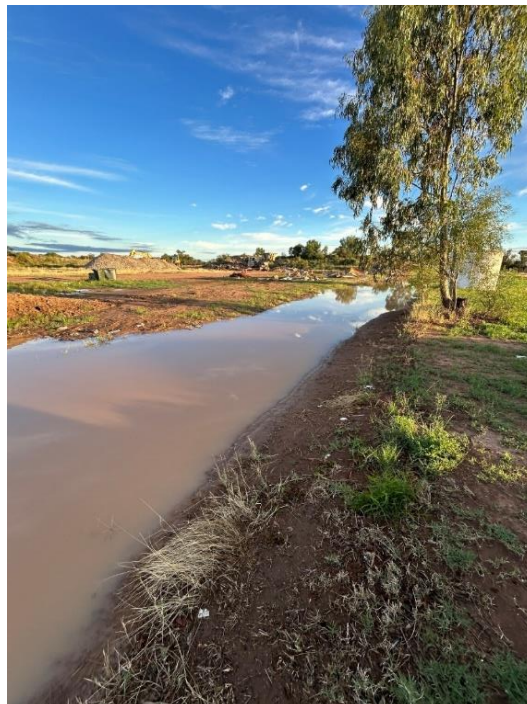
is now a priority to eliminate leaching and water ponding in the active cell. The original storage dam also needs attention.

This is a requirement of the EPA planning compliance and water testing.

We have implemented a makeshift drain to capture excess water from weather events, but this is not compliant because it is only a short-term solution to capture the run-off during weather events.

Assistance will be sourced over the coming weeks to scope what work is needed and estimate the cost.

These problems arose because of uneven earthworks causing ponding, capping of the previous landfill cells and lack of management plans.



Weighbridge

The focus is presently on heavy loads only because we need to capture data correctly and charge accordingly. There have been some IT glitches which are being worked on. Staff and the community continue to work together providing information on how it works and explain the fees and charges.

One key issue we need to resolve will be deciding whether to set the charges based only on weight (tonnes), or a mix of tonnes and volume depending on the item. Currently all our pricing is subjective based on volume (cubic metres) or item count.

For example, if we charge a standard amount by weight for cardboard and plastics, the amount would be quite low and would risk losing revenue and not covering our costs. An option of all charging by tonnes is possible, with the charges varying depending on the nature of the waste.

Regardless, key principles should be efficient, fair and consistent pricing – charges reflecting the cost to us of dealing with the waste as much as possible, consistency across different waste items.

What can be deposited free currently - batteries, oils, drums, aluminium, e-waste (computers, TVS, printers etc), light globes, eligible plastic bottles, cans, poppers through return and earn, residential green waste and scrap metal, white goods with electrical cords cut off, gas bottles with bung removed.

**Security cameras installed**

Cameras have been now installed around the compound at the entry, exit and all dump sites.



Cell maintenance

After the easter long weekend a huge amount of rubbish required additional compacting and covering of the landfill cell, for which we have used mulch and a mix of materials on site. Over the past 12 months we are recording all deposits to the cell which are increasing, especially long weekend and school holidays.



Green waste

Green waste has speedily built up since mulching was completed in March.

The new green waste site including signage has been established into the new loop system bringing together a circular drop off system.



Scrap Metal

We are increasing our scrap metal stockpile again (as you can see from the photo), which includes steel reinforcing from our concrete crushing, sheep yards and general community deposits. Old car bodies and steel from the old tip site which will be removed and stored in readiness for an end of financial year pickup planned for June 30.



Old landfill site

Stage 1 of the Caring for Country project will be completed by the end of May.

Coonamble waste staff and VERTO Wake Up Shake up participants have been involved in scoping the project, ordering materials and supplies, securing the site, and preparing a safe work area.

Site clean-up has included removal of vegetation, tree trimming, fence removal and replacement of entrance fence, re-establishment of boundary signage and general clean up.

Participants have gained skills, built capacity, worked in a team, gained job ready hands-on experience, including training plant operations and hand tools. All staff have gained their tickets and qualifications that can now be utilised for future projects.





(a) Governance/Policy Implications

Updated policies and procedures need to be reviewed and updated, especially as more change and new initiatives are implemented, and new staff are employed.

(b) Legal Implications

Council needs to meet all laws and regulations including environmental, safety and health.

(c) Social Implications

Continuous engagement with the community and education is ongoing to explain the required changes and encourage recycling.

(d) Environmental Implications

Council needs to actively work to maintain a clear focus on protecting the environment surrounding each of the landfill sites and waste facilities and achieve EPA compliance.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

Council needs to actively work to avoid financial penalties. Assets must also be well managed to minimise whole of life costs. Also ensuring budgets and resources are reviewed and effectively managed and initiatives are staged in a manageable and fundable way.

(f) Risk Implications

The main risks that must be well managed are health and safety, environmental, costs and public satisfaction with the services.

Fees and charges must reflect the cost of the services being provided – user pays is the key principle.

CONCLUSION

The key activities of the waste operations have continued within the Waste Section for the past month with continuous improvement being implemented across all sites and services.

RECOMMENDATION

That the monthly report on waste management activities be received and noted.

10.15 YOUTH ACCOMMODATION PROJECT

File Number: 1.2

Author: Barry Broe-Director Community, Planning, Development and Environment

Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager

Annexures: 1. Youth Accommodation Operations Plan  

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the Youth Accommodation project, and in particular the plan for its operation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Delivery of the project is continuing with work on both sites scheduled to start in May. Initial discussions with the relevant agencies have helped identify a preferred operating model for the operations.

BACKGROUND

Council was successful in receiving grant funding of \$1.55m through the 'Our Region, Our Voice' Regional Youth Investment Program in December 2022.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

P1: Community Services and Wellbeing.

P1.3 Create safe places, spaces and feelings.

(b) Financial Considerations

The original tendered price by both tenderers exceeded the grant funding.

COMMENTARY

Background

The Youth Transitional Accommodation Project in Coonamble and Gulargambone aims to provide medium-term housing for young people aged 18–24 who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of it.

This initiative offers a stable and supported environment to assist young people in regaining stability, accessing essential services, and transitioning into long-term housing. *It is transitional, not crisis accommodation (i.e. short stay).*

- 2 x 2-Bedroom / 2-Bathroom units in Yarran Street, Coonamble
- 1 x 3-Bedroom / 2-Bathroom units in Kirban Street, Gulargambone

Contractor

The contractor is Valley View Projects, a builder who has several years' experience in construction with the U Panel modular wall system in the Hunter and Sydney areas. In addition to Valley View Projects, Ultimate Housing (owner of the U Panel product) is supporting the project to promote U Panels as a lower cost alternative to traditional build methods and its use as a solution to the housing problem.

Operations Plan

The key stakeholders were contacted, and initial meetings held in early April. They included Mission Australia, Orana Support Service and the Department of Communities and Justice.

The grant department was also contacted to clarify its requirements. The grant body is quite flexible about how the operations work. Their requirement is to spend the grant on time and acquit it.

The grant body has confirmed that there is no separate funding for operations.

A joint meeting was held on 28 April 2025. Out of these discussions the preferred operating model for the youth accommodation was clarified as described below.

The purpose is to provide transitional accommodation for young people (aged 18 to 24 years). The accommodation units are principally for the housing, in critical and crisis situations, of young people (aged 18 to 24 years) of the Coonamble Local Government Area (LGA).

The stay is transitional (up to 6 months), not crisis (short stay of a few days).

The Council will choose one service provider (the Service Provider or case manager). Mission Australia is currently the contracted service provider to the Department.

Council will also select a Community Housing Provider (CHP) whose role will be to be the real estate agent for the property.

The roles of the three parties are summarised below and covered in more detail in the attachment.

Key Partners

- Coonamble Shire Council – Property owner and headlease facilitator.
- Community Housing Provider (CHP) – Headlease holder, property manager, and tenancy administrator.
- Service Provider– Responsible for tenancy referrals, case management, and ongoing support for young residents. This will be Mission Australia, as the departmental contracted provider.

Council Responsibilities

- Appoint a Community Housing Provider to manage the three units.
- Enter into a headlease agreement with the CHP.
- Cover building insurance as the property owner.
- Pay rates, water and sewerage charges, and maintain the building structure, lawns, and gardens.
- Collaborate with the CHP to determine a sustainable rent structure, based on affordability and cost recovery (if achievable).

Community Housing Provider Responsibilities

- Manage leases, rent collection, and overall financial administration.
- Charge a reasonable management fee for:
 - Lease preparation and execution.
 - Ongoing property and tenancy coordination.
- Maintain the following insurances:
 - Public liability.
 - Professional indemnity.
 - Contents insurance.
 - Damage coverage.
- Enter into a Service Provider Agreement with the service provider (Mission Australia), outlining shared responsibilities, coordination procedures, and dispute resolution pathways.

Service Provider Responsibilities

- Identify and refer eligible young people for accommodation.
- Submit tenancy applications to the CHP.
- Provide wraparound case management, including:
 - Support with education, training, and employment.
 - Mental health and wellbeing referrals.
 - Transition planning toward long-term housing.
- Monitor tenancy duration and progress and assist with extension or exit planning as needed.

All units are to be allocated exclusively to clients of the designated service provider.

The Service Provider Agreement is between the CHP and the Service Provider only.

Funding

We will need to secure budget for building maintenance and utility bills. This will be estimated based on the predicted costs less rental income. Also, it has yet to be determined whether the Service Provider will need separate funding.

Next Steps

1. Unit construction completed.
2. Coonamble Shire Council consults eligible CHPs and confirms selection of a Community Housing Provider.
3. Headlease agreement to be drafted and executed between Council and CHP.
4. Service Provider Agreement to be negotiated between CHP and Mission Australia.
5. Finalise rent structure and operational logistics.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

The tender process was undertaken in accordance with councils Procurement Policy and legislative requirements under section 55 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act).

(b) Legal Implications

Adhering to procurement procedures and policies reduces the likelihood of legal implications.

(c) Social Implications

Not providing the Youth accommodation has a negative impact on social outcomes.

(d) Environmental Implications

Environmental practices were assessed as part of the selection criteria.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

After a period of operation, the units could be returned to council for staff accommodation. If this occurs, council will have additional maintenance and renewal implications.

(f) Risk Implications

Delays may impact on completing the build by the grant completion date.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Receives and notes the status of the youth accommodation project.**
- 2. Notes the proposed operating plan and funding implications.**

Youth Transitional Accommodation - Operations Plan

Overview

The Youth Transitional Accommodation Project in Coonamble and Gulargambone aims to provide medium-term housing for young people aged 18–24 who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. This initiative offers a stable and supported environment to assist young people in regaining stability, accessing essential services, and transitioning into long-term housing. It is transitional, not crisis accommodation.

Key Partners

- Coonamble Shire Council – Property owner and headlease facilitator.
 - Community Housing Provider (CHP) – Headlease holder, property manager, and tenancy administrator.
 - Service Delivery Organisation– Responsible for tenancy referrals, case management, and ongoing support for young residents. This will be Mission Australia, as the departmental contracted provider
-

Council Responsibilities

- Appoint a Community Housing Provider to manage the three units.
 - Enter into a headlease agreement with the CHP.
 - Cover building insurance as the property owner.
 - Pay rates, water and sewerage charges, and maintain the building structure, lawns, and gardens.
 - Collaborate with the CHP to determine a sustainable rent structure, based on affordability and cost recovery.
-

Community Housing Provider Responsibilities

- Manage leases, rent collection, and overall financial administration.
- Charge a reasonable management fee for:

- Lease preparation and execution.
 - Ongoing property and tenancy coordination.
 - Maintain the following insurances:
 - Public liability
 - Professional indemnity
 - Contents insurance
 - Damage coverage
 - Enter into a Service Delivery Agreement with the service provider (Mission Australia), outlining shared responsibilities, coordination procedures, and dispute resolution pathways.
-

Service Provider Responsibilities

- Identify and refer eligible young people for accommodation.
- Submit tenancy applications to the CHP.
- Provide wraparound case management, including:
 - Support with education, training, and employment
 - Mental health and wellbeing referrals
 - Transition planning toward long-term housing
- Monitor tenancy duration and progress and assist with extension or exit planning as needed.

All units are to be allocated exclusively to clients of the designated service provider.

The Service Delivery Agreement is between the CHP and the Service Provider only.

Tenancy Terms

- Initial lease period: 3 or 6 months
- Extension option: Additional time, if appropriate long-term housing has not yet been secured

- Maximum tenancy duration: 6 months, unless otherwise agreed between the CHP and service provider
-




Rent Structure

When council is calculating rent, the following factors must be considered:

- Affordability: Rent to be capped at 25% of each young person's income.
 - CHP operational costs, including property management and insurances.
 - Other relevant administrative expenses necessary for sustainable tenancy management.
-

Next Steps

1. Unit construction is completed
 2. Coonamble Shire Council consults eligible CHPs and confirms selection of a Community Housing Provider.
 3. Headlease agreement to be drafted and executed between Council and CHP.
 4. Service Delivery Agreement to be negotiated between CHP and Mission Australia, the Service Provider.
 5. Finalise rent structure and operational logistics.
 6. Secure budget for building maintenance and utility bills
 7. Commence project mobilisation, including tenant intake planning and stakeholder coordination.
-

10.16 BORE BATH PROJECT**File Number:** 1.1**Author:** Barry Broe-Director Community, Planning, Development and Environment**Authoriser:** Paul Gallagher, General Manager**Annexures:**
1. Concept Plan [↓](#) 
2. Variation Request [↓](#) 
3. Revised Budget [↓](#) **PURPOSE**

To report on the status of the project and proposed next steps in developing it.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Work is progressing on the bore bath project at the golf course site.

A grant variation request has been submitted seeking more time and approval to change the site.

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

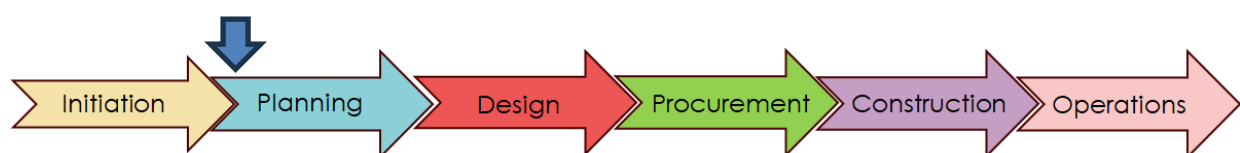
The main strategic links are about economic development and tourism.

(b) Financial Considerations

Council has secured a \$5.5m grant and allocated \$1.25m in its budget.

COMMENTARY

The project will be developed in logical stages as follows:



The first step as part of the project initiation stage was to produce a project plan to set it off on the right footing with clear definition.

The core purpose is to build a public free to use artesian bore bath facility. The next key priority is some accommodation.

There are two scenarios that are linked to the grant:

- If we keep the grant of \$5.5m – then maintain most of the current scope to satisfy the grant body requirements but reduce the current scope to match the funds available (currently \$6.05m).
- If we lose the grant – de-scope to just a bore bath and essential supporting infrastructure to match Council funds.

Until the grant variation is submitted and decided on, we will not know what funding is available for the project in order to settle on the scope.

Grant variation

The grant variation application submitted on 17 April requested:

- Extra time (to end of 2026).
- Reduced scope (to fit the \$6.05m).
- New site.

The scope must include some accommodation (e.g. cabins), and possibly a basic manager's facility and amenities building. The variation request is attached, along with the revised budget.

An update meeting was held with the department on 7 May 2025. The discussion was positive.

Recent progress

- A Project Control Group has been established and the first meeting held.
- A 12-month access licence has been obtained from the Board to conduct site investigations.
- An initial concept plan produced (see below).
- Initial productive discussions with the current Crown Land Manager (CLM) on the plan for the site.
- Some initial consultancies started for key work – bore design, water recycling management plan, survey, Review of Environmental Factors (REF).
- Process to become Crown Land managers started with discussions held with Crown Lands in Dubbo and the current CLM.
- Land Advisory Services appointed to manage the land acquisition process.



Funding

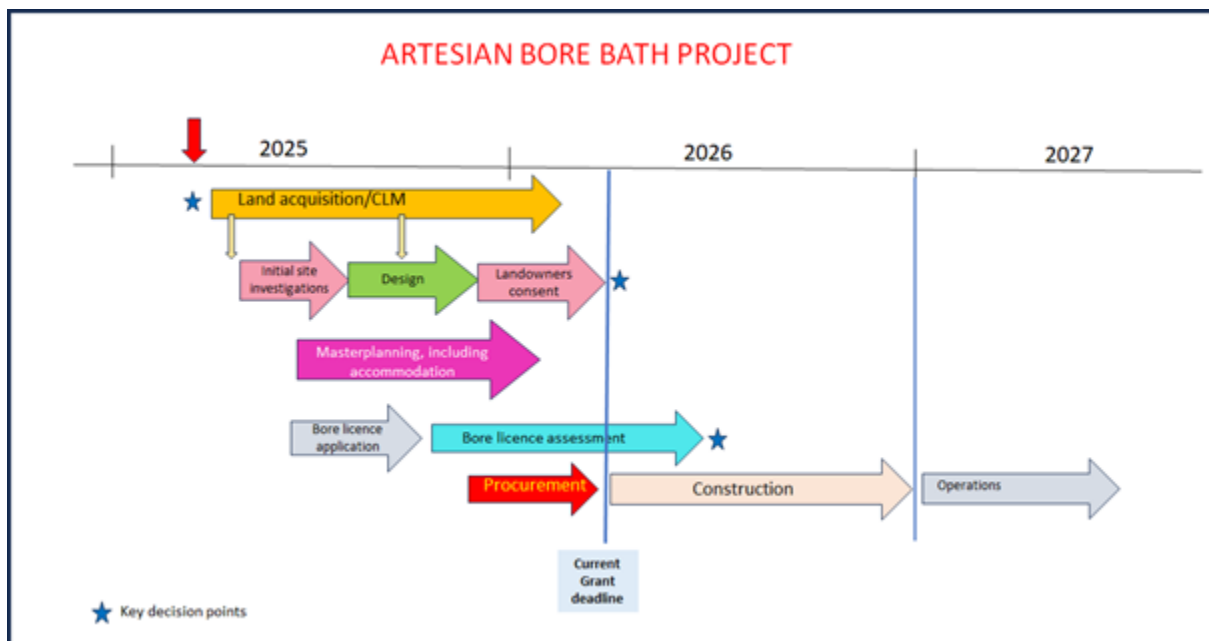
There is around \$550k left out of the \$1.25m Council allocation for the project. If we retain the full grant, it is expected that the Grant body will still require our \$1.25m co-

contribution. If the grant is lost, Council will need to decide on keeping the project going, its scope and funding.

Program

An indicative strategic program is below, based on completing construction by the end of 2026. The critical path activities are:

- The Crown Land Manager process.
- Site investigations - survey, geotechnical work, REF.
- Bore design, bore bath design and wastewater treatment design.
- Amended bore licence application.
- Master-planning, including accommodation, RV parking.



(a) Governance/Policy Implications

The project is a key initiative in the Community Strategic Plan.

(b) Legal Implications

All laws and regulations relevant to the project will be followed. Proper processes and probity need to be adopted in procurement along with development.

(c) Social Implications

There would be major social benefits to the community.

(d) Environmental Implications

The project needs to be designed to have a positive impact on the environment with effective landscaping and green spaces. All project impacts must be mitigated.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

Council would own the assets built on the site. Council will be required to fund future maintenance and renewal costs.

(f) Risk Implications

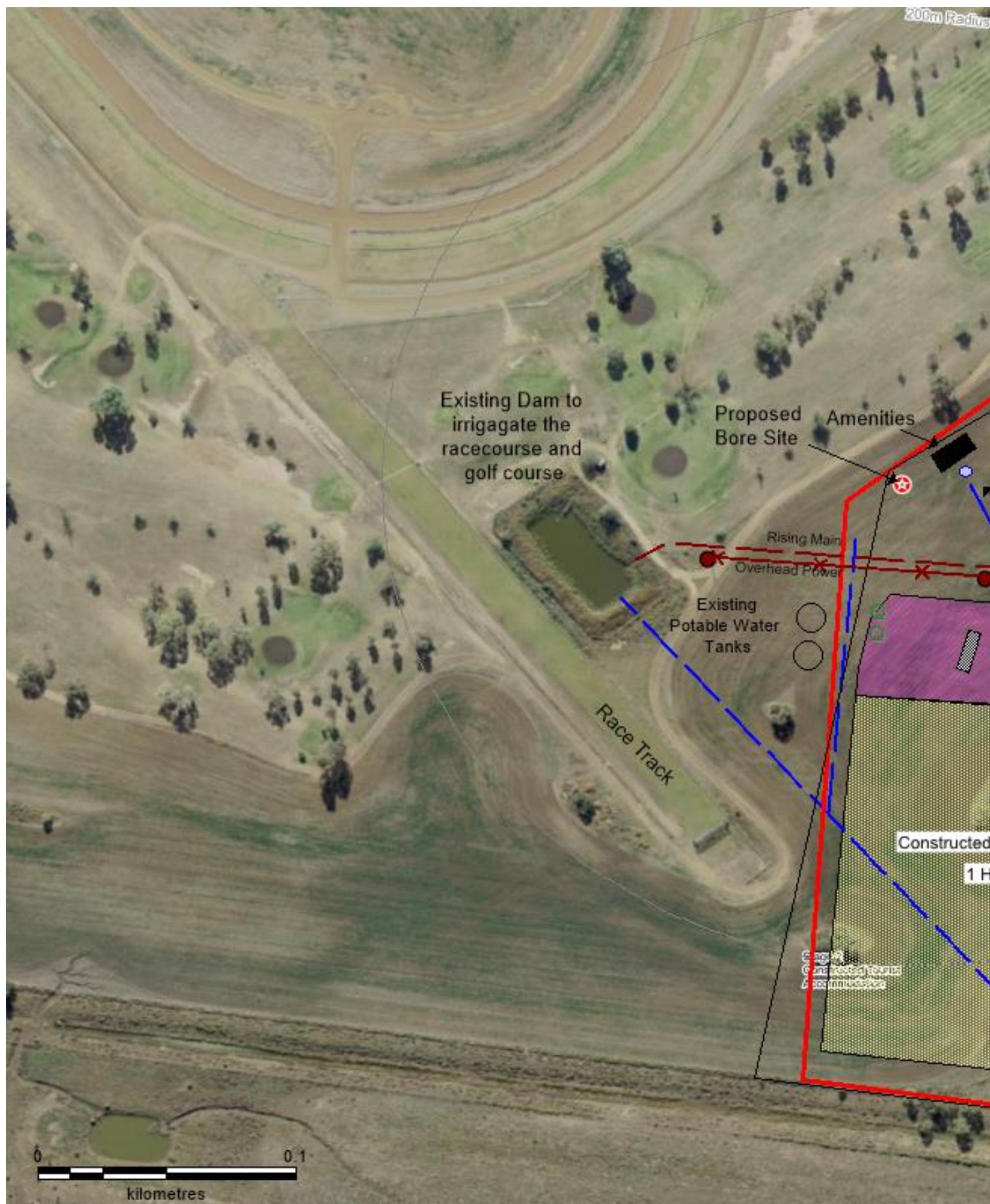
Like any complex major project there are different risks associated with it that will need to be managed – e.g. cost, land tenure, environmental.

CONCLUSION

The grant variation has been submitted and we are awaiting the outcome. Progress has been made getting the project work done on the new site.

RECOMMENDATION**That Council:**

- 1. Notes the status of the Bore Bath Project and the work already done to get the project progressing on the new site.**
- 2. Notes the grant variation request submitted.**



COONAMBLE SHIRE

CONCEPT PLAN 3 – Coonamble Area

Regional Tourism Activation Fund Round 2**RTAF - Project Variation Request Form****Application No. RTAF2 - 0068 From Coonamble Shire Council**

Organisation: Coonamble Shire Council

Form Submitted 17 Apr 2025, 9:52AM AEST

- a deliverable program, with construction starting in the first quarter of 2026
- an experienced consultant appointed at the start of the project (The Proterra group)
- wastewater treatment design at the start (the Achilles heel of some projects)
- a risk register and risk management plan
- a 12 month access licence obtained from the Board to conduct site investigations
- Council being in control and not unduly swayed by a PPP driven approach and Belgravia's ambitions
- an initial concept plan that is helping discussions to build in ownership (e.g. with the Board, Council)
- a project site large enough to facilitate longer term expansion and staging
- a simpler project that can be broken into attractive packages for construction procurement
- Land Advisory Services appointed to manage the land acquisition process
- greater community and stakeholder support

Key issues that became apparent as the previous project progressed have been addressed. For example, wastewater treatment was not properly accounted for in the original business case and project development, or in the budget.

A comprehensive project plan has been produced and is guiding the project. It is attached for reference. The Council reviewed and noted it during the April meeting.

The process of Council becoming Crown Land Managers is underway, with discussions held with Crown Lands in Dubbo and the current Crown Land Managers. On 16 April, the Coonamble Racecourse & Recreation Land Manager granted Council a 12 month short term licence to access the site for site investigations (see attached). This response was very quick and positive.

The process to acquire the land will occur in parallel with the CLM process and therefore not hold up project delivery. Land Advisory Services has been appointed for this work. The process to become Crown Land Manager and obtain works consent will be far quicker and is more certain.

Discussions have been very productive so far with the current CLM, as the current Board is supportive of the project and eager to assist. We do not anticipate any issues with landowner consent for works that might delay the project.

A lead consultant has been appointed to conduct and coordinate all the work, including the initial critical path tasks:

- Site investigations, geotechnical analysis, and the Review of Environmental factors (REF) – starting in the next 1-2 weeks
- Design of the bore, bore bath, and wastewater treatment system – starting April
- Master planning for the site layout, including accommodation, amenities, landscaping, traffic management, roads, parking, and camping – starting now

This consultant, the Proterra Group, has extensive experience with bore baths (e.g. Collarenebri), especially work with Walgett Council. They have stated that all the planning and design work can be done in two months. They will be a one stop shop, coordinating all the work in an integrated way.

The goal is to submit the additional information for the amended bore application by the end of May, as agreed with DPIE. This was discussed again with DPIE on 14 April. They advised that the previous Hydrological Study is sufficient.

The aim is to secure an approved Plan of Management and finalise the land subdivision by the end of September.

Regional Tourism Activation Fund Round 2

RTAF - Project Variation Request Form

Application No. RTAF2 - 0068 From Coonamble Shire Council

Organisation: Coonamble Shire Council

Form Submitted 17 Apr 2025, 9:52AM AEST

Following that, we plan to submit the landowner consent application for the works by the end of November 2025.

A parallel land acquisition application will also be prepared and submitted, with assistance from Land Advisory Services, who previously worked on the golf course site.

An initial concept plan for the new site is attached, which is being used to inform the amended bore licence application, project design, discussions with the current Crown Land Manager, and the Council.

Finally, an updated budget of \$6.6 million is attached, reflecting the \$5.5 million grant and the Council's remaining \$1.1 million from its \$1.25 million co-contribution.

Please include a detailed reason for your request i.e. cause of delays, reason for scope change, how project savings were achieved.

I confirm my co-contributions will align with any changes I have requested *

☒ Yes

☐ Not Applicable

Applies to stream 1 which requires 25% cash co-contribution of the total grant amount

Time Extension

Please list works completed to date

Business case
Site investigations
Hydrological study
Site clearing
Wastewater treatment planning
Land Acquisition

What Activity date(s) are changing? *

- ☒ Activity 1 (works you will complete with your first payment)
- ☒ Activity 2 (works you will complete with your second payment)
- ☒ Activity 3 (works you will complete with your third payment)
- ☒ Activity 4 (works you will complete with your fourth payment)

Select all that apply and list new date(s) below

New Activity Completion Dates

New Activity 1 Date New Activity 2 Date New Activity 3 Date New Activity 4 Date

02/06/2025

21/11/2025

09/02/2026

11/12/2026

Must be a date.

Must be a date.

Must be a date.

Must be a date.

Upload a revised project plan and any supporting documents for your time extension request *

Regional Tourism Activation Fund Round 2

RTAF - Project Variation Request Form

Application No. RTAF2 - 0068 From Coonamble Shire Council

Organisation: Coonamble Shire Council
Form Submitted 17 Apr 2025, 9:52AM AEST

Filename: 20250415 Concept Plan 2 (002).docx

File size: 1.8 MB

Filename: BB Updated Budget 16 April 2025.xlsx

File size: 12.2 kB

Filename: Bore Bath Program.pptx

File size: 42.3 kB

Filename: Bore Bath Project Plan.pdf

File size: 561.1 kB

Filename: Copy of 20250414 RTAF Project Plan Template (002).xlsx

File size: 23.2 kB

Please click on the link for a template of the Project Plan - [RTAF Project Plan Template](#)

Change of Scope

Approved Deliverables

List deliverables as set out in the Funding Deed or previously approved Variation

Bore bath

Accommodation

RV parking

Amenities building

Revised Deliverables

List revised deliverables being requested through this variation.

Project mobilised and all work activities in place will be delivered

Design completed

Procurement started

Construction started

Construction completed

Will this request impact the agreed activity completion dates? *

- ☐ No - dates remain the same as previously agreed
- ☒ Yes - project activity dates WILL change - (please fill in Time Extension section of this form)

Budget impacts of requested scope change *

- ☒ The scope change doesn't impact the approved total project budget
- ☐ The approved total project budget will increase and the Organisation agrees to cover any overspends

Upload a revised project budget and any other supporting documents for your scope change request *

Filename: BB Updated Budget 16 April 2025.xlsx

File size: 12.2 kB

Filename: Bore Bath Program April 2025.pdf

File size: 81.4 kB

Regional Tourism Activation Fund Round 2

RTAF - Project Variation Request Form

Application No. RTAF2 - 0068 From Coonamble Shire Council

Organisation: Coonamble Shire Council
Form Submitted 17 Apr 2025, 9:52AM AEST

Filename: Bore Bath RTAF Project Plan Template.xlsx

File size: 22.7 kB

Files should be no larger than 5mb per file. You may attach new quotes, updated project budget, updated project plan etc.

Please click on the link for a template of the Project Budget - [RTAF Project Budget Template](#)

Change of Project Location

Original Project Location	River Rd Coonamble NSW 2829 Australia
New location	Coonamble Racecourse site, Caswell Street, Coonamble
What is the distance between the original and new locations?	4.2km km
Has Landowner changed since original application? *	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Project Location Information

Who owns the land where your project will be delivered? *

- ☐ Private Land
- ☐ Local Council
- ☒ NSW Government
- ☐ Commonwealth Government
- ☐ Other: Crown Land

Do you require property or landowner's consent to deliver your project at the new location? *

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

E.g. If you are building a physical structure or holding an event you will need written landowner's consent that agrees to the use of the location for the project (e.g. by email or letter).

Please attach your property or landowner's consent here

Filename: Bore bath site access licence.pdf

File size: 320.2 kB

A maximum of 1 file may be attached. Please name your file: e.g. Landowner consent - RTAFxxxxx

Applicant's Details

Name of Authorised Person applying for the Variation *

Barry Broe

Regional Tourism Activation Fund Round 2
RTAF - Project Variation Request Form
Application No. RTAF2 - 0068 From Coonamble Shire Council
Organisation: Coonamble Shire Council
Form Submitted 17 Apr 2025, 9:52AM AEST

Position of Authorised Person applying for the Variation *
Director CPD&E

Email of Authorised Person applying for the Variation *
b.broe@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au
Must be an email address.

Phone Number of Authorised Person applying for the Variation *
0418 513 674
Must be an Australian phone number.

Bore Bath Updated Budget 16 April 2025**Bore and bore bath**

Bore	350000
Bath	220000

Wastewater treatment

Constructed wetlands	1120000
Pipe	270000
Pump	250000

Accommodation

1 Bedsit transportable cabin	240000
1 Bedroom transportable cabin	305000
2 Bedroom transportable cabin	367000

Site Preparation	80000
-------------------------	-------

Service connections

Water	50000
Sewer (Assuming a Pump Station not required)	90000
Electricity	250000

Amenities	450000
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Parking and roads (includes the highway treatment)	700000
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Kerb and Gutter	170000
------------------------	--------

Footpaths	150000
------------------	--------

Total	5062000
Risk and continency 30%	1518600

Total Budget	6580600
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10.17 STATUS OF INVESTMENTS - APRIL 2025

File Number: Investments General - I5
Author: Imogen Pawley-Finance Assistant
Authoriser: Bruce Quarmby, Director Corporate Services
Annexures: 1. Imperium report [↓](#) 

PURPOSE

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

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

L1.4.10 Maintain long term financial viability.

(b) Financial Considerations

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

COMMENTARY

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

The attached Investment Report was calculated on 02 May 2025 after all maturing dates for investments had passed.

The total Capital Value of Investments as of 02 May is \$20,750,000. This is broken down with \$19,750,000 invested in term deposits as shown in the attached report, with \$1,000,000 in at call savings accounts.

The main arrears of expenditure are seen in the below table:

Water & Sewer –	\$92,642
Quarry -	\$95,331
Transport –	\$823,251
Special Projects –	
Crisis Accommodation	\$164,423
Sportsgrounds Amenities	\$135,828
Youth Empowerment	\$222,750
Urban Services –	\$30,525
Contributions –	
RFS	\$183,888
Library	\$75,884
Plant -	\$113,704
Waste operations -	\$130,831

Of these payments \$1,176,720 will be either funded through Grants or reimbursed to Council.

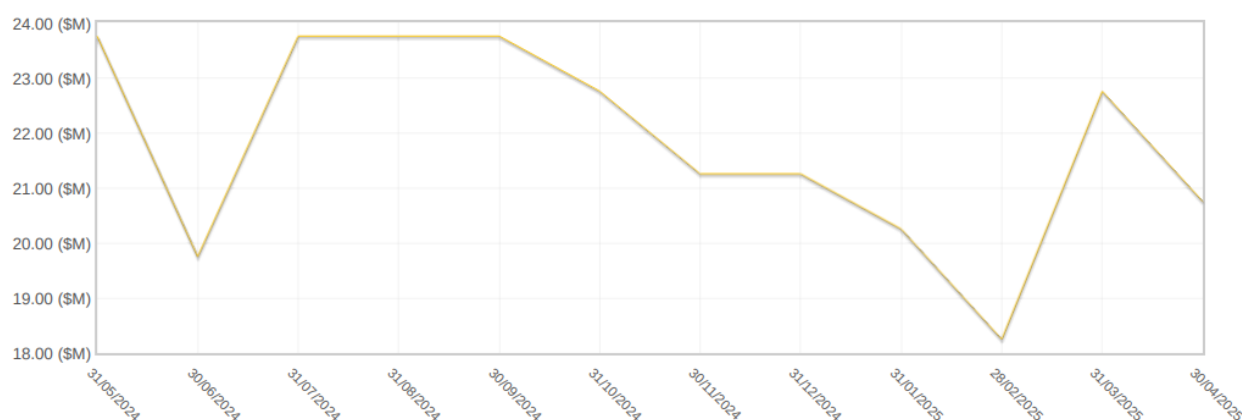
Council has acquitted the following grants of which we are expecting the payment to be received in the near future. Once these funds have been received Council anticipates reinvesting in accordance with our Investment Policy.

Dept of Infrastructure and Regional Development	LRCI – Phase 1	\$81,913
Dept of Infrastructure and Regional Development	LRCI – Phase 2	\$39,465
Dept of Infrastructure and Regional Development	LRCI – Phase 3	\$929,818
Department of Climate Change and Energy	SSWP403 – Milestone 2	\$101,250
Department of Climate change and Energy	ASOP2304-cble Milestone 2	\$50,000
Dept Of Primary Industries and Regional Development	Infrastructure Betterment Fund	\$227,284
Dept of Infrastructure and Regional Development	Coonamble Sports Ground	\$135,000
NSW Office of Sport	All Welcome to Play – Female Amenities	\$432,828

Council is continuing to work towards recovering all grant receivable outstanding.

Historical Portfolio Balances as at 30/04/2025

31/05/2024	30/06/2024	31/07/2024	31/08/2024	30/09/2024	31/10/2024	30/11/2024	31/12/2024	31/01/2025	28/02/2025	31/03/2025	30/04/2025
23.75	19.75	23.75	23.75	23.75	22.75	21.25	21.25	20.25	18.25	22.75	20.75



N.B please note the above graph does not include the \$1,000,000 currently invested in the on-call account as mentioned previously in this report.

AVAILABLE WORKING FUNDS

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

As per the recently completed 2023/2024 Annual Financial Statement the balance of unrestricted cash has been calculated at \$450,000.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

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

(b) Legal Implications

As the authoriser of the report, Council's responsible accounting officer has certified that all investments continue to be made in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993, the Regulations* and Council's Investment Policy.

(c) Social Implications

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

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

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

(f) Risk Implications

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

CONCLUSION

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

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the list of investments from 1 April 2025 to 30 April 2025 and that these investments comply with section 625(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* and Council's Investment Policy.



Investment Report

01/04/2025 to 30/04/2025

Portfolio Valuation as at 30/04/2025

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
Commonwealth Bank	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	04/11/2024	05/05/2025	4.8700	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	47,499.18	8,005.48
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	06/02/2025	15/05/2025	4.8900	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	11,253.70	4,019.18
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	03/02/2025	03/06/2025	4.7400	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	22,596.16	7,791.78
Suncorp Bank	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	12/12/2024	12/06/2025	5.0500	500,000.00	500,000.00	9,684.93	2,075.34
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	18/03/2025	18/06/2025	4.7500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	11,452.05	7,808.22
Suncorp Bank	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	09/12/2024	09/07/2025	5.0800	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	19,902.47	4,175.34
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	14/03/2025	17/07/2025	4.7000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	6,180.82	3,863.01
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	06/03/2025	06/08/2025	4.7000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	7,210.96	3,863.01
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	28/03/2025	28/08/2025	4.7500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	8,849.32	7,808.22
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	02/12/2024	02/09/2025	5.0500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	20,753.42	4,150.68
AMP Bank	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/04/2025	07/10/2025	4.5000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	2,958.90	2,958.90
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	24/10/2024	24/10/2025	5.1000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	26,408.22	4,191.78
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	28/10/2024	28/10/2025	5.0700	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	25,697.26	4,167.12
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	04/11/2024	04/11/2025	5.0900	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	24,822.47	4,183.56
Unity Bank	Unrated	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	18/11/2024	18/11/2025	5.0000	250,000.00	250,000.00	5,616.44	1,027.40
IMB Bank	BBB+	FRTD	GENERAL	Quarterly	06/08/2024	06/08/2026	4.7600	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	10,954.52	3,912.33
IMB Bank	BBB+	FRTD	GENERAL	Quarterly	16/01/2025	17/01/2028	4.7000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	1,931.51	1,931.51
Commonwealth Bank	A-1+	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	30/04/2025	30/04/2025	0.0000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-	-
TOTALS								20,750,000.00	20,750,000.00	263,772.33	75,932.88

Portfolio by Asset as at 30/04/2025

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	Monthly	30/04/2025	30/04/2025	0.0000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-	-
CASH SUBTOTALS								1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-	-

Asset Type: TD

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
Commonwealth Bank	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	04/11/2024	05/05/2025	4.8700	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	47,499.18	8,005.48
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	06/02/2025	15/05/2025	4.8900	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	11,253.70	4,019.18
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	03/02/2025	03/06/2025	4.7400	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	22,596.16	7,791.78
Suncorp Bank	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	12/12/2024	12/06/2025	5.0500	500,000.00	500,000.00	9,684.93	2,075.34
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	18/03/2025	18/06/2025	4.7500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	11,452.05	7,808.22
Suncorp Bank	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	09/12/2024	09/07/2025	5.0800	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	19,902.47	4,175.34
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	14/03/2025	17/07/2025	4.7000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	6,180.82	3,863.01
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	06/03/2025	06/08/2025	4.7000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	7,210.96	3,863.01
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	28/03/2025	28/08/2025	4.7500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	8,849.32	7,808.22
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	02/12/2024	02/09/2025	5.0500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	20,753.42	4,150.68
AMP Bank	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/04/2025	07/10/2025	4.5000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	2,958.90	2,958.90

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	24/10/2024	24/10/2025	5.1000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	26,408.22	4,191.78
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	28/10/2024	28/10/2025	5.0700	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	25,697.26	4,167.12
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	04/11/2024	04/11/2025	5.0900	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	24,822.47	4,183.56
Unity Bank	Unrated	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	18/11/2024	18/11/2025	5.0000	250,000.00	250,000.00	5,616.44	1,027.40
TD SUBTOTALS								17,750,000.00	17,750,000.00	250,886.30	70,089.04

Asset Type: FRTD

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
IMB Bank	BBB+	FRTD	GENERAL	Quarterly	06/08/2024	06/08/2026	4.7600	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	10,954.52	3,912.33
IMB Bank	BBB+	FRTD	GENERAL	Quarterly	16/01/2025	17/01/2028	4.7000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	1,931.51	1,931.51
FRTD SUBTOTALS								2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	12,886.03	5,843.84

Portfolio by Asset Totals as at 30/04/2025

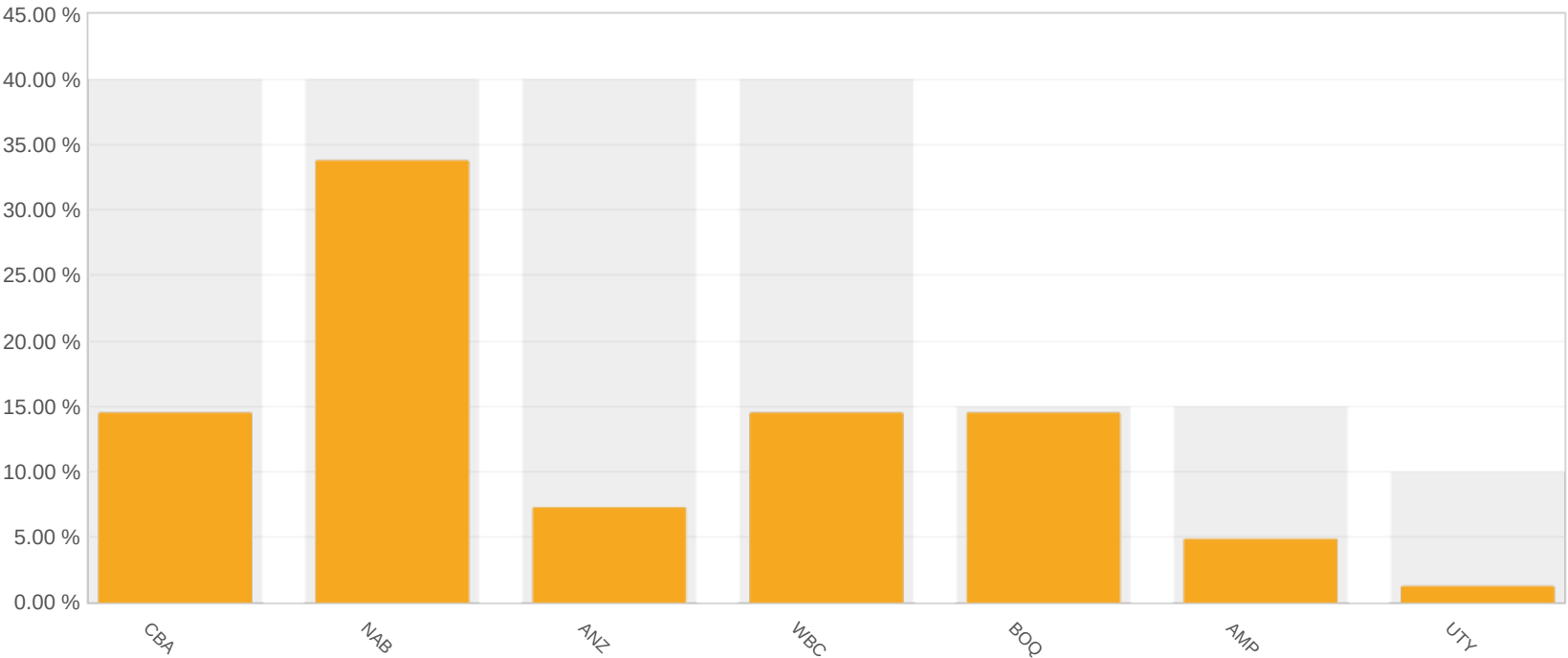
Type	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
CASH	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-	-
TD	17,750,000.00	17,750,000.00	250,886.30	70,089.04
FRTD	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	12,886.03	5,843.84
TOTALS	20,750,000.00	20,750,000.00	263,772.33	75,932.88

Counterparty Compliance as at 30/04/2025

Short Term Investments

Compliant	Bank Group	Term	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Limit (\$)	Available (\$)
✓	Commonwealth Bank	Short	A-1+	3,000,000.00	14.46	40.00	-	5,300,000.00
✓	NAB	Short	A-1+	7,000,000.00	33.73	40.00	-	1,300,000.00
✓	ANZ Bank	Short	A-1+	1,500,000.00	7.23	40.00	-	6,800,000.00
✓	Westpac	Short	A-1+	3,000,000.00	14.46	40.00	-	5,300,000.00
✓	BOQ	Short	A-2	3,000,000.00	14.46	15.00	-	112,500.00
✓	AMP Bank	Short	A-2	1,000,000.00	4.82	15.00	-	2,112,500.00
✓	Unity Bank	Short	Unrated	250,000.00	1.21	10.00	-	1,825,000.00
TOTALS				18,750,000.00	90.36			

Counterparty Compliance - Short Term Investments





Long Term Investments

Compliant	Bank Group	Term	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Limit (\$)	Available (\$)
	IMB Bank	Long	BBB+	2,000,000.00	9.64	15.00	-	1,112,500.00
TOTALS				2,000,000.00	9.64			



Counterparty Compliance - Long Term Investments



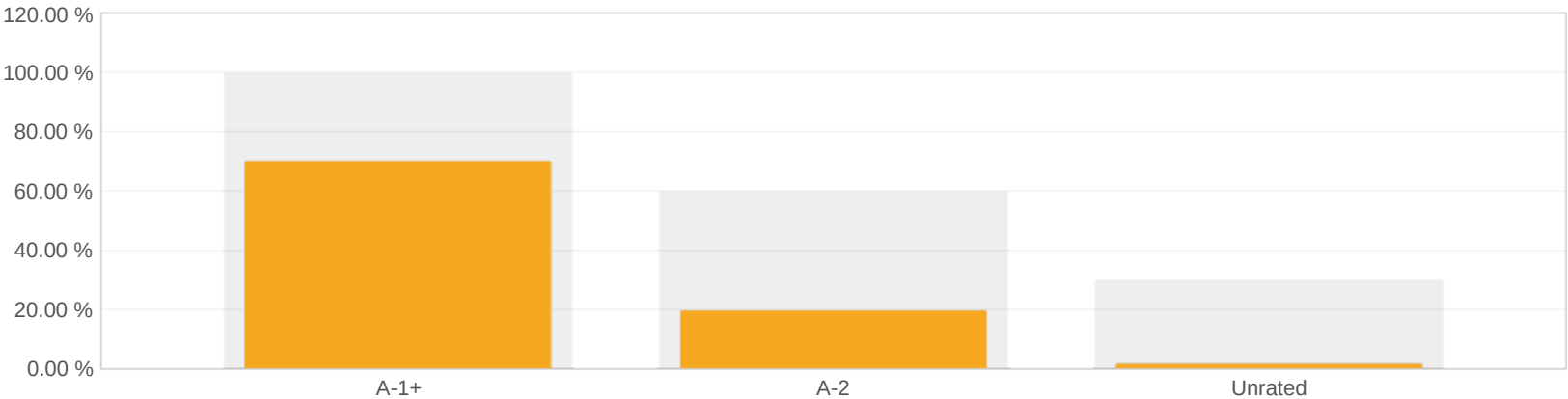


Credit Quality Compliance as at 30/04/2025

Short Term Investments

Compliant	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	A-1+	14,500,000.00	69.88	100.00	6,250,000.00
✓	A-2	4,000,000.00	19.28	60.00	8,450,000.00
✓	Unrated	250,000.00	1.21	30.00	5,975,000.00
TOTALS		18,750,000.00	90.36		

Credit Quality Compliance - Short Term Investments

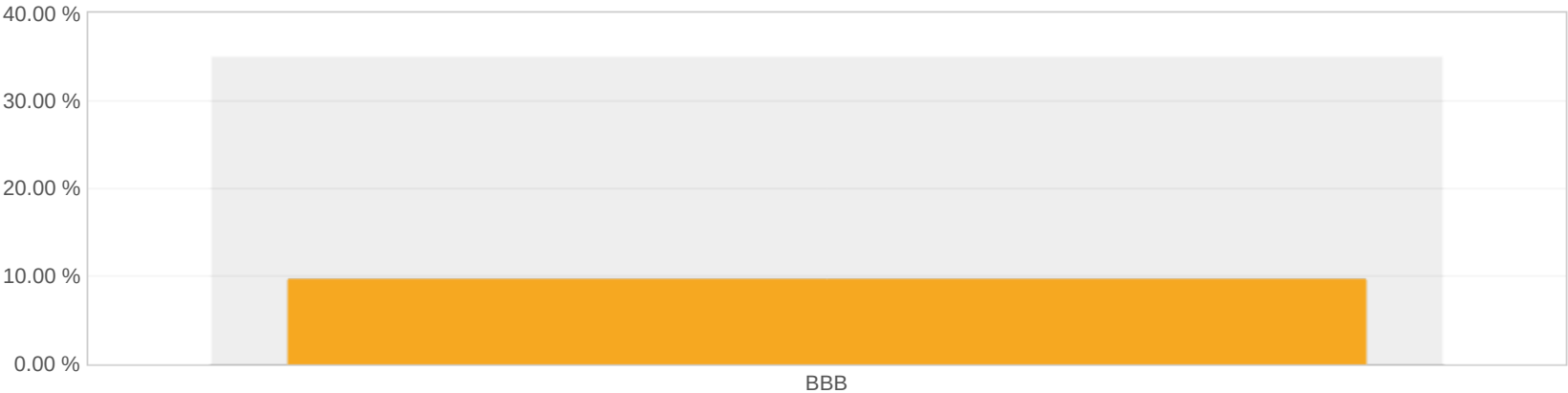




Long Term Investments

Compliant	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	BBB	2,000,000.00	9.64	35.00	5,262,500.00
TOTALS		2,000,000.00	9.64		

Credit Quality Compliance - Long Term Investments

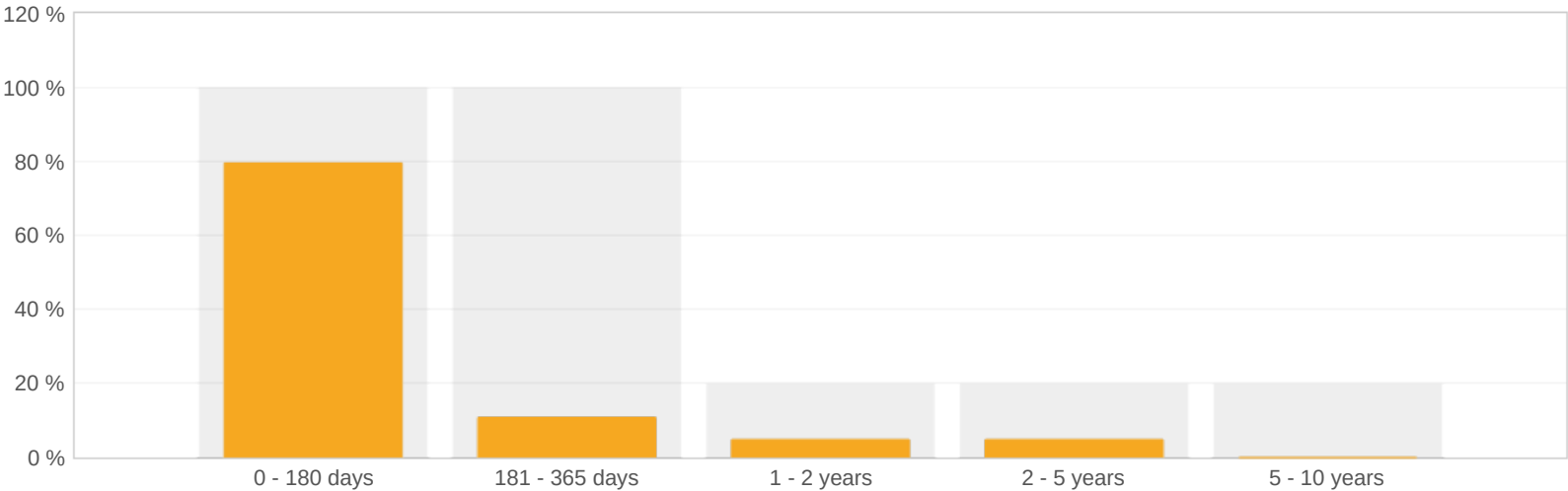




Maturity Compliance as at 30/04/2025

Compliant	Term	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Min Limit (%)	Max Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	0 - 180 days	16,500,000.00	79.52	0.00	100.00	4,250,000.00
✓	181 - 365 days	2,250,000.00	10.84	0.00	100.00	18,500,000.00
✓	1 - 2 years	1,000,000.00	4.82	0.00	20.00	3,150,000.00
✓	2 - 5 years	1,000,000.00	4.82	0.00	20.00	3,150,000.00
✓	5 - 10 years	-	0.00	0.00	20.00	4,150,000.00
TOTALS		20,750,000.00	100.00			

Maturity Compliance



Portfolio Comparison

From: 31/03/2025 To: 30/04/2025

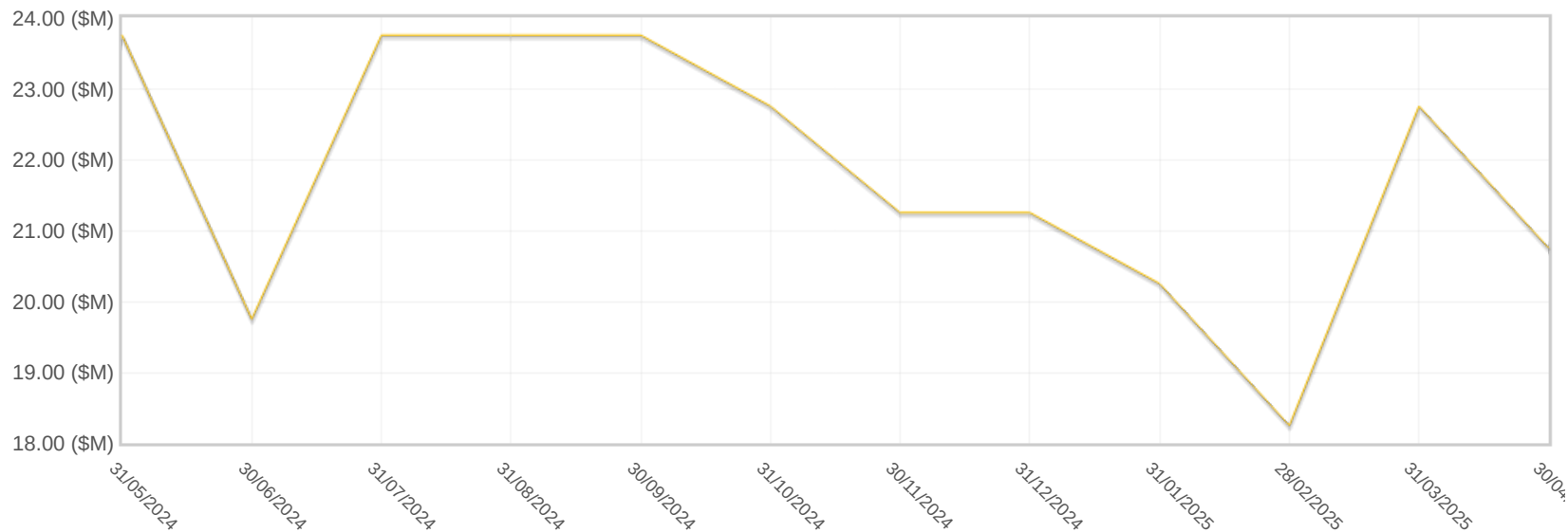
Issuer	Rating	Type	Rate (%)	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Interest (%)	31/03/2025 (\$)	30/04/2025 (\$)	Difference (\$)
Westpac	A-1+	TD	5.0300	06/11/2024	07/04/2025	At Maturity	1,000,000.00	-	-1,000,000.00
NAB	A-1+	TD	5.0000	11/09/2024	11/04/2025	At Maturity	1,500,000.00	-	-1,500,000.00
Commonwealth Bank	A-1+	TD	4.8700	04/11/2024	05/05/2025	At Maturity	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	-
NAB	A-1+	TD	4.8900	06/02/2025	15/05/2025	At Maturity	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-
BOQ	A-2	TD	4.7400	03/02/2025	03/06/2025	At Maturity	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	-
Suncorp Bank	A-1+	TD	5.0500	12/12/2024	12/06/2025	At Maturity	500,000.00	500,000.00	-
NAB	A-1+	TD	4.7500	18/03/2025	18/06/2025	At Maturity	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	-
Suncorp Bank	A-1+	TD	5.0800	09/12/2024	09/07/2025	At Maturity	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-
NAB	A-1+	TD	4.7000	14/03/2025	17/07/2025	At Maturity	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-
NAB	A-1+	TD	4.7000	06/03/2025	06/08/2025	At Maturity	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-
NAB	A-1+	TD	4.7500	28/03/2025	28/08/2025	At Maturity	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	-
BOQ	A-2	TD	5.0500	02/12/2024	02/09/2025	At Maturity	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-
AMP Bank	A-2	TD	4.5000	07/04/2025	07/10/2025	At Maturity	-	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
Westpac	A-1+	TD	5.1000	24/10/2024	24/10/2025	At Maturity	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-
Westpac	A-1+	TD	5.0700	28/10/2024	28/10/2025	At Maturity	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-
Westpac	A-1+	TD	5.0900	04/11/2024	04/11/2025	At Maturity	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-
Unity Bank	Unrated	TD	5.0000	18/11/2024	18/11/2025	At Maturity	250,000.00	250,000.00	-



Issuer	Rating	Type	Rate (%)	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Interest (%)	31/03/2025 (\$)	30/04/2025 (\$)	Difference (\$)
IMB Bank	BBB+	FRTD	4.7600	06/08/2024	06/08/2026	Quarterly	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-
IMB Bank	BBB+	FRTD	5.0400	16/01/2025	17/01/2028	Quarterly	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-
Commonwealth Bank	A-1+	CASH	0.0000	31/03/2025	31/03/2025	Monthly	1,500,000.00	1,000,000.00	-500,000.00
TOTALS							22,750,000.00	20,750,000.00	-2,000,000.00

Historical Portfolio Balances as at 30/04/2025

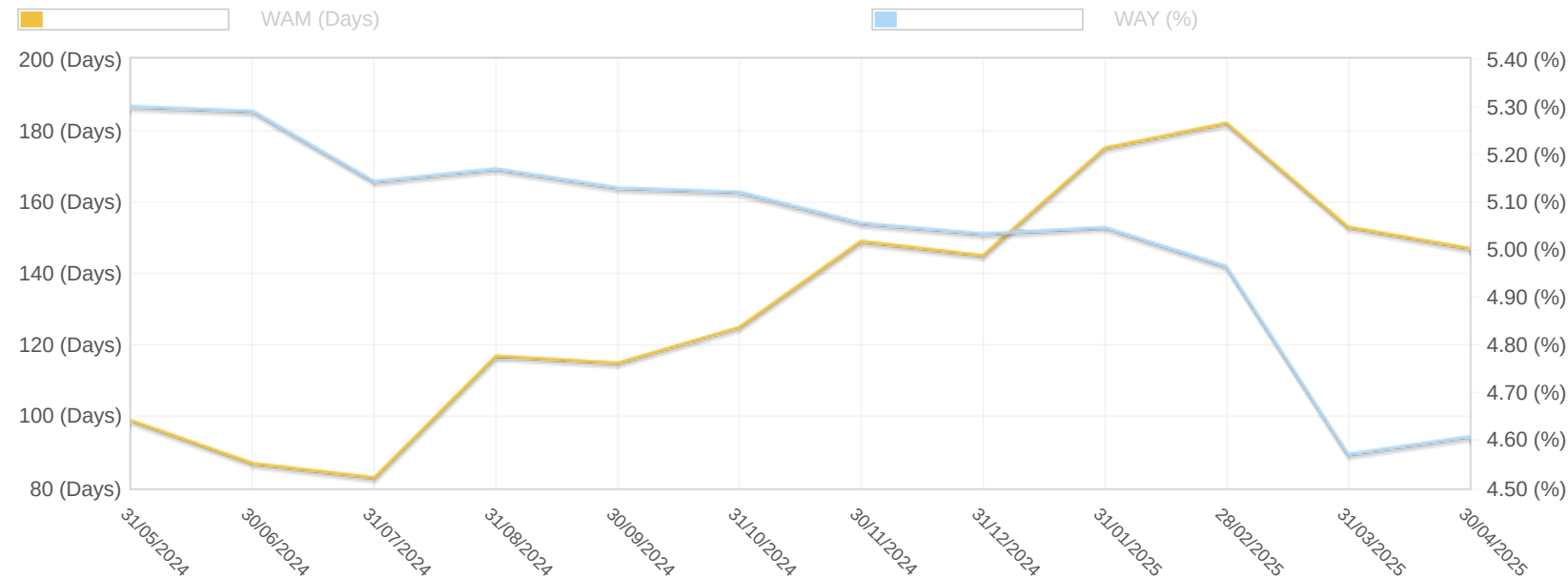
31/05/2024	30/06/2024	31/07/2024	31/08/2024	30/09/2024	31/10/2024	30/11/2024	31/12/2024	31/01/2025	28/02/2025	31/03/2025	30/04/2025
23.75	19.75	23.75	23.75	23.75	22.75	21.25	21.25	20.25	18.25	22.75	20.75





Historical Ratios as at 30/04/2025

	31/05/2024	30/06/2024	31/07/2024	31/08/2024	30/09/2024	31/10/2024	30/11/2024	31/12/2024	31/01/2025	28/02/2025	31/03/2025	30/04/2025
WAM (Days)	99	87	83	117	115	125	149	145	175	182	153	147
WAY (%)	5.2994	5.2897	5.1424	5.1689	5.1293	5.1201	5.0553	5.0332	5.0467	4.9647	4.5716	4.6089



10.18 RATES AND CHARGES COLLECTIONS - APRIL 2025**File Number:** Rates - General - R4**Author:** Kylie Fletcher, Revenue Officer**Authoriser:** Bruce Quarmby, Director Corporate Services**Annexures:** Nil**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to be updated with the most recent information pertaining to its rates and charges collections – as applicable to the month of April 2025.

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

The annual rate charges are set out within Council's 2024 / 25 Operational Plan.

(b) Financial Considerations

The annual rate charges are set out within Council's 2024 / 25 Operational Plan.

	30 April 2025	29 April 2024
Rates and Charges	\$2,848,870.36	\$2,905,494.16
Water Consumption	\$ 13,890.39	\$ 696,340.17
Total	\$2,862,760.75	\$3,601,834.33

COMMENTARY**Rates and Charges**

	30 April 2025	29 April 2024
Rates and charges in arrears as at 30 June 2024	\$1,431,587.79	\$1,173,804.02
Rates/charges levied & adjustments for 2024/25	\$8,632,399.44	\$8,028,732.82
Pension Concession	-\$ 101,357.19	-\$ 103,966.48
Amounts collected as at 30 April 2025	-\$7,113,759.68	-\$6,193,076.20
Total Rates and Charges to be Collected	\$2,848,870.36	\$2,905,494.16

The amount levied for rates and charges for 2024 / 25 includes the current year's annual rates and charges and any interest added since the date the rates notices were issued. The amount received as of 30 April 2025 includes receipts for both arrears and the current year's amounts outstanding.

It should be noted that the rates and charges 2024 / 25 levied amount is reduced by the pensioner concession of \$101,357.19; reducing the amount of income derived

from these rates and charges. Of this concession, Council's contribution is 45%, which represents an amount of \$45,610.73.

The rates and charges as of 30 April 2025 represent 28.31% of the total annual rates and charges levied and outstanding (compared with 31.57% on 29 April 2024).

Water Consumption Charges

	28 March 2025	31 March 2024
Water Consumption Charges and arrears as at 30 June 2024	\$621,860.35	\$ 393,023.85
Water Consumption charges & adjustments 2024 / 25 year to date	-\$ 33,878.50	\$1,155,781.03
June 2024 Adjustments	-\$ 77,123.00	
Amounts collected as at 28 March 2025	-\$496,968.46	-\$ 852,464.71
Total Water Consumption Charges to be Collected	\$ 13,809.39	\$ 696,340.17

The water consumption charges as of 30 April 2025 represents 2.72% of the total water consumption charges outstanding (compared to 44.96% on 29 April 2024). Council will note the main variation between the two financial years is the difference in the water consumption charges levied, i.e. for this financial year being the 2024/25 financial year, at the time of writing this report Council was yet to generate user pays water accounts.

Debt Recovery Agency

During April 2025 Council staff have continued to liaise with Council's debt recovery agency with a view to continuing Council's process outlined within Council adopted Debt recovery policy. These actions have contributed to the improvement in the collections of monies owed to Council.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

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

(b) Legal Implications

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

(c) Social Implications

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

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report. However, it needs to be acknowledged that the additional increase in the cost of living could have an impact on Council's ability to collect its rates and charges.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

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

(f) Risk Implications

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

CONCLUSION

The rates and charges as of 30 April 2025 represent 28.31% of the total annual rates and charges levied and outstanding from previous years by Council (compared with 31.57% on 29 April 2024).

The water consumption charges as of 30 April 2025 represent 2.72% of the total water consumption charges outstanding from previous years (compared to 44.96% on 29 April 2024).

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the information provided in the rates and charges collections report.

10.19 INVESTMENT POLICY**File Number: Policies - P15****Author: Bruce Quarmby, Director Corporate Services****Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager****Annexures: 1. Investment Policy** [↓](#) **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to present the draft Investment Policy, along with any submission received, for Council's consideration and adoption.

BACKGROUND

At the March 2025 meeting a draft Investment Policy was tabled for Council's consideration and adoption. At this meeting Council passed the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 2025/73

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

That Council:

- 1. Notes the information in this report.**
- 2. Places the draft Investment Policy, as attached to the report, on public exhibition for a period of 28 days for the purpose of inviting submissions from the community.**
- 3. Requests the Director Corporate Services to present a further report, together with all submissions received, to Council at the conclusion of the public exhibition period for Council's further consideration and adoption of the Investment Policy (with or without changes) at its May 2025 Ordinary Meeting.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

In compliance with the above resolution, the draft policy was placed on public exhibition for a period of twenty-eight (28) days, with submissions invited from the community until 5.00pm on 22 April 2025.

A copy of the revised Investment Policy has been attached as an annexure to this report.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

L1.4.4 Governance is open and transparent.

L1.4.5 Review Council policies.

(b) Financial Considerations

Whilst the Income received from Council's Investment portfolio has improved over the past number of years due to the series of interest rate hikes, Council's overall Cash and Investment Portfolio has declined in value to represent 63.92% of Council's current assets as at the 30 June 2024.

COMMENTARY

Following the close of the public exhibition period, no submissions were received by Council. A further check of Council records on 28 April 2025 revealed that no late submissions were received.

Council will note that there have been no further amendments carried out to the revised draft Investment Policy, as tabled.

The revised Investment Policy seeks to achieve a balance of strengthening the level of detail and information contained within the policy, whilst not becoming overly complicated that it negatively impacts on Council's operational efficiency.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

Once adopted by Council, the revised Investment Policy will become a policy of Council.

(b) Legal Implications

The revised policy has been designed to ensure legislative compliance with the various Acts and Regulations that govern this function of Council.

(c) Social Implications

There are no social implications directly attached to this report.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising directly from this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

In placing investments, Council staff need to consider the cash flow requirements of Council for both the maintenance and renewal of Council assets.

(f) Risk Implications

The revised Investment Policy, as attached, provides guidance on the key risk management criteria that must be considered prior to the placement of investments by Council staff.

CONCLUSION

Council's Investment Policy has been reviewed and amended to ensure compliance with both legislative and operational requirements. The amendments to the policy have been designed to address the shortcomings identified by Council staff, whilst taking into consideration current best practise philosophy.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council notes the information contained in this report.**
- 2. That Council adopts the revised Investment Policy, as attached to the May 2025 report.**
- 3. That Council notes no submissions were received from the public in relation to this policy.**

1. BACKGROUND

Council has a responsibility to maintain effective control over funds that are surplus to Council's immediate requirements and to ensure that Council's representatives exercise the care, diligence and skill that a prudent person would exercise in investing those funds.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for investment of Council's funds. The policy establishes a series of limits within which Council officers must operate in the planning, and process, of investing Council monies. In setting these limits Council is determining the general level of risk that is acceptable for monies managed on trust for the community of Coonamble.

3. POLICY OBJECTIVE

To provide a framework for the investing of Council's funds at the most favourable rate of interest available to it at the time whilst having due consideration of risk and security for that investment type and ensuring that its liquidity requirements are being met.

While exercising the power to invest, consideration is to be given to the preservation of capital, liquidity, and the return of investment.

- Preservation of capital is the principal objective of the investment portfolio. Investments are to be placed in a manner that seeks to ensure security and safeguarding the investment portfolio. This includes managing credit and interest rate risk within identified thresholds and parameters.
- Managing Council's liquidity. Investments are to be allocated to ensure there is sufficient liquidity to meet all reasonably anticipated cash flow requirements, as and when they fall due, without incurring the risk of significant costs due to the unanticipated sale of an investment.
- Maximising returns within Council's risk appetite as outlined in this policy. Investments are expected to achieve a market average rate of return in line with Council's risk tolerance.

4. LEGISLATION

All investments are to comply with the following:

- *Local Government Act 1993.*
- Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.
- Ministerial Investment Order - in accordance with the most recently published Order.
- Office of Local Investment Policy Guidelines.
- Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.
- Australia Accounting Standards.
- Office of Local Government Circulars; and
- The Trustee Amendment (Discretionary Investments) Act 1997.

5. APPLICATION/SCOPE

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

Authority for implementation of the Investment Policy may be delegated by Council to the General Manager in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*.

The General Manager can delegate the day-to-day management of Council's investments to the Director of Corporate Services who will manage the function with the assistance from the relevant Finance Staff.

Officers with delegated authority to manage Council's investments shall be recorded and required to acknowledge they have received a copy of this policy and understand their obligations in this role.

6. POLICY

6.1 PRUDENT PERSON STANDARD

The investments will be managed with the care, diligence, and skill that a prudent person would exercise. As trustees of public monies, officers are to manage Council's investment portfolios to safeguard the portfolios in accordance with this Investment Policy, and not for speculative purposes.

6.2 ETHICS AND CONFLICTS OF INTERST

Officers shall refrain from personal activities that would conflict with the property execution and management of Council's investment portfolio. This policy requires officers to disclose any conflict of interest to the General Manager.

Independent Advisors are also required to declare that they have no actual or perceived conflicts of interest.

6.3 APPROVED INVESTMENTS

Officers' delegated authority to manage Council's investments is limited to investments allowed by the Ministerial investment Order and include:

- Commonwealth/State/Territory Government security e.g., bonds.
- Interest bearing deposits issued by an authorised deposit-taking institution.
- Bills of exchange, (<200 days duration). Guaranteed by an authorised deposit-taking institution.
- Debentures issued by NSW Local Government.
- NSW Treasury Corporation

6.4 PROHIBITED INVESTMENTS

This investment policy prohibits any investment carried out for speculative purposes including:

- Derivative based instruments.
- Principal only investments or securities that provide potentially nil or negative cash flow; and
- Standalone securities issued that have underlying futures, options, forwards contracts and swaps of any kind.

This policy also prohibits the use of leveraging (borrowing to invest) of an investment or investments that are themselves leveraged.

6.5 RISK MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

The following key criteria must be considered prior to placing investments:

- **Preservation of Capital** – the requirement for precenting losses in an investment portfolio's capital value.

- **Diversification** – the requirement to place investments in a broad range of products so as not to be over exposed to a particular sector of the investment market.
- **Credit Risk** – the risk that a product that Council has invested in fails to pay the interest and or repay the principal of an investment.
- **Market Risk** – the risk that the fair value or future cash flows (Market Value) of an investment will fluctuate due to changes in market prices, or benchmark returns will unexpectedly overtake the investments return.
- **Liquidity Risk** – the risk an investor is unable to redeem the investment at a fair price within a timely period.
- **Maturity Risk** – the risk relating to the length of term to maturity of the investment. The longer the term, the greater the length of exposure and risk to market volatilities.
- **Reinvestment Risk** – the risk that an investor will be unable to reinvest cashflows (e.g. coupon repayments) and maturity proceeds at a rate comparable to their current rate of return because interest rates are lower in the future, thereby resulting in a reduction of income over time.

6.6 COUNCIL'S ATTITUTDE TO RISK

All Coonamble Shire Council's investments must be made subject to the following minimum constraints:

- All investments must be of "investment grade" credit rating which implies that there is a **better than** "adequate" or "satisfactory" capacity to meet obligations.
- All investments should be dealt through reputable institutions with a Long-Term Credit rating as listed as per Table 1.
- All Investments must be for a period no longer than the period over which the underlying liability could reasonably be expected to arise.
- Where there is no identified underlying liability the term to maturity of the investments must no exceed 10 years.
- The investment portfolio must be managed in such a way that Council is able to meet its cash flow obligations at all times.
- Real returns must be reasonably matched so as to be compatible with the rising cost of the infrastructure or assets the investment is to fund.

- Preservation of the capital component of all investments must be the highest priority.

6.6 INVESTMENT GUIDELINES/STRATEGY

1. Quotations on Investments

Not less than three (3) quotations shall be obtained from authorised institutions when an investment is proposed and will be authorised by two signatories.

2. Assessment of Cashflow

Investments should be placed for a term which best suits the cashflow requirements of Council but for no longer than the period forecasted in the Long-Term Financial Plan, currently 10 years.

3. Preservation of Capital

a. Credit Risk

There are two types of Credit Ratings: Short-term ratings and Long-term credit ratings, N.B. The credit rating is as determined by Standard and Poor's, Fitch and Moody's.

Short-term credit ratings are an indication of the institutions capacity to meet short term financial commitments, i.e., less than 12 months.

Long-term credit ratings are an indication of the institutions capacity to meet financial commitment over the long term, i.e. greater than 12 months and generally apply to the rating of the institution.

b. Diversification Risk

The following tables represent the maximum allowable investment with any one Financial Institution.

Table 1:

Long term Credit rating	Short term credit rating	Portfolio limit (≤ 12-month investment)	Institution Limit (≤ 12-month investment)	Portfolio limit (> 12-month investment)	Institution Limit (>12-month investment)
AAA	A-1+	100%	60%	60%	50%
AA+ through AA-	A-1+	80%	60%	60%	40%
A+ through A-	A-1+	60%	40%	30%	35%

BBB+ to BBB	A2 to A	40%	20%	30%	15%
T CorpIM Funds		100%	100%	20%	100%

Where an institution is unrated (i.e. a Credit Union) but has a local presence (i.e. Coonamble Shire), after careful consideration of the financial capacity of the institution, investments will be placed within the limitation of the Rating of A + or -, and only for periods less than 12 months.

Investments in TCorpIM Funds are diversified in term of both counterparties and assets.

6.7 INVESTMENT ADVISOR

Council from time to time may seek independent advice from an approved and licenced investment Advisor as the office of Local Government Guidelines about the investment strategy and/or specific investments. This advice must be in writing.

The investment advisor must be approved by Council and licensed by the Australian Securities and Investment Commission. The advisor must be an independent person who has no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to investment products being recommended and is free to choose the most appropriate product within the terms and conditions of the investment policy.

The independent advisor is required to provide written confirmation that they do not have any actual or potential conflicts of interest in relation to the investments they are recommending to reviewing, including that they are not receiving any commission or other benefits in relation the investments being recommended or reviewed.

The NSW Government has provided a waiver to allow Council to engage NSW Treasury Corporation 9TCorp) in the provision of investment advice. This waiver is necessary as TCorp is not licensed by ASIC.

6.8 BENCHMARKING

Performance benchmarks need to be established and should be based on sound and consistent methodology. Council's investments will be benchmarked against the following indicators.

INVESTMENT	PERFORMANCE BENCHMARK
Cash	11am cash rate

Direct Investments	AFMA BBSW Rate: Average mid – 90 days
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AFMA – Australian Financial Markets Association

BBSW – Bank Bill Swap

6.9 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Documentary evidence must be held for each investment and details thereof maintained in an Investment Register. The documentary evidence must provide Council legal title to the investment.

Certificates must be obtained from the financial institutions confirming the amounts of investments held on Council's behalf as at 30 June each year and reconciled to the Investment Register.

All investments are to appropriately record in Council's financial records and reconciled at least on a monthly basis

A monthly report will be provided to Council. The report will detail the investment portfolio in term of performance, percentage exposure of total portfolio, maturity date and changes in market value.

The Investment Policy will be reviewed as required in the event of legislative changes. The Investment Policy may also be changed as a result of other amendments that are to the advantage of Council and in the spirit of the policy. Any amendment to the Investment Policy must be by way of Council resolution

6.10 REVIEW

Review of this policy will incorporate relevant legislation, documentation released from relevant state agencies and best practice guidelines.

The standard review period will be every two (2) years from the effective date, however, may occur sooner if there is a change in legislation, Accounting Standards or other relevant guidelines. The responsible Council officer will be notified of the review requirements three (3) months prior to the expiry of this policy.

7. DEFINITION

Term	Definition
Act	<i>Local Government Act 1993</i>
ADI	Authorised Deposit-Taking Institutions (ADIs) are corporations that are authorised under the Banking Act 1959 (Commonwealth) to take deposits from customers.
AusBond BBI	The Bank Bill Index represents the performance of a notional rolling parcel of bills averaging 45 days and is the widely used benchmark for local councils and other institutional cash investments.
Bill of Exchange	A Bill of Exchange is an unconditional order in writing, addressed by one person to another, signed by the person giving it, requiring the person to whom it is addressed to pay on demand, or at a fixed or determinable future time, a sum certain in money to or to the order of a specified person, or to bearer. These can be underwritten by banks, to become "bank bills" on which the benchmark return is calculated.
BBSW	The Bank Bill Swap reference rate (BBSW) is the midpoint of the nationally observed best bid and offer for AFMA Prime Bank eligible securities. The BBSW is calculated daily. Floating rate securities are most commonly reset quarterly to the 90-day BBSW.
General Manager	Refers to the statutory executive of the Council as defined in section 335 of the Act, including where on an Interim or Acting basis, and under any alternative titles.
Council Funds	Monies that are invested by Council in accordance with section 625 of the Act.
Debenture	A debenture is a document evidencing an acknowledgement of a debt, which a company has created for the purposes of raising capital. Debentures are issued by companies in return for medium and long-term investment of funds by lenders.
FRN	A Floating Rate Note (FRN) is a medium to long term fixed interest investment where the coupon is a fixed margin ("coupon margin") over a benchmark, also described as a "floating rate". The benchmark is usually the BBSW and is reset at regular intervals – most commonly quarterly.
TCorp	New South Wales Treasury Corporation (NSW TCorp) including the TCorp Investment Management arm which manages the TCorpIM funds (formerly Hour-glass).

Department: Corporate Services		
Version	Date	Author
Three (3) Review	08/09/2021	B Quarmby
Four (4) Review	28/02/2025	B Quarmby
Review Date: February 2027		
Resolution: Resolution 2021/210		
Amendment History	Date	Detail
No changes	2017	
Amended	2021	Inclusion of risk appetite and definitions
Amended	2025	Expanded list of risk appetite and definitions Updated legislative provision
Annexure Attached: Nil		
Paul Gallagher General Manager		

10.20 WESTERN COUNCIL'S ELECTRICITY TENDER**File Number: Tenders General - T7****Author: Bruce Quarmby-Director Corporate Services****Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager****Annexures: Nil****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the outcome of the recently conducted Tender process for the supply of electricity to Council contestable sites commencing the 1 July 2025.

BACKGROUND

In March 2025, Coonamble Shire Council joined eight (8) other Western Council's in going to tender, as a group, for the supply of electricity to contestable sites. The process was facilitated by Energy Management Services (EMS). The following Council's participated in this tender process.

- Gilgandra Shire Council
- Bourke Shire Council
- Brewarrina Shire Council
- Cobar Shire Council
- Narromine Shire Council
- Bogan Shire Council
- Walgett Shire Council
- Warren Shire Council
- Coonamble Shire Council

The tender process was conducted during March 2025, with the closing date for being the 21 March 2025.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

L1.4.4 Governance is open and transparent.

(b) Financial Considerations

Council includes in its operational budget funding allocations for the purchase of electricity across all its sites. This budget is reviewed annually as part of Council's estimates process.

COMMENTARY

As Council's current contract for the supply of electricity to its contestable sites expires on the 30 June 2025, the decision was made to participate in the group tender process that is the subject of this report. This decision was made on the basis as part of larger group, it boosts both Council and the groups negotiation power with potential retailers during the tender process.

Following the correlation and analysis of the bids received, EMS facilitated a meeting of the participating Council's to discuss the findings with the group. In summary the main findings discussed at this meeting were as follows:

- The Government Contract arrangement by which Council currently utilises for the supply of electricity to its small sites is slated to increase by 25% from the 1 July 2025.

- The submission received from Origin Energy for the supply of electricity to small sites incorporates as pricing increase that is less than 15% from the current contract.
- Two offers were received for the supply of electricity for the large contestable sites, one from Council's current supplier, AGL, and another smaller tier two (2) supplier.
- The offer received from AGL sees a 10.9% increase in the first year from current contract and a 7% increase in the second year.
- As part of the continuation of negotiations, EMS indicated that they would continue negotiations with AGL to see if they were able to improve their offer. Whilst a reduction was able to be achieved for the group overall, unfortunately given our specific circumstances, Coonamble Shire Council received no further savings.
- The recommended term of the contract for the supply of electricity to contestable sites is two (2) years.
- Due to the nature of the offers received and the trends within the NSW Electricity market, Councils were only allowed a limited time to accept these offers.

As mentioned previously in this report and verbally at the April 2025 Council meeting, given the limited window in which Council could accept the tenders received, it was not possible to enact the necessary mechanisms to receive a Council resolution to accept these tenders.

Given that both Origin Energy and AGL are Tier one suppliers and the potential savings that Council could achieve in accepting the offer received the decision was made to accept the offers.

For Council's information, the offers that were accepted are in line with the recommendations received by Council from Energy Management Services.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

Through the engagement of Energy Management systems to oversee the tender process conducted, Council has complied with its adopted procurement policy.

(b) Legal Implications

There are no legal implications directly attached to this report.

(c) Social Implications

There are no social implications directly attached to this report.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications directly attached to this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

There are no Economic / Asset Management implications directly attached to this report.

(f) Risk Implications

There are minimal risks directly associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

In seeking to achieve operations efficiencies, Council has taken part in the Group tender for the supply of electricity for its contestable sites, both large and small. Following the evaluation process being completed and based on the recommendations received from Energy Management Services, the decision was made to accept the following offers from Origin Energy and AGL. Following the acceptance of these offers management are now seeking endorsement of this decision.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council notes the information within this report.**
- 2. That Council resolve to endorse management decision to accept the offers received from Origin Energy and AGL for the supply of electricity for contestable sites for a period of two (2) years commencing the 1 July 2025.**

10.21 DRAFT OPERATIONAL BUDGET 2025-26 FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION**File Number: C8****Author: Deborah Tatton, Manager Finance & Procurement****Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager****Annexures: 1. 2025-26 Draft Operational Budget & Revenue Statement (under separate cover) ****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to table for Council's consideration the draft 2025-26 Operational Budget for consideration and approval to be placed on public exhibition for 28 days as part of Council's suite integrating planning documents. Please refer to the Annexure included under separate cover relating to this report.

BACKGROUND

NSW Councils are required to have a Community Strategic Plan (CSP) as part of their Integrated Planning and Reporting Requirement (IP&R). The CSP is the highest-level plan that a Council will prepare. The purpose of the CSP is to identify the community's main priorities and aspirations for the future and to plan strategies for achieving these goals. It guides all remaining strategies and plans and must be developed by Council with and on behalf of the community.

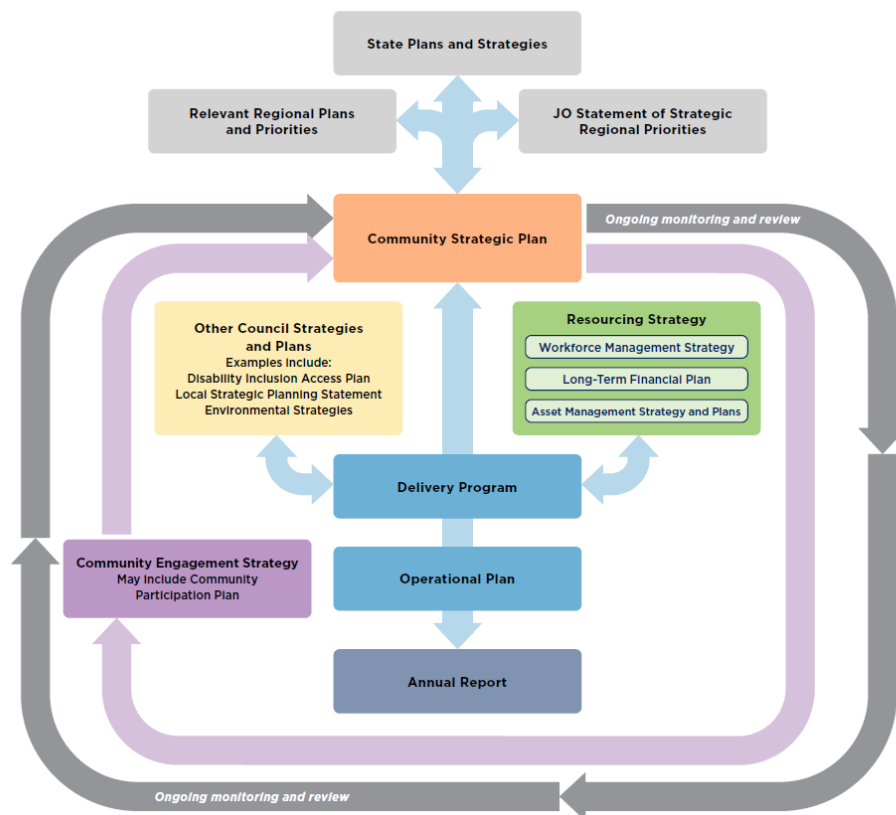


Figure 1: IP&R Framework

Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

The Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework recognises that most communities broadly share similar aspirations: a safe, healthy and vibrant place to live, a sustainable environment, a caring and engaged community, opportunities for employment, reliable infrastructure, etc. The main difference lies in how each community responds to these needs. The IP&R framework allows NSW Councils to draw their various plans together, to understand how they interact and inform each another, and to get the maximum benefit from their efforts by planning holistically for the future.

The main components include:

- Community Strategic Plan.
- Resourcing Strategy.
- Delivery Program.
- Operational Plan.
- Annual Report.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

The information contained in this report is focused on developing the new Community Strategic Plan which will also lead to the development of the Delivery Program and ensuing Operational Plans. This report recommends the public exhibition of the draft Community Strategic Plan, Draft Delivery Program and Draft Operational Plan.

(b) Financial Considerations

There are no direct financial considerations with the proposed public exhibition of documents.

COMMENTARY

Council's draft Budget comprises the following:

• Operational Revenue of	\$32,721,369
• Operational Expenditure of	\$33,223,336
• Capital Expenditure of	\$39,526,704
• Loan Repayments (Principal)	\$ 51,327

The 2025-26 draft Budget as tabled, presents Council with an operational deficit of (\$501,967). Council should note that main contributing factor to this result is the reduction in the projected level of operational grants that Council will receive in the 2025-26 financial year.

Whilst the draft Budget result, reflects an operational deficit, several factors have influenced this result, including an increase in insurance premiums, the legislated requirement of Council to have an Internal Audit function, coupled with the assumption of a 4.7% increase in Council general rates income.

Council's planned capital expenditure budget of \$39,526,704 can be broken down into the following classes:

• Information Technology	\$ 144,850
• Cemetery	\$ 78,600
• Environment	\$ 1,210,000
• Public Order and Safety	\$ 15,000
• Housing Development	\$ 610,140
• Plant Acquisitions	\$ 1,496,061
• Council Buildings & Other Structures	\$ 817,512
• Sport and Recreation	\$ 240,500
• Coonamble Aerodrome	\$ 417,300
• Quarry Upgrades	\$ 500,000
• Transport and Communication	\$ 26,701,065
• Ancillary Road Facilities	\$ 275,000
• Economic Services	\$ 3,067,690
• Water Supply	\$ 1,196,250
• Sewer Supply	\$ 868,000

The Draft 2025-26 Budget as presented to Council is broken down into two major components; the first being the Operational Budget, which deals with the day-to-day operations of the Council. The other component as presented is the Non-Operational component; this section covers Council's Capital Works Budget and other transactions that affect its financial position (Balance Sheet).

As discussed at the Council's budget workshop, the draft Operational deficit of (\$501,967), is broken down into the following results for each of its three (3) funds.

Draft Budgeted Operations Result for 2025-26	(\$501,967)
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Comprised of the following fund results

General Fund	(\$1,118,024)
Water Fund	\$ 214,664
Sewerage Fund	\$ 401,394

Council's draft Non-Operational Budget result for 2025-26 is summarised in the table below:

Draft Budgeted Non-Operational Result for 2025-26	\$9,055,608
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Comprised of the following fund results

General Fund	\$8,389,551
Water Fund	\$214,664

Sewerage Fund

\$451,394

In preparing the 2025-26 draft Budget for consideration it was necessary to base the predicted levels of income and expenditure on a range of core financial assumptions. These assumptions are based on prior results and staff research. Dealing first with Council's Income streams the following assumptions were used:

- The full rate peg increase of 4.7% has been applied to Council's General Rate Revenue.
- Based on the current pricing structures and associated system costs, Council's Water Access Charges and User Charges have been increased as follows in line with Long Term Financial Plan:

	<u>Access Charge</u>	<u>User Charge</u>
Coonamble	10% increase	10% increase
Gulargambone	5% increase	5% increase
Quambone	5% increase	5% increase

- Based on the current pricing structure and associated system costs, Council's Sewer Access Charges for Coonamble have been increased by seven (7) percent, whilst the Sewer Access Charge for Gulargambone have not been increased. Council will note, that under this proposed pricing structure for the standard Sewer Access charges for Coonamble and Gulargambone will be the annual fee of \$890.
- Due to the required changes to Council's Solid Waste Management Practices and the subsequent increase costs to Council for the provision of these services, Council has been required to increase the income generated by these charges.
- The Income from Financial Assistance Grants has been budgeted to increase by two percent (2.5%).
- The income from interest earned on Council's investments has been modelled on an average interest rate of 4.58% for the 2025-26 financial year with an average amount of \$25 million invested in compliance with the Investment Policy.

The following core assumptions were used in estimating Council's Expenditure streams:

- Insurance Premium expenses were increased by 8%.
- Electricity expenses were increased by 15%.
- Unless a specific adjustment was requested, expenditure votes were increased, on average by four (4) percent on the projected 2024-25 expenditure.
- As per the Local Government (State) Award 2023, wages increased by 3% plus one-off bonus of \$1000 to entitled employees.

- Superannuation Guarantee Contributions increased to 12% with total employment related oncosts calculated at 48%.
- In accordance with the relevant accounting standards, Council's depreciation expenses have been budgeted for utilising the most up to date financial information.

In working through the budgeting process to achieve a positive operational result, several potentially significant issues were identified by management. The two major issues identified by management were Council's continued "dependence" on grant funding coupled with the impact that changes to Council's levels of depreciation expenditure, once recognised, could have on the operational result.

Dealing first with the issue of grant funding, whilst it is indeed a positive for Council to be able to attract significant levels of grant funding to fund both operational and capital works, it also has the capacity to "divert" Council's attention away from certain financial and operational issues. In addressing the core "hidden" financial issue, whilst the income received from grant funds may allow Council to achieve a balanced or surplus result it has the effect of negatively impacting on Council's own source operating revenue ratio. This ratio is a measure of Council's fiscal flexibility, in essence the lower this ratio is for Council, the more dependant Council is becoming on securing external funding in the form of grants to fund its operations.

In relation to the potentially "hidden" operational issues caused by an increased reliance on grant funding, the main area of concern identified is its possible impact on the planning and allocation of Council resources. This occurs when Council must juggle its own workplans and priorities to ensure that the grant funded projects are completed on time and in accordance with the funding agreements. This is made especially more difficult for Council staff to achieve when there is a delay in the announcement and finalisation of grant funding agreements. Council then runs the risk as being perceived by its local constituents as not being responsive to the local needs, as often its own works programs and projects may be placed on the back burner to allow completion of the grant funded works.

The other significant issue identified by management was the impact that changes to the level of depreciation expenditure, as recognised by Council, has on the budgeted operational result. Given that, as per the tabled draft 2025-26 Operational Budget, depreciation expenditure currently accounts for 22% of Council's total budgeted expenditure, due care and consideration needs to be given to decisions that may impact on the overall level of depreciation expenditure incurred by Council.

Typically, these decisions relate to either the acquisition, renewal, or disposal of Council Assets. As such, the importance of taking into consideration a whole-life costing approach when dealing with Council assets cannot be understated, as decisions such as these not only affect Council's current, but future financial performance.

Whilst Council should take into consideration the information contained above, and that it indeed may cause concern moving forward in the future, Council is still currently in a strong financial position. This is supported by the fact a number of key performance ratios, such as its Unrestricted current ratio and Debt service cover ratio remain above the industry benchmarks, as set by the Office of Local Government.

Council's Revenue Policy:

Council proposes to continue to levy ordinary rates using a structure comprising a minimum amount to which an ad valorem component is added. The full annual rate pegging increase of 4.5%, as advised to Council, has been applied for the purpose of these calculations. Other significant changes to the revenue policy are as follows:

- The Water Access charges for Coonamble have been increased by 10 percent on the base access fee.
- The Water Access charges for Gulargambone and Quambone have been increased by 5 percent on the base access fee.
- The Sewer Access charges for Coonamble have been increased by 10 percent.
- The Sewer Access charges for Gulargambone have been increased by 0 percent.
- The Water Usage charges for Coonamble have been increased by 10 percent, whilst Gulargambone and Quambone Water Usage charges have been increased by 5 percent. These increases in charges are based on the current pricing structure and associated system costs for the provision of this service to ratepayers, for the respective systems.
- The Domestic Waste Management charges for Coonamble, Quambone and Gulargambone have been increased by 20 percent for all services.
- The Rural waste management charge of \$45.00 per assessment for applicable land outside the collection area has not been increased.

Draft Operational Plan Conclusion

Council's draft Budget comprises the following:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| • Operational Revenue of | \$32,721,369 |
| • Operational Expenditure of | \$33,223,336 |
| • Capital Expenditure of | \$39,526,704 |
| • Loan Repayments (Principal) | \$ 51,327 |

It is recommended that Council places the draft Operational Budget 2025-26, along with Council's proposed revenue policy and fees and charges, activities, and budget figures for the financial year 2025-26, on public exhibition for 28 days.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

The Operational Plan 2025-26 action items were prepared in line with the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework Guidelines (2021) and the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework Handbook (2021).

(b) Legal Implications

Local Councils within the State of NSW have no option other than to comply with the IP&R requirements, as it is a legislative requirement.

(c) Social Implications

The suite of IP&R plans and the annexed Operational Plan 2025-26 action items communicates to the community the actions which Council set out to

achieve in 2025-26 and the measures for each actions' progress will be assessed against.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are environmental related action items included within the Operational Plan 2025-26 which are outlined in the 'Our Environment' section.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

There are economic and asset management related action items included within the Operational Plan 2025-26 and these can be found in the 'Our Economy' and 'Our Infrastructure' sections.

(f) Risk Implications

Council has a responsibility to its community to produce an Operational Plan 2025-26 and to ensure Council themselves are aware and understand the actions and measures. Failure to produce and note the Operational Plan 2025-26 would risk compliance with the OLG's IP&R requirements, and a failure to meet its commitment made to its community to deliver the overarching CSP and DP.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that the draft Operational Budget is placed on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days and closing on 11 June 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council notes the information contained in this report.**
- 2. That Council places the Draft Operational Plan, as attached to the report, on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days for the purpose of inviting submissions from the community.**
- 3. That Council authorises the draft Operational Plan 2025-26, and hereby makes, fixes, and levies the expenditure amounts set out in the Draft 2025-26 Operational Plan and Budget, in annexure under separate cover to the Business Paper, for public exhibition in accordance with the provisions of Section 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993* for 28 days from Thursday, 15 May 2025, with a submission closing date of 11 June 2025.**
- 4. That Council advertises the Operational Plan 2025-26 in the Coonamble Times, on its website and Facebook pages and displays the relevant documents on Council's Website, as well**

as making hard copies available to members of the public who request same.

5. That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 535 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW), Council makes, fixes, and levies the Rates and Charges for the 2025-26 financial year, and authorises same for public exhibition as part of the Council's Draft 2025-26 Operational Plan and Budget, in accordance with the provisions of Section 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993* for 28 days from Thursday, 15 May 2025, with a submission closing date of 11 June 2025.

Residential – Coonamble:

A Residential – Coonamble rate of 1.5505 cents in the dollar on the current land values of all rateable land in the town of Coonamble, with a minimum rate of \$570.00 per annum;

Residential – Gulargambone:

A Residential – Gulargambone rate of 1.088 cents in the dollar on the current land values of all rateable land in the town of Coonamble, with a minimum rate of \$570.00 per annum;

Residential – Village:

A Residential – Village rate of 1.377 cents in the dollar on the current land values of all rateable land in the village of Quambone, with a minimum rate of \$560.00 per annum;

Farmland:

A Farmland rate of 0.25070 cents in the dollar on the current land values of all rateable land in the Local Government Area being farmland, with a minimum rate of \$455.00 per annum;

Small Rural Holdings:

A Small Rural Holding rate of 0.78060 cents in the dollar on the current land values of all rateable land in the Local Government Area being small rural holdings, with a minimum rate of \$590.00 per annum;

Rural Residential:

A Rural Residential rate of 0.634 cents in the dollar on the current land values of all rateable land in the Local Government Area being rural residential, with a minimum rate of \$560.00 per annum;

Business:

A Business rate of 2.1250 cents in the dollar on the current land values of all rateable land in the Local Government Area being Business, with a minimum rate of \$620.00 per annum.

6. That the Schedule of Fees and Charges for the 2025-26 financial year be made, fixed, and charged by Council and authorised for public exhibition as part of the Council's Draft 2025-26 Operational Plan and Budget in accordance with the provisions of Section 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993* for 28 days from Thursday, 15 May 2025, with a submission closing date of 11 June 2025.
7. That Council makes, fixes, and levies the amounts contained within the Water Supply Charge Schedule for the 2025-26 financial year, and that same be authorised by Council for public exhibition as part of its Draft 2025-26 Operational Plan and Budget, in accordance with the provisions of Section 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993* for 28 days from Thursday, 15 May 2025, with a submission closing date of, 11 June 2025. FURTHER, that Council makes, fixes, and levies the following charges in accordance with the provisions of Section 552 and Section 501(1) and Section 502 of the *Local Government Act 1993* on such land which water is connected or able to be connected to for the year ending June 2025:

Town/Village	Access Charge (\$) 20mm	Usage Charge – 1st Tier (c/kl)	2nd Tier Pricing Limit (kl)	Usage Charge 2nd Tier (c/kl)
Coonamble	460	170	450	200
Gulargambone	540	130	450	200
Quambone	540	160	430	260

The Access Charges as above are for 20mm services, the charges below allow for the size of the water meters as

required by best practice pricing. The resulting charges are shown in the table following:

Item	Coonamble (\$)	Gulargambone (\$)	Quambone (\$)
Access charge (20mm meter)	460	540	540
Access charge (25mm meter)	720	850	850
Access charge (40mm meter)	1,840	2,160	2,160
Access charge (50mm meter)	2,875	3,375	3,375
Access charge (75mm meter)	6,468	7,590	7,590
Access charge (100mm meter)	11,500	13,500	13,500

8. That the Sewer Supply Charge Schedule for the 2025-26 financial year be approved by Council for public exhibition as part of the Council's Operational Plan and Budget in accordance with the provisions of Section 405 of the Local Government Act 1993 for 28 days from Thursday, 15 May 2025, with a submission closing date of 11 June 2025. FURTHER, that Council makes, fixes and levies the following charges in accordance with the provisions of Section 501(1), Section 502 and Section 552 of the *Local Government Act 1993* on such land which sewer is connected or able to be connected to for the year ending June 2025.

Residential Sewerage – Coonamble

Sewerage availability charge of \$890.00 per annum per assessment.

Residential Sewerage – Gulargambone

Sewerage availability charge of \$890.00 per annum per assessment.

Sewerage – Coonamble Flats

Sewerage availability charge of \$690.00 per annum per unit.

Sewerage – Gulargambone Flats

Sewerage availability charge of \$810.00 per annum per unit.

Non-residential Sewerage - Coonamble

Sewer charge for Non-residential Sewerage – Coonamble is not less than a minimum charge of \$890.00 per annum per assessment. Non-residential services are also subject to sewer discharge factor (usage charge) related to water consumption. The treatment charge to be applied is 410 cents per kilolitre.

Non-residential Sewerage - Gulargambone

Sewer charge for Non-residential Sewerage – Gulargambone is not less than a minimum charge of \$890.00 per annum per assessment. Non-residential services are also subject to sewer discharge factor (usage charge) related to water consumption. The treatment charge to be applied is 410 cents per kilolitre.

9. That the Waste Collection Service Schedule for the 2025-26 financial year be approved by Council for public exhibition as part of the Council's Draft 2025-26 Operational Plan and Budget in accordance with the provisions of Section 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993* for 28 days from 15 May 2025, with a submission closing date of 11 June 2025. FURTHER, that Council makes, fixes and levies the following charges in accordance with the provisions of Section 496 and Section 502 of the *Local Government Act 1993* for the Waste Collection Services (with the understanding that one (1) Waste Collection Service entitles a property owner to a 240-litre weekly garbage service per assessment – unless otherwise indicated):

Particulars	2025-26 Charge per annum (\$)
Domestic – Coonamble Occupied	550.00
Domestic Coonamble – additional Service (per additional service)	310.00
Commercial – Coonamble Occupied	550.00
Commercial Coonamble – additional Service (per additional service)	310.00
Commercial Coonamble – Coonamble Occupied (Biweekly service) per service	860.00
Domestic – Gulargambone Occupied	550.00
Domestic Gulargambone – additional Service (per additional service)	310.00
Commercial – Gulargambone Occupied	550.00
Commercial Gulargambone – additional Service (per additional service)	310.00
Domestic – Quambone Occupied	550.00
Domestic Quambone – additional Service (per additional service)	310.00
Commercial – Quambone Occupied	550.00
Commercial Quambone – additional Service (per additional service)	310.00
Coonamble/Vacant Land – within	110.00

scavenging area	
Gulargambone/ Vacant Land – within scavenging area	110.00
Quambone/Vacant Land – within scavenging area	110.00
Rural Waste Charge – Land outside collection area (Local Government Act 1993 – Section 501)	45.00

10. That Council, in accordance with the provisions of Section 566(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, determines that the extra interest charges on overdue rates and charges will be levied at the maximum rate allowable and as advised by the Office of Local Government on a daily simple interest basis for the financial year ending 30 June 2026. The rate interest payable on overdue rates and charges for the 2025-26 financial year will be 10.5% per annum.
11. That Council requests the Director - Corporate Services to present a further report, together with all submissions received, to Council at the conclusion of the public exhibition period for Council's consideration and adoption of the final 2025-26 Operational Plan and Budget at its Ordinary Meeting in June 2025.
12. That Council, in accordance with the provisions of Section 405(6) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, places a copy of its adopted Operational Plan on its website within 28 days of it being formally adopted at the June 2025 Ordinary Meeting.

10.22 INVESTIGATION INTO THE UTILISATION OF LOAN FUNDING FOR THE PURPOSE ROADS NETWORK**File Number: F6****Author: Bruce Quarmby-Director Corporate Services****Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager****Annexures: Nil****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the findings from the analysis of the utilisation of loan funds to extend the length of its sealed roads network.

BACKGROUND

At its February 2025 Council meeting, the following resolution was passed by Council.

11.3 NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCIL TO APPLY FOR LOAN TO FUND EXTENSION OF BITUMEN ROADS - CR P WHEELHOUSE**RESOLUTION 2025/29****Moved: Cr Paul Wheelhouse****Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher**

That Council seeks financial modelling and a detailed analysis and report on borrowing funds for sealing roads to be considered as part of the development of the upcoming community strategic and operational plans.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Gamsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

As such in accordance with the above resolution, the utilisation of loan funds for this purpose has been analysed and considered with the findings discussed within the body of the report below.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

L1.4.4 Governance is open and transparent.

L1.4.10 Maintain long term financial viability.

(b) Financial Considerations

In summary there are two (2) main financial considerations that Council needs to be mindful of. These focus on the impact of Council funding the repayment of the loan, coupled with the subsequent impact on the

management of Council's transport Infrastructure assets following the completion of the works. These will be discussed in more detail within the commentary section of this report.

COMMENTARY

As discussed during the tabling of the original notice of motion at the February meeting, it was noted that the core concept of the motion, is to facilitate the extension of the length of the sealed roads network within Coonamble Shire Council. Given the associated costs and complexities involved with such projects it was agreed that modelling of the suggested proposal be undertaken. This modelling has been completed and a summary of the findings is included following for Council's information.

As the resolution proposes the utilisation of loan funds to carry out these works, there are several aspects of this decision that Council will need to factor into their deliberations. The first being the repayment of the loan and its impact on Council's operational result. To aid Council in this consideration, several repayment scenarios have been modelled and are included in the following table for Council's information.

\$3,000,000 Loan repayment model (utilising fixed interest rates provided by TCORP)			
LOAN DETAILS	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term
\$3,000,000.00	SCENARIO 1	SCENARIO 2	SCENARIO 3
LOAN PERIOD IN YEARS	3	10	20
PAYMENT FREQUENCY	Quarterly	Quarterly	Quarterly
ANNUAL INTEREST RATE	4.09%	5.06%	5.84%
SCHEDULED PAYMENT	\$266,925.44	\$96,031.91	\$63,813.56
TOTAL PAYMENTS	12	40	80
TOTAL INTEREST	\$203,105.28	\$841,276.34	\$2,105,084.73
COST OF LOAN	\$3,203,105.28	\$3,841,276.34	\$5,105,084.73

From the table above Council will note the correlation between the increase in the interest payable and the length of the loan. Whilst the short-term loan has the highest scheduled repayment of approx. \$1,067,700 per annum, it also provides Council with the option for the lowest amount of interest payable. The interest repayments saved by Council could then be redirected to other preferred projects.

Whilst on the topic of the interest repayable for the loan it is important for Council to be mindful of the impact that the loan will have on Council's Operational result. Breaking down this comment further the principal component of the loan repayment is excluded from Council's overall operational result, conversely the interest component of the repayment is included in the operational result as it is an expense.

Aside from the financial impact of the funding of the repayment of the loan, Council will also have to consider the impact that the drawing down of this loan will have on Council's overall borrowing capacity. Breaking down this comment further, whilst Council currently has excess borrowing capacity, it does have several possible future

projects that it may wish to utilise loan funding to allow these projects to be carried out, for example the refurbishment/renewal of Council facilities such as its Public Pools or Quarry Infrastructure. These future projects will then have to compete for the remaining borrowing capacity, with Council potentially unable to be fund a project at the desired time.

Shifting Council's focus now to the asset management impact that a decision such as this to carry out the extension of Council's sealed roads network to the value of \$3,000,000 in one year this will have the following effects. In summary

- The value of Council's sealed roads network value will increase by the \$3,000,000.
- The value of Council's unsealed roads network would be reduced by the \$ value of the unsealed pavement that will need to be written off. It should be noted that this \$ figure will potentially vary dependant on the location and length of seal being extended.
- Council will be required to allocate additional funding to cover the increased maintenance and depreciation associated with the new length of sealed road.
- Council will experience a decrease or savings in costs associated with the maintenance and depreciation of the reduced length of unsealed road.
- The value of this savings will again be dependent on the location and length of the unsealed road that was replaced. Typically, the "savings" incurred will be less than the associated increased maintenance and depreciation costs for the sealed road.

Taking all the above into consideration, should Council wish to purse the core concept of the motion, that being the extension of the sealed roads network within Coonamble Shire Council, it is recommended that the following measures be developed and implemented.

- The development of a Sealing of Unsealed Roads Policy.
- The inclusion of an objective within Council's strategic asset management plan for Council to extend the length of its sealed roads network at a sustainable rate on an annual basis.

These documents, once developed and adopted by Council, will provide the necessary strategic guidance on the selection criteria and funding models to be utilised when considering decisions such as these in the future.

Whilst the above-mentioned measures are yet to be developed and adopted by Council, for the purpose of the preparation of the 2025/2026 operational plan management has included a line item within its capital works to fund the extension of Council's sealed road network. For Council's information this proposed budget allocation is \$760,000 and is 50% funded by Council and 50% funded by grant funds. It is anticipated that this funding allocation will allow for the necessary capital works to be undertaken to extend Council's sealed roads network by 2km. Management have identified this funding model as the preferred model as at this point of time it presents Council with the efficient method of funding the works.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

Once developed and adopted, the Sealing of Unsealed Roads Policy will become a policy of Council.

(b) Legal Implications

There are no legal implications directly attached to this report.

(c) Social Implications

There are no social implications directly attached to this report.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications directly attached to this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

The decision to seal any length of unsealed road within Coonamble Shire Council will impact on Council's management of its transport infrastructure assets. As well as the development of the Sealing of Unsealed Roads policy, Council's Transport Infrastructure Asset Management plans will also need to be updated to include not only the objective to do so but also provide strategic guidance on the selection of roads to be sealed.

(f) Risk Implications

There are no risk implications directly attached to this report.

CONCLUSION

As per the notice of motion, modelling on the utilisation of loan funding for the purpose of sealing unsealed roads with the Coonamble Shire local government area has been completed and the findings are included in this report to Council.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council notes the information in this report.**
- 2. That Council resolves to request the General Manager or his delegate, to develop a draft Sealing of Unsealed Roads Policy for Council's consideration and adoption.**
- 3. That Council resolves to include a strategic objective of sealing unsealed roads within the Coonamble Shire local government area as part of its Transport Infrastructure asset management plans.**

10.23 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW - MARCH 2025**File Number:** Financial Quarterly Review F2-2**Author:** Bruce Quarmby-Director Corporate Services
Deborah Tatton-Manager Finance & Procurement**Authoriser:** Paul Gallagher, General Manager**Annexures:** 1. March 2025 Quarterly Budget Review (under separate cover) **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a quarterly budget review statement in accordance with Regulation 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (the Regulations). Please refer to the Annexure relating to this report.

BACKGROUND

Regulation 203 of the Regulations states that:

(1) Not later than 2 months after the end of each quarter (except the June quarter), the responsible accounting officer of a council must prepare and submit to the council a budget review statement that shows, by reference to the estimate of income and expenditure set out in the statement of the council's revenue policy included in the operational plan for the relevant year, a revised estimate of the income and expenditure for that year.

(2) A budget review statement must include or be accompanied by:

(a) a report as to whether or not the responsible accounting officer believes that the statement indicates that the financial position of the council is satisfactory, having regard to the original estimate of income and expenditure, and

(b) if that position is unsatisfactory, recommendations for remedial action.

(3) A budget review statement must also include any information required by the Code to be included in such a statement.

The Code referred to above is the Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting. While earlier versions of the Code had an appendix that listed minimum requirements, these were removed a few years ago as they are of no relevance to the financial statements (which is the main purpose of the Code). In the absence of any instructions in the Code, the Quarterly Budget Review Statement publication issued in 2010 by the then Division of Local Government, NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet, details the minimum requirements and these requirements have been met in the preparation of the Quarterly Budget Review Statements (QBRs). The quarterly review should act as a barometer of Council's financial health during the year, and it is also a means by which Councillors can ensure that Council remains on track to meet its objectives, targets and outcomes as set out in its Operational Plan.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

L1.4.10 Maintain long term financial viability.

(b) Financial Considerations

The March budget review as tabled for Council's consideration has a substantial number of variations to the originally adopted 2024/25 Operational Budget. Most of these variations represent the necessary works identified to be completed during this financial year.

COMMENTARY

Appendix A contains further detailed information in regard to Cash and Investments, Contract and Consultancy Expenses and its progression towards achieving adopted Key Performance Indicators as of 30 June 2025.

Council commenced the 2024/25 financial year with the original operational budget surplus of \$5,485. Following the completion of the December 2024 review the adjusted operational result had deteriorated to an anticipated operational deficit of \$5,109,525. At the completion of the March 2025 review Council's estimated budgeted result for the 2024/25 Financial Year has improved to an anticipated operational deficit of \$4,192,907. Council will also note that Council's projected financial (cash) position, has also improved to a net surplus of \$2,937,350. Further information on this movement is contained within the cash and investment budget review section of this report.

As previously noted in past budget reviews, Council is currently carrying the financial burden of a significant level of funding owed to it through various Commonwealth and State funded programs. This has had the effect of reducing the level of working funds available to Council. As reported at as part of the 2024 December Quarterly Budget review Council, has been required to utilise \$2.1 Million of its Internal Reserves to ensure that it has adequate available working funds. At the completion of the 2025 March Budget Review this figure has remained the same. Council will replenish these reserves and re-invest excess cash once these the funding owed has been received.

Council will also note as in the past, the March Quarter budget review contains a higher-than-normal number of adjustments to its operational budgets, when compared to other budget reviews. This is because the March quarterly budget review is managements last opportunity to adjust its adopted operational budget to best reflect the anticipated result. The main adjustments that have impacted the overall operational result for the March review are explained below:

- Corporate, Assets and Storekeeper Staff Salaries– (P.2,3,4) The expenditure vote for staff salaries have been reduced \$200,000, \$116,000 and \$120,000 respectively. These savings have resulted from budgeted positions within the organisational structure being vacant for a period throughout the year.
- Corporate Service Leave Entitlements – (P.4) There has been a decrease of \$350,000 in the budgeted expense allocation to cover the projected level of expenditure for the 2024/25 financial year.
- Plant Hire Income – (P.4) The budget for funding generated through plant hire income has been increased by \$800,000 to better reflect the anticipated level

for the 2024/2025 financial year. This increase is due to a combination of a change in Council's works programs coupled with an increase in the number of plant that Council has operational. Council will note that this increase in income is in part offset by a net increase in Plant Depreciation expenditure of \$333,755 for the 2024/25 financial year.

- Waste Facility Salaries and Wages – (P.7) The expenditure vote for these salaries has been reduced by \$100,000. This reduction is due to a change in the allocation methodology for the Manager of this function, coupled with an increased utilisation of casual labour. For Council's information, for the 2024/2025 financial year, costings for the Manager will be recorded against Corporate Services & Salaries (P.2).
- Waste Depot Operations – (P.7) The expenditure vote for waste depot operations has been increased by \$200,000 to better reflect the anticipated level of expenditure that will be incurred for the remainder of the 2024/25 financial year. Council will note that this increase in expenditure is in part offset by a reduction a reduction in the Clean-up of Old Facility (P.7) of \$150,000.
- Community Services Salaries (P.8) The expenditure vote for staff salaries have been reduced by \$124,632. Again, this decrease is due to savings made available from staff vacancies throughout the year.
- Town Planning Contract Services – (P.9) The planned delivery of the contact services has been rescheduled to be completed in 2025/26 year due to competing work priorities and limited resources. This rescheduling has resulted in a reduction of \$90,000 in the projected expenditure vote.
- Water Treatment & Misc Expenses – (P.10) Due to a change in the water treatment process at the Coonamble Water treatment plant, an additional allocation of \$146,000 has been required to cover the increased cost of chemicals being utilised at the facility.
- Repairs and Maintenance Coonamble Water - (P.10) Following discussions with the Manager, the expenditure vote for the repairs and maintenance Coonamble Water has been increase by \$100,000 to better reflect the anticipated level of expenditure to be incurred for the remainder of the 2024/25 financial year.
- Quarry Operations – (P.14) Following a review of the Quarry operations, taking into consideration projected expenditure and income for the remainder of the current financial year, the following adjustments have been made. In summary the budget for the projected income from sales has been reduced by

\$500,000, which has been offset by a similar reduction in planned expenditure votes to the value of \$503,072.

- Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund (RERRF) - (P.15) Following discussions with the Director of Infrastructure the planned works for the RERRF grant funded program totalling \$1,050,000, has been rescheduled to the 2025/2026. Council will note there is a corresponding reduction in the Transfer from Unspent Grants (P.20) for the same amount.
- Unsealed Rural Roads – (P.15) Following an internal review of the works maintenance works funded by the Roads to Recovery Grant Program, it was identified that a number of these projects should have been classified as Capital in nature. As such these works and their budgeted expenditure have been transferred to Council's capital works program.
- Flood Damage Grant Funds – (P.15) The projected income to be received as income from this grant source has been reduced by \$2,000,000 to better reflect the anticipated result for the 2024/25 financial year. Council will note there is a corresponding reduction in the projected expenditure vote for the Flood Damage – Restoration of Roads Network (P.20).
- Economic Development Salaries (P.17) The expenditure vote for staff salaries have been reduced by \$275,000. Again, this decrease is due to savings made available from staff vacancies throughout the year.
- Sale of Land – Core and Cluster – (P.19) In accordance with Council resolution 2025/49 the \$100,000 income from the sale of land for the provision of this service has been recognised.
- Bore No 4 – Capital Refurbishment / Renewal - (P.21) A budget allocation of \$150,000 has been included to fund the required works at Bore No.4 of the Coonamble Water Supply Network. To offset this additional allocation several capital works projects have been rescheduled to occur in the 2025/26 financial year.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

There are no governance or policy implications arising from this report.

(b) Legal Implications

The March budget review has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Regulations 2005* – Regulation 203

(c) Social Implications

There are no social implications arising from this report.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

During the 2024/25 financial year Council has programmed asset maintenance and capital renewals in order to satisfy required Key Performance Indicators.

(f) Risk Implications

As mentioned in the body of the report the main risk implication identified in this report is the significant level of funding owed to it through various State and Federal Government programs. In seeking to mitigate this risk management will focus on completing the necessary processes to obtain reimbursement of these funds.

CONCLUSION

It is my opinion that the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for Coonamble Shire Council for the Quarter ended 31 March 2025 indicates that Council's financial position at 30 June 2025 to be in a satisfactory state at year end, having regard to the projected estimates of income and expenditure and the original budgeted income and expenditure.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council approves the variations to votes as listed in the budget review documents distributed under separate cover.**
- 2. That Council notes, in the opinion of the Responsible Accounting Officer based on the information as presented in the March Budget review; that Council will be in a satisfactory financial position as at 30 June 2025.**
- 3. That Council notes the classification and position of Council's estimated restricted (reserve) funds as at 31 March 2025.**

10.24 COONAMBLE AND QUAMBONE TENNIS COURTS UPGRADE**File Number: C-20****Author: Mick Bell-Manager Parkes & Urban Services****Authoriser: Kerrie Murphy, Director Infrastructure Services****Annexures: Nil****PURPOSE**

To provide Council with information contained in the Notice of Motion received from Cr Garnsey at the February 2025 Ordinary Council meeting regarding the costs and scope of works for the Coonamble and Quambone Tennis Court upgrades.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council received funding under the Stronger Country Communities Fund Round Five for the scope of upgrading three (3) of the Coonamble tennis courts and replacement of the fencing. It was determined that it would be better value for money to do all four (4) of the courts and then repair or replace sections of the existing fence with the remainder of the funds.

The issues that with the Quambone courts were caused by the original contractor's inability to carry out the specified works. This led to Council purchasing the materials from them (Synthetic turf, posts and some sand) and then parting ways.

After a Request for Quote (RFQ), the successful contractor was engaged to do the work on the Coonamble courts. Once they were engaged, they were then requested to advise if they could also install the supplied materials at the Quambone courts. They only installed to what was already prepared (the existing slabs of the courts) and this was short of the original scope.

Council has since carried out additional work on the surrounds of the Quambone courts in readiness for the additional turf to be laid. At the time of writing this report the contractor has indicated that they would be here to carry out this work very soon.

Ken Wray who is an accredited Tennis Australia Coach and the Head Coach of the Far West Tennis Academy visited both venues and was very impressed with the quality of the work and the surface installed was of a very high standard, he expressed a desire to return to town and run one of his Academy training camps on these new surfaces.

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

P3.2 Improve the quality of our parks, open spaces, sporting and recreational facilities.

(b) Financial Considerations

Council received a grant under the SCCF round Five for the work undertaken at the Coonamble courts of \$236,728 of which \$231,687.28 has been expended to date as follows:

- Contractor costs – Tennis courts \$201,463.60

• Fencing contractor	\$12,376.00
• Council costs (including project management, waste removal and procurement costs)	<u>\$17,848.28</u>
<i>Total</i>	<u><u>\$231,687.28</u></u>

Council has funded the work at the Quambone courts with its own internal funds to the sum of \$67,238. This includes the cost of the materials, additional work required on the outer of the courts and a commitment for the work that the contractor is returning to finalise.

Funding was available for the Quambone courts from GrainCorp but was only available until 30 June 2024 of \$10,000, and funding was committed by the Education Department of \$10,000 but only up to the 30 June 2024.

It is anticipated that these funds are now not available, however Council will make contact to ascertain this.

COMMENTARY

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

There are no Governance or policy implications with this report.

(b) Legal Implications

There are no legal implications with this report.

(c) Social Implications

There are no social implications with this report.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications with this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

Council will have to budget for ongoing maintenance and the eventual replacement of the surface into the future.

(f) Risk Implications

There are no risk implications with this report.

CONCLUSION

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted on the Coonamble and Quambone Tennis Court upgrades.

10.25 TOORAWEEAH ROAD UPGRADE - MONTHLY STATUS UPDATE**File Number:** R-8-32-1**Author:** Kerrie Murphy-Director Infrastructure Services**Authoriser:** Paul Gallagher, General Manager**Annexures:** Nil**PURPOSE**

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Work is continuing on getting the project to a point where construction can commence with side tracks and vegetation clearing. Council will be undertaking the construction of the dry weather side tracks.

BACKGROUND

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

The section of road to be upgraded commences from the end of the sealed section at Coonamble and continues to the boundary with Gilgandra Shire Council.

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

The project originally aimed to provide 56.8 km of sealed road with a 9.9m wide pavement and 7.5m wide seal with guideposts, centreline, and edge marking. The focus is now on the unsealed section, which is approximately 27km long.

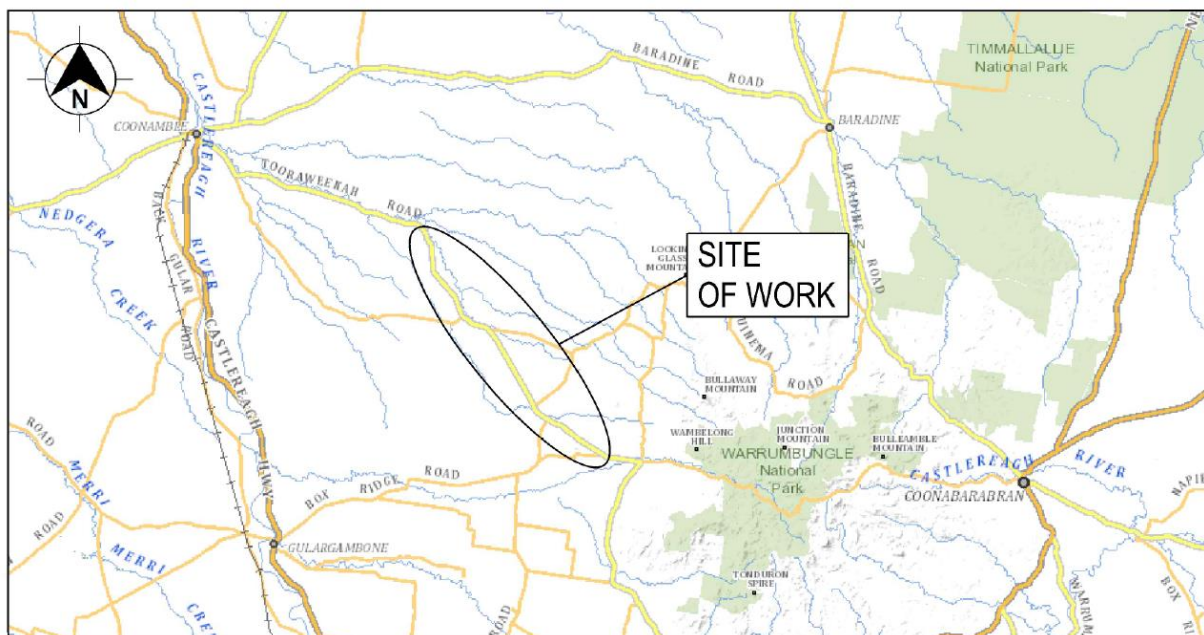


Figure 1: Locality map of the work

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

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

(b) Financial Considerations

The capital cost of the project is funded by the Federal Government's Roads of Strategic Importance Program (ROSI). The funded budget is \$41.2 million.

COMMENTARY**Work completed to date***Location of underground services*

Dial B4U Dig was done as a part of the initial design process and was incorporated into the approved 100% Design. This investigation revealed that there were sections of the construction footprint that contained Telstra services.

The original Tender for the construction of the culverts included the location of these services using non-destructive digging techniques which would enable a determination to be made whether services will require relocating

The contractor will be onsite in mid-May to commence with work.

Identification of additional vegetation removal

The contractor that undertook the original REF is currently reviewing this document to ensure it aligns with changes to environmental legislation as it is five (5) years old now.

There has been clearing of vegetation undertaken for this project previously, however, additional vegetation removal was identified as being required in the final design. This was a result of the vegetation being in conflict with the design of the road.

The environmental contractors were onsite in mid-April to identify/assess the additional vegetation required to be removed. From this inspection, several issues have been identified that require addressing in an effort to manage/minimise the impact on the environment in the road corridor that corresponds to the project footprint. These include conflicts with Threatened Ecological Communities (Weeping Myall Woodlands), hollow bearing trees, blaze trees (often large and old trees that have historical significance) and scarred trees.

Further assessments are being undertaken within the project team to identify alternate delivery methods to ensure the impact of these works on the environment is minimised.

Procurement of site office and amenities, site-compound components

The site office and other components has been ordered and will be installed once they arrive. Once installation is complete, the facilities will commence generating income for their use on the project.

Procurement of on-site lab for materials and compaction testing

The original Tender for the construction of the culverts included the procurement of an on-site lab for materials and compaction testing. In order to ensure quality products, and workmanship, it has been determined that this should be managed by Council.

There needs to be transparency with the testing of the materials and compaction, and it will give Council greater confidence of this if the testing is carried out independently to the Contractor. Discussions are being had with relevant parties on arrangements required to make this happen and further information will be provided to Council once this has been finalised.

Funding sign designs and approvals being sought

Sign design has been approved with the signs now being made. Once received, they will be installed at either end of the project.

Identification of staging for road closures and side track proposals

Council has identified and pegged out the culvert locations. These pegs are for the sole purpose of identifying culvert locations for the environmental assessments. It is expected that the successful contractor will accurately peg out culvert locations and invert levels when they commence work.

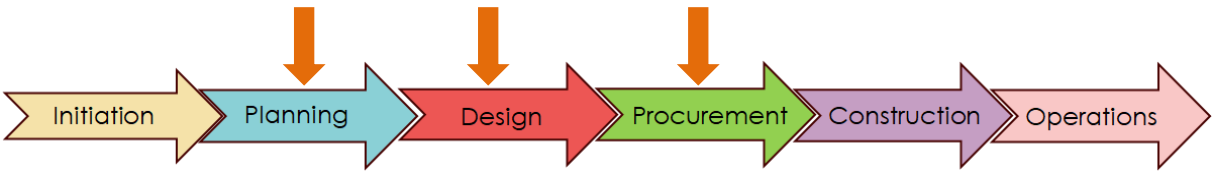
Staging of the work is continuing, however, it also now necessary to take into consideration the additional issues identified with the review of the REF (Review Environmental Factors). This will take some time as each culvert location needs to be addressed individually with reference to the issues identified and traffic management considered in respect of these locations. This means that the number of side tracks has been reduced, with a number of culvert locations requiring full road closures to enable construction, and part road closures for others. Once these have been finalised, there will be stakeholder engagement with the residents affected by these.

Communications plan

Council officers are currently working on the Communications Plan and an engagement strategy.

Future project development

We are currently in the following stages of project development:



Planning

While the REF was originally commissioned around 2020, there is a requirement for it to be re-addressed as it is past its expiry date. The review of the REF is taking into consideration updates to relevant legislation to ensure Council is undertaking its due diligence with regard to vegetation assessment for removal.

When the REF is finalised, there will be a clearer picture of how the construction can take place. This is necessary to have finalised prior to going to tender for the culvert construction.

Design

The design, for the most part, has been finalised. We are currently finalising the side road and private access drainage components so that these components can be ordered and onsite when required.

Procurement

A combination of existing tenders and requests for quotation (RFQ) are being used to facilitate the purchasing of what is required to progress the project at this stage. A Procurement Plan is currently being drafted also, which will further assist this.

Construction

The Project Team are currently discussing the best way forward with regards to staging the commencement of the project. Staff are currently identifying work zones that need to be restricted at particular times eg: harvest. Once the REF has been finalised, the areas of vegetation concern can be sectioned off and the additional clearing and grubbing can commence. Once this clearing and grubbing has been finished, any side tracks can then be constructed.

Due to the nature of how this project has come about and been managed historically, there are multiple legacy issues that Council is dealing with that should have been identified and actioned in previous phases.

The absence of a Project Plan to date has been acknowledged. This is currently also being worked on and will be finalised in the next month.

Project Management

The initial engagement of the Project Manager in February 2022 included the following:

- The initial engagement was based on the project being delivered solely by contractors.
- Phase 1 Preconstruction Activities – Project Manager was to prepare specification, prepare tender, release/manage tender, assess tender and prepare Council report to award tender – all in conjunction with the Manager Roads.
- Phase 2 Construction Activities – manage construction contractors on behalf of Council, act as single point of contact between the Principal and Contractor, assess payment claims, report monthly to the Principal, assess payment claims and variations, supervision of the works – assisting the Manager Roads where necessary.

Due to the delivery method changing from being delivered solely by contractors to a hybrid model, the Phase 1 Preconstruction Activities were amended to prepare a tender for only culvert construction (with some road construction). The remainder of the engagement has remain relatively unchanged.

To assist Council in getting a better understanding of the project, a workshop has been organised for 11 June 2025 at 10.00am. The workshop will have Chris Botfield, Business Principal of Access Environmental Planning and the contract project manager and project supervisor present.

The submissions regarding the raising the height of the Tooraweenah Road for the project closed 5.00pm on 7 May 2025. There was one (1) submission received and the project team are currently working through it.

CONCLUSION

Work is continuing on getting the project to a point where construction can commence with side tracks and vegetation clearing.

Council completed maintenance works on the road over the previous months, however, wet weather has led to new damage to the road. Staff are continuing to monitor the road conditions and will intervene when there is an unacceptable safety risk that can be addressed within the available resources and funded from the maintenance budget.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted on the progress of the Tooraweenah Road Upgrade Project.

10.26 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES - WORKS IN PROGRESS**File Number:** R6**Author:** Kerrie Murphy-Director Infrastructure Services**Authoriser:** Paul Gallagher, General Manager**Annexures:** 1. Monthly Progress Report - May [↓](#) **PURPOSE**

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

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

- I1.1 Employ a strategic approach to the management of our critical road network.
- I1.2 Strengthen our strategic approach to the management of our water infrastructure and services.
- I1.3 Improve our strategic approach to the management of our sewerage infrastructure and services.
- I1.4 Strengthen our strategic approach to the management of our urban drainage infrastructure and services.
- I1.5 Adopt successful strategies which maximises our community's access to quality infrastructure and assets.
- P3.1 Provide support to our sporting, recreation and community organisations which drives improved sporting and recreational opportunities for our community.
- P3.2 Improve the quality of our parks, open spaces, sporting, and recreational facilities, including the MacDonald Park Precinct.

(b) Financial Considerations

Provision is made within the 2024 / 2025 Operational Plan and Budget to fund the associated works and programs listed in this report.

COMMENTARY

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

Utilities

Stop valve and hydrant replacements were ongoing this month which saw four (2) hydrants replaced and one (1) stop valve replaced within the Coonamble water reticulation network.

Teams completed 11 water service line repairs in Coonamble, four (4) water main breaks in Coonamble, three (3) in Gulargambone and two (2) in Quambone within April.

As Councillors are aware, on Wednesday 23 April 2025 Council's main water supply, bore 4 located at the Coonamble Water Treatment Plant, completely failed due to water ingress into the motor resulting from failed components. A picture of a similar electric motor set up has been provided below. Underneath the electric motor there are several different hardware components that are subject to wear and movement from normal operations. These components include columns, shafts, impellers, bearings etc. Normal wear and movement is inevitable throughout normal bore extraction works. Council officers monitor the bore outputs (indication of bores functionality) daily and tighten glands etc, if necessary, when doing their daily inspections.

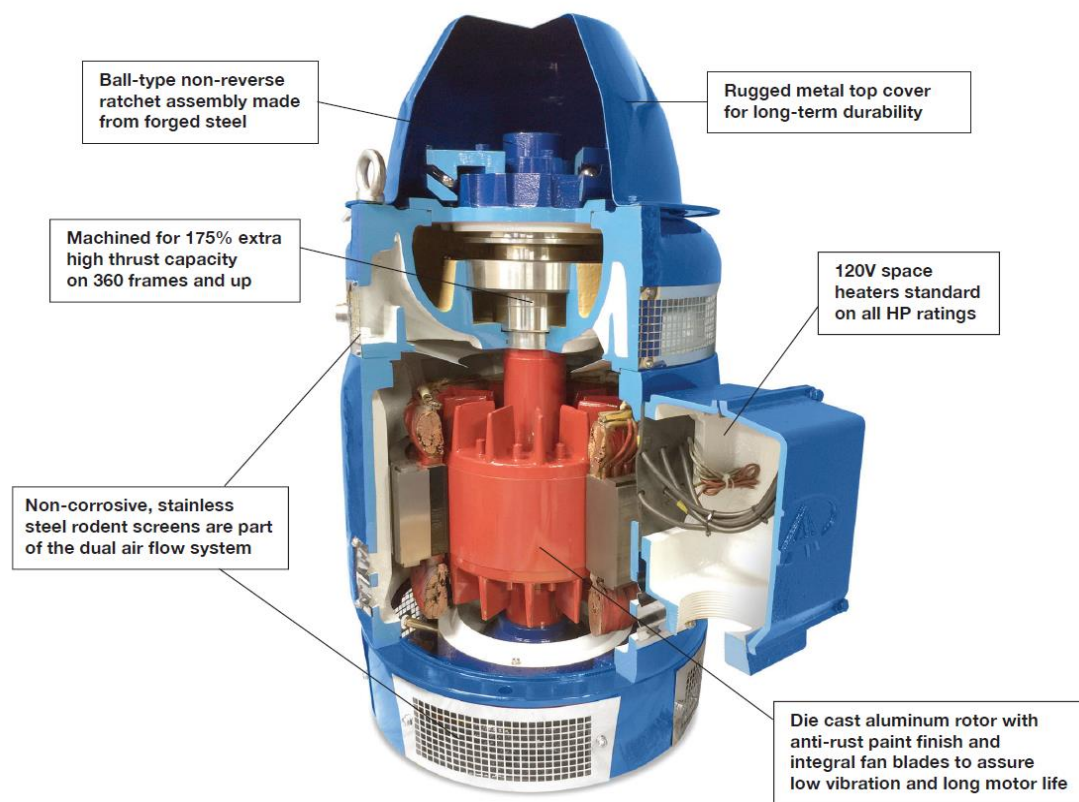


Figure 1: Diagram showing similar bore pump to that in Bore 4

All capital sewer servicing works have been completed for stage one (1) lots at the Yarran St subdivision, this includes gravity sewer mains, sewage manholes and pre laid sewer junctions.

As you will see in the picture below all gravity mains were laid on and covered with 7mm rock. This material is used rather than sand across the industry now as if failures / breaks occur in the future the rock is less likely to enter the network causing possible blockages etc.



Figure 2: Sewer Gravity Mains laid



Figure 3: Sewer main identification tape

The above picture demonstrates where Council has clearly identified the critical asset to eliminate the possibility of future damage throughout excavation works being completed in close proximity.

EPA officers came to the Coonamble Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) in April as a part of the five (5) year renewal of the Environment Protection License (EPL). This license gives Council the approval to operate that respective plant within the applicable environmental and operational parameters. Some small operational deficiencies and abnormalities were found throughout this process. These items are systematically being addressed in conjunction with the regulator.

The team completely rebuilt three (3) new sewer (boundary shaft/sewer junction) services to alleviate ongoing failures and alleviate potential future sewage blockages. This coincided with rectification of six (6) sewer chokes within the sewage reticulation network and the unblocking of eight (8) pumps at varying sewage pump stations.

Upcoming works:

- *Sewer assets installation at Limerick St (core and cluster).*
- *Step screen installation at the Coonamble STP*
- *New lab fully operational at Gulargambone STP*
- *Commencement of a stop valve audit/ replacement program (water mains) Coonamble*
- *Water mains replacement Park Street, Aberford Street/Castlereagh Highway, Wingadee Street, Coonamble and Breelong St Gulargambone*
- *Heavy maintenance and security works on Turkeys nest storage dam at Golf Club/Racecourse Coonamble*

URBAN SERVICES

The Urban Services team is continuing with the mowing of Ovals, Parks, Town approaches and urban streets, tree trimming, and removals as requested by the community and for safety reasons.

The new Female changerooms are now complete in Coonamble and were recently used. These new facilities have been very well received.

Main Street

Council is in the process of getting a plan done for the main street gardens, including the intersection, to improve the whole amenity of the street. An initial estimate is for \$92,000 for the new plants including upgrades to the irrigation systems for inclusion in the 2025/26 Operational Plan.

Brigidine Garden

The solar lights at the Brigidine garden were installed during April. This finalised the project which was initiated in 2024.

A note of thanks has been received from Mrs. Mary Skuthorp, thanking the shire staff in completing the Brigidine Garden. A further plaque has been arranged by Mrs. Skuthorp, acknowledging our local artists Angie O'Connor and Molly Mackay Deans and also, Dean Murray for making and donating the plinth. This plaque will be installed when it arrives.



Figure 4: Solar Lighting at Brigadine gardens

McDonald Park

McDonald Park is still receiving a lot of vandalism, including damage to the toilets, irrigation and furniture. Council will continue to monitor the situation.



Figure 5: Vandalism of newly installed BBQ at MacDonald Park



Figures 6 and 7: Vandalism of Gazebo at MacDonald Park

Upcoming works:

- *Additional tree plantings.*
- *Installation of two (2) standard picnic tables and an accessible picnic table, with shelters.*

Smith Park

Smith Park toilets have also been having issues with the existing sewerage set-up and work has continued to rectify this issue. A longer-term solution for Council will be to look at a full replacement of this facility to update and improve the overall amenity of the park and look at connecting to town sewer reticulation.

Coonamble Showground

Planning for the Rodeo weekend has already commenced. Maintenance and improvements to the facility continue with new toilet cisterns to be installed in the toilets near the greyhound track.

Upcoming events:

- *Federal Election voting*
- *Rodeo*

McCullough Street Upgrade

Sixteen (16) new Jacaranda trees in McCullough Street have been marked out and are in the process of being planted. These will complement the new parking areas that have been marked out for the Sports ground.

An irrigation line was installed prior to sealing of the road.

Cemeteries

Planning has also commenced for new lawned sections to be installed at Coonamble and will commence shortly as the existing lawned section is filling up fast.

The fencing for the Pioneer cemetery will be going in shortly. The perimeter has been plotted. Council has been continuing to work with Angie Little regarding the signage that will also be installed, and she is very happy with the progress.

All Cemeteries were given a good tidy up in preparation for Easter and Anzac Day.

Paving has been completed at the Coonamble Columbarium and the garden beds and new plants will be going in shortly.



Figure 8: Paving around Columbarium at Coonamble Cemetery

Upcoming works:

- *Paving, hedging and tree planting to occur at Cemeteries*
- *Fencing at Pioneer Cemetery*

Quambone

Trees have been planted at the Racecourse. Council took the opportunity to trench the irrigation and install tree guards to stave off further damage in the event that cattle make their way into the grounds in the future.

Assistance is also being provided to have the facility ready for the Marthaguy Picnic Races which will be held on 10 May 2025.

Majority of signage identified in the audit has now been installed, subject to some minor issues with some signs not being correct. Once these issues are rectified, the remainder of the signs will then be installed.



Figures 9 and 10: New tree planting and tree guards at Quambone Racecourse

Gulargambone Sportsground Facilities Upgrade

The Gulargambone facilities upgrade is progressing well, marking a significant milestone in the enhancement of local sporting infrastructure. This project, separate from the recently completed Coonamble Sportsground Female Amenities, is also being delivered by Winsman Group.

The construction has advanced steadily, with the external brickwork and roofing now complete. The project has reached the lock-up stage, with rough-in works also completed. Gyprocking has now commenced, moving the project into the interior finishing phase.

Unfortunately, due to further adverse weather conditions and ongoing delays in the availability of trades and materials, the project's schedule has been impacted. As a result, the completion date will not meet the previously anticipated target of the end of April 2025. We are now aiming for completion in the first week of June 2025.

Winsman Group has continued to demonstrate strong project management, and while the contractual completion date remains January 2026, Council acknowledges the challenges faced and appreciates the ongoing commitment to quality and delivery.

Quambone Tennis Courts

Council has fully prepared the surrounding surfaces in preparation for Tuff Group Holdings' arrival to carry out the laying of turf on the surrounds of the Quambone Tennis Courts. Tuff Group Holdings have indicated they are ready to move quickly to complete this stage of the project.

Council looks forward to the completion of these works and appreciates the patience and support of local tennis players and residents during this final stage of resurfacing. Further updates will be provided as the project progresses.

MT MAGOMETON QUARRY

Work is continuing to address the outstanding notices received from the Regulator after their inspection on 21 January 2025.

From the 13 notices received, Council has provided information to the regulator for 12 of these. One (1) of the notices is still being worked on. At this point Council has not heard back from the Regulators regarding the closing out of these notices. It is anticipated that another inspection will be done by the Regulators prior to these notices being closed out.

From the 13 Notices, we have:

- Seven (7) of the Notices have been cleared.
- Three (3) of the Notices have been sought to have the timeframe extended due to the nature of the notices being dependant on contractor availability.
- Three (3) of the Notices have ongoing work being carried out.

The engineering drawings for the support legs has been received, reviewed and approved. This work is scheduled to occur in June. This will close out one of the improvement notices and allow Council to operate the Crusher again, subject to concurrence and approval of the Regulator in regard to the other Notices.

Contactors are still onsite working on the Crusher plant. The scope of works includes supply and installation wind guards, lanyards, safety boxes and E-stops to conveyors as required, relining of bowl and mantle, flip jaw plates in fixed jaw and replace site glasses as required and maintenance and inspection of entire plant.

As the contractors were carrying out their servicing and repair work on the crusher plant it was identified that there was excessive iron material in the sump of the crusher jaw gearbox and this was identified as coming from the bearings as the seals had suffered a failure during operations, the jaw is due for removal and rebuilding in May.

Work is continuing getting the Quarry up to compliance and this has now identified that the existing mine plan is not sufficient and will require an update to the plan to enable operations to recommence, Council has already had preliminary discussions with contractors that are specialists in this area.

The tenders for Crushing have closed and are currently being assessed. It will be a panel contract for a period of three (3), plus an option for a further one (1) year subject to satisfactory performance. The contract will be to crush 100,000tpa and is

planned to commence 1 July 2025. The tender report will be brought to Council at the June Ordinary Council meeting.

The tender for the drilling and blasting has also closed and is currently being assessed with a view to this tender report also being brought to the June Council meeting.

ROADS

Natural Disaster Work

AGRN 1034 natural disaster restoration works are underway with work on Tooraweenah, Billeroy, Thara and Sandy Camp Roads in the last month. Work is currently occurring on Emby, Billeroy, Thara and Loma Roads. Work is being completed by Council roads crews and three contractor crews.

AGRN 987 November 2021 Natural Disaster deadline for completion of work was the 30 March 2025. Staff are now preparing the final claim submission for these restoration works. The deadline for AGRN 1034 September 22 Natural Disaster event completion of physical works is 30 June 2025 though, a request for an extension of time for another nine months will be submitted in May as per the guidelines.

Upcoming works:

- *Flood damage work – Thara, Billeroy, Back Gulargambone, Talegar, Nelgowrie and Old Wongy Roads.*
- *Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Phase 4 (LRCIP4) – Winnabah and Floddenfield Roads.*

RMCC

Maintenance is being completed in accordance with the RMAP (agreed schedule with TfNSW). This includes potholes patching, rest area cleaning, routine inspections, sign repairs and roadside slashing.

The resealing program on the highway commenced Tuesday 29 April and should be complete by Friday 9 May 2025.

Unsealed Roads Maintenance

Staff have been busy over the past few months carrying out maintenance on several unsealed roads including Floddenfield Road. The focus has been on natural disaster restoration works during March.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

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

(b) Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

(c) Social Implications

Maintenance works are programmed where practical, to minimise social impacts.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

Works are scheduled in accordance with Council's adopted 2024/2025 Operational Plan and Budget.

(f) Risk Implications

Maintenance works are programmed to minimise the risk to Council and the public.

CONCLUSION

This report provides updated information on the projects and planned works within the Infrastructure Department for Council's information.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received and noted on the works in progress within Council's Infrastructure Directorate.

	<p align="center">CAPITAL WORKS MONTHLY WORKS REPORT</p> <p align="center">2 May 2025</p>	<p align="right">Infrastructure Services Coonamble Shire Council Phone: 02 6827 1900 Fax: 02 6822 1626 council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au</p>
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<p>Road and recreational area users are to proceed with caution at all work sites and observe signage to ensure safety. Speed zones are enforceable with possible short delays. For all enquiries, please contact Council's Infrastructure Services Department on 6827 1900.</p>									
ROADS - URBAN – COONAMBLE, GULARGAMBONE AND QUAMBONE									
<i>Project</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Budget Variation (\$)</i>	<i>Total Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Project Expenditure to date (\$)</i>	<i>Committed (\$)</i>	<i>Total (\$)</i>	<i>% Completion</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Drainage works – Charles & McCullough Streets	RTR	185,000	-	185,000	-	185,000	-	5%	Contractor engaged to undertake work – will be complete this financial year
Drainage works – Auburn and King Streets	RTR	16,000	-	16,000	-	16,000	-	5%	Contractor engaged to undertake work – will be complete this financial year
Kerb and Gutter works – Ross Street (between Wingadee and Broad Streets)	RTR	40,000	-	40,000	-	40,000	-	5%	Work is complete
Kerb and Gutter works – Maule Street	RTR	120,000	-	120,000	-	120,000	-	5%	Work is complete
ROADS - RURAL – UNSEALED ROAD NETWORK									
<i>Project</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Budget Variation (\$)</i>	<i>Total Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Project Expenditure to date (\$)</i>	<i>Committed (\$)</i>	<i>Total (\$)</i>	<i>% Completion</i>	<i>Comment</i>
General Unsealed Road Maintenance	Council	739,952	-	739,952	503,260	74,644	577,905	78%	Billeroy Road, Tooraweenah Rd, Emby Rd, Wingadee Rd, Gilgoma Rd, Bullagreen Rd, Back Gular Rd, Sandy Camp Rd, Quabathoo Rd, Beanbah Rd, Gulargambone Rd, Killara Ln, Orwell South Rd, Nelgowrie Rd, Gibson Way, West Point Rd, Carinda Rd, Walla Walla Rd, Hollywood Ln, Warrabah, Thara Rd, Winnaba, Trafalgar, Toora and Blueys Ln.
ROADS - RURAL – SEALED ROAD NETWORK									
<i>Project</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Budget Variation (\$)</i>	<i>Total Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Project Expenditure to date (\$)</i>	<i>Committed (\$)</i>	<i>Total (\$)</i>	<i>% Completion</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Warren Road Upgrade	ROSI/FCR/Council	3,161,943	-	3,161,943	3,069,536.02	108,155.75	3,177,691.77	100%	Work is now complete. Project Completion Report being finalised.
Tooraweenah Road Upgrade	ROSI	22,962,000	18,200,000	41,162,000	3,213,699	624,647.11	3,213,699	7%	Working on environmental approvals to allow for commencement of further clearing and grubbing. Once this is complete, construction of side-tracks can be commenced. Service locations commencing mid-May.
Pilliga Road Roadworks and Drainage upgrade	Council/LGRG/FC R/ Block	1,662,500		1,662,500	63,712	44,698	108,409	10%	Detailed Design Plans received (100%), Bill of Quantities received, ATL (extension of time) approved. Completion required 30 June 2026.

	<div>CAPITAL WORKS MONTHLY WORKS REPORT</div> <div>2 May 2025</div>	<div>Infrastructure Services Coonamble Shire Council Phone: 02 6827 1900 Fax: 02 6822 1626 council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au</div>
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NATURAL DISASTER WORKS – FLOOD DAMAGE									
Project	Funding Source	Budget (\$)	Budget Variation (\$)	Total Budget (\$)	Project Expenditure to date (\$)	Committed (\$)	Total (\$)	% Completion	Comment
Natural Disaster restoration works - REPA AGRN 987	DRFA	7,995,835	6,279,747	6,279,747	4,312,941.94	290,692.90	4,423,634.84	70%	Billeroy Road, Bulgan Road, Calga, Tooraweenah Road, Goorianawa Road, Emby Road, Killara Lane, Wiliga Road, Bramble Road, Gilgooma Road, Quabathoo Road, Beanbah Road, Mungery Road, Wattle Creek Road, Gular Road, Yarranville Lane, Conimbria Road, Nelgowrie Road, Nortongong, Memsie Road, Ottendorf Road, Nedgera Road, Haydens Lane, Carinda Road, Walla Walla Road, Keewong Lane, Walla Walla Road, Toora Road, Tooloon Sth Road, Quandong Road, Pilliga Road, and Merri Merri Road.
Natural Disaster restoration works - REPA AGRN 1034	DRFA	4,603,659	-	4,603,659	451,699.44	286,795.18	738,494.62	16%	AGRN 1034 restoration work has commenced/completed on Nortongong Road, Loma Road, Williga Road, Gumin Gumin Road, Wattle Creek Road, Calga Road, Bulgan Road, Thurloo Road, Billeroy Road, Back Gular Road, Walla Walla Road, McGlynns Road, Goorianawa Road, Bramble Road, Gadsens Lane, Haydens Lane, Emby Road, Tooloon South Road, Sandy Camp Road, Kenilworth Road and Yarranville Road

	<p align="center">MAINTENANCE MONTHLY WORKS REPORT</p> <p align="center">2 May 2025</p>	<p align="right">Infrastructure Services Coonamble Shire Council Phone: 02 6827 1900 Fax: 02 6822 1626 council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au</p>
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WATER									
<i>Project</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Budget (\$) (2024-25)</i>	<i>Budget Variation (\$)</i>	<i>Total Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Project Expenditure to date (\$)</i>	<i>Committed (\$)</i>	<i>Total (\$)</i>	<i>% Completion</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Coonamble Mains Replacement	Council	200,000	-	200,000	48,803.06	-	48,803.06	20	Wingadee Street, project scope completed. Materials purchased, installation works to commence Sep 2025.
Gulargambone Mains Replacements	Council	100,000	-	100,000	-	-	-	10	Breelong Street, project scope completed.
Quambone Mains Replacement	Council	200,000	-	200,000	-	-	-	10	Gidgerah Street, project scope completed.
SSWP244-Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy (IWCM)	Grant/Council	303,900	-	303,900	100,464.00	-	100,464.00	40	Draft Issues paper review completed by Council with external stakeholders. Consultation with external stakeholders ongoing. Flow monitoring being completed. Ground water assessment to commence June 2025.
Gulargambone – installation of constant water quality monitoring equipment and chlorine room upgrades	Council	75,000	-	75,000	-	-	-	10	Costed proposals currently being assessed.
Quambone – installation of constant water quality monitoring equipment and reservoir security upgrades	Council	40,000	-	40,000	31,226.19	-	31,226.19	100	Chemtrol water monitoring equipment installed and operational.
Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone – meter replacement program	Council	43,750	-	43,750	-	-	-	0	Replacement program to commence.
Advanced Operational Support Program	DCCEEW Grant	150,000	-	150,000	150,000	-	150,000	90	Funding Deed for \$150,000 has been signed and executed by DCCEEW. Invoice sent to DCCEEW for Milestone 1. Meeting with DCCEEW conducted onsite. Milestone 2 works program finalised with DCCEEW and Beca H2O. Works to be completed in June 2025. Swim local program to be implemented in June 2025.
Yarran Street Subdivision (corner Reid St) – Water Servicing	Council	250,000	-	250,000	50,703.66	-	50,703.66	35%	Water servicing works completed for all stage one (1) lots including installation of individual water meters on individual lots.
Bore 4 (Coonamble) – emergency refurbishment works	Council	150,000	-	150,000	-	150,000	150,000	25%	Fitting crews have been to site and removed bore motor, impellers, shafts etc and taken back to Newcastle to strip down and complete all required refurbishment works, bore commissioning expected first week in May 2025.

	<p align="center">MAINTENANCE MONTHLY WORKS REPORT</p> <p align="center">2 May 2025</p>	<p align="right">Infrastructure Services Coonamble Shire Council Phone: 02 6827 1900 Fax: 02 6822 1626 council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au</p>
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SEWER									
<i>Project</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Budget Variation (\$)</i>	<i>Total Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Project Expenditure to date (\$)</i>	<i>Committed (\$)</i>	<i>Total (\$)</i>	<i>% Completion</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Coonamble Mains Relining	Council	200,000	-	200,000	-	-	-	10	Program finalised, works to be rolled over into 25/26.
Gulargambone Mains Relining	Council	210,000	-	210,000	-	-	-	10	Program finalised, works to be rolled over into 25/26.
Gulargambone Sewage Treatment Plant – Laboratory room installation	Council	72,000	-	72,000	35,425.41	-	35,425.41	25	Lab building installed, services and internal fit out works completed, lab equipment to be purchased.
Gulargambone Sewage Treatment Plant – pressure tank installation	Council	25,000	-	25,000	9,454.55	-	9,454.55	10	Onsite works commenced.
Coonamble STP Upgrade – Concept Design	Council	250,000	-	250,000	121,299.36	-	121,299.36	70	Options study draft report has been issued. Consultation meetings with EPA, DCCEEW and PWA have been conducted. Concept design being completed.
Core and Cluster (sewer servicing)	Council	33,000	-	33,000	-	-	-	5	Servicing requirements scoped and main extension works expected to be completed by June 2025.
Coonamble Sewage Treatment Plant – step screen installation at headworks	Council	170,000	-	170,000	-	161,928.00	161,928.00	10	RFQ accepted, external supplier engaged to complete installation and commissioning, works to commence in May 2025.
Yarran Street Subdivision Development – sewerage servicing including Sewage Pump Station, Rising/Gravity Main installations.	Council	750,000	-	750,000	498,599.69	-	498,599.69	50	Contractor completed Sewage Pump Station and Rising Main installation works. Council has completed all gravity main works required for stage one (1) lots including the pre laying of sewer junctions for all the lots.
Gulargambone – Sewage Treatment Plant tertiary ponds de-sludge	Council	250,000	-	250,000	-	-	-	10	Project scoped and options being considered.

URBAN SPACES									
<i>Project</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Budget Variation (\$)</i>	<i>Total Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Project Expenditure to date (\$)</i>	<i>Committed (\$)</i>	<i>Total (\$)</i>	<i>% Completion</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Coonamble Sportsgrounds Female Amenities/Changerooms 6078-2303-0000	SCCF4 + Council	450,000	130,000	580,000	613,343	0	613,343	100	Work has been completed and handover was done after a successful inspection on 28 March as per funding deadline.
Gulargambone Sportsground Amenities Upgrade 6055-2301-0001	SCCF5 + Council	520,000	100,000	620,000	389,703.37	264,776	654,479.37	40	Internal rough in complete. Doors and windows grates being installed. Gyprock commencing next week.

CEMETERIES									
<i>Project</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Budget Variation (\$)</i>	<i>Total Budget (\$)</i>	<i>Expenditure YTD (\$)</i>	<i>Committed (\$)</i>	<i>Total YTD (\$)</i>	<i>% Completion</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Pioneer Cemetery Coonamble new fence and signage	Council	48,000	-	48,000	23,329	23,330	46,659	80	Signage is being drafted, fencing to commence next month due to weather.

**11 NOTICES OF MOTIONS/QUESTIONS WITH
 NOTICE/RESCISSION MOTIONS**

Nil

12 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

RECOMMENDATION

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

12.1 Closed (Public Excluded) Council Meeting of the Coonamble Shire Council - 9 April 2025

12.2 Sons Of The Soil (SOTS)

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

12.3 Housing Project

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - d(i) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

12.4 Bore Bath Project - Lead Consultancy

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - d(i) and d(ii) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it and information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council.

13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING