



**FEDERATION
COUNCIL**

Agenda

Tuesday, 20 March 2018

Council Chambers, Corowa

Commencing 9:30 am



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1. MEETING OPENING

Live Streaming of Council Meetings

Federation Council wishes to advise members of the public that Council meetings will be recorded and will be available after each meeting on Council's website www.federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au

All care will be taken to maintain the privacy of those in attendance, however as a visitor in the public gallery, your presence may be recorded. By remaining in the public gallery, it is assumed your consent is given in the event your image is broadcast.

Acknowledgement of Country

I would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we are meeting today, the Bpangerang people, and acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who now reside in this area. I extend that respect to Elders – past and present of the Bpangerang nations.

2. NOTIFICATION OF PECUNIARY/CONFLICTS OF INTEREST IN MEETING BUSINESS ITEMS

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4. MAYORAL MINUTES

QANTAS PILOT TRAINING SCHOOL PROJECT – COROWA AIRPORT POSSIBILITY TO SUBMIT EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Summary

The Mayor will discuss with Council, the opportunity for Federation Council to nominate the Corowa Airfield as a site for consideration by QANTAS for development of a flight training centre. Aspects such as the current Airport Master Plan, and draft new Business Plan would need to be considered, including possible conflicts with other users at the airport, and extensive consultation with current users and other stakeholders. It is considered prior to any of this occurring, the Council need to have an in-principle decision on if they are interested in progressing this matter.

RECOMMENDED that Council note the Mayoral Minute and endorse a lodgement of an Expression of Interest with Qantas for the Pilot Training School project.

5. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

5.1 JOINT ORGANISATIONS (REPORT CARRIED OVER FROM FEBRUARY MEETING WITH MINOR UPDATES)

Summary

The purpose of this report is to allow Council to discuss and determine a position with respect to becoming a member of a new Joint Organisation (JO) model that the NSW Government plans on being in place from July 2018. Council has considered previous reports on this matter, and the Government has given until the end of February 2018, to resolve if it wishes to be in a Joint Organisation, and if so, with what other councils.

Council considered this report at the February meeting, but the NSW Government gave Councils late advice that the deadline for responding was extended by one month. Council are now required to resolve on this. The recommendation wording, as attached has been referred to the Office of Local Government, who have advised that it is appropriate and legal.

Background

(extract from <https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/content/joint-organisations-strengthen-regional-nsw>)

Joints Organisations (JOs) are a key NSW Government commitment to build stronger councils and improve service delivery and infrastructure across rural and regional communities. The Local Government Amendment (Regional Joint Organisations) Act 2017 commenced on 15 December 2017 allowing councils to voluntarily join new JOs in their planning region. JOs provide a forum for local councils and State agencies to collaborate, plan, set priorities and deliver important projects in regional NSW.

The NSW Government is providing \$3.3 million (up to \$300,000 per JO formed) in seed funding to establish JOs which will focus on the issues that matter most to regional communities. These include building strong businesses, creating jobs, securing water supplies, improving regional transport, and providing community infrastructure, services and facilities.

The principal function of JOs will be –

- 1) strategic planning and priority setting,*
- 2) intergovernmental collaboration,*
- 3) regional leadership and advocacy.'*

Councils can also opt to undertake other functions, such as those performed by some of the Regional Organisations of Councils (ROCs) (sharing of staff, joint projects/events) on a voluntary basis. Whilst the regulations are not yet made under this new Act, the following basic elements of a JO are known –

- Will comprise of all member Council Mayors as voting representatives; General Managers do not vote.
- Must employ at least one staff member, being an Executive Officer on a Senior Staff Contract under the NSW Local Government Award.
- Must comprise of at least three councils.
- Must be within the NSW Planning Boundary relevant to your council (for Federation, this is the Riverina Murray Regional Organisation) see attached map 5.1.2.
- Must demonstrate a clear community of interest between member councils and regions.
- Must not adversely impact on other councils or JOs, for example, leaving too few councils to form a JO.
- Must be based around a strong regional centre or centres.
- Must be of an appropriate size to partner with State, Commonwealth and other partners.

For further information please refer to <https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/content/joint-organisations-strengthen-regional-nsw>

Although the process of becoming a member of a JO is voluntary, it is recommended that Council does join one in the interests of being able to work with the State and other Councils in the JO, to progress regional outcomes.

If Council agrees to join a JO, the following steps are required:

1. Identify council's planning region according to the map provided in the information pack. Only councils in the Far West have the option to join a JO outside their planning region.
(Note - Federation Council is within the Riverina Murray Planning Region – see attachment 5.1.2).
2. Consult with councils within your preferred regional grouping to reach agreement on JO membership, noting that each JO must have a minimum of three-member councils.
(Note – Federation Council has met with all neighbouring Councils, most at a RAMROC level and several informal discussions between the Mayor and other Mayors. The Mayor and Interim General Manager also met with a combination of REROC and RAMROC Mayors and General Managers, including County Councils, at a workshop in Narrandera recently. See further into this report for more information.)
3. Once the proposed membership is agreed, ensure each member council endorses the proposal by a resolution of council.
4. By 30 March 2018, submit nomination to form a JO by email to jointorganisations@olg.nsw.gov.au, marked 'Nomination for Joint Organisation'. This is to include a copy of the resolution and the date council made that resolution;
5. Complete and return a Forming a Joint Organisation – checklist with the nomination.
6. Unlike a normal council resolution, the legislation provides a fixed 28 day period for councils to rescind such a resolution. As such, councils are also asked to undertake a further step, which may fall after 30 March 2018. After the expiry of a period of 28 days from the making of council's resolution, the General Manager inform the Minister in writing that council's resolution has not been rescinded.

The JO network and funding allocations will be announced in March, with JOs proclaimed in April and operational by 1 July 2018.

Consultation with other Councils

Offer to join a larger REROC JO

Council received a formal invite to join a larger REROC model, but resolved at the January 2018 meeting, not to take up that offer, as it involved only Albury City and Greater Hume, along with the rest of the REROC Councils. This is not considered to adequately address other matters for Federation such as the Murray River priorities.

Council has workshopped this matter briefly in December 2017, and since that time the Riverina and Murray Region of Councils has met, on the 18 December 2017, to consider the JO matter. RAMROC canvassed all members present, including Federation who was represented by the Mayor and General Manager.

The recommendation that came out of the RAMROC workshop meeting on 18 December 2017 was as follows-

RESOLVED that it be recommended to the RAMROC Member Councils that they resolve to adopt Option 3 in the Executive Officer's report, which proposes the establishment of two joint Organisations within the DoP Riverina Murray State Regional Boundaries, these being a Murray and Murrumbidgee Joint Organisation comprising 11 Council areas (i.e. generally comprising current RAMROC councils), and a Riverina Joint Organisation comprising 9 Council areas (generally comprising current REROC councils);

and noting that Balranald and Wentworth Shires now have an option to adopt full JO membership for a Murray and Murrumbidgee JO.

Since then, the Mayor and Interim General Manager met with many Councils and County Councils at Narrandera on the 5 February 2018, at a workshop facilitated by Melissa Gibbs from the Office of Local Government.

RAMROC also further considered this matter at the ordinary Board meeting, on 14 February 2018. At this meeting, although no votes were taken, there appeared growing interest by some, including Federation and Albury City Councils, to propose to the NSW Government, the one JO to span the entire Riverina Murray Region. This is considered to more effectively meet the aims of the NSW Government, by having a more strategic focus, and could also meet the objectives of local Councils in creating a bigger voice at the table. It would also be more cost effective. There are also some possible disadvantages in going so large, but these are not considered enough to outweigh the advantages.

A main issue however appears to be there is still some Councils within RAMROC who would not favour this model, and more so, REROC would not appear to favour this model, and there are also unknowns with what size JO Wagga Council is leaning towards.

It is recommended that Council nominate their preferred option, which in this report, for consideration, is for it to be in the larger single Riverina Murray JO, whilst also retaining a fall back position to be that of the current, or similar, RAMROC model. Albury City Council has strongly supported continuing to be a part of the existing RAMROC model also, if the one large JO fails to get up.

Given there has been no further interest shown in the one large JO from REROC, even with the extension of time allowed, it is not likely to be supported, however the recommendation in this report covers this aspect by having RAMROC as a fall-back JO model.

The former Urana Shire was a member of both REROC and RAMROC, largely due to its central position across the Riverina Murray area, and with many services, communities of interest and State Agency linkages to the Wagga area. The former Corowa Shire was a member of both REROC and RAMROC also for many years, but resolved to leave REROC prior to the amalgamation to focus more on RAMROC.

Attachments

5.1.1 Letter from Office of Local Government

5.1.2 Riverina Murray Planning Region Boundary

5.1.3 Joint Organisation Frequently Asked Questions – Office of Local Government

Financial Implications

The NSW Government has indicated that seed funding of up to \$300,000 per JO is available. Operating costs of each JO are hard to estimate, due to unknown size, final roles and staffing levels, but would be conservatively estimated to be in the order of at least \$500,000 per year. It is envisaged that for RAMROC, the JO would take the place of RAMROC. Council currently pays \$20,279.47 annually for RAMROC membership, and based on a RAMROC size JO, costing around \$500,000 per year, this would increase Councils contribution to around \$40,000 per year.

RECOMMENDED that Council note the report on the Joint Organisations; and

In accordance with Part 7 of Chapter 12 of the Local Government Act 1993 (Act), the Federation Council (Council) resolves:

1. THAT the Council inform the Minister for Local Government (Minister) of the Council's endorsement of the Minister recommending to the Governor the establishment of a Joint Organisation (Joint Organisation) in accordance with this resolution;
2. TO approve the inclusion of the Council's area in the Joint Organisation's area;
3. THAT Councils preferred position is to have one Joint Organisation to cover the entire Riverina Murray region, and failing that being successful, Councils fall-back position is to cover the existing RAMROC area, with the admission that this may not include Balranald and Wentworth should they form another JO with more Northern Councils in the Far West region;
4. THAT the Joint Organisation be established to cover the Council's area and any one or more of the following council areas:
 - a) Albury City, Berrigan, Edward River, Murray River, Balranald, Wentworth, Narrandera, Leeton, Griffith, Murrumbidgee, Carrathool, Hay, Lockhart, Coolamon, Junee, Temora, Wagga Wagga City, Bland, Cootamundra-Gundagai, Snowy Valleys, Greater Hume, Goldenfields Water County Council, Riverina Water County Council,
5. THAT before 23 March 2018, the General Manager provide the Minister with a copy of this resolution including the date on which Council made this resolution;
6. THAT, on the expiry of a period of 28 days from the making of this resolution, the General Manager inform the Minister that this resolution has not been rescinded;
7. THAT failing acceptance of the entire councils and county councils in the Riverina Murray Regional Planning area to be a singular joint organisation, that a joint organisation be established to cover the Council's area and any one or more of the following council areas:
 - a) Albury City, Berrigan, Edward River, Murray River, Balranald, Wentworth, Narrandera, Leeton, Griffith, Murrumbidgee, Carrathool, Hay.

5.2 SOUTHERN PHONE DIVIDEND 2016-2017

Summary

Council is a shareholder in the Southern Phone Company and receives an Annual Dividend as a result. For the 2016-2017 year the dividend was \$18,677. This is slightly down on last year's results but is still considered a reasonable return for Council.

Attachments

Nil.

Financial Implications

Nil.

RECOMMENDED that Council note the report on the Southern Phone Dividend for the 2016-2017 Financial Year.

5.3 MEETING DAY - MURRAY REGIONAL TOURISM

11.00 am Mark Francis CEO Murray Regional Tourism to present to Council and provide an overview of activities for the past twelve months of Murray Regional Tourism.

A BUTLER
INTERIM GENERAL MANAGER

6. DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

6.1 FEDERATION COUNCIL TOURISM INITIATIVES - PARTNERSHIP WITH MURRAY REGIONAL TOURISM

Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on a number of Murray Regional Tourism (MRT) initiatives Council is currently participating in.

Federation Council is a financial member of MRT, who are a regional cross border tourism organisation.

Murray Regional Tourism CEO, Mark Francis will make a presentation to Council at the meeting.

Background

Visitor Services Transformation Project

MRT is currently working with councils along the Murray to facilitate the development of a regional Visitor Servicing Strategy. This builds on the visitor servicing review work that MRT have already completed, which resulted in a discussion paper on the future of visitor information services.

The discussion paper highlighted the need to tailor visitor information services to meet visitor needs, by considering the ways in which visitors prefer to consume information and providing a flexible approach to the way this service is delivered.

As a result, MRT sought the support and co-contributions of local councils within the Murray region to undertake a Visitor Services Transformation Project. Federation Council has confirmed its involvement in the project, which will further support the tourism and visitor services review work completed by Council to date.

Project objectives

1. Create a Visitor Servicing Strategy for the Murray region, based on the shift from 'information' to 'inspiration' that unifies the visitor experience;
2. Develop a target operating model for the new approach, providing a 'freedom within a framework' approach to implementation across the region;
3. Create a coordinated step change in the regional approach to visitor servicing that delivers a model that is future-proof.

Project deliverables

- A benchmark of current performance, from the customer perspective through the Customer Shoes analysis of 5 key sites.
- An acknowledgement and co-creation of a shared, common vision and purpose for visitor servicing, set within the context of changing customer needs and industry demands.
- A clear strategy, operating model and implementation plan to begin to make 'Visitor Inspiration Centres' a reality across the Murray.
- Economic impacts, modelling and ROI estimates to support investment cases across the region.

It is expected that this project will take approximately six months to complete, after which a plan for implementation will need to be developed and considered by Council. This will be the key to help inform the future for Council's existing and any future VIC facilities and experiences. Currently Council only has the VIC at the Corowa Civic Centre, along with varying levels of information being provided at the Howlong and Mulwala Resource Centres, and the Urana Office. People are moving more and more away from needing 'Bricks and Mortar' VICs, to requiring increasingly advanced online and virtual experiences for their information gathering.

Murray Farm to Plate Program

Council is participating in the Murray Farm to Plate Program, which is being led by MRT to realise the Murray's potential as an agri and culinary tourism destination.

The program is focusing on developing the region's product and experience offering by improving the quality, authenticity and number of offerings available to visitors and locals.

The program information below is provided by Knowledge Transfer Services who have been engaged by MRT to undertake the project.

How will this be achieved?

To accomplish this, MRT recognises that it is important to clearly articulate what the future looks like and in doing so:

- Enable members of the value chain and our communities of interest to buy into the vision;
- Create a framework for collaboration across the region as well as across the farm to plate value chain;
- Provide opportunities for food producers to tap into key drivers of consumer demand by connecting with the tourism industry; and
- Foster the continued development of a vibrant regional food culture that will underpin the tourism experience and support business and economic development across the farm to plate value chain

The program provides strategic intervention that is designed to:

- Increase business to business engagement between the agriculture and tourism sectors to deliver on the food and agri-tourism opportunities in the region;
- Enable producers, farmers, growers and the commercial food service sector to understand the opportunity and provide ideas and inspiration and a pathway for them to diversify into this market opportunity and create regional differentiation;
- Celebrate our food heroes by telling the story of producers and the tourism and hospitality operators who are creating local content and stories that feature fresh, seasonal and regional produce in their offering; and
- Identify and resolve barriers that impede collaboration, growth and innovation across the farm to plate value chain.

Outcome

Ultimately, this is a sustained program of strategic intervention designed to fast track the development of food tourism products and experiences and build the regions reputation as an agri and culinary tourism destination over time.

Year one overview

1. Farm to plate development strategy

This strategic document is designed to understand what the region is doing well, the opportunities, challenges and gaps in terms of getting produce from the farm and onto the visitor's plate. To do this we need to:-

- Understanding supply, demand and distribution challenges and opportunities around regional food and wine/drink.
- Identifying what we do well and what needs to improve.
- Establishing clear goals and how to achieve them.
- Creating provenance framework to underpin the regions food tourism reputation.

- Create a framework for collaboration both at a regional level and across the production to consumption value chain.
- Provide a model to guide local ownership and implementation of the regional farm to plate strategy.

In addition to desktop research, the strategy will require engagement of key stakeholders from across the value chain. This will allow us to achieve our strategic objectives and ensure we build upon and recognise the effort and achievements undertaken in the food space to date.

2. Supply side development

Pilot projects will be undertaken to demonstrate what is possible and test the best way to roll out programs across the region in subsequent years.

Year two overview

In year two of the program, product and experience development projects are proposed to develop the critical mass of product and content and to build the links to consumers within the region and beyond.

Proposed activities include;

- Distribution project roll out.
- Regional produce master class program for food service.
- Farm to Plate Week – Chef’s tours, industry networking events and consumer dinners to celebrate. regional food and food experiences.
- Regional food events to engage locals and visitors.
- Regional showcase events in Melbourne/Sydney/Adelaide with packaged experiences.

Year three overview

The focus in year three will be on establishing critical mass and a viable regional food system by consolidating growth and leveraging opportunities.

Proposed activities include;

- Food and agri-tourism experience development programs.
- Distribution project roll out.
- Regional produce master class program for food service.
- Farm to Plate Week – Chef’s tours, industry networking events and consumer dinners to celebrate regional food and food experiences.
- Seasonal food events and experiences calendar to engage locals and visitors, encouraging them to come back again and again.
- Regional showcase events in Melbourne/Sydney/Adelaide with packaged experiences.
- Joint food and tourism marketing program to export markets (Trade missions, events, inbound familiarisations).

Council will work closely with relevant stakeholders to facilitate their involvement in the program and ensure the best possible outcomes are achieved for the Federation region. It will also be important to promote this exciting program to the broader community.

Strategic Digital Platform and Program Review

In 2013, MRT commenced the Murray Digital Platform Project in collaboration with several local government areas across the Murray region. The project included;

- Website design and build
- Industry education and training workshops
- Commissioning content (editorial, imagery)

Seven destinations participated in the program and signed a three year agreement with MRT from 2014 to 2017. A one year extension to the original agreement was sought and implemented by MRT and the partnering destinations during 2016. The current agreement is due to conclude on 30 June 2018.

The Visit Corowa Region site went live in May 2016 and has since been a valuable tool to promote the region, including local product, events and experiences. Management of the website sits with the tourism team, who regularly update content and work closely with stakeholders to support their listings.

A review of the existing Murray digital platform was recently undertaken by MRT in consultation with the digital agency and stakeholders. The purpose of this work was to determine the future direction of the digital destination marketing effort for the region and to inform decision making in relation to the future digital space.

MRT identified that the current platform is providing a sub-optimal user experience and ongoing issues with the base platform is requiring continual investment. MRT is also aware that the current approach of multiple separate website properties for each destination throughout the region has a negative impact on the individual SEO value of each destination site, and reduces the ability to reach prospective and in-market visitors.

Issues with the existing platform include;

- Technical limitations.
- Content quality and duplication across the destination sites.
- User experience and user journeys.
- Loss of efficiency, which collectively has reduced the marketing efforts.

In light of this, MRT are proposing a coordinated single source of digital information for the Murray Region which promotes all destinations (each destination would have a microsite within the overarching site). The option also exists for Federation Council to continue with a standalone website and staff are working closely with MRT to understand the available options moving forward.

Murray Region Destination Management Plan (DMP)

As reported at the recent councillor briefing, MRT are currently updating the Murray Region Destination Management Plan which will be finalised and launched at the end of March.

The Murray Region Destination Management Plan is an important long-term plan, which will guide the strategic development of the region and assist to grow the visitor economy for the future.

It builds on the outcomes of the 2012 DMP and provides an updated strategic approach to prioritising key tourism experiences and product development experiences, and ensuring continued sustainable growth of the visitor economy.

The key objectives of the project include the following:

Review of the past Destination Management Plan including –

- Progress and outcomes of identified projects
- Assessment of performance indicators (investment, visitation, activities undertaken, spend)

Consultation and information gathering –

- In region consultation
- Identification of investment projects

- Benchmarking with other regions
- Issues and opportunities analysis

Preparation of 2018-2022 Murray Region DMP –

- Establishment of product and infrastructure which will grow tourism
- Assessment of projects
- Prioritisation of projects
- Profile of priority projects

Council has been provided with the opportunity to have input into this plan and has identified a number of important projects that will drive tourism growth and development in the Federation region.

Attachments

Nil.

Financial Implications

Council's membership fee with MRT for 2017/18 was \$16,185. Participation in the Visitor Services Transformation Project was an additional \$1,000 and has been funded from the General Fund. There may be some additional (optional) buy-in for future years of the Farm to Plate program, however involvement at this stage is part of Council's membership fee.

Costs associated with the digital platform program are unknown at this stage, however will be considered as part of budget preparations for 2018/19. The annual costs (not including resource for daily management) of the current destination website is \$7,200.

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Council note the report on some of the Tourism Initiatives underway and in planning, in partnership with Murray Regional Tourism; and note the information provided; and
2. THAT Council support the continued involvement in the initiatives outlined and receive update reports as required as the projects progress.

6.2 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF FEDERATION CELEBRATIONS

Summary

Destination Rutherglen have approached Council with an exciting opportunity to partner with them in the delivery of an Open House event in the Rutherglen/Corowa region. The event is to be held during August, to coincide with the 125th Anniversary of Federation.

Although still in the very early stages of planning, the purpose of this report is to seek the support of Council for the continued delivery of this initiative.

Background

Open House is a worldwide group that provides an opportunity for people to visit places of interest and engage in architecture. Whilst the Open House focus has been on cities such as Melbourne, the first regional program was held in Ballarat last year.

Destination Rutherglen have been liaising with Open House Melbourne, who have indicated they would support a community led Open House event in Rutherglen/Corowa. The opportunity exists to leverage the extensive Open House database to promote the event in this region.

Council has also been in contact with the Federation Museum who are planning to host a dinner in celebration of the 125th Anniversary of Federation. It has been discussed that events be combined to create a weekend of celebrations for residents and visitors.

As part of the Centenary celebrations in 1993, Prime Minister Paul Keating visited Corowa and delivered a notable speech at the Centenary Dinner at Oddfellows Hall. Given the significance of the upcoming occasion, it is proposed that Council extend an invitation to the current Prime Minister or Deputy Prime Minister to visit Corowa and attend the celebrations.

This initiative provides an opportunity to;

- Celebrate the rich history of the region and the 125th Anniversary of Federation.
- Attract visitation to the area during what is usually a quieter period.
- Showcase places of interest that people would otherwise not have the opportunity to visit.
- Work in partnership with Destination Rutherglen to promote the region.
- Continue to strengthen partnerships with community groups such as the Federation Museum.

The Federation Museum will be an important partner in the delivery of this initiative and Council will work closely with them in the planning and coordination of the celebrations. It will also be important for council to explore other interested partners (such as the Corowa Rotary Club) and consider any other activities planned to celebrate the 125th Anniversary.

A small planning group will be established, including representatives from key stakeholder groups.

Attachments

Nil.

Financial Implications

Whilst a detailed budget is yet to be prepared, it is expected a contribution of \$4,000 will be required for this initiative.

RECOMMENDED that Council support the proposed initiative and extend an invitation to the Prime Minister or Deputy Prime Minister to attend the celebrations.

6.3 2018 COROWA AUSTRALIAN BILLY CART CHAMPIONSHIPS

Summary

Council is pleased to be hosting the 2018 Corowa Australian Billy Cart Championships, which will be held in Sanger Street on Easter Saturday.

Background

The Corowa Australian Billy Cart Championships has been running for 22 years and is one of Corowa's iconic events. In 2017, it attracted over 5,000 spectators and competitors from around Australia.

Categories for this year's event include:

- Juniors - 9 years and under
- 10 – 13 Years
- 14 – 17 Years
- Open Class
- 60 +
- All Schools Team Challenge

In addition to the Billy Cart races, a range of family entertainment is also on offer including face painting, a jumping castle, Easter colouring provided by the Corowa Anglican Church, Federation Market stalls and a BBQ provided by the Corowa Rutherglen Junior Football Club.

Thanks are extended to The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Whitechurch, who will again be volunteering at the event as MC.

Entries are currently open to participate in the billy cart races, with entry forms and information regarding conditions of entry available from www.australianbillycartchampions.com.au

Sponsors of this year's event include Andrew Goldman Excavations, Edge FM & 3NE, Win Television, Corowa RSL Club, Corowa SupalGA, Maverick Boats, Pigdons Holden, Green Acres Motel, Target Country, and Hume Bank.

The event would not be possible without the assistance of local volunteers and community groups including the Australian Billy Cart Committee, Corowa VRA, Rotary Club of Corowa, Corowa Events, and the Corowa and District Historical Machinery Club. Council is extremely grateful for the support of all those involved.

Attachments

Nil.

Financial Implications

The total cost of the event is \$16,697 and is funded through sponsorship, event registrations and \$7,000 from Council's general fund.

RECOMMENDED that Council note the report on the 2018 Corowa Australian Billy Cart Championships.

6.4 2018 SENIORS FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS

Summary

Federation Council is extending an invitation to residents aged over 55 years to join the 'Baby Boomers Bus About' as part of the 2018 NSW Seniors Festival (4 to 15 April 2018).

NSW Seniors Festival is designed to celebrate the role seniors play and the contributions they make to the NSW community, aligning to the policy objective of inclusive communities.

Background

Based around this year's Seniors Festival theme 'Let's Do More Together', the 'Baby Boomers Bus About' is a series of organised tours that encourages people to get out and about. Guests can book their seat on one of the buses provided, and be chauffeured to the event and back again.

A Council run event, the aim of 'Baby Boomers Bus About' is to provide opportunities for seniors to get out and about, to learn new skills, participate in physical activity, or just have fun and socialise. Events are free and people can attend as many events as they like. The bus and activities must be pre-booked through the Corowa Visitor Information Centre, however people may also choose to make their own way each event.

A promotional flyer has been delivered to all residents and council has received an overwhelming response to date.

A number of businesses and organisations (as below) are proudly supporting the Baby Boomers Bus About and Council would like to extend their sincere thanks for making these events possible.

Anyone interested in attending an event or booking their seat on the bus should contact the Corowa Visitor Information Centre on (02) 6033 8975 between 10am and 4pm, Monday to Friday.

An overview of each event is provided below and buses to the events will run from Corowa, Howlong, Mulwala, Oaklands and Urana.

MORNING MELODIES

WHERE: Yarrawonga Mulwala Golf Club Resort

WHEN: Friday 6 April at 10:30am

Guests will enjoy a show at the Yarrawonga Mulwala Golf Club Resort. Show will run from 10:30am to 11:30am followed by a light lunch.

APRIL NO FALLS

WHERE: Oaklands RSL Club

WHEN: Monday 9 April at 9:30am (morning tea is included)

Paula Schneider, Regional Assessment Service, Murrumbidgee LHD will speak about understanding the care system and what home care products and services are available to help you live independently in your own home and community for as long as possible.

Volunteers from the Urana Gentle Exercise class will give a presentation on falls prevention. Guests will then be asked to engage in an introductory Tai Chi class or gentle exercise class.

SALT AND PEPPER SILVER SCREENING - CINEMA IS FULL

WHERE: Corowa Golf Club

WHEN: Wednesday 11 April at 10am

Guests will be treated to the ultimate in cinema experiences at the Corowa Golf Club, with a screening of an excellent new film especially chosen for the Baby Boomers Bus About. All finished off with a light lunch and a chance to mingle.

DYING TO KNOW

WHERE: Howlong Golf Resort

WHEN: Thursday 12 April at 10am

Guests can learn information about writing a will, who will be your enduring guardian, nominating a power of attorney and 'after death' possibilities when it comes to organising your funeral.

Guests speakers include;

- Hume Riverina Community Legal Services discussing available services and life planning options including nominating a power of attorney and medical endurance power of attorney plus Q&A.
- Travis Johnson, Lawyer, Kell Moore Lawyers & Conveyancers speaking about what is involved with writing a will plus Q&A.
- Tracey Bastin, Manager, John Hossack Funeral Services explaining post-life options plus Q&A.

Guests will be treated to a morning tea with the option to buy your own lunch afterwards.

AGEING WELL LUNCH

WHERE: Urana Bowling Club, 18-20 William Street

WHEN: Sunday 15 April at 12 noon

Guests can enjoy a two-course lunch and soft drinks at the Urana Bowling Club.

Attachments

Nil.

Financial Implications

This initiative has been jointly funded by Council, local business support and the NSW Government, through the Liveable Communities grant program. The total cost of the Baby Boomers Bus About is \$15,745.

RECOMMENDED that Council note the report on the activities planned for the 2018 Senior Festival Celebrations.

6.5 COROWA SWIMMING POOL

Summary

The purpose of this report is to further the new Corowa Swimming Pool project. The report also contains a petition, as attached, received by Council in early February 2018. The petition is seeking Council to 'Save Corowa's 50m Pool'. There are many comments and suggestions in the comments section of the petition that warrant the close attention of Council.

It is hoped that a new Corowa Swimming Pool will be operational by December 2019 and it is expected that the current Corowa Swimming Pool will not operate during the next season (November 2018 – March 2019).

Please also note, attached to the agenda is a brief summary of the various actions taken by Council since 1995, in working towards the renewal of the Corowa Swimming Pool. This includes a number of recent reviews and community consultation.

Council is continuing to review the future development options in respect to the Corowa Swimming Pool facility and will hold a Community Information Session to outline these, on Monday 26 March 2018, commencing at 5.30pm, at the Corowa RSL, Corowa. The purpose of this session is to provide an outline of the options being considered by Council in the final feasibility report, prior to a determination being made by Council on the preferred option.

Council is then recommended to adopt an in-principle option at the 17 April 2018 meeting. Due to the significance of this decision, both from a financial and end-result in terms of pool sizes/elements, Council aims to allow for an exhibition period and one final chance for feedback, prior to a final decision being made at the 15 May 2018 Ordinary Council meeting. Council are wanting to re-engage with the community for one last time over the next few months, to ensure that all relevant feedback is captured before a decision is made.

It is considered critical that Council does not delay this any further than the May 2018 meeting, to allow tenders to be developed so that grant deadline commitments can be met, and to minimise the number of seasons the community will be without a pool. It is proposed that if decisions are made at this time, and the project goes to plan and schedule, then a new pool could be operational by the 2019/20 season.

Following an extensive overview of the project to date by the new Council and based on the community engagement work completed in 2016, Council is now working closely with the consultant to explore all options and ensure a well-informed decision is made on the future of the Corowa Swimming Pool facility.

The new Council has been extremely pro-active and has actively challenged the previous options and models presented to Council over many years and has had many conversations with stakeholders over this time, with more to come. Council continues to work as hard as it can to deliver a facility that is able to best meet the needs of many users, and also be something that is achievable both from a Capital expenditure point of view, but importantly, from an on-going operational cost perspective.

Background

Corowa's existing Swimming Pool facility and plant is over 60 years old and is at the end of its operational life. A new pool is necessary for a number of safety and compliance reasons, significant issues with filtration and because there are major leakages within the main pool and underground pipework.

Why not refurbish the existing 50m Pool?

Council is aware that in addition to the total replacement of a new Pool, there has been some debate about relining and some refurbishment of the existing 50m pool. A consultant Engineers report from the early 1990's, recommended strongly against this option for various reasons, including –

- the age of the concrete in the pool, and subsequent damage by tree roots, acid from chemicals used in water balance;
- the fact that the pool has been flooded before and may have suffered major cracks in that time which are not easily visible, but the pool is losing water;
- the pool is in heavy clay soils and was built around 1956 and any investment in refurbishment would not have a guarantee past ten years
- the pipework would require replacing in any event, considering some of it is the old earthenware type, and there would not be the network required to meet modern filtration standards;
- the extent of work to replace this pipework, and in placing in a new liner, and refurbishment to meet modern pool standards, such as a 'level with the ground' wet deck, to replace the current ledged top of pool finish;

all lead to this not being a sensible option for Council to further consider.

Staging options and Ball Park Caravan Park

In any decision, there is likely to be some future stages proposed, due to funding constraints. They will likely be proposed as concepts that will consider particularly, the future re-design and major upgrades required at the Ball Park Caravan Park.

Last year, Council requested a further review of the Swimming Pool feasibility options to explore if there was value in the reconfiguration of the current Swimming Pool site so that the Swimming Pool could be better co-located as part of the Ball Park Caravan Park operation. At workshops in November 2016 and February 2017, Council reviewed an initial draft of this feasibility options report.

This facility potentially if operating under a new model, with upgrades to increase occupancy rates, has the potential to then contribute more positively towards operational costs, and potentially further capital upgrades/extensions to the Pool complex over time. This more detailed work, including a new Master Plan for the Caravan Park, will continue once the decision is made on the first stage of the Pool project.

The review by the consultants on this project has demonstrated that there is a greater financial benefit for Ball Park Caravan Park and the Pool, if the Swimming Pools and splash pad are ultimately co-located with the Park. This will allow the combined management of the facility through a shared entry and administration centre and will reduce staffing costs for the new Swimming Pool facility.

Conclusion

Further Swimming Pool development options have since been briefed for review by Council and the final options will be outlined in the final draft report to be tabled at the April 2017 Council meeting.

The current feasibility report is considering a range of options including indoor 25m, outdoor 25m and 50m with program and learn to swim pools. All options being considering include an increased focus on water play and splash pad features to gain an increased visitation rate to the complex, as well as offer a new and exciting element of fun for local families.

A strong focus has been placed within the report on the feasibility of an outdoor 50m Pool (and Program Pool) or Indoor 25M complex. It is understood that these are the two more preferred options by the community.

Once a decision is made on the preferred Swimming Pool development option, a detailed components brief will need to be prepared which will inform the preparation of a final concept design, detailed plans and tender documentation. A project Manager and working group will also need to be appointed. It is hoped that if a decision can be made at the April 2018 Council meeting, it will be possible to complete the project by late November 2019 in accordance with funding deadlines.

The required construction timeframe will also mean that it will not be possible to open the existing Corowa Swimming Pool for the 2018/19 season (from November 18 – March 19). This will cause a great level of inconvenience for key user groups and the wider community, and so it is suggested that Council offer FREE entry to the Howlong Swimming Pool between November 18 – March 19.

Attachments

- 6.5.1 Petition – ‘Save Corowa’s 50m Pool’
- 6.5.2 Summary of various actions taken by Council since 1995

Financial Implications

Over many years the former Corowa Shire and now Federation Council, has completed a number of feasibility studies into various options, undertaken community consultation, submitted numerous grant applications and initiated a long-term savings program which has resulted in over \$1.9 million in reserve funding being accumulated, to progress a new Swimming Pool complex.

A total of \$4.43 million in funding is currently available for the project with the remaining funding proposed from a loan. Council will need to consider a funding strategy for the preferred development option with consideration towards the impact on Council's long-term financial plan. Council could also consider applying for approval to use some of the latest Stronger Community Funding announced, \$3.6 million, to limit the amount of loan funding.

There will be no operational costs for the Corowa Swimming Pool between November 18 – March 19. These savings could be used to offset the proposed free entry cost of the Howlong Swimming Pool.

RECOMMENDED

1. THAT Council note the above progress report in relation the development options for the Corowa Swimming Pool;
2. THAT the draft Corowa Swimming Pool Options Feasibility Report be publicly released, once finalised in time for the Community Information Session on Monday 26 March 2018; and
3. THAT Council offer free entry to the Howlong Swimming Pool as part of the 2018/19 Revenue Policy.

6.6 BALL PARK CARAVAN PARK

Summary

Federation Council is the Committee of Management for a large parcel of Crown Land known as Ball Park Caravan Park. Council has offered this as a lease opportunity to Caravan Park operators for decades and the term of the current lease will end on 30 June 2018.

At the Ordinary December 2017 meeting, Council resolved the following:

236/17FC RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Miegel and Law that at the end of the current Ball Park Caravan Park lease term, Council puts in place a short term two year caretaker contract model to manage Ball Park Caravan Park.

237/17FC RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Longmire and Whitechurch that Council investigate the opportunity to utilise the current contractors for a further 2 year period and invite the current contractors to present to Council.

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a formal update in relation to the status of the above resolutions of Council.

Background

The commercial value of the Ball Park Caravan Park lease requires Council to undertake a formal tender for any renewal, which means Council is unable to negotiate with the current lessees outside of this process.

Council has advised the current lessees of this and preparation has commenced to bring the current term of the lease to an end at June 30 this year, in accordance with the existing lease agreement.

Preparation has also progressed by Council in respect to moving the management of the Caravan Park to a caretaker management model, with a draft contract, operational manual and tender prepared to allow this to be undertaken by a contractor.

The primary reason Council is wishing to operate the park in the short term (two+ years) under a caretaker model is to gain an improved understanding of the operation. This will allow Council to better prepare for a future long term tender and to work towards the upgrade of the Caravan Park including the redevelopment of the Corowa Swimming Pool (which currently forms part of the lease).

Contractor versus Staffing for new Caretaker model

A tender has not yet been called for the caretaker contract, as there is strong merit in Council staffing the management of the Caravan Park, especially under the desired caretaker model where the purpose of this was for Council to gain a strong level of visibility and control over the operation of the park.

There are also several factors within the draft operational manual and contract prepared for the caretaker model, which would indicate an employee relationship as opposed to that of a contractor – in accordance with regulation. This causes potential issues with Taxation legislation.

Based on this, Council staff have considered the best option for Council in the short (Two year) term is to recruit staff for the Caravan Park employed by Council. Any new positions would be two year fixed-term roles (with the opportunity to extend if needed) and additional casual/sub-contractor appointments as required.

Accordingly, Council staff are working with the current lessees of Ball Park Caravan Park which has included discussing options to purchase and or lease for a year, the 20 Cabins at the Caravan Park as well as possibly other equipment, fixtures and supplies.

An electronic reservation system is also ready for installation at the Caravan Park. This will allow for greater management and decision making on the financial aspects of the business.

Attachments

Nil.

Financial Implications

Revenue projections have been prepared which should ensure that expenditure does not exceed revenue. An operational budget for the Park will be prepared and included to the 2018/19 Council Operational Plan. Cabin lease and or purchase costs of those, and any equipment required, would be provided in the draft 2018/19 Operational Plan for Council's consideration. Staff are currently working with the current lessees to progress negotiations on all these aspects.

RECOMMENDED

1. THAT Council proceed to recruit staff for Ball Park Caravan Park; and
2. THAT Council staff are delegated to negotiate with the current lessees in relation to the purchase and or lease of the existing cabins, and any other plant, fittings, fixtures, equipment and supplies that are considered necessary for the ongoing operations of the Ball Park Caravan Park.

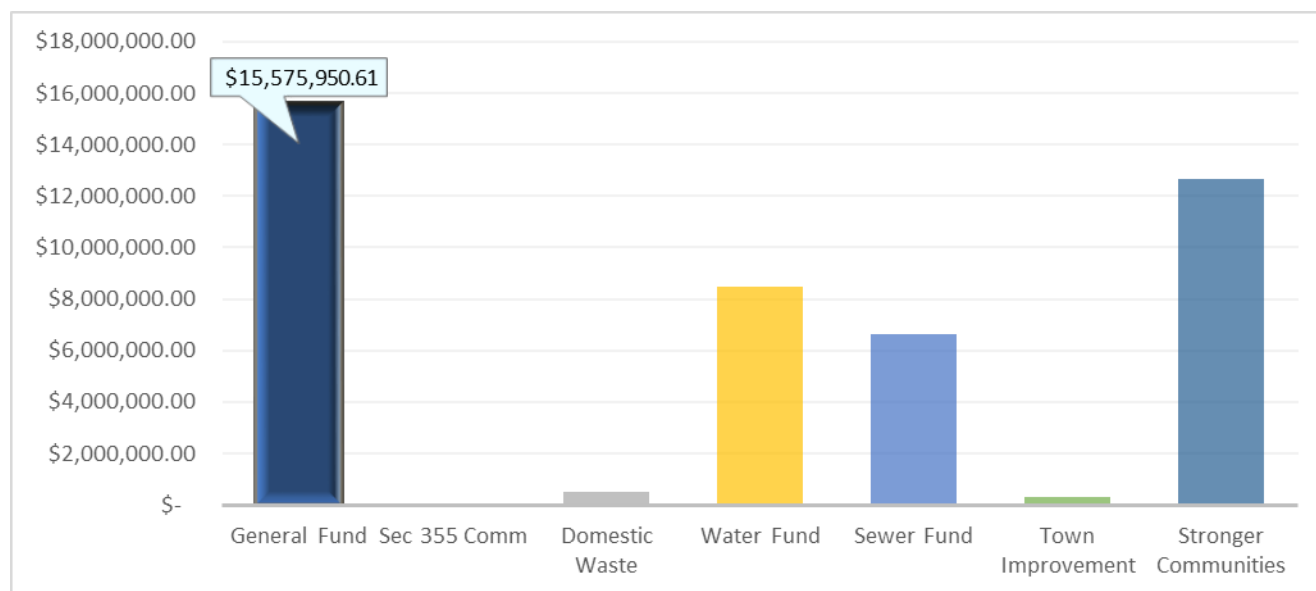
KJ KAY

DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

7. DIRECTOR FINANCE AND ORGANISATION DEVELOPMENT REPORT

7.1 STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AND RECONCILIATION AS AT 28 FEBRUARY 2018

Balance as per Bank Statement:		
General Account	0000 0022	454,109.98
Business Online Saver Account	1014 2522	1,484,659.85
Investments		42,243,985.48
	Sub Total	44,182,755.31
Plus Deposits not yet lodged:		
Mulwala	27 February 18	9,531.73
Corowa	28 February 18	23,621.38
Mulwala	28 February 18	4,909.00
Urana	28 February 18	8,401.76
	Sub Total	44,229,219.18
Less Unpresented Cheques:		4,346.00
Balance as per Ledger		44,224,873.18
Less External Restricted Funds		28,648,922.57
Balance of General Fund Ledger		15,575,950.61



CERTIFICATE OF RECONCILIATION

I CERTIFY THAT THE COUNCIL'S GENERAL LEDGER BANK ACCOUNTS HAVE BEEN RECONCILED WITH THE APPROPRIATE BANK STATEMENTS AS AT 28 FEBRUARY 2018.

**S NORMAN
MANAGER FINANCE**

RECOMMENDED that the report on Statement of Bank Balances and Reconciliation as at 28 February 2018 be noted.

7.2 SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS AS AT 28 FEBRUARY 2018

The following list of investment securities is held as at 28 February 2018. Investment of funds on behalf of Council has been undertaken in accordance with the Local Government Act and Regulations.

INVESTMENTS

Investment Type	Institution	Amount Lodged	Date Lodged	Rate	Days	Maturity Date
Term Deposit	ANZ	\$1,014,520.55	05/09/2017	2.35	181	05/03/2018
Term Deposit	NAB	\$202,529.04	05/09/2017	2.52	181	05/03/2018
Term Deposit	NAB	\$303,793.56	05/09/2017	2.52	181	05/03/2018
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$620,323.30	06/12/2017	2.35	90	06/03/2018
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000.00	22/09/2017	2.54	165	06/03/2018
Term Deposit	ANZ	\$1,015,028.77	12/09/2017	2.36	181	12/03/2018
Term Deposit	ANZ	\$1,000,000.00	19/09/2017	2.37	182	20/03/2018
Term Deposit	CBA	\$729,432.39	22/08/2017	2.45	210	20/03/2018
Term Deposit	CBA	\$1,075,952.00	24/10/2017	2.35	154	27/03/2018
Term Deposit	CBA	\$1,000,000.00	22/09/2017	2.53	193	03/04/2018
Term Deposit	CBA	\$280,000.00	11/07/2017	2.56	273	10/04/2018
Term Deposit	NAB	\$720,000.00	11/07/2017	2.56	273	10/04/2018
Term Deposit	CBA	\$1,000,000.00	22/09/2017	2.54	207	17/04/2018
Term Deposit	CBA	\$1,014,372.88	26/09/2017	2.54	210	24/04/2018
Term Deposit	CBA	\$515,050.29	03/10/2017	2.46	203	24/04/2018
Term Deposit	Bendigo	\$230,000.00	08/01/2018	2.20	113	01/05/2018
Term Deposit	Bendigo	\$2,042,548.39	17/10/2017	2.20	196	01/05/2018
Term Deposit	ANZ	\$2,173,518.34	24/10/2017	2.30	196	08/05/2018
Term Deposit	CBA	\$512,078.88	31/10/2017	2.43	196	15/05/2018
Term Deposit	CBA	\$1,053,457.01	08/11/2017	2.43	195	22/05/2018
Term Deposit	CBA	\$512,017.54	08/11/2017	2.44	202	29/05/2018
Term Deposit	CBA	\$1,000,000.00	27/11/2017	2.50	183	29/05/2018
Term Deposit	ANZ	\$1,062,322.92	29/11/2017	2.30	181	29/05/2018
Term Deposit	ANZ	\$1,059,902.35	08/08/2017	2.35	301	05/06/2018
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$516,530.71	10/11/2017	2.45	214	12/06/2018
Term Deposit	CBA	\$1,000,000.00	27/11/2017	2.50	197	12/06/2018
Term Deposit	CBA	\$512,184.78	14/11/2017	2.45	217	19/06/2018
Term Deposit	Bendigo	\$2,000,000.00	20/06/2017	2.40	365	20/06/2018
Term Deposit	CBA	\$513,251.01	12/12/2017	2.45	196	26/06/2018
Term Deposit	NAB	\$2,580,341.23	28/11/2017	2.47	210	26/06/2018
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,398,154.62	21/02/2018	2.40	132	03/07/2018
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,010,995.07	27/02/2018	2.45	133	10/07/2018

Term Deposit	CBA	\$410,429.40	19/12/2017	2.51	210	17/07/2018
Term Deposit	NAB	\$3,131,782.63	23/01/2018	2.45	182	24/07/2018
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000.00	30/01/2018	2.45	182	31/07/2018
Term Deposit	NAB	\$2,631,890.27	06/02/2018	2.45	182	07/08/2018
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$520,088.37	15/02/2018	2.54	180	14/08/2018
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$522,455.39	20/02/2018	2.54	182	21/08/2018
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,353,779.82	27/02/2018	2.45	182	28/08/2018
Term Deposit	NAB	\$505,253.97	20/02/2018	2.46	189	28/08/2018
Term Deposit	CBA	\$1,500,000.00	17/01/2018	2.64	272	16/10/2018

\$42,243,985.48

CERTIFICATE OF RECONCILIATION

I CERTIFY THAT THE INVESTMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 625 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993, THE REGULATIONS AND COUNCIL'S POLICIES.

S NORMAN
MANAGER FINANCE

RECOMMENDED that Council note the report on the schedule of investments as at 28 February 2018.

7.3 PROPOSAL TO SUBDIVIDE AND SELL LAND ADJACENT TO THE MULWALA COUNCIL DEPOT SITE

Summary

This report highlights the shortage of industrial land in the Mulwala area and proposes to subdivide and sell land adjacent to the Mulwala Council Depot site surplus to operational requirements (Lot 13 DP 844434 1.46 ha). This will yield seven (7) lots (refer draft sketch proposed plan of subdivision) for which there is immediate demand and allow Council consideration of the creation of an Economic Development Reserve Fund for use in promoting development and employment within the Federation Council Local Government Area.

Background

Council at the 20 February 2018 Council Meeting resolved to defer the report on this matter to the March Council Workshop, as there was concern that some extra land should be retained in Council ownership immediately alongside the Mulwala Depot land. This is still owned by Council but is leased.

After further discussion at the Councillor Briefing session on the 6th of March 2018, a further two lots have proposed to be retained to allow for future construction works materials storage. This will provide over 4,700 m² of land that will be retained. Point 8 of the recommendation covers this issue.

Vacant industrial land is limited in the Yarrawonga and Mulwala areas. The price is also variable with the Mulwala offerings, when available, tending to be cheaper. Demand, therefore is robust.

Council has received an Australian Government grant towards the cost of construction of the last stage of the Mulwala Industrial Estate and the design is complete and about to go to tender. These new lots will satisfy all the existing demand interest with additional blocks remaining for sale.

Within the existing developed area, there are no blocks owned by Council that are available for sale and there is considerable buyer interest in purchasing for immediate development either for owner occupation or for lease. This lack of supply and expressed demand are the reasons for considering the sale of surplus Council land adjacent to the Mulwala depot. Approximately 1.46 ha could be made available.

An allied matter relates to Council's sale clause that requires development within a twelve (12) month period from the sale date at the same price as purchased and that the buyer is not to sell on without Council approval for a period of 2 years. An investigation into the status of the undeveloped lots is also happening to ensure the desire for development, as opposed to speculation, is met. The findings of this investigation will be the subject of a further report.

Discussion

Supply Issues

The industrial land supply in Mulwala is low and immediate demand is strong. In at least one instance, that demand is coming from an existing business in the area that requires immediate accommodation.

Walpole Surveying has been commissioned to undertake a survey that will create seven (7) new lots of a size that is in current demand, and lends itself to both individual use and provision of small industrial units that are sought after by small service based industries. There is little, if any, expressed demand for a block the size of the surplus at present.

There is capacity in the Corowa Airport Industrial Estate, but for most small businesses, the travel distance from the Mulwala area is not desirable. Where it is less of an issue, support is offered to find a suitable site.

Land Comparability

Lot 13 DP 844434 is on the corner of Barooga Road and McCarthy Street and the site was created with the first stage of the industrial estate. The quality of the estate has progressively improved over time and this development will refocus attention on the quality of this southern entrance to the industrial area.

Works such as street tree planting and table drain maintenance will be target improvements.

Price Considerations

The most recent sales of Council Industrial land at Mulwala have been at \$39 per m² excluding GST for fully serviced lots.

One offer conditional upon Council agreement has been communicated to a prospective purchaser at the same price for a proposed lot of 1,800 sq/m on the southern boundary of the land. The offer also recognised that this potential lot did not enjoy the same quality of road reserve abutting the property. In particular, the road did not have kerb and channel.

Though other enquiries have been informally told that the same pricing arrangement may exist, market scarcity suggests a higher sales figure should be set at \$50 per sq/m (excluding GST), especially as Council's Industrial Estate stage 2 is likely to be in the \$55 to \$60 per sq/m range (excluding GST). Additionally, the current proviso should be maintained that if not built on within 12 months it is to be returned to Council (if Council agrees) at the same price as purchased. Likewise, to avoid speculation, the buyer is not to sell on without Council approval for a period of 2 years.

Attachments

7.3.1 A draft sketch proposed plan of subdivision

Financial Implications

The sale of these lots will provide revenues to Council that were not anticipated at the time of preparing the annual budget.

The likely gross revenue is in the range of \$560,000 to \$700,000. Approximately \$60,000 to \$120,000 may be required for expenses associated with the subdivision, improvements and relocation of stockpiles.

This report recommends that the nett revenue be placed into an Economic Development Reserve fund that will finance staffing, marketing, possible incentives and other business retention and attraction initiatives within the Federation Council area.

RECOMMENDED

1. THAT Council note the report on proposal to development and sell land adjacent to the Mulwala Council Depot Site;
2. THAT Council proceed with the subdivision of Lot 13 DP 844434 being 1.46 ha of Council Land adjacent to the current Mulwala Council Depot site on McCarthy Street, Mulwala;
3. THAT Council set the sale price for southern proposed lot block at a rate of \$39 per m² excluding GST;
4. THAT Council set the price of the other lots to \$50 per m² excluding GST;
5. THAT Council make the sales subject to conditions that if not built on within 12 months the land is to be returned to Council (if Council agrees) at the same price as purchased, and that the buyer is not to sell on without Council approval for a period of 2 years;
6. THAT Council use the nett funds from the sale to set up an Economic Development Reserve Fund subject to a further report for Council consideration, describing the purpose and operations of the fund;
7. THAT Council note that if kerb and channel is constructed adjacent to the newly created blocks at a time in the future, that this expense will be borne by Council at the time so as to reflect the fact that recent sales have been for the same price with kerb and channel included; and
8. THAT the two proposed new lots of land formed immediately adjacent to the Mulwala Council Depot be retained.

7.4 FEDERATION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN - 2018 TO 2022

Summary

Within the attachments is a “Towards a Stronger Economy in Federation – Strategy, Opportunity and Action – 2018-2022 Action Plan” with a supporting Action Plan table as an appendix and is presented to provide guidance to Council’s economic development initiatives.

The Action Plan is an organic document that will change over time as circumstances change. Those circumstances may be of Council’s making or from external influences.

The Action Plan is less about large volumes of data and research. That role is currently underway, (Auspiced by Federation Council as an Energise Enterprise Project), using the resources of Charles Sturt University in conjunction with some neighbouring councils. The findings and information generated from that project are not available at present, but will be reported to Council at the first available meeting. The additional findings and information may also support some changes to this plan and, and if considered warranted, these will be presented to Council at the suggested quarterly reviews.

Background

At the January 2018 Council meeting, an overview report on local economic development initiatives was presented. One of the recommendations of that January report was that an Action Plan would be provided at the March meeting. The Action Plan is appended to this report together with an appendix supporting Action Plan table. Unlike some reports that are labelled as strategies, the Action Plan table to this report is more a simple and practical plan to improve the economic profile of Federation Council.

To this end, the Action Plan table is broken up into a range of target sectors and within those sectors are output and outcome indicators. It is recommended that council concentrate as far as possible on the outcome indicators.

Discussion

In the January report, several target sectors were identified. The action plan specifically highlights those sectors and recommends actions to be undertaken and stipulates projected outcomes.

It would be remarkable and unrealistic to believe that any action plan could anticipate all the key sectors and opportunities. This plan attempts to highlight the sectors most relevant to the area and to formulate a plan that will test the resources of Council. Successful outcomes will assist the community to achieve its vision for the future.

Successful outcomes will be achieved through a thoughtful approach (strategic component) and by keeping vigilant for projects that will help meet the vision (opportunity). Strategy alone will not suffice and waiting for opportunities to present themselves is a risky approach. Both are required, and this is why this discussion paper is called an action plan not a strategy.

Approach to Realising the Action Plan

The economy is based on complex relations but in the main contributions from Government, the investment sector and the community. This plan is no different.

While the document is to guide the work of Council and the organisation, the realisation of the outcomes and output activities will require the cooperation of many parties. Engaging with and mobilising the assets of the public and private sectors are key elements to success.

The suggestion for success in this plan is that it “will aim to create an environment that is conducive to encouraging responsible investment and job creation at a rate beyond that which would occur normally”.

It is important in all plans like this to note that the investment, private or public, will always precede the creation of jobs.

The plan will evolve over time, but the aim will vary little.

Conclusion

The attached report “Towards a Stronger Economy in Federation – Strategy, Opportunity and Action - 2018-2022 Action Plan” and appendix Action Plan table is presented to provide guidance to Council’s economic development initiatives.

It is an organic document(s) that will change overtime as circumstances change. Those circumstances may be of Council’s making or external influences.

The action plan is less about large volumes of data and research. This role is currently underway using the resources of Charles Sturt University in conjunction with some neighbouring councils. Those findings are not available at present but will be reported to Council at the first available meeting.

This additional information may also see some changes to this action plan and, if warranted, these will be presented to Council at the suggested quarterly reviews.

Additionally, Councillors are requested to provide any feedback on this report and attachments within two (2) weeks to allow a further report to be provided to the April meeting of Council.

Attachments

7.4.1 A report ‘Towards a Stronger Economy in the Federation Council Region - Strategy, Opportunity and Action 2018 to 2022 Action Plan’

7.4.2 Appendix to the report ‘Action Plan’ Table

Financial Implications

To fulfil the emerging local government role in economic development costs are inevitable. They come in several general forms.

- Engagement of staff
- Research support
- Advocacy
- Hospitality around the initial creation of networks
- Targeted support (eg sponsorships)

Council has a structure that has two (2) positions that are currently unfilled. At present, Council engages on a part time basis two (2) experienced practitioners to help in economic development, tourism and micro-facilitation. Interview(s) are expected to occur over the following week(s) to appoint a staff member to assist in this function of Council.

RECOMMENDED

1. THAT Council note the report on the Federation Economic Development Plan – 2018 To 2022 and associated attachments;
2. THAT Council Provide feedback on this report and attachments within two (2) weeks;
3. THAT Council receive the final report at the April meeting of Council; and
4. THAT Council receive quarterly updates on progress against the Action Plan and Action Plan table.

7.5 SIGNS AS REMOTE SUPERVISION POLICY

Summary

Attached to the agenda is the *Federation Council's Signs as Remote Supervision Policy document (7.5.1)*. This report requests Council's consideration of adoption of the Signs as Remote Supervision Policy.

Council committed to undertake mitigation of risk and the use of signage for remote supervision, in regards to land and recreational facilities under its care and control that are accessible by the public, as part of this year's Risk Management Action Plan (18/5581) towards ensuring the lowest Public Liability premiums and reduce the likelihood of claims.

The purpose of this policy is to provide clear guiding principles for Council in its Risk Management of land and recreational facilities under its care and control that are accessible by the public, supporting Delivery Program Goal 1.5.3 – "Diverse recreation and sporting opportunities offered locally" and Delivery Program Goal 2.2.2 – "Well planned recreation facilities".

These facilities may contain hazards and risks, both natural and manmade that could present a risk of injury, illness or property damage to users. In the instance of "reasonably foreseeable risk", Council has a duty of care to users, and the most efficient way to fulfil that duty is to use warning signage, incorporating internationally recognised symbols, as a form of remote supervision.

Background

Councils around the State have been subject to liability claims attributed to signage on many occasions. Claims generally centre on complaints from, or injuries to, third parties due to the absence of appropriate signage, insufficient signage, or the wording or location of signage is deficient.

Signs are the cheapest and easiest method that Council can employ for supervision at remote locations. Signs are intended to perform the function of imparting information to the public that would otherwise require the presence of a staff member.

Report

Appropriate signage will allow members of the public to make an informed decision about entering or using a particular facility under Council's care, control or responsibility.

If the person then elects to enter the area and suffers injury resulting from the risk about which the warning symbol relates, then arguably Council has satisfied its duty of care and no liability should attach to it. However, the sign must be appropriate to the situation and placed in a suitable position to satisfy Council's duty of care.

This Policy titled "Signs as Remote Supervision", and the supporting documented Procedure, have been prepared to ensure that Federation Council has clear and concise directions as to the location, content and frequency of signs and to minimise public liability exposure emanating from the provision of services to the community.

Federation Council has prepared a documented Procedure titled "Signs as Remote Supervision", based on current best practice to assist with this also attached (7.5.2).

Attachments

7.5.1 Signs as Remote Supervision Policy (18/3801)

7.5.2 Procedure titled "Signs as Remote Supervision" (18/3860)

Financial Implications

Council's program to update the signage in regards to the higher usage or higher risk areas land and recreational facilities under its care and control that are accessible by the public is being funded as a merger implementation project. Ongoing maintenance or replacement of the signs installed will form part of Council's normal works program.

RECOMMENDED

1. THAT Council note the report Signs as Remote Supervision Policy; and
2. THAT the draft Signs as Remote Supervision Policy be placed on public exhibition for 28 days to allow for any community feedback to be considered prior to the adoption of the final policy.

7.6 PROPOSAL TO REALIGN SOUTHERN BOUNDARY - COROWA DEPOT - POSEIDON ROAD COROWA

Summary

This report recommends that Council agree to the relocation of the Corowa Depot site at Poseidon Road, Corowa to a point a maximum of nine (9) metres to the north of its current alignment subject to the applicant (*Miltrans*) agreeing to pay for:

- The land at the current advertised rate within the Corowa Airport Industrial Estate (ie \$30 per m²);
- All survey, legal, planning and fencing costs;
- Any improvements within the road reserve to provide enhanced access/egress; and
- Any other reasonable cost associate with and incurred during the transfer.

Background

Council has been approached by the owner of business adjoining the southern boundary of the Corowa Depot in Poseidon Road to realign the boundary to improve operations of the trucking business, '*Miltrans*'. Council officers have discussed the proposal over time and have determined that the realignment of the boundary nine (9) metres to the north would not unduly impact the operations of the depot.

Council should be aware that while these discussions were taking place, a masterplan was being developed for the depot. Some of the requested area was to be used for staff carparking but it has been established that this need can be accommodated elsewhere on site.

Subsequently, this report recommends that Council agree to the relocation of the boundary and the sale of the portion of land formed to *Miltrans* subject to the applicant paying for:

- The land at the current advertised rate within the Corowa Airport Industrial Estate (ie \$30 per square metre);
- All survey, legal, planning and fencing costs;
- Any improvements within the road reserve to provide enhanced access/egress; and
- Any other reasonable cost associate with and incurred during the transfer.

Report

The owner/operator of '*Miltrans*' Transport approached Council to enquire as to whether Council would sell part of the Corowa Depot (to the north) to allow for more efficient and safer operations of the trucking enterprise. Council agreed to review depot operations and to consider the request with an open mind.

The initial request was for approximately a twenty (20) metre parcel but this proved impractical as it would render impossible the Roads and Maritime Service vehicle checks to be carried out as well as servicing of some Council plant. The maximum width that would not inhibit operations was deemed to be nine (9) metres. This had the added advantage of Council maintaining control of an open table drain.

The matter was referred to Council's solicitors for advice and that advice confirmed officer's views that all costs associated with the realignment should be borne by the applicant. This concept has been discussed with applicant and agreement in principle reached.

The applicant has also been furnished with quotations for the various fees and costs that would be incurred in relation to the transfer.

Notification of the Proposed Transfer

As there are no third parties affected by this proposal, no notification is warranted.

Planning Consent

Many boundary realignments are exempt from consent but as this proposal will result in a change of in excess of 10% on the Miltrans site, consent is required. If Council approves the concept of the boundary realignment, an application will need to be lodged by the applicant and can be dealt with under delegation, before the proposed sale is expected to be formalised.

Attachments

7.6.1 A site plan showing the proposed portion to be excised

Financial Implications

Council will receive payment for the final excised square metres at the advertised rate for land in the Corowa Airport Industrial Estate. This figure is currently \$30 per square metre. All other expenses benefitting the applicant exclusively will be borne by applicant. Minor clean up works around the revised boundary may be undertaken by Council plant particularly where it improves local drainage.

Conclusion

The applicant's request will improve the efficiency and safety of a significant transport operation and will not unduly impact Council's operations. These things being the case, it is concluded that Council would facilitate improvements and growth potential of a local enterprise by acceding to the request to realign the southern boundary of the Corowa Depot a maximum of nine (9) metres to the north.

RECOMMENDED

1. THAT Council note the report on the Proposal to Realign Southern Boundary - Corowa Depot – Poseidon Road, Corowa;
2. THAT Council agree to the relocation of the Corowa Depot site at Poseidon Road, Corowa to a point a maximum of nine (9) metres to the north of its current alignment subject to the applicant agreeing to pay for:
 - a. The land at the current advertised rate within the Corowa Airport Industrial Estate(ie \$30 per m²),
 - b. All survey, legal, planning and fencing costs,
 - c. Any improvements within the road reserve to provide enhanced access/egress,
 - d. Any other reasonable cost associate with and incurred during the transfer; and
3. THAT Council authorise the sale of the portion of land (9 metre width) excised from the southern side of the Corowa Depot and that the Common Seal of Council be affixed to the contract of sale and any additional documents.

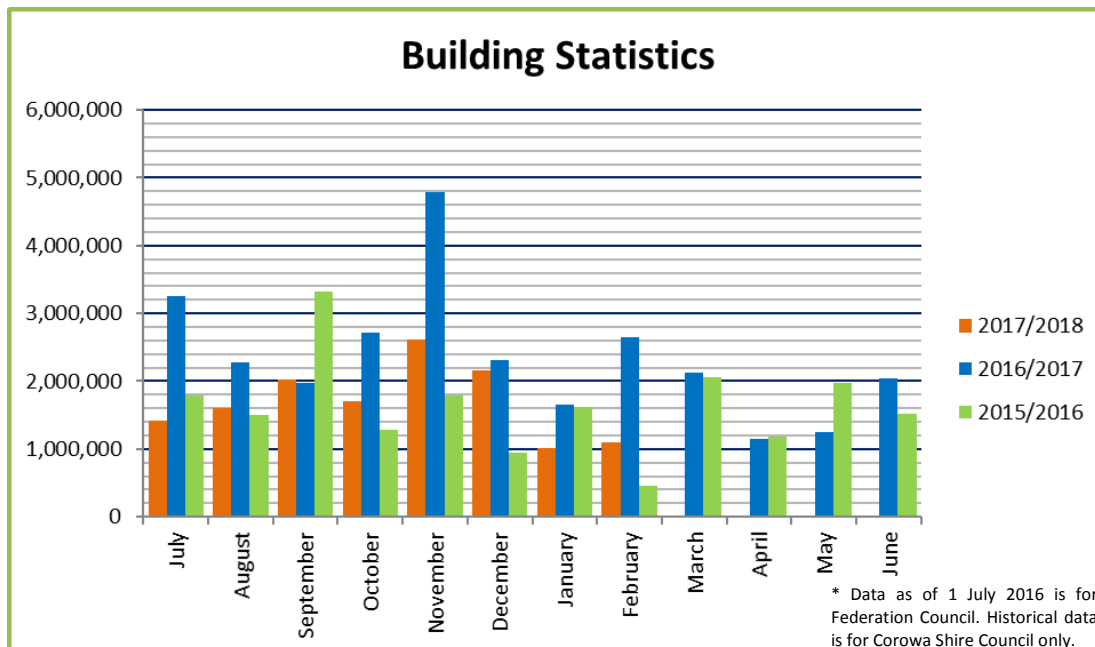
8. DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT REPORT

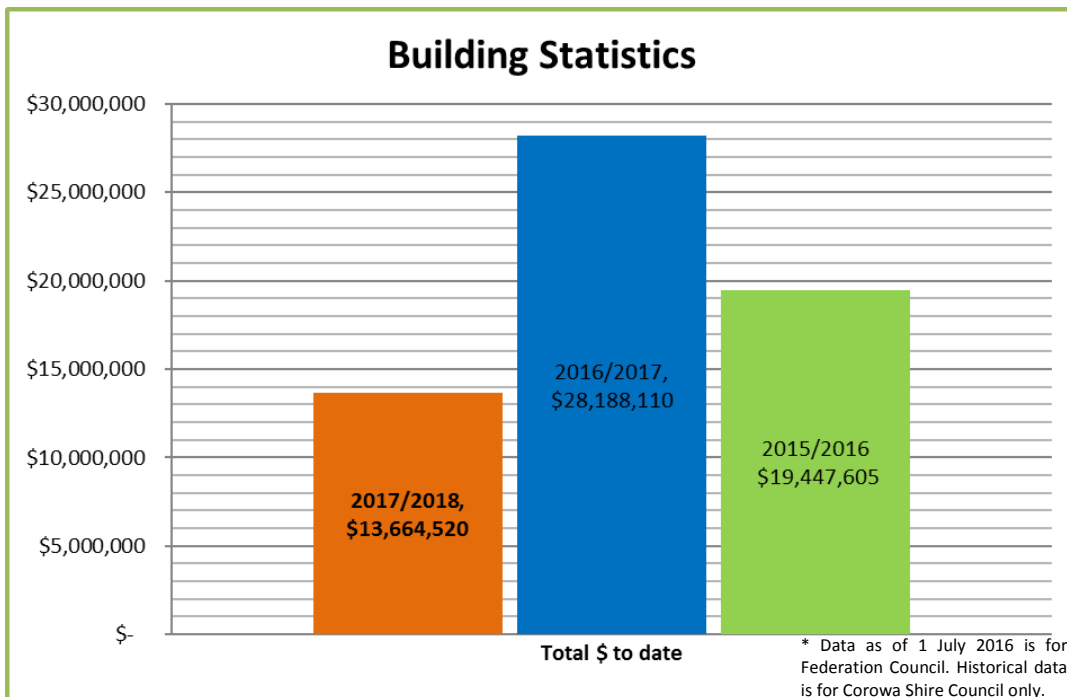
8.1 BUILDING APPROVALS – COMPLYING AND CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATES APPROVED

This report provides for Council’s information, the construction and complying development certificates issued since the report prepared for the March 2018 Council meeting. The report also includes graphs on the value of works approved, over the last three financial years (NB. Data as of 1 July 2016 is for Federation Council. Historical Data is for Corowa Shire Council only).

2018/22	40 Heather Circuit Mulwala	Pergola
2018/20	60 McCarthy Street Mulwala	Storage Shed
2018/21	16-17 Ghost Gum Court Mulwala	Shed
2017/215	80-82 Princess Street Urana	Garage
2017/161	100 Victoria Street Howlong	Shed
2018/14	5 Clarke Street Howlong	Shed
2018/23	312 Spring Drive Corowa	Shed
2018/15	59 Edward Street Mulwala	Swimming Pool
2018/12	21 Heather Circuit Mulwala	Storage Shed
2018/9	17 Grevillea Terrace Mulwala	Dwelling
2018/7	11 Kingfisher Drive Mulwala	Dwelling
2017/58	19 Alfred Street Corowa	Shed
2018/3	43 Ward Street Mulwala	Additions to Dwelling
CDC2018/7	187 River Street Corowa	Swimming Pool
CDC2018/6	3648 Daysdale-Walbundrie Road Daysdale	Swimming Pool
CDC2017/50	36 Coreen Street Oakland’s	Alterations and Additions

TOTAL \$1,098,200





RECOMMENDED that Council note the report on construction/complying development certificates issued since the February 2018 Council meeting.

8.2 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS APPROVED UNDER DELEGATED (STAFF) AUTHORITY SINCE LAST ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

This report provides for Council’s information, the Development approvals that have been determined under delegated authority by the granting of consent subject to conditions, since the February 2018 Ordinary Council Meeting.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION REGISTERED NO. 2017/251

Application for a Demolition of Dwelling on Low Density Residential Land being Lot 1; DP 619408; 30 Airlie Street Corowa.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION REGISTERED NO. 2017/266

Application for a Dwelling on Primary Production Land being Lot 61; DP 753723; 303 Emu Park Road, Coreen.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION REGISTERED NO. 2018/4

Application for Alterations and Additions to Dwelling on General Residential Land being Lot 111; DP 630098; 7 Ashford Road, Howlong.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION REGISTERED NO. 2017/74

Application for a Dwelling and Shed on General Residential Land being Lot 1; DP 198396; 124-136 Federation Avenue Corowa.

RECOMMENDED that Council note the report on the Development approvals that have been determined under delegated authority by the granting of consent subject to conditions, since the February 2018 Ordinary Council Meeting.

8.3 COROWA SILKWORM FARM HERITAGE SUPPORT

Summary

This report is to provide Council with information in regards to the advice and support provided in respect to heritage for the Silkworm farm in Corowa.

Background

Following a site inspection, Council's Heritage advisor provided a report in July 2016 in regards to the Corowa Silkworm farm, in particular building repairs, and the possibilities for Heritage Listing.

This report advised of the heritage advice provided. (attachment 8.3.1)

Council recognises that this is an item of heritage significance and has provided and will continue to provide support and advice through the services of the Heritage advisor including exploring avenues for grant funding.

Attachments

8.3.1 Heritage Advisor Report - Corowa Silkworm Farm. Building repairs - Possibilities for heritage listing

Financial Implications

Nil.

RECOMMENDED

1. THAT Council receive and note the report from the Heritage Advisor in respect to the Corowa Silkworm farm and agree to support to any application for future Local and State Heritage listings; and
2. THAT Council's Heritage Advisor assist in the preparation of a Conservation Plan to be used as a maintenance guide for the buildings and as a supporting document in any grant applications.

8.4 LOCAL HERITAGE PLACES GRANT PROJECT 2017/2018

Summary

This report is to advise of the progress of the Local Heritage Places Grants Project which is proposed to provide a "well-cared for" appearance to public areas of the villages in the council area by painting selected landmarks.

Background

Federation Council is the recipient of a Local Heritage Grant. The Grant is intended to provide funding to Council to enable small scale works to be undertaken to help preserve items which hold heritage significance throughout the Federation Council Local Government Area.

Council has engaged the services of a Heritage advisor to prepare a project brief and to oversee the works to meet the requirements of the Local Heritage Grant (Attachment 8.4.1).

Works began in March 2018 to ensure that the required timeframes could be met.

Attachments

8.4.1 Local Government Heritage Places Grant – Federation Council

Financial Implications

Total project cost	\$70,000
Applicant's contribution	\$55,000
Local heritage funding	\$15,000

RECOMMENDED that Council receive and note the report for Local Heritage Places Grant Project 2017/2018.

8.5 HOWLONG WAR MEMORIAL

Summary

This report provides discussion and recommendations on the proposed upgrade of the Lowe Square RSL Memorial at Lowe Square, Howlong.

Background

The existing Memorial at Lowe Square Howlong is an integral part of the reserve and an important community infrastructure item. The memorial commemorates and honours those who did not return from various wars from the First World War onwards and has served as a focal point for many services over the years. The Howlong Sub Branch of the RSL believes that the Memorial belongs to the people of Howlong although it is the de facto custodian of the Memorial.

The Howlong Sub Branch of the RSL received a grant of \$5,000 from the NSW Veterans Affairs Department for the master plan to be developed. The Howlong Sub Branch of the RSL in consultation with the Lowe Square Committee and Council (Cr Longley) have subsequently redeveloped the master plan of the Memorial area. The revised plan provides lighting, seating, flagpoles, various paving surfaces, picnic tables and an overall improved visual appeal for the area.

The Memorial upgrade will cost approximately \$40,000 overall with potentially \$15,000 already raised within the community. The Howlong Sub Branch of the RSL views the Memorial as a community item that should be owned by the community.

The Howlong Sub Branch of the RSL is seeking Council endorsement for the master plan and proposed works.

Consultation

The Howlong Sub Branch of the RSL has conducted a brief consultation process with the community separate from Council's processes. This consultation is believed to be sufficient for the purposes of their project.

Community Implications

There are no negative implications for the community from this project, only positives as the upgrade works will continue to show the respect of the community towards those who have not returned.

Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications from this project.

Strategic Implications

There are no strategic implications from this project.

Attachment

8.5.1 Lowe Square RSL Memorial Master Plan

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications from this project.

RECOMMENDED that Council endorse the proposed Master Plan for the Lowe Square RSL Memorial at Howlong.

8.6 LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMISSIONS BASELINE PILOT PROJECT

Summary

This report provides discussion and recommendation for participation in the Local Government Emissions Baseline Pilot Project (LGEBP Project).

Background

Councillors have recently discussed the issue of greenhouse gas emissions and Council's role in reducing emissions for Council and the community. There are several ways in which Council can reduce its emissions and that of the community. These include solar power generation, reducing electricity consumptions, using fuel efficient vehicles, improved waste management, reduced vegetation removal and procurement of electricity from renewable energy sources.

Work at the community level can help reduce emissions from household waste at landfills, use of energy efficient lighting, use of residential solar power and battery storage, and farm fire management to name of few ways in which residents can reduce emissions in the Federation Council area.

To show Council's commitment to emissions reductions Council can participate in the Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories (GPC). The GPC is a key commitment of the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy.

The Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy builds on the ongoing efforts of councils that increasingly set ambitious, voluntary municipal climate commitments or targets for greenhouse gas emissions reduction, while also addressing climate risk and implementing greenhouse reduction projects.

The NSW Office of Environment and Heritage has expressed an interest in the development of community-wide greenhouse gas emissions profiles for 11 councils in the Regional New South Wales, using the Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories (GPC).

Councils that have participated to date (across Australia) include:

- Alice Springs Town Council (NT)
- Ararat Rural City (Vic)
- Benalla Rural City (Vic)
- Buloke Shire (Vic)
- Central Goldfields Shire (Vic)
- Colac-Otway Shire (Vic)
- Darebin City Council (Vic)
- Gannawarra Shire (Vic)
- Hindmarsh Shire (Vic)
- Hobsons Bay City Council (Vic)
- Horsham Rural City (Vic)
- Loddon Shire (Vic)
- Mackay Council (Qld)
- Mansfield Shire (Vic)
- Melville City Council (WA)
- Mornington Peninsula Shire Council (Vic)
- Mount Barker District Council (SA)
- Murrindindi Shire (Vic)
- Northern Grampians Shire (Vic)
- Penrith City Council (NSW)
- Pyrenees Shire (Vic)
- Southern Grampians Shire (Vic)
- Stirling City Council (WA)
- Stonnington City Council (Vic)
- Strathbogie Shire (Vic)
- Swan Hill Rural City (Vic)
- Towong Shire (Vic)
- Tweed Shire Council (NSW)
- West Wimmera Shire (Vic)
- Wollongong City Council (NSW)
- City of Yarra (Vic)
- Yarriambiack Shire (Vic)

The cost of participation in the LGEBP Project is \$2,500 in partnership with the Office of Environment and Heritage.

Consultation

Consultation is predominantly within Council itself as the baseline is generally developed from Council held data.

Community Implications

There are no negative implications for the community from this project, only positives as the Council progresses towards reduced emissions it will also reduce its cost of operation to the ratepayers and the general sustainability of the Federation Council area will also improve.

Environmental Implications

The environmental benefits of this project are through Councils understanding of its own emissions and then potential projects or work practices to reduce emissions.

Strategic Implications

There are no strategic implications from this project.

Attachments

8.6.1 Expression of Interest invitation

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications from this project as the project cost of \$2,500 can be provided through existing budgets.

RECOMMENDED that Council apply to participate in the Local Government Emissions Baseline Pilot Project.

P GALL
DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

9. NOTICE OF MOTION / QUESTION WITH NOTICE

NO ITEMS

10. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

NO ITEMS

11. REPORTS FROM DELEGATES

12. PRÉCIS OF CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION/FOR INFORMATION

12.1 NSW GOVERNMENT – DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY (18/2024)

Notification regarding the postponement of the Land Negotiations Program. A copy of this letter is included with the agenda.

12.2 MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION (18/8711)

Notification of the decision in the senate to disallow the Northern Basin Review and the MDA response. A copy of this letter is included with the agenda.

12.3 COUNTRY MAYORS (18/8660)

Country Mayors meeting attended by Mayor and Interim General Manager on 2 March 2018. A copy of the minutes is included with the agenda.

12.4 SHARKS – COROWA AMATEUR SWIMMING AND LIFE SAVING CLUB INC (18/3331)

Thank you letter to Council and staff for their assistance with the Corowa Swim Club Triathlon. A copy of this letter is included with the agenda.

12.5 MULWALA WATER SKI CLUB (18/4490)

Seeking Council's support to seal 600m of Wemyss Road to the Park entrance. A copy of this letter is included with the agenda.

12.6 MULWALA WATER SKI CLUB (18/4487)

Letter from the Mulwala Water Ski Club making council aware of their concerns regarding their rate increase. A copy of this letter is included with the agenda.

RECOMMENDED that the correspondence as tabled in the March 2018 Business Paper be noted.

13. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

13.1 ENGAGEMENT OF A RECRUITMENT SERVICE PROVIDER – RECRUITMENT OF PERMANENT GENERAL MANAGER

Summary

The purpose of the report is to inform Council about the recommendation of the 'panel to engage in the selection of a recruitment service provider' following presentation being made from two shortlisted Executive Service Providers.

Background

Please find attached to the agenda a commercial in confidence report in consideration of section 10A (2) of the NSW Local Government Act.

RECOMMENDED that Council move to a Closed Committee under section 10A Part 2(d) of the local Government Act and Clause 70 of Councils Code of Meeting Practice to discuss the appointment of a Recruitment Service Provider to assist in the recruitment of Permanent General Manager. The matters and information are considered to contain commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

14. CLOSURE OF MEETING



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

Our Reference: A573390
Your Reference:
Contact: Chris Presland
Phone: 02 8289 6800

Mr Peter Gall
Acting General Manager
Federation Council
PO Box 77
COROWA NSW 2646

1 December 2017

peter.gall@federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Gall

I am pleased to be writing to you following the recent passage by the NSW Parliament of the *Local Government Amendment (Regional Joint Organisations) Bill 2017*. This legislation allows for councils to voluntarily join new Joint Organisations (JOs) to strengthen regional coordination and improve the delivery of important infrastructure and services for communities through strategic planning, collaboration and shared leadership and advocacy.

Council has recently been invited to nominate to form a JO and I encourage you to commence negotiations with the councils in your planning region on how a JO may be established to best support your community.

To assist Council in considering to form a JO, enclosed is an information pack that includes the following resources:

- Guidance information on how to submit a nomination to form a JO
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Office of Local Government contacts for support.

The Office of Local Government welcomes this opportunity to work with you in establishing a JO and is available to discuss what assistance can be offered to your council and region as you consider the benefits of joining a JO.

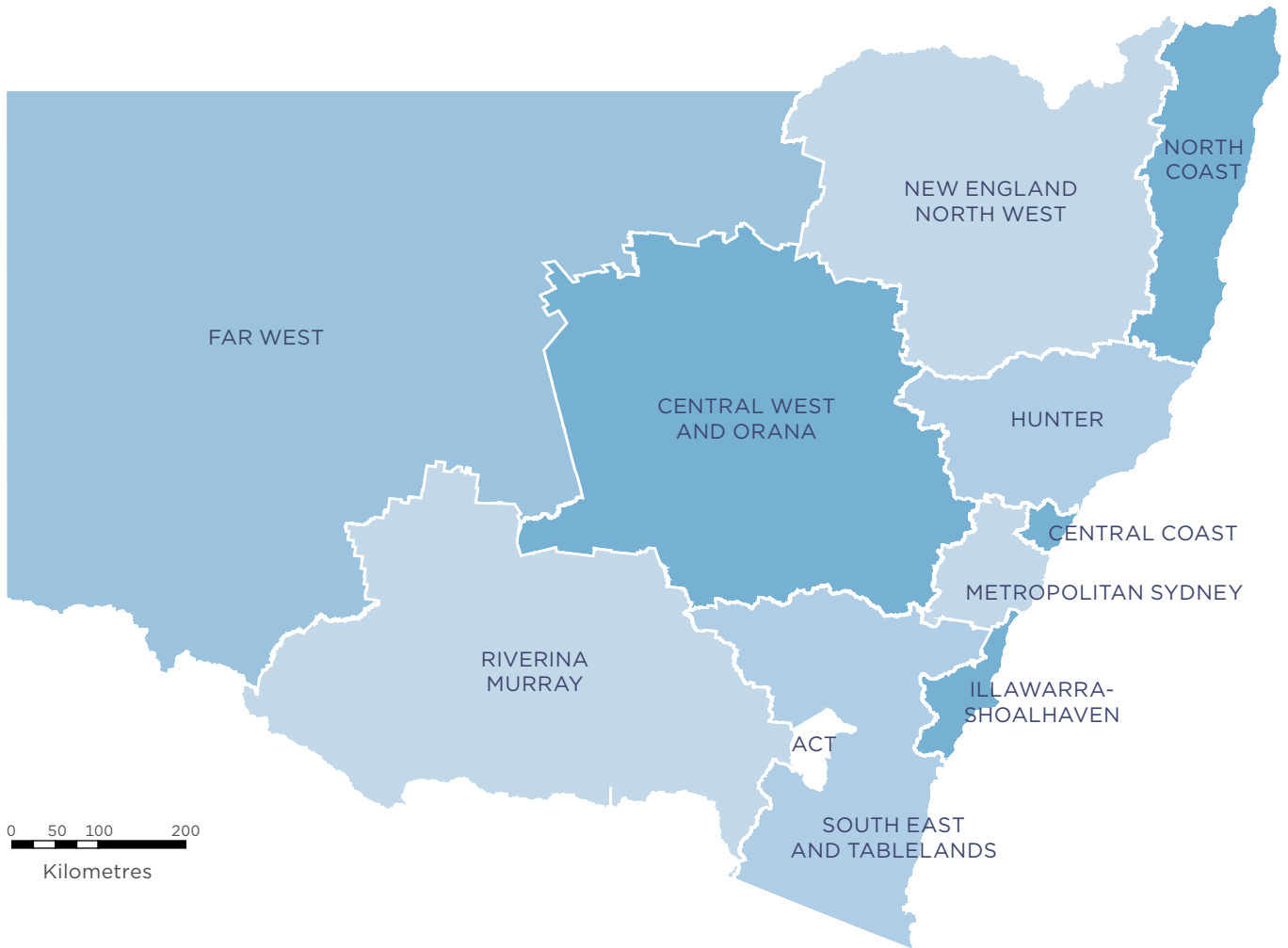
Please contact Mr Chris Presland, Director Reform Implementation on (02) 4428 4100 or olg@olg.nsw.gov.au if you have any further enquiries.

Yours sincerely

Tim Hurst
Acting Chief Executive
Office of Local Government



NSW planning regions



Joint Organisation

Frequently Asked Questions



Q1: What is a Joint Organisation?

A: A Joint Organisation is a new entity under the Local Government Act comprising member councils in regional NSW to provide a stronger voice for the communities they represent.

Each Joint Organisation will comprise at least three member councils and align with one of the State's strategic growth planning regions. One of the member council's mayors will be elected chairperson and an Executive Officer may be appointed.

Q2: How will Joint Organisations benefit councils and communities in regional NSW?

A: Joint Organisations will transform the way that the NSW Government and local councils collaborate, plan, set priorities and deliver important projects on a regional scale. These new partnerships will benefit local communities across regional NSW by working across traditional council boundaries.

Q3: How do we know Joint Organisations will work?

A: The Joint Organisation model has been developed in close consultation with councils and the NSW Government has listened to regional councils to get the model right. This included a pilot program for five groups of councils to test a range of options, which involved the participation of 43 councils and delivered a range of initiatives and projects to those regions.

An independent evaluation of the pilot program found Joint Organisations bring benefits to regional communities in delivering on-the-ground projects and attracting more investment to regional communities.

Q4: Why should councils choose to form a Joint Organisation?

A: Joint Organisations will provide a forum for councils, agencies and others to come together and focus on their regional priorities – the things that matter for that region. Joint Organisations will help drive the delivery of important regional projects – the infrastructure and services that local communities need and deserve.

Joint Organisations will also provide councils with a more efficient way to deliver shared services for members and the region. Where member councils agree, they can choose to share a common approach to services such as information technology, water management services and community strategic planning. The NSW Government will provide \$3.3 million to support councils to establish Joint Organisations

Q5: Can councils determine their own regional boundaries?

A: While the choice to join, and composition of a Joint Organisation is voluntary, the NSW Government will only support the creation of Joint Organisations within existing State planning regions and in regional NSW. Councils have told us that effective collaboration will only be realised when State and local government boundaries are aligned.

To aid this process the NSW Government has consulted the sector on boundary criteria which they can take into account when determining the membership of their Joint Organisation.

Joint Organisation boundaries should:

- align with, or 'nest' within one of the State's planning regions
- demonstrate a clear community of interest between member councils and regions
- not adversely impact on other councils or JOs, for example, leaving too few councils to form a JO
- be based around a strong regional centre or centres
- be of an appropriate size to partner with State, Commonwealth and other partners.
- Consistent with previous Government decisions, Joint Organisations will not be considered for metropolitan Sydney and the Central Coast at this time.

Q6: Are Far West Councils able to form a JO?

A: The Government will be writing to Far West councils to advise them of their opportunity to form or join a JO. This will include specific guidance applicable to Far West councils only.

Q7: What are the next steps for interested councils?

A: Councils are invited to nominate to form a Joint Organisation in their region. Councils are encouraged to open discussions with their neighbours as soon as possible.

The Office of Local Government is available to facilitate these discussions and provide support to councils through the nomination process. Specific requirements to form a Joint Organisation will be provided to councils shortly.

Each Joint Organisation will be created by a proclamation and the NSW Government will then ask the Commonwealth to endorse each Joint Organisation as a non-national system employer to ensure that any staff of a Joint Organisation, with the exception of the Executive Officer, are employed under the State local government award.

Q8: What support will be provided to councils and Joint Organisations once established?

A: The Office of Local Government will work with Joint Organisations to support their establishment and ensure they have the necessary systems and governance in place for the Joint Organisations to deliver results for regional communities.

The Office of Local Government and the Department of Premier and Cabinet will foster collaboration between Joint Organisations and State agencies to identify and act on opportunities to benefit regional communities.

Q9: Can councils choose not to participate?

A: Councils can choose not to become a member of a Joint Organisation. The Government strongly encourages all councils in regional NSW to consider the benefits and opportunities offered by Joint Organisations.

Councils that are members of Joint Organisations will be able to take advantage of investment opportunities that are delivered through the Joint Organisation.

Q10: What funding is available to Joint Organisations?

A: The Government will provide up to \$3.3 million in seed funding to Joint Organisations to support their establishment. The Government will identify opportunities for additional investment through Joint Organisations in regional economies.

Funding for each Joint Organisation will be based on the number of councils that choose to form a Joint Organisations, with maximum funding provided to regions where all councils in a region choose to be members of the new regional body.

All Joint Organisations, whether they were pilot regions or not, will be provided with seed funding.

Further details on funding arrangements will be provided to councils.

Q11: Will this funding be enough to help councils establish a JO?

A: The NSW Government is providing significant funding and support to help those councils that choose to establish a Joint Organisation. The pilot program demonstrated that groups of councils can achieve substantial benefits for their communities and significant cost savings by working together through a Joint Organisation.

Q12: How are Joint Organisations different to Regional Organisations of Councils?

A: The Joint Organisation model provides for greater certainty and continuity as well as recognising the unique differences in the many regions of NSW. While some ROCs have been effective, they have varied functions, membership, and governance structures which often makes collaboration more difficult.



Summary of Background Information – Corowa Swimming Pool Renewal

Corowa's existing Swimming Pool and plant is over 60 years old and is at the end of its operational life. A new pool is necessary for a number of safety and compliance reasons, significant issues with filtration and because there are major leakages within the main pool and underground pipework.

Over the past 22+ years, the former Corowa Shire has completed a number of feasibility studies into various options, undertaken community consultation, submitted numerous grant applications and initiated a long-term savings program, which has resulted in over \$1.9M in reserve funding accumulated, to progress a new Swimming Pool(s). Council has secured a further \$1M from the NSW Government Club Grants Program and \$1.5M in funding from the NSW Government Stronger Communities Major Projects Fund (amalgamation funding). This means a total of \$4.43M in funding is available for the project with the remaining funding proposed from a loan. Council could also consider applying for approval to use some of the latest Stronger Community Funding announced, \$3.6M, to limit the amount of loan funding.

The following provides a brief summary of the various actions taken by Council in working towards the renewal of the Corowa Swimming Pool since 1995:

1995	<p>Council appointed SJE consultants (now Otium Planning Group) to assess the options for rehabilitation of the existing pool or to construct a new facility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five options were put forward from a 25m indoor complex to a 50m outdoor complex. Costing varied from \$1M - \$3.75M • After examination of the costs with the community and comparison of alternative sites it was determined that the existing site was the preferred location for the provision of an upgraded facility – when it was financially possible <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The preferred option at that time was to construct a new 65m X 15m, 6 lane swimming pool including upgrade of the plant room and toddlers pool
1997	Amenities building/kiosk upgrade constructed to service swimming pool complex and sporting groups was completed.
2002	Council resolved to update the consultant's report and include the option for the possible enclosure/heating of the swimming pool. An indicative additional cost was obtained which was in excess of \$1.2M.
2005	<p>A public meeting held which supported the following position:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50m 8 lane outdoor pool received unanimous support • Most favoured the existing site • Half of those present indicated they were prepared to look at the feasibility of a new indoor/outdoor complex at the Corowa Golf Club



July 2006	<p>SGL engaged to prepare a further Swimming Pool Options report with the capital costs considered outside of Council capacity. The report outlined the following options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor Pool replacement \$4.5M to \$5M (new 50 m, shared learn to swim, new toddlers pool, a plant room) • Outdoor Pool replacement as above with splash pad • Indoor Pool replacement \$6M to \$7M (25m X 20m plus shared learn to swim and leisure) • Indoor Pool replacement with alternative configuration
September 2006	<p>Report updated to explore the option of the renewal/replacement of the Corowa Golf Club Indoor Facility. The estimated works were costed at \$7.85M therefore, Council determined this was outside of its capacity.</p>
October 2006	<p>Public meeting held October 2006 to present report. Swimming pool community steering committee formed.</p>
December 2006	<p>First meeting of the swimming pool steering committee. Recommendation to visit and investigate other swimming pool complexes.</p>
January 2007 – February 2007	<p>Inspection by the Committee with Council of Wangaratta indoor heated complex (construction cost of \$6.6M) and Mansfield indoor heated complex (construction cost of \$9.4M). Inspection of Junee swimming complex. No recommendations in relation to the type of swimming pool complex were made by the committee.</p>
August 2008	<p>Partnership formed with the Schools to attract Australian Government funding through 'Local Schools' funding initiative. Extensive application developed including business plan and political support obtained. Application not successful due to it being a basic infrastructure need.</p>
December 2009	<p>Major funding application submitted to Community Infrastructure Program.</p>
May 2010	<p>Notification provided by Department that grant application was not successful. Feedback provided that application suitable for funding but bushfire and flood stricken regions were given priority.</p>
May 2010	<p>The Mayor and GM met with Federal Minister and his Advisor at Parliament House to express dissatisfaction in regard to funding outcome and again highlight the urgent need for funding.</p>

2014	<p>Council officers prepared report and costing to Council on the following options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair existing 50m Pool and improvements was estimated at \$1.9M • Build new 25X15.3m Pool inside existing Pool was estimated at \$1.2M • Added to both options was to demolish existing toddlers pools and build new multi-purpose 18X13m facility with splash pad estimated at \$1.13M • Other options explored for outdoor pool heating • 50m Pool option \$3.42M compared to 25m option at \$2.7M <p>The option of renewing the existing Swimming Pool through the use of a liner was discounted by Council because of the more limited life expectancy of this solution.</p>
2015	<p>SGL Consulting (Otium Planning) engaged again to review facility options. This included a review of other sites and in particular RSL Park. A further five options were developed and these were to be tested through community consultation.</p>
May 2016	<p>Council secured \$1M Club Grant Funding.</p>
July 2016	<p>Council announces provision for \$4.6M in financial plan for 16/17 to build the Pool, which included \$1M in grant funding, \$2M in Council funds and the remaining as loan funds.</p>
Sept 2016	<p>Whole of community survey and newsletter posted to all residents of Council. Phone survey of 360 residents completed. Consultation reports prepared and presented to Council. The results of these surveys were mixed.</p>
March 2017	<p>New development options briefed including to review integration options with Ball Park Caravan Park.</p>
March 2017	<p>Funding announcement of further \$1.5M State Government Grant.</p>
May 2017	<p>Announcement made by Council that a decision on the Swimming Pool would be deferred until an elected Council is appointed.</p>
Nov 2017	<p>Draft report prepared with further Swimming Pool options including outdoor 50m, outdoor 25m (with future potential to convert to indoor) and indoor multi-purpose 25m. Presentation of report at Council workshop on 27 November.</p>
Nov 2019	<p>Target opening date of a new Swimming Pool.</p>

Council's most recent consultation with the community commenced in September 2016. This related to the following three options at the time:

Option 1 New Outdoor 25m Swimming Pool and Leisure Pools

- New 25m X 8 lane outdoor Pool
- New 15m X 10m program and learn to swim pool with beach entry
- Splash pad
- New plant room and filtration system

- Located at the existing site, reuse of current entry and change facilities

Option 2 New Outdoor 25m Swimming Pool and Leisure Pools

- As per option 1, however this option was to locate facilities close together so that they could be converted to an indoor aquatic centre in the future

Option 3 New Outdoor 50m Swimming Pool and Leisure Pools

- New 50m X 8 lane outdoor Pool
- New 15m X 10m program and learn to swim pool with beach entry
- Splash pad
- New plant room and filtration system
- Located at the existing site, reuse of current entry and change facilities

Consultation included a whole of community survey (through the distribution of an information flyer and survey to every household within the former Corowa Shire as well as access to an online survey), a statistically significant random phone survey of 360 residents and a public meeting held to present the Swimming Pool options investigated.

While the results of the surveys were valuable, there were many inconsistent and contradicting responses. A consultation report was completed and a brief summary of some of the results is as follows:

A total of 1,089 surveys were completed consisting of 360 phone survey responses and 729 online/paper responses.

- More than 50% of phone survey respondents stated that they were 'too old' as being the main reason for non-use of swimming pools.
- 82% of phone survey respondents listed the Corowa Swim Centre as their most used Swimming Centre.
- The largest majority of phone survey respondents listed that they visited the Pool less than monthly
- The main activities undertaken at the Pool were to take a child and for swimming/fun.
- Of those that had used the Corowa Swimming Pool in the last 12 months, 47% rated the facilities and service as excellent or good.
- 53% of phone survey respondents supported development option 1 (outdoor 25m, 15m X 10m program pool and splash pad).
- Over 50% of phone respondents (21% for online/paper survey respondent) said that an indoor Pool would be a future priority feature and only 2.8% said that a 50m pool was a priority feature.
- 75% of phone survey respondents said they would only support the option with a 50m swimming pool (with only 23% saying they would only support the option of an indoor pool).
- Phone survey respondents then ranked the priority of Swimming Pool facilities with 63% (69% for online/paper respondents) stating that an outdoor 50m pool was the top priority followed by 36% (21% online/paper) supporting an indoor heated facility and 19% an outdoor 25m pool.
- Phone survey respondents were asked if they would support additional funding (rate rise) for an indoor facility with 52% (45% online/paper) stating they would not.

Full consultation reports are available for further information.

DRAFT PLAN FOR CLIENT APPROVAL 14-03-2018



DIMENSIONS AND AREAS ARE SUBJECT TO PLANNING APPROVAL, ENGINEERING DESIGN AND FINAL SURVEY. PROPOSED LOTS MAY BE AFFECTED BY NEW EASEMENTS FOR SERVICES.



Licensed NSW & Victorian Cadastral and Engineering Surveyors
418 Wilson Street
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info@walpolesurveying.com.au

SURVEYORS REF:
17172
VERSION 1
12/03/2018

ORIGINAL
SCALE SHEET SIZE
1:750 A3

PLAN OF EXISTING CONDITIONS
LOT 13 DP844434
4-20 McCarthy Street, Mulwala
For Federation Council



DIMENSIONS AND AREAS ARE SUBJECT TO PLANNING APPROVAL, ENGINEERING DESIGN AND FINAL SURVEY. PROPOSED LOTS MAY BE AFFECTED BY NEW EASEMENTS FOR SERVICES.

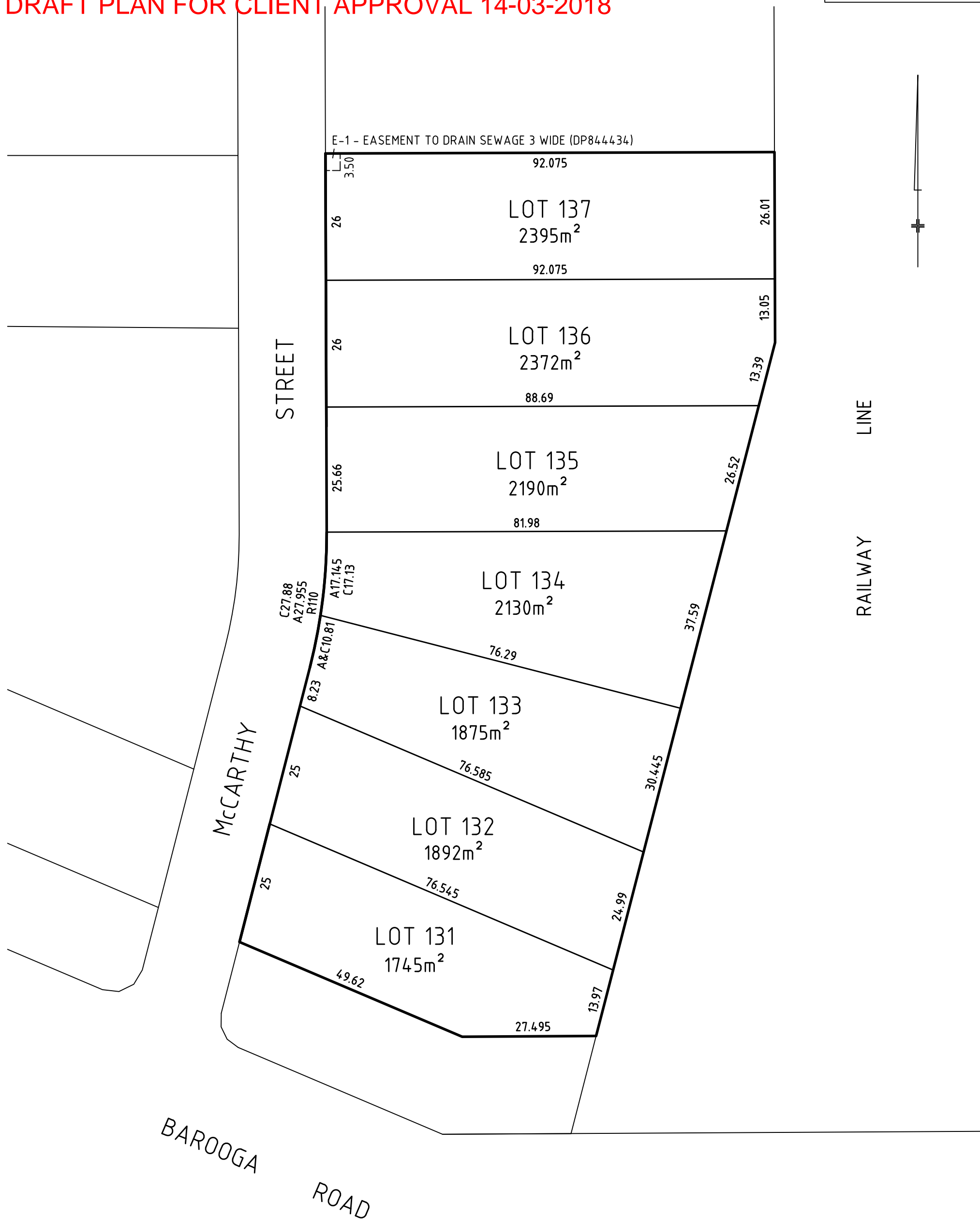


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SURVEYORS REF:
17172
 VERSION 1
 12/03/2018

ORIGINAL
 SCALE SHEET SIZE
1:750 A3

PLAN OF PROPOSED SUBDIVISION
 LOT 13 DP844434
 4-20 McCarthy Street, Mulwala
 For Federation Council



DIMENSIONS AND AREAS ARE SUBJECT TO PLANNING APPROVAL, ENGINEERING DESIGN AND FINAL SURVEY. PROPOSED LOTS MAY BE AFFECTED BY NEW EASEMENTS FOR SERVICES.



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PLAN OF PROPOSED SUBDIVISION
 LOT 13 DP844434
 4-20 McCarthy Street, Mulwala
 For Federation Council

Attachment 7.4.1

Report 'Towards a Stronger Economy in the Federation Council Region' - Strategy, Opportunity and Action 2018 to 2022 Action Plan

Executive Summary

Preamble

Local economic development is many things to many people. There is no universal approach. The work plan needs to be tailored to the needs of the specific location.

There are some common threads, however:

For example, the roles of a local economic development practitioner generally fall into four (4) categories. They are:

- Facilitator
- Stimulator
- Coordinator
- Developer

The common ingredients for success are many. Key ingredients are:

- The essential ingredient – People
- The essential life force – Passion
- The essential building blocks – Projects
- The essential discipline – Priorities
- The essential finance – Proponents
- The essential 'hook' – Points of difference
- The essential future – Possibilities

Importantly these essential ingredients do not stand-alone but rather, they interact. Successful local economic development is about bringing these ingredients together in the appropriate way.

Who it is that brings the necessary ingredients to bear on any particular project, possibility or initiative will depend on the circumstance and the political and economic environment at the time. Often 'success' is a combination of efforts from both public and private parties. After all, the economy is a mixture of the public and private inputs.

Externalities, however, are beyond our control and need to be understood, appreciated and dealt with accordingly. Interest rates, exchange rates and trade agreements are just some of the externalities that the business community needs to consider in its day to day dealings.

The final question is why do councils get involved in local economic development initiatives?

- Council is uniquely placed in its relationship with the community and other tiers of government.
- In addition, Council has a regulatory function that it is required to discharge and finally,
- the community expects Council to provide leadership and vision to maintain the 'health' of the area.

This local economic development role can no longer be considered a fad or fashion. It is a core role for progressive councils.

Attachment 7.4.1

History of Local Activity

Both constituent councils of Federation Council have a history of engaging with their respective community and industry bodies.

Interestingly, when the prior amalgamation occurred in 2004 and a part of the former Hume Shire merged with the then Corowa Shire, a concerted effort was made to engage with the community in business to envision a way forward. Many of the issues at that time remain critical matters today.

The Corowa Shire placed much of its economic development emphasis on supporting and growing the tourism sector and prepared an Economic Development Strategy for the period 2012-2017. The Urana Shire sought out 'nuggets' of 'community gold' with emphases on micro business facilitation and community regeneration and has prepared plans for the smaller towns in the region.

Both approaches are valid and necessary.

The amalgamated Federation Council has an opportunity to capitalize on both approaches and to develop linkages between those approaches.

Of late, new research has been commissioned, that will better inform Council of those business sectors that are best pursued. These bodies of work are being undertaken by Charles Sturt University (Auspiced by Federation Council as an Energise Enterprise Project), and the NERA group. The release of the data sets from the 2016 Census will also inform approaches to Government and the private sector.

A Vision

'That this Action Plan will aim to create an environment that is conducive to encouraging responsible investment and job creation at a rate beyond that which would occur normally.'

Advantages, Opportunities and Challenges

The previous economic development strategy used a modified format of a SWOT analysis, (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats), to assist in defining the current state of the area and future possibilities. This report adopts the same approach.

Attachment 7.4.1

Advantages (Strengths)

- Proximity to regional cities, services and employment
- A unique history
- High quality recreation facilities
- Several significant employers
- Manufacturing sector with export focus
- Strong transport links
- Volume of accommodation
- Constant recreation water levels at Mulwala
- Access to Melbourne and ports
- Strong agriculture sector
- Natural environment.
- Talented artistic community
- Climate
- Wineries (and the adjoining Victoria state communities)

Opportunities

- Cooperative arrangements within the region
- Diversification of agriculture
- Solar resource
- Diverse environment
- Accommodation to support events
- Freedom camping trail
- Relationships with higher education sector
- River and lake related developments
- Industry clusters
- Birthplace of Federation
- The arts
- Pockets of innovation
- Aged and allied health services
- Education infrastructure/services
- New tourist product
- Access to potential new residents due to improved lifestyle offerings.
- Inland high-speed rail route.

Challenges (Weaknesses and Threats)

- Retention of youth
- Attraction of young families
- Creating and improving business networks
- Ageing population
- Static or declining population
- Internet speeds and mobile coverage, particularly in the smaller towns
- Climate change
- Regeneration of the smaller towns
- Improved positioning through a regional approach
- Likely need for two (2) jobs for each incoming young family where there is a partner and spouse
- Identifying investment opportunities
- Identifying investors

Attachment 7.4.1

- Building a profile as a destination for residents, businesses and visitors.
- Overcome a static, apathetic or blasé perception within the community

This list does not purport to be comprehensive but rather will aid the thought processes in the community consultation phase.

Fast Facts

Much data are available but the summary below is provided to give a snapshot of the municipality and trends, where appropriate.

Statistic	Measure	Comment	Date
Population	12,411	Australia Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 12,509 (2011)	2016
Labour Force	4,919	ABS	2016
Unemployment Rate	4.9%	ABS	2016
Gross Regional Product	0.56B	National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR)	2016

Industry by Employment (Top 3)	Measure	Date
Agriculture	937	2016
Manufacturing	814	2016
Accommodation & Food Services	596	2016

Value of Approvals	Measure	Date
Residential		2016
Residential		2017
Non-residential		2016
Non-residential		2017

Tourists	Measure	Comment	Date
Domestic day		Not available – refer draft Murray Region DMP	
Domestic overnight	326,928	Tourism Research Australia –refer draft Murray Region DMP	2015/16
International		Not available – refer draft Murray Region DMP	

In summary, Federation Council overall has:

- Static residential growth with pockets of growth (eg Howlong and Mulwala)
- A continuing construction sector
- A static or slowly growing tourism sector.

These figures highlight the need for stimulus in the area.

Strategic Partners

Attachment 7.4.1

Federation Council cannot stimulate the economy on its own.

Strategic partners are vital and need to be carefully chosen, relevant, respected and supported. While the list of potential partners will be fluid, some are obvious. They include: –

- NSW and Australian Governments
- Regional Councils
- Austrade
- AusIndustry
- Murray Hume BEC
- Murray RDA
- RAMROC
- REROC
- Murray River Tourism Board
- Riverina Tourism
- Yarrawonga Mulwala Tourism
- Chambers of Commerce
- Urana Inc
- Oaklands Inc
- Event organisers
- Higher education and TAFE providers
- Australian Industry Group
- IP Australia
- UDIA (NSW)
- Property Council of Australia
- Seniors Australia
- Caravan industry

Again this list is not comprehensive and partners will be sourced and relationships built wherever possible and strategic.

Target Sectors

The physical size and diversity of Federation Council area results in the potential for many target industry sectors.

Available resources, however, do not allow all sectors to be pursued at the same time. To this end, a number of target sectors are proposed. The target sectors for the coming period have been chosen after analysis of historic trends and the level of interest displayed in recent times by prospective investors.

They include:

- Construction
- Tourism (table in progress)
- Metals
- Agriculture and agribusiness
- Energy and renewables
- Transport
- Allied health
- Arts

Attachment 7.4.1

- Environment

Measuring Success

Before success can be measured, it must be defined.

Each of the target sectors will be summarized, targets provided and actions assigned within the plan that is attached to this report.

The measures will be both outputs (ie activity related) and outcomes (ie the resulting impact). Both are valid but the greatest focus should be on outcomes.

Strategy versus Opportunity

This document is more an action plan than a strategy. Its success will be if the implementation of the actions make a difference to the community.

A local economic development strategy cannot anticipate all the possibilities in the horizon period. This is the reason that this document is not referred to as the strategy. It has elements of strategy but also recognizes the need to be flexible enough to seize an unanticipated opportunity and work to realize it for the community.

The ABC's of Local Economic Development

Just as the practitioner's roles can be confined to 'facilitator, stimulator, coordinator or developer', what is to be achieved has common elements.

They can be summarized as:-

- Attracting and assisting business.
- Advocacy

- Business retention
- Business training and development

- Creating committed customers
- Clear and consistent Council decision-making.

These activities support business while requiring Council to perform its functions to a level of excellence.

Do these things well, and allow business to do what it does well, and the community will be the beneficiaries.

Summary

The above framework aims to provide simple guidance as to the process that Federation Council could adopt over the planning period, 2018 – 2022.

Attachment 7.4.2

7.4.2 APPENDIX TABLE to Towards a Stronger Economy in Federation - Strategy, Opportunity and Action 2018 to 2022 Action Plan

Target Sector	CONSTRUCTION					
Action	Measure	Priority	Responsible Dept.	Key Partners	Timing	Resources
OUTPUT/ACTIVITY						
Residential						
Determine Target Markets – Internal	Targets Agreed	High	Eco Dev	Builders	2018	Staff
Analyse historic trends	Trends accepted	High	Eco Dev	ABS	2018	Staff
Position on Immigration/Refugees	Report to Council (Q4)	High	Eco Dev Comm Services	Murray RDA Local Services Churches	2018	Staff \$2,000
Meet with Industry	Quarterly	High	Eco Dev DFOD	Industry UDIA	Ongoing	Staff \$1,000
Incentives						
Research targeted incentives	Report to Council (Q4)	Medium	DFOD Eco Dev		2018	Staff \$2000
Market Incentives	Targeted program	Medium	Eco Dev Marketing	Consultant	2019 (Q1)	Staff Consultant \$10,000
OUTCOMES						
Annual Growth above Historic Trend	4% (2 no. dwellings)	High	Eco Dev	Builders	2019/20 Ongoing	Nil
Immigration Plan Implemented	2 no. families	High	Eco Dev Comm Services		2019/20 Ongoing	Staff \$1,000
Incentive Package Implemented	\$=No of homes x incentive	High	Finance		2019/20 Ongoing	Staff Est \$100,000

Notes:

Assumes 50 no. homes a year. CHECK
Separate one for non-residential sector.

Attachment 7.4.2

Target Sector	METALS					
Action	Measure	Priority	Responsible Dept.	Key Partners	Timing	Resources
OUTPUTS/ACTIVITIES						
Convene meeting of industry	75% attendance	M	Eco Dev	Industry Murray RDA	2019 Q1	Staff \$200
Determine key growth parameters including infrastructure needs, suppliers & markets	Agreed list	M	Eco Dev	Industry Murray RDA	2019 Q2	Staff
Investigate the need/desire for cluster	Agreed need or otherwise	M	Eco Dev	Industry Murray RDA	2019 Q2	Staff
OUTCOMES						
Develop marketing plan for cluster as required	Target markets identified Plan agreed & prepared	M	Eco Dev	PR Industry Murray RDA	End 2019	Staff \$5000 part industry fund
Attract supporting infrastructure (eg forge)	1 no. allied industry	H	Eco Dev	Industry Murray RDA State Govt	2020 Q3	Staff

Notes:

1. *The outcomes depend wholly on support for the approach by industry.*
2. *The concept has come from previous consultations and observations.*

Attachment 7.4.2

Target Sector	AGRICULTURE & AGRIBUSINESS					
Action	Measure	Priority	Responsible Dept.	Key Partners	Timing	Resources
OUTPUTS/ACTIVITY						
Actively participate in agribusiness forums	Attendance and research	H	Murray RDA Eco Dev	Industry ABARE	2018	Staff
Industry Liaison – Gap Analysis	Conducting workshops	H	Eco Dev	Industry	2018	Staff
Feasibility for Identified Gap industry(ies)	1 no. per annum	H	Eco Dev	Industry Consultant	2019 - 2022	Staff \$15,000
OUTCOMES						
New industry or revised practice (if deemed feasible)	1 no per annum (average over period)	H	Eco Dev	Industry	2019- 2022	Staff

Notes:

1. *This is a significant contributor to the economy and will have been the subject of much research over the years.*
2. *The aims of these initiatives are to identify and investigate high value crops, reduce reliance on climate and explore textile opportunities beyond sheep.*

Attachment 7.4.2

Target Sector	ENERGY & RENEWABLES					
Action	Measure	Priority	Responsible Dept.	Key Partners	Timing	Resources
OUTPUTS/ACTIVITY						
Determine Council position on renewables including desktop research on other LGAs.	Position agreed	H	Eco Dev	Engineering Environment Industry	2018 Q4	Staff Consultants
Undertake natural resource analysis	Solar, wind, geothermal, micro hydro and biomass to be analysed as minimum.	H	Eco Dev	Industry	2018 Q3	Staff Consultant \$15,000
Investigate bulk purchase schemes for Solar PV through EOI process.	Quotations received.	H	Eco Dev	Providers	2019	Staff
Support for MIT/Boston University Liquid Metal Battery (LMB) Trial in Riverina	Tangible support for trial.	M - H	Eco Dev	Boston Uni. ARENA	2019 onwards	Staff Venture Capital
OUTCOMES						
Deliver a bulk purchase offer to market.	15 no. dwelling take up	H	Eco Dev PR	Chosen provider	2019 Q3	Staff
Implement Council positions	As per the resolution	H	GM Eco Dev	Depends on position adopted	2019 - 2020	Staff Consultants
Introduce venture capital to LMB	Minimum 1 no introduction	H	Eco Dev	Boston Uni Venture Capitalist	2019	Staff Consultant Murray RDA

Notes:

While solar resource is well established in the Riverina, other natural resources are less well understood. This will be a key to understanding Federation's capacity to build investment and employment based on renewables.

Attachment 7.4.2

Target Sector	TRANSPORT					
Action	Measure	Priority	Responsible Dept.	Key Partners	Timing	Resources
OUTPUTS/ACTIVITIES						
Convene a discussion with industry representatives.	Meeting held.	M	Eco Dev	Planning Engineering	2019	Staff
Determine any ancillary requirements	Agreed	M-H	Eco Dev	Industry	Ongoing	Staff
Investigate opportunity for cluster	Decision achieved	M	Eco Dev	Industry	2019	Staff
Determine training requirements	Requirements established	H	Eco Dev	TAFE MPs	2019	Staff
Investigate 24-hour truck stop opportunity.	Opportunity identified or rejected	M	Eco Dev	Industry Finance Planning	2020	Staff
OUTCOMES						
Ancillary requirements (as required)	Done in agreed timeframe	H	Eco Dev	Industry Planning Engineering Finance	2019 - 2022	Staff
Cluster established, if desired.	3 no. meetings per annum	M	Eco Dev	Industry Business Chamber	Ongoing	Staff
Advocate and achieve appropriate training modules	Courses in place	H	Eco Dev	Industry DECA	Ongoing	Staff
Attract developer for new truck stop, if needed	Truck stop identified and funded.	H	Eco Dev	Industry	Ongoing	Staff

Attachment 7.4.2

Target Sector	ALLIED HEALTH					
Action	Measure	Priority	Responsible Dept.	Key Partners	Timing	Resources
OUTPUT/ACTIVITY						
Convene meeting of practitioners	Meeting held	M	Comm Services	Eco Dev Hospital Industry/agencies	2020	Staff
Identify Gaps in Provision	Gap analysis undertaken and agreed	M	Comm Services	Eco Dev Hospital Industry/agencies	2020	Staff
Identify possible locations to supply services	Sites identified, cost estimates established	M	Eco Dev	Estate Agents	2020	Staff
OUTCOMES						
Facilitate supply of services	1 no (min) identified gap filled per year	M - H	Eco Dev	Industry Estate Agents	2020-2022`	Staff

Notes:

As the population ages, the demand for all health services, including allied health services will increase. It is important from an economic development perspective to ensure the community has adequate access to quality health care.

Attachment 7.4.2

Target Sector	ARTS & CULTURE					
Action	Measure	Priority	Responsible Dept.	Key Partners	Timing	Resources
OUTPUTS/ACTIVITY						
Convene interested parties	Meeting convened. Broad representation	M-L	Eco Dev	Visual arts Dance Creative Theatre Books	2019	Staff
Explore networking opportunity	Decision to create alliance	M	Eco Dev Tourism Community Services	Industry Consumers	2019- 2020	Staff
Dedicated marketing collateral	Develop, research target markets and distribute material.	H	Eco Dev PR Community Services	Industry Peak Bodies	2020 Ongoing	Staff Consultants
Monitor impacts	Increased visitation. Impact on population	H	Community Services	Industry	2020 Ongoing	Staff
OUTCOMES						
Establish 'Arts Alliance'	Establishment	M	Eco Dev Community Services	Industry	2019	Staff
Develop Arts Related Trails (eg sculpture, art, galleries)	1 no trail per annum	H	Eco Dev	Industry	2019- 2022	Staff \$30,000
Facilitate new product (eg comedy)	Ongoing annual event Possible home for comedy.	H	Eco Dev Community Services	Industry	2020	Staff \$500,000
Facilitate the establishment of a creative industry sector.	1 no. creative industry per annum (eg graphic design)	H	Eco Dev	Current industry	2019- 2022	Staff

Notes:

Authors such as Richard Florida highlight the importance of the creative class in establishing and maintaining a vibrant and sustainable community.

Attachment 7.4.2

Target Sector	BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT					
Action	Measure	Priority	Responsible Dept.	Key Partners	Timing	Resources
OUTPUT/ACTIVITY						
In conjunction with the Business Chambers, develop an annual training schedule	Training schedule agreed and implemented.	H	Eco Dev	Peak Bodies	Annual Ongoing	Staff Self funded
Maintain membership of Business Chambers	Active participation	H	Eco Dev	Peak Bodies	Ongoing	Staff \$500 fees
Build relationships with Government, education, and industry peak bodies.	All relevant bodies contacted.	M-H	Eco Dev	Relationship partners	2019 Ongoing	Staff \$500
Create a streamlined approval process for new and expanded business applications	Processes reviewed, in place and actioned.	H	Dev Services	Eco Dev Industry	2019 Ongoing	Staff
OUTCOME						
Reduction in DA approval times.	Below State average Annual Improvement	H	Dev Services	Industry State Planning	2020 Ongoing	Staff

Notes:

1. *Support for existing business is an important and valid role for a Council. Assisting to access training, minimising and facilitating regulation, and advocating for matters such as service timely and quality provision of utilities are just some of the roles that Council can undertake as appropriate.*
2. *The recent, and as yet unpublished, CSU report on Economic Development in the region noted 'gaps' in liaison with business. This engagement is vital.*

Attachment 7.4.2

Target Sector	OPPORTUNITIES					
Action	Measure	Priority	Responsible Dept.	Key Partners	Timing	Resources
OUTPUT/ACTIVITY						
Advocacy						
CSP Identified Targets (eg telecommunications, public transport)	Advocacy plan prepared and implemented.	Variable	Various	Beneficiary	Varied	Staff Consultants
Business Attraction/Facilitation						
Aged Care	Need established, investors identified, proposal prepared and made.	Variable	Comm Services Eco Dev	Community Landholder	Varied	Staff
Childcare	Need established, investors identified, proposal prepared and made.	Variable	Comm Services Eco Dev	Community Landholder	Varied	Staff
Airport Related	Industry research	H	Eco Dev Airport Manager	Other users	2018	Staff
Microbusiness Facilitation	25 no. 1 on 1 facilitations	H	Eco Dev	Community	Annual	Staff
Identification of New Residential Land	No of potential lots	H	Eco Dev Dev Services	Landowner RE Agents Developers	Ongoing	Staff

Notes:

No plan can anticipate all the future opportunities. This table represents contemporary issues for Federation Council area.

Signs as Remote Supervision Policy (draft)

federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au

Record No: 18/3801

Adopted: Enter Adoption Date



Document Title	Signs as Remote Supervision Policy (draft)
Council Adopted	Adoption Date
Council Resolution No	Enter Resolution No
Version Number	1
Responsible Department	Parks and Facilities
Date to be Reviewed	February 2021

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1. Purpose

Federation Council has land and recreational facilities under its care and control that are accessible by the public, supporting Delivery Program Goal 1.5.3 – “Diverse recreation and sporting opportunities offered locally” and Delivery Program Goal 2.2.2 – “Well planned recreation facilities”.

These facilities may contain hazards and risks, both natural and manmade that could present a risk of injury, illness or property damage to users. In the instance of “reasonably foreseeable risk”, Council has a duty of care to users, and the most efficient way to fulfil that duty is to use warning signage, incorporating internationally recognised symbols, as a form of remote supervision.

2. Background

Councils around the State have been subject to liability claims attributed to signage on many occasions. Claims generally centre on complaints from, or injuries to, third parties due to the absence of appropriate signage, insufficient signage, or the wording or location of signage is deficient.

3. Scope

This Policy is applicable to all Councillors, Senior Management, Supervisors and staff of Council and encompasses all functions, activities and processes undertaken by Council in relation to the use of signage as a form of remote supervision.

4. Definitions

Risk - the effect of uncertainty on objectives.

Hazard - a source of potential harm.

Facility - is defined as “a parcel of land that may include reserves, parks, beaches, pools and, where applicable, waterways, either owned, operated or under the care and control of Council”.

5. Policy Statement

Signs are the cheapest and easiest method that Council can employ for supervision at remote locations. Signs are intended to perform the function of imparting information to the public that would otherwise require the presence of a staff member.

Appropriate signage will allow members of the public to make an informed decision about entering or using a particular facility under Council’s care, control or responsibility.

If the person then elects to enter the area and suffers injury resulting from the risk about which the warning symbol relates, then arguably Council has satisfied its duty of care and no liability should attach to it. However, the sign must be appropriate to the situation and placed in a suitable position to satisfy Council's duty of care.

This Policy titled "Signs as Remote Supervision", and the supporting documented Procedure, have been prepared to ensure that Federation Council has clear and concise directions as to the location, content and frequency of signs and to minimise public liability exposure emanating from the provision of services to the community.

Federation Council has prepared a documented Procedure titled "Signs as Remote Supervision", based on current best practice to assist with this.

The legal position regarding Warning symbols relating to risks associated with recreational activities is outlined in the Civil Liability Act 2002, Division 5, Clause 5M.

"CLAUSE 5M - NO DUTY OF CARE FOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY WHERE RISK WARNING

- (1) *A person ("the defendant") does not owe a duty of care to another person who engages in a recreational activity ("the plaintiff") to take care in respect of a risk of the activity if the risk was the subject of a risk warning to the plaintiff."*

To determine the most appropriate content of a sign for a facility, Council has adopted and implemented a process that is simple, systematic and easily replicated. The process has seven steps. Each step represents a stage within the risk management process.

The seven steps are:

1. Establish a full and complete inventory of all the Council facilities,
2. Determine Council's level of development within each facility, including naturally occurring features,
3. Ascertain the level of use of the facility by the public,
4. Predict or obtain the frequency of use of the facility,
5. Calculate the Facility Visitation Rate,
6. Calculate the Risk Rating of identified hazards, and
7. Select and produce the most appropriate sign and determine its location/s.

6. Responsibilities

Council

Council will allocate sufficient human and financial resources to provide for new signage where required, and to fund the ongoing inspection, installation, maintenance and replacement of existing signs as remote supervision.

Shall review the Policy from time to time to ensure it complies with the Legislation and is achieving the Council's intent.

General Manager

Shall ensure the development of a Procedure titled “Signs as Remote Supervision”, based on current best practice that conforms to Council’s Policy.

Shall monitor the effectiveness of the Procedures (and any guidelines) in operation and authorise changes to improve the procedures to conform to Council’s Policy.

Shall report to council any issues that arise out of the Policy.

Director and Staff

The Director, Infrastructure and Environment, and appropriate departmental staff, are responsible for the implementation and ongoing operation of this Policy and supporting Procedure(s).

Shall report regularly to the General Manager on the effectiveness of the Procedure(s).

Risk Unit Staff

Shall provide risk management advice to all Federation Council staff, Councillors, volunteers and contractors as and when required.

7. References & Associated Documents

- Signs as Remote Supervision Procedure
- Risk Management Policy
- Risk Management Framework
- Risk Management Plan
- Asset Management Plan
- Civil Liability Act 2002

8. Policy History

Version	Date	Changes / Amendments
1	Feb 2018	Initial Issue

9. Reviews

3

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Attachment 7.5.2

Signs as Remote Supervision Procedure (draft)

federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au

Record No: 18/3860

Version No: 1



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1 Purpose

Federation Council has land and recreational facilities under its care and control that are accessible by the public, supporting Delivery Program Goal 1.5.3 – “Diverse recreation and sporting opportunities offered locally” and Delivery Program Goal 2.2.2 – “Well planned recreation facilities”.

These facilities may contain hazards and risks, both natural and manmade that could present a risk of injury, illness or property damage to users. In the instance of “reasonably foreseeable risk”, Council has a duty of care to users, and the most efficient way to fulfil that duty is to use warning signage, incorporating internationally recognised symbols, as a form of remote supervision.

2 Background

Councils around the State have been subject to liability claims attributed to signage on many occasions. Claims generally centre on complaints from, or injuries to, third parties due to the absence of appropriate signage, insufficient signage, or the wording or location of signage is deficient.

3 Scope

This Procedure is applicable to all Councillors, Senior Management, Supervisors and staff of Council and encompasses all functions, activities and processes undertaken by Council in relation to the use of signage as a form of remote supervision.

4 Definitions

Risk - the effect of uncertainty on objectives.

Hazard - a source of potential harm.

Facility - is defined as “a parcel of land that may include reserves, parks, beaches, pools and, where applicable, waterways, either owned, operated or under the care and control of Council”.

Duty of care - The law says that if it is “reasonably foreseeable” that a person might suffer some sort of loss or harm because of something someone else does, then that person is owed a duty of care.

Due diligence - Due Diligence means the steps, procedures and processes a reasonable person, in the same position as another, would have undertaken to prevent something adverse from happening.

5 Procedure

This Procedure generally follows Statewide Mutual's document titled "Signs as Remote Supervision" for the risk management of Council owned, operated or controlled land, with modifications to address the logistical, resourcing and financial constraints of Council, and the history of incidents at each location.

5.1 Legislative Background

Civil Liability Act 2002

The legal position regarding Warning symbols relating to risks associated with recreational activities is outlined in the Civil Liability Act 2002, division 5, Clause 5M.

"Cl 5M – No duty of care for recreational activity where risk warning

- (1) A person (the defendant) does not owe a duty of care to another person who engages in a recreational activity (plaintiff) to take care in respect of a risk of the activity if the risk was the subject of a risk warning to the plaintiff.
- (2) If the person who suffers harm is an incapable person, the defendant may rely on a risk warning only if:
 - (a) The incapable person was under the control of or accompanied by another person (who is not an incapable person and not the defendant) and the risk was the subject of a risk warning to that other person, or
 - (b) The risk was the subject of a risk warning to a parent of the incapable person (whether or not the incapable person was under the control of or accompanied by the parent)."

The Act also defines what constitutes "recreational activities" as:

- (a) Any sport (whether or not the sport is an organised activity) and
- (b) Any pursuit or activity engaged in for enjoyment, relaxation or leisure, and
- (c) Any pursuit or activity engaged in at a place (such as a beach, park or other public open space) where people ordinarily engage in sport or in any pursuit or activity for enjoyment, relaxation or leisure.

"The following principles apply in determining whether a public or other authority has a duty of care or has breached a duty of care in proceedings for civil liability to which this part applies:

- (a) The functions required to be exercised by the authority are limited by the financial and other resources that are reasonably available to the authority for the purpose of exercising those functions.
- (b) The general allocation of those resources by the authority is not open to challenge.
- (c) The functions required to be exercised by the authority are to be determined by reference to the broad range of its activities (and not merely by reference to the matter to which the proceedings relate).
- (d) The authority may rely on evidence of its compliance with the general procedures and applicable standards for the exercise of its functions as evidence of the proper exercise of its functions in the matter to which the proceedings relate".

Nevertheless, Council must take all practical and affordable steps to manage its risks that exist at "facilities" within the Council Local Government Area (LGA). Erecting a sign to warn people of the risks within the LGA aims to control

behaviour and reduce the likelihood of an incident occurring that results in injury, illness or damage to personal property.

Practice Note 15 Water Safety

The Office of Local Government (OLG) has issued Practice Note 15 Water Safety since 1994 to promote water safety in NSW. The latest update is the October 2017 version.

Water activities dominate recreational and sporting activities across Australia.

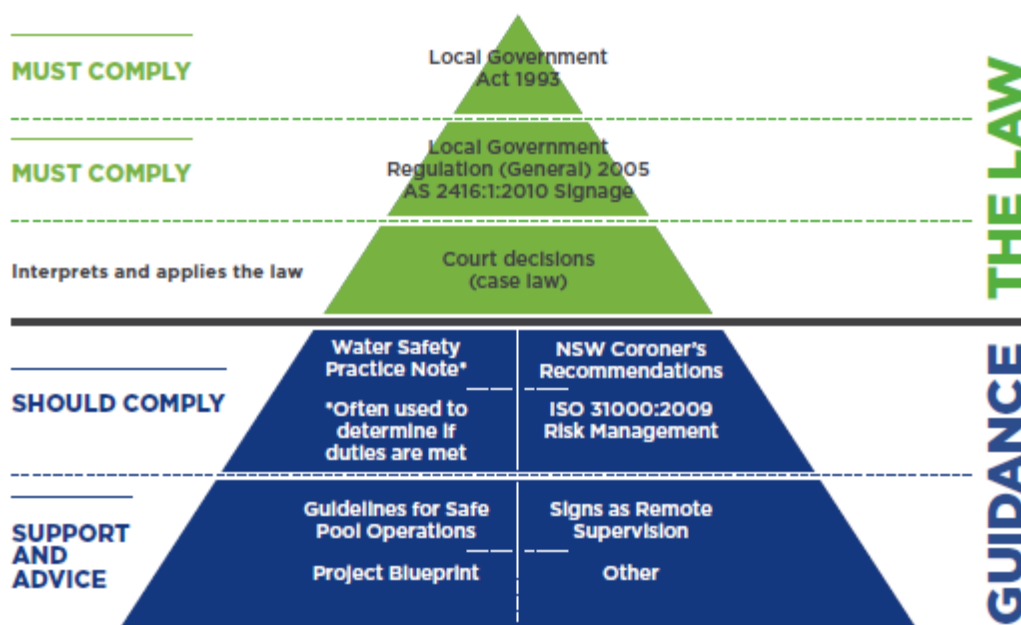
Practice Note 15 provides guidance to NSW Councils to strengthen their water safety functions and responsibilities such as providing swimming facilities, beach patrols, lifeguard services and regulatory activities in public places.

It covers hiring appropriately trained and qualified staff for water safety duty, installing warning signage, legislative compliance, providing suitable emergency equipment and working collaboratively with other water safety groups and agencies.

Practice Note 15 aims to assist Council to develop, implement and document strategies and actions to maximise the safe public enjoyment of its swimming pools, foreshores and other aquatic facilities and locations under Council’s care and control.

2.1 Overview

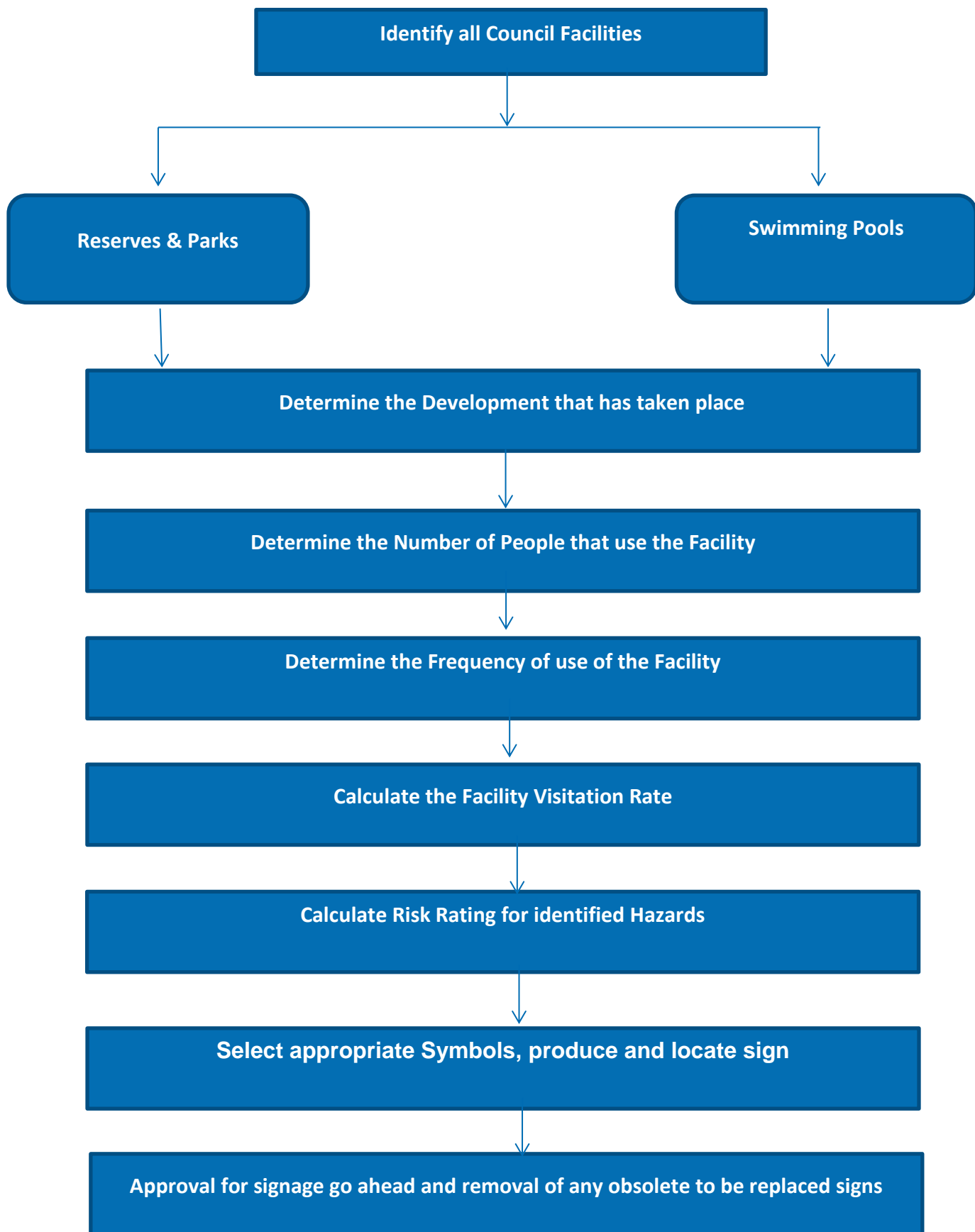
FIGURE 1 | Sources of Council Obligations: NSW Water Safety Framework



AS 2416:2010 Water safety signs set.

AS 1744.2015 Standard alphabets for road signs

5.2 Process Flow Chart



5.3 Identify Facilities

Council will establish a detailed inventory, in the form of a Recreational Facilities Register, of all Council owned or operated facilities using the following details:

- .. Name of the facility
- .. Lot/DP and/or GPS reference.
- .. Location of the facility
- .. Level of development and/or Natural Features
- .. Category of the facility
- .. Facility Visitation Rating Code
- .. Number of signs installed
- .. Individual ID of each sign (Asset ID Number)
- .. Content or image of sign
- .. Location of each sign (i.e. GIS location)

5.4 Level of Development

Council will determine the level of development and/or natural hazards within or about the facility.

Development includes the infrastructure provided for the use by the public. Council has established a Development Table describing the range of development and natural hazards and this range will be from 1-5; 1 being the least amount of development and 5 being the most.

Table 1 – Typical Development and Natural Hazards Rating for Reserves

Rating	Development	Natural Hazards
1	Virginal bush, cleared land, no infrastructure	No hazardous features
2	Cleared land, static infrastructure e.g. grass area with tables and chairs, toilet block, lookout	Sloping ground; no natural water; walking track around reserve
3	Cleared land with mobile infrastructure e.g. grassed area with play equipment, cycleway, market, leash free dog areas	Reserve contains natural waterway that runs during wet weather, drops less than 1 metre
4	Council owned infrastructure with no artificial lighting e.g. golf course, football field, recreational ground, caravan park	Creeks, ponds and ledges between 1 metre and 3 metres
5	Extensively developed infrastructure with artificial lighting e.g. sporting complex, Skate Park, BMX Track, artificially lit courts	Contains rivers, dams and cliffs greater than 3 metres

For Council Pools, Table 1A is a typical classification of the level of Development for Council Pool facilities. (This is sourced from the Office of Local Government’s Practice Note 15.)

Table 1A – Example of Typical Development Rating for Pools

Rating	Development Rating
1	Other: e.g. natural still waterway that is an area known for swimming and associated activities (rivers, creeks, lakes, etc.).
2	Other: e.g. Any still water environment that has been specifically constructed, designed or intended to be used for swimming, diving, paddling or wading (Rock Pools, Dams, Swimming Enclosures, etc.).
3	Swimming Pool: (Local Community Swimming Pool). Swimming Pool that is managed by the Council and/or a designated community group that has one small swimming pool (less than 25 metres in length) with very low patronage levels and no more than one aquatic activity occurring at any one time. Pool configuration would always be the standard rectangular shape.
4	Swimming Pool: (Aquatic Centre). Facility that has one or two bodies of water with medium to low patronage levels and no more than one aquatic activity occurring at any one time e.g. one main swimming pool and a diving or toddler pool. Pool configuration is generally a standard rectangular shape.
5	Swimming Pool: (Multi-Purpose Aquatic and Recreation Facility). This facility generally has more than one body of water and would typically have a high patronage turnover with multiple activities occurring at the same time e.g. school usage, lap swimming, learn to swim, scuba diving, etc. Pool configuration and number of pools within the facility should also be taken into consideration for the purposes of surveillance.

5.5 Population Use

Council will determine the usage of the facility by defining the average population that uses the facility at any given point in time during an organized or impromptu function, Table 2.

Table 2 – Typical Population Use Rating for a Facility

Rating	Population Use
1	Less than 5 people at a time
2	5 to 50 people at a time
3	50 to 100 people at a time
4	100 to 500 people at a time
5	Greater than 500 people at a time

5.6 Frequency of Use

Council will determine the frequency of use of the facility by the average number of times the facility is used on a regular basis. Some facilities may be used so infrequently that it is considered to be zero. At the other end of the scale, facilities may be used constantly by large numbers.

Table 3 – Frequency-of-Use Rating for a Facility

Rating	Frequency of Use
1	An annual activity or event is held at the facility
2	An activity event takes place in the facility on a monthly basis
3	An activity event takes place in the facility on a weekly basis
4	An activity event takes place in the facility on a daily basis
5	The facility is in continuous use for the majority of the day

5.7 Facility Visitation Rate (FVR)

Council will calculate the Facility Visitation Rate (FVR) based on the data collected during the evaluation process. The data collected includes the amount of the development of the facility from Table 1 (or 1A), the population use of the facility from Table 2 and the frequency of the use of the facility from Table 3.

The three values are inserted into the equation below and the resulting value is the Facility Visitation Rate:

$$\text{Facility Visitation Rate} = (\text{Development} \times \text{Population}) + \text{Frequency}$$

The value of the FVR is an indication of the risk that Council is exposed to related to the activities that occur in each facility. This value will allow Council to decide on the most appropriate signage to act as the most suitable form of remote supervision. It also provides Council with a simple way of prioritising the facilities requiring remote supervision signage.

5.8 Rating of Identified Hazards

Council will conduct a risk assessment of the hazards that may be present in and around the facility. There may be instances where there are many hazards present, too many to list. If Council was to attempt to warn against all of them the message could get lost in the amount of information being provided.

Using a systematic process will allow Council to warn against the higher rated hazards. The risk assessment, using Councils Risk Matrix, will be conducted and filed against the FVR Assessment Sheet (See Appendix A).

5.9 Select Most Appropriate Sign and Location

Council has a Duty of Care to warn the users of its facilities of the hazards that might arise with respect to each facility. Council needs to balance this Duty of Care against the physical and financial resources it has available to fund the installation of signage. If a facility has an FVR less than ten (10) Council will not sign unless there are extraordinary circumstances.

Where the facility has Events the FVR calculation will be rated for both normal & event usage. The highest FVR is used for the signage of hazards. There may also be additional measures that need to be taken, according to the resultant Risk Assessment score, as detailed in Table 4.

NOTE: Federation Council has adopted a Risk Matrix that has both High and Extreme Risk Ratings, consequently the risk assessment conducted could produce a Risk Rating of either High or Extreme. Council staff must determine whether to refer to both, or only the highest rating, remembering to consider the potential consequence before deciding.

Table 4 - Determining the Most Appropriate Sign for Council Reserves & Facilities

FVR	General Sign Description	Location
2 - 3	No sign is required	
4 – 6	<p>The sign should contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The name of the facility A general warning message All Council’s Ordinances that apply to the facility should appear on the sign as prohibition pictograms Any information symbols relevant to the facility <p>NB: The sign does not require the depiction of warning symbols</p>	A sign should appear in a prominent position within the facility
7 – 10	<p>The sign should contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The name of the facility A general warning message All Council’s Ordinances that apply to the facility should appear on the sign as prohibition pictograms All potential hazards identified within the facility that has a risk rating of HIGH should appear on the sign as warning symbols. If no highs then the top hazard should appear Any information symbols relevant to the facility 	A sign should appear at all entrances provided by Council to the facility.
11 – 15	<p>The sign should contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The name of the facility A general warning message All Council’s Ordinances that apply to the facility should appear on the sign as prohibition pictograms All potential hazards identified within the facility that has a risk rating of HIGH should appear on the sign as warning symbols. If no highs then the top two hazards should appear 	A sign should appear at all entrances provided by Council to the facility

FVR	General Sign Description	Location
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any information symbols relevant to the facility 	
16 – 20	<p>The sign should contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The name of the facility A general warning message All Council’s Ordinances that apply to the facility should appear on the sign as prohibition pictograms All potential hazards identified within the facility that has a risk rating of HIGH should appear on the sign as warning symbols. If no highs then the top three hazards should appear Any information symbols relevant to the facility 	<p>A sign should appear at all entrances provided by Council to the facility. Consideration should be given to placing signs in other areas of high use</p>
21 – 26	<p>The sign should contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The name of the facility A general warning message All Council’s Ordinances that apply to the facility should appear on the sign as prohibition pictograms All potential hazards identified within the facility that has a risk rating of HIGH should appear on the sign as warning symbols. If no highs then the top four hazards should appear Any information symbols relevant to the facility 	<p>A sign should appear at all entrances provided by Council to the facility. Consideration should be given to placing signs in other areas of high use</p>
27 - 30	<p>Council should consider full time supervision whilst the facility is occupied. The level of risk is such that a sign warning people of the hazards would not be the most appropriate risk reduction technique Whatever level of supervision Council elects, the supervisory body must be experienced and trained for the activity</p>	<p>In addition to supervision Consideration should be given to placing signs at the entrance and in other highly visible areas within the facility</p>

Table 4b - Determining the Most Appropriate Sign for Council Pools

FVR	General Sign Description	Location
2-20	<p>Council should always consider Full Time Supervision whilst the pool is occupied</p> <p>A sign should contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The name of the pool • A general warning message • All Council’s Ordinances that apply to the pool should appear on the sign as prohibition pictograms • All hazards identified within the pool should appear on the sign as warning symbols • Any information symbols relevant to the pool 	<p>A sign should appear at all entrances provided by Council to the pool. Consideration should be given to placing signs in other highly visible areas</p>
21-30	<p>Council should always consider Full Time Supervision whilst the pool is occupied. The level of risk is such that a sign warning people of the hazards would not be the most appropriate risk reduction technique</p> <p>Whatever level of supervision Council elects, the supervisory body must be experienced and trained for the activity</p> <p>Physical barriers preventing access should be provided and installed unless there is full-time supervision</p>	<p>A sign should appear at all entrances provided by Council to the pool. Consideration should be given to placing signs in other highly visible areas</p>

6 Elements and Size of a Sign

6.1 General Rule for Facility Sign Size: 1800 x 1200 framed sign on 2 galvanised poles. Depending on location, signs are to be mounted in a manner (height) that does not present a hazard to people, especially children.

6.2 General Rule for Symbols and Letters Size

Symbol sign: 15mm per metre of viewing distance
Upper case: 5mm per metre of viewing distance
Lower case: 4mm per metre of viewing distance

The Sign Writer may vary these measurements slightly on any individual sign depending on information required to be shown, layout reasons and visual aesthetics

Component 1: Council Facility Identification Data

All facilities within Council must be identified. A unique identifier for the sign should include an asset number for that particular sign structure. The identifier on the sign will identify the components of the sign should it be damaged/vandalised or stolen and requires replacing.

Name of facility: Upper case letters 120mm
Lower Case letters 100mm

Component 2: General Warning Message

Council will include general warning messages on all signage. The message asks patrons to take reasonable care for their own safety.

Warning: Use of this facility may be hazardous. Please take care.

Block Size: 1020 x 100 mm

Component 3: Prohibition Symbols

All Council's Regulations will appear as Prohibition signs. These symbols are depicted by a red circle on a white background with a red slash across the front of the sign.



Symbol Size: 240mm diameter edge of outer circle

Some prohibitions do not require a resolution of Council to be enforced; for example, a “No Diving” prohibition at a swimming pool. It is however important where supervision is available, that prohibitions are enforced, for example by pool lifeguards and other staff as part of their duty of care for the safety of their patrons.

Section 632 of the Local Government Act 1993 – “Acting contrary to notices erected by Councils” states that a *“...person who, in a public place within the area of the Council, fails to comply with the terms of a notice erected by the Council, is guilty of an offence”*

Section 650 of the Act has a similar provision dealing with free car parking. It enables Council to specify the terms and conditions to which the users are subject by entering the place.

In order to enforce any of these and other prohibitions, Council will include in the sign structure, the following text: *“In accordance with Section 632 of the Local Government Act 1993 the following activities are prohibited at this location:....”*

Followed by the appropriate symbols relevant to this provision.
Followed by the words: *“Offenders will be prosecuted and fined”*
Finally *“by order of the General Manager”*. **Cost??**

Component 4: General Warning Symbols

General warning symbols reflect the activity/hazard that Council is warning the facility user about. These symbols are depicted by a yellow diamond with a black border.



Symbol Size: 260mm x 260mm diagonals

Component 5: Other Information

Any other comments or instruction that Council wishes to appear on a sign should appear either as information of a safety message or symbol. This information is depicted by a white symbol or word on a blue background. Safety information, such as exits, first aid etc. should appear on the sign as white symbols or words on a green background.



6.3 Example Sign



URANA AQUATIC CENTRE

**Warning: Use of this facility may be hazardous.
Please take care for your safety**



NO DOGS



NO ROPE SWING



NO SWIMMING



WATER



SUBMERGED OBSTACLES



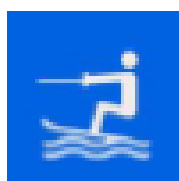
SUDDEN DROP



FALLING BRANCHES



SNAKES



**Keep children
under active
supervision
at all times
in or around
water**

In an Emergency call 000

LOCATION: Federation Way Urana GPS Co-ordinates: -35.338400 146.272532

7 Sign Management Process

The sign management process will involve site inspections at specific intervals detailed below, with the condition, currency of symbols and appropriateness of each sign evaluated.

Sign Category	Time of Update
Swimming Pools	Before pool season, following site risk audit
Reserves and Parks	Once per year, following site risk audit
Skate Parks	Once per year, following site risk audit

Sign Maintenance

Sign condition, currency of symbols and appropriateness will be evaluated at the annual site risk audits, detailed above. The condition of each sign will be entered into the Recreational Facilities Register, and any defects listed in the maintenance program. Work/Job Orders will be generated based on the highest defect rating (not all defects recorded will be treated) and as budget permits.

Signs in existence currently not meeting the current Best Practice Guidelines and/or Australian Standards shall be replaced as funds permit, in priority order based on public usage of the respective areas and the rating formula detailed in the procedures.

Council's Director Infrastructure and Environment shall seek an annual budget allocation from Council to be used for the renewal & inspection of old signs, and the installation of new signs, where identified by the Procedure.

Signs – Condition Rating

Rating	Condition	Description
1	Excellent	No damage, symbols current, still appropriate
2	Good	Minor damage, may have dated symbol, still appropriate
3	Average	Minor damage, several dated symbols, still appropriate. Replacement sign within 12 months
4	Poor	Damaged, dated symbols, still appropriate. Replacement sign within 3 months
5	Illegible	Sign can no longer be read, replacement Sign is required
6	Missing	New or replacement Sign is required

8 Sign Installation

Council's procurement Policy and Procedures are to be followed in undertaking the signage required.

Please Note: Installation of new signage may require removal of any old signage that is being replaced or is in contradiction of the new signage requirements.

Schedule of Changes & Amendments

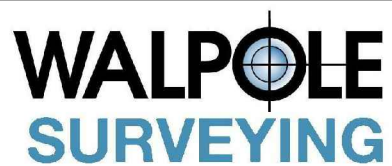
Version	Date	Changes / Amendments
1	Feb 2018	Initial Issue

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DRAFT PLAN FOR CLIENT APPROVAL 14-03-2018



DIMENSIONS AND AREAS ARE SUBJECT TO PLANNING APPROVAL, ENGINEERING DESIGN AND FINAL SURVEY. PROPOSED LOTS MAY BE AFFECTED BY NEW EASEMENTS FOR SERVICES.



Licensed NSW & Victorian Cadastral and Engineering Surveyors
 418 Wilson Street
 PO Box 3186, Albury, NSW 2640
 p: 02 6021 2233 | f: 02 6021 1411
 info@walpolesurveying.com.au

SURVEYORS REF:
17183
 VERSION 1
 12/03/2018

ORIGINAL
 SCALE SHEET SIZE
1:750 A3

PLAN OF EXISTING CONDITIONS
 LOT 1 DP1117957 & LOT 16 DP253556
 8-10 & 24 Poseidon Road, Corowa
 For Federation Council



DRAFT PLAN FOR CLIENT APPROVAL 14-03-2018



DIMENSIONS AND AREAS ARE SUBJECT TO PLANNING APPROVAL, ENGINEERING DESIGN AND FINAL SURVEY. PROPOSED LOTS MAY BE AFFECTED BY NEW EASEMENTS FOR SERVICES.



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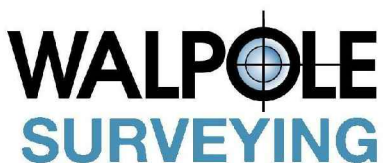
ORIGINAL
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PLAN OF PROPOSED SUBDIVISION
 LOT 1 DP1117957 & LOT 16 DP253556
 8-10 & 24 Poseidon Road, Corowa
 For Federation Council





DIMENSIONS AND AREAS ARE SUBJECT TO PLANNING APPROVAL, ENGINEERING DESIGN AND FINAL SURVEY. PROPOSED LOTS MAY BE AFFECTED BY NEW EASEMENTS FOR SERVICES.



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 For Federation Council

Attachment 8.3.1

Federation Council Heritage Advisory Service

Black Mountain Projects Pty Ltd
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Dr Peter Kabaila
Heritage Consultant
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29.07.16
Adrian Butler, Deputy General Manager
mob 0427 309 100,
adrian.butler@federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au

ADVICE SUBJECT: Corowa Silkworm Farm. Building repairs. Possibilities for heritage listing.
CLIENT: Adrian Butler
Copies: Dyonne Rhodes, 81 Sanger St Corowa. info@dyonnerhodes.com; Ian Braybrook ianandmazza@gmail.com

Dear Sir

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to visit this significant property. The Braybrooks met us on site and provided valuable insights from their historical research. Heritage advice given on site was:

- Basic items that would enhance and preserve the building would be to brace the roof, drain the roof away from the walls and reinstate doorways.
- A Conservation Plan could be provided by Council's free Heritage Advisory Service. This could be used as a maintenance guide for the buildings. It would be necessary as a supporting document in any grant applications. This would require a more detailed inspection.
- Local and State listing are possibilities which would free up the owner to apply for heritage grants. A preliminary heritage assessment is **attached**, which could be finalised for use as a draft nomination for the local council heritage list and state list. This would maximise opportunities for grants

If council time permits, next heritage advisory visit I hope to carry out a more thorough heritage inspection.

Yours faithfully
Dr Peter Kabaila
Heritage Adviser

Preliminary heritage assessment – Corowa Silkworm Farm

Name

Corowa Silkworm Farm

Other names

Corowa Magnanerie
Cropper's Lagoon Silkworm Farm
Mulberry Farm

Built

1877-8

Designed by:

See below.

Built by:

According to Corowa Free Press, it was built by Chinese labour. Many Chinese men were in the local area for gold mining.

Description

The silkworm farm building is located near Corowa. Number 130 Spring Road (Corowa/Mulwala Road) Corowa, New South Wales.

A related silkworm farm location is the Mt Alexander silkworm ruins, placed on the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR number H1348 Overlay number H0807).

The proposed curtilage is the building and relics within its vicinity, including relic mulberry trees. 130 Spring Road, Corowa NSW. Lots: 106, 108, 109, 120, 121, 122, 123, 129, 130.

The building is composed of two rooms and a high loft, constructed in 600mm thick rammed earth (*pise*) walls and galvanised steel roof, built from French design drawings of a building type (French term *Magnanerie*) constructed in European silkworm farms.

The Silkworm Farm building was built by Chinese teams from a design by a sketch with details provided to Mrs Neill by

A newspaper description of March 1878 tells the story of the design and describes the Corowa building perfectly. The only difference between the existing building and original description is the roof was originally thatched. It was built during 1877 when the entire sericulture farm was relocated to the site at Croppers Lagoon. Previously Ms Neill had used the "open air system" of Monsieur Alfred Roland, the renowned sericulturist from ORBE Switzerland. It was to be well-ventilated and hygienically clean (i.e. no magnanerie).

Following the failure of this method, Ms Neill brought to Corowa Mons. Thibault, a French sericulture expert, after her visit to Europe in 1876. The building was then designed and built, probably in late 1877 or early 1878, for the hot conditions in Corowa.

There are two large rooms, each 6.15m x 6.15m with splayed rammed earth door reveals. A doorway connects the rooms. One room has two windows. The hand hewn log roof frame has a distinctive vented roof. Originally covered in stringy bark, it was later reroofed in galvanized steel.

Nearby relics of the original farm are relics of some of the farm's original 25,000 mulberry trees, the leaf room site (later covered by a weather shed), remains of a concrete floor, a brick floor and an underground tank.

A collection of documents and photos has been prepared by historians Marilyn Bennet & Ian Braybrook. This includes:

- Current photographs of the Corowa building and surrounds.
- Illustrations and photographs of sericulture establishments from the period 1865 – 1884 ex magazines and general publications,
- Copies of papers written by Mrs Neill and Mrs Ann Trembill.
- Copy of news items and readers letters from newspapers of the time.

- Copies of letters written by Mrs Sarah Neill and Mrs Jessie Grover.
- Copies of various documents from the Ladies' Sericulture Company.

These will feature in a published book about silkworm farming in colonial Australia.

The building is substantially intact, both internally and externally.



Physical condition:

Although eroded at the base, the rammed earth walls remain intact and stable. The pole roof frame is substantially intact but may require some propping. The galvanised roof is in need of repair or renewal.

Modifications:

There have been very few modifications to the original building: connection to electricity circa 1970's; the central doorway has been blocked, as the northern room was used by the present owner as a grain silo. The bark roof has been replaced with galvanised iron.

History

Aboriginal land

The traditional indigenous people of the Corowa area are the Bangerang people. The Bangerang used the river Murray as a thoroughfare and were famous for their bark canoes. There are large middens along the Murray River, on both banks, composed of black wood-ash and burnt clay from cooking. For the Bangerang the river fulfilled a function as a major highway for communications and trade and as a major source of food. They found plentiful food, shellfish and Murray cod in the river and fruit, tubers and nuts in the adjacent country. Although they probably joined the Wiradjuri and [others] at the annual feast on bogong moths in the alpine peaks each December and January, the Bangerang were less mobile than the highland folk (HO, 1996, p148-9). The dislocation by Europeans of normal Aboriginal routines of life was increasingly severe from the 1840s onwards.

Colonisation

After initial explorations by Hume and Hovell in 1824, the first settler in the Albury area was Charles Ebdon who started working land on both sides of the Murray in 1835. By 1838 the major route south from Gundagai to Port Phillip was established along the line of the later Hume Highway through Albury (HO, 1996, p148). By 1850 all desirable water frontages on both sides of the Murray had been taken up (HO, 1996, p149). The rivers of the plains north of the Murray in the Urana region also had attractive frontages, though more prone

to drought. In the mid-1840s, there were 'settlers moving down the Lachlan, Murrumbidgee, Billabong and Murray Rivers', and more moving north from Victoria (HO, 1996, p150-5).

In the 1850s the gold-rush population created a market for beef which encouraged cattle breeding. The big stations on the flat plains were typically partitioned into paddocks and the backblocks more intensively exploited. In the 1860s cattle disease and low prices for beef led pastoralists to concentrate more on sheep, and fine Merino wool became a dominant product. With a vigorous steamboat trade on the Murray from the 1850s and a rail link to Melbourne via Echuca, the wool clip was assured of easy transport to its markets. With closer settlement in the period from 1870 onwards, grain production became increasingly important. The last quarter of the nineteenth century saw an increase in the number of pastoralists, a reduction in the general size of holdings, the increased sinking of deep wells to water backblocks and a complementary increase in the population of the service towns throughout the region. (HO, 1996, p150-5)

Between 1860 and 1890 the population of the region increased by 600% and the towns took their municipal shape. Albury, the senior and always most important, was surveyed in 1838 and gazetted in the following year. Urana developed in the mid-1860s as a crossroads on drove routes, converging from Corowa to the south, Jerilderie to the west, Narrandera to the north and Wagga Wagga to the northeast. The towns served agricultural farms and grazing properties and prospered from meeting their needs. By the mid twentieth century, irrigation channels to assist farmers on the drier lands in the west have both increased wool production and diversified cropping, although with a heavy price to pay in increasing salination around the Wakool. (HO, 1996, p150-5)

Silkworm farming by Sara Neill in the colonial period

In the 1870's, Mrs. Neill saw an opening for high volume sales of silkworm eggs to European growers, to attempt to prevent the silk industry in Europe due to disease.

Mrs Sara Bladen Neill inherited extensive property interests when her husband Colonel John Martin Bladen Neill died in 1859. She established her first sericulture (silkworm) farm in Corowa in circa 1867. She later established a second and much larger Mulberry Farm at Croppers Lagoon and she had the Magnanerie built to specs she gained on one of her many trips to Europe and UK.

In 1874 she formed The Ladies Sericulture Company and set up the farm and school for ladies on Mt Alexander, a remarkable venture. Hers is a fascinating story of determination and courage of a woman attempting to establish a sericulture industry; principally to employ females. All of her attempts eventually failed.

The history is extensively covered in a book by Marilyn Bennet & Ian Braybrook due to be published in 2016.

In 1865 Mrs Sarah Neill planted her first experimental crop of 200 Cape Mulberry trees on the outskirts of Corowa. It was known as Mulberry Farm. She did this preparatory to establishing a properly constructed and equipped Sericulture farm.

Late in 1866 Mrs Neill visited Europe and the UK, primarily to investigate the conduct of the Sericulture industry in France and Italy. She was away for several months returning early in 1867. On her return she was astonished and delighted to see that the seedlings she had planted in 1865 had flourished. This was despite having had no attention and enduring a hot summer. The trees were loaded with leaves, exclusively the diet of silkworms. This successful outcome encouraged her to continue to explore and promote Sericulture. She was absolutely convinced that this was an industry with considerable potential. In particular she saw it as a worthwhile supplement for farmers who often experienced difficult times with bad seasons and poor prices. She was certain that Sericulture would provide a stable supplementary income as well as providing worthwhile employment for women and girls.

Her plan was to develop the industry Australia-wide. In the first instance she and a partner, Colonel Charles Brady, would train a number of ladies to work in production of "grain" (silkworm eggs). Known as "Grainers", these women would in turn train the farmers and their families. Initially, she would provide the Grainers and participating farmers, free of charge, 50 ounces of good grain, a total of five thousand ounces. At the time the price of Grain was about one pound per ounce and there was a big demand for healthy grain in Europe. The profits would be shared one third each to the Neill and Brady partnership, the Grainer and the farmer.

Before Mrs Neill could put her plan into operation, she needed to gain more knowledge and information from overseas. In 1871 she again travelled to France and Italy and across the Alps to Orbe in Switzerland. It was here she met Monsieur Alfred Roland, a renowned and successful silk producer. This had a significant influence on her future activities and methods. She stayed with Roland for 4 months, gaining much

knowledge and experience. In total she spent a year in Europe and the UK. Before bringing all the knowledge she had gained back to Corowa. She now began her life's dream.

Mrs Neill's major task for 1872-73 was to transplant all of her small trees to a new and bigger site at Croppers Lagoon; this was also named Mulberry Farm. It was close to the Murray River and on the lagoon's northern bank. She already owned this land in partnership with two local men, Gray and Aitken and it was ideal for the purpose. It was also necessary to erect several buildings to accommodate the breeding, feeding and silk winding. From details, sketches and information provided by Monsieur Roland and other sericulture farmers in Europe she erected a substantial magnanerie, a leaf room and a reeling room, the latter not intended for use in the early days of the project. Other buildings, including a house with an extensive garden, were also indicated as on the site.

At this time Mrs Neill developed a new plantation on adjoining land which contained around 25,000 new trees. In addition there were several frames set to contain thousands of cutting to further expand the plantation.

The Magnanerie could be described as the heart of the farm. In it were raised and fed the silkworms which in turn produced the cocoons from which the silk was obtained. The female silkworm moth lays 400-500 eggs in late autumn and these hibernate during the cold weather. The silkworms emerge when the temperature rises to spring warmth and they immediately begin to eat. The worms have huge appetites and must be fed mulberry leaves six times a day. Several girls were employed in shifts for this task, beginning at sunrise, ending at dark. The leaves and worms were placed in large metal trays which were suspended by wires from the joists above. A few centimetres above the trays were small cans filled with water; the trays were re-hung from these. The water obstacle blocked any unwelcome entry to the trays by ants, which can kill the worms. The building had no ceiling but had ventilators high up to allow the free passage of air. The window and door openings were not sealed, but covered with cheese cloth for air circulation. Absolute cleanliness was required to prevent disease striking the worms. Disease had created havoc in the industry in Europe, bringing it to its knees. A leaf room was constructed nearby. Its purpose was to keep the leaves dry, and there to remove their stems and cut them into slices. Mrs Neill had previously lost 30,000 worms through feeding them damp leaves.

The Corowa Silkworm Farm is important as it documents a previously unrecognised industry and a business run by women, for women, in the 19th century. It is made more important because of the role of Mrs Sara Florentia Bladen Neill, a wealthy socialite widow, in attempting to establish an industry to help farmers and employed females. She was notable for her indefatigable efforts in researching silk production. Her art in promoting and publicising the potential for the Sericulture industry would compare well with any modern-day publicity professional. These activities illustrated her high hopes for increasing the potential of women in colonial Australia.

Comparisons

The other known locations of colonial period silkworm farms in southeastern Australia are Beechworth, Collingwood, Mt Alexander, Bathurst, Tweed River and Albury. Corowa Silkworm Farm is the only one that survives intact. The other example is the ruins at Mt Alexander in Victoria, which have been State listed. ref: VHR #H1348. Overlay HO807 18/09/1997.

Criterion a) Historical

The Corowa Silkworm Farm is likely to be of state historical significance as it provides evidence for a previously unrecognised industry of the colonial period. It is important in the history of gender roles of the Australian colonial period, as a business run by women, for women.

Criterion b) Association

The Corowa Silkworm Farm is likely to be of state historical significance for its association with a state significant figure, Sara Neill. The widow of Colonel John Martin Bladen Neill, Sara came from a wealthy and influential family. She was renowned in Australia for her determination to establish the sericulture industry. As part of her endeavours she journeyed to Europe several times to gather information and advice from sericulture experts. She spent a considerable amount of time, money and effort in promoting the industry in Australia. Her focus was to be on employment for women and girls and to provide a supplementary income for farmers.

Criterion c) Aesthetic

Criterion d) Social

Criterion e) Research and archaeology

The Corowa Silkworm Farm is likely to be of state research significance for the study rise and fall of silkworm farming technologies in colonial period Australia.

Criterion f) Rarity

The Corowa Silkworm Farm is likely to be of state significance because it is the only colonial period silkworm farm in southeastern Australia to remain intact. Its *magnanerie* building is the last surviving example of such a building in southeastern Australia, including all of NSW and Victoria. This building is therefore unique in NSW.

Criterion g) Representative

The Corowa Silkworm Farm is likely to be of state representative significance as a relic of 19th century silkworm farming.

Statement of Significance

The Corowa Silkworm Farm is likely to be of state significance because it provides evidence for a previously unrecognised industry of the colonial period. It is important in the history of gender roles of the Australian colonial period, as a business run by women, for women. It is closely associated with Sara Neill, a state significant figure. It has research significance for the study rise and fall of silkworm farming technologies in colonial period Australia. It is outstandingly rare. It is the only colonial period silkworm farm in southeastern Australia to remain intact. Its *magnanerie* building is the last surviving example of such a building in southeastern Australia, including all of NSW and Victoria. This building is therefore unique in NSW.

References

HO - Heritage Office and Dept of Urban Affairs & Planning (1996) Regional Histories of NSW, Sydney.
Trove, National Library of Australia website for accessing historic newspaper articles (detailed in the text when quoted)
Corowa Free Press.
The Argus.
Mt Alexander Mail.
Pastoral Times.
Ian Braybrook, extracts from unpublished manuscript, 2016.

NSW Heritage Grants

Local Government Heritage Places Grant Cost plan 2017–2018

Federation Council

Project is to provide a “well-cared for” appearance to public areas of the villages in the Shire by painting selected landmarks. Project budget is very limited, but best value for the dollar is based on contract painting supervised by council heritage adviser. Any offer of heritage grant work is subject to a good level of support provided by owners.





Table 1: Summary

Applicant	Heritage item address	Project description	Project cost	Applicant (in-kind)	Local heritage funding
Urana Inc	Coreen Hotel, (proposed LEP listing)	Paint frontage (\$15k)			
	Burraja-Lowesdale, Outback Art building, (proposed LEP listing)	Paint frontage (\$15k)			
	Urana Soldiers Memorial Hall, Anna St, Urana, (State listed)	Patch eroded brickwork. (\$5k)			
	Urana Courthouse & adjoining cottage with lockup, Federation Way, Urana, (LEP listed)	Paint exterior. (\$15k)			
	Proposed Urana heritage conservation area	Proposed heritage conservation area (\$20k) Old Café – repair and paint frontage. Butcher shop - Paint frontage. Urana Hotel – fill wall crack. Paint exterior timber.			
Totals			\$70,000	\$55,000	\$15,000

**Federation Council,
Local Government Heritage Management Program
Local Heritage Fund for 2017-2018 financial year: Detailed project report**

Table 2: Detailed project report

Heritage item address	Coreen Hotel Burraja-Lowesdale Outback Art building. Soldiers Memorial Hall, Anna St, Urana Courthouse and police cottage, Federation Way, Urana Proposed heritage conservation area: Old Café Butcher's Shop Urana Hotel
Project description	Paint deteriorated frontages of landmark buildings identified by heritage adviser in council's heritage review. Subject to good level of support by owners.
Reason for the project	Stabilise building frontages contributing to the heritage streetscape.
Heritage item	Coreen Hotel – identified by council heritage review. Burraja-Lowesdale Outback Art building – identified by council heritage review. Urana Soldiers Hall – State listed item Courthouse – Locally listed item Urana conservation area – proposed and identified in former DCP
Applicant	Urana Inc (amalgamation of some of the local progress associations)
Date for project commencement	March 2018
Date for project completion	May 2018
Total project cost	\$70,000
Applicant's contribution	\$55,000
Local heritage funding	\$15,000

Before photo	After photo
 <p data-bbox="151 658 504 689">Coreen Hotel – paint frontage</p>	
 <p data-bbox="151 1075 587 1106">Outback Art building – paint frontage</p>	
  <p data-bbox="151 1787 708 1818">Urana Soldiers Hall – repoint eroded brickwork</p>	



Urana Courthouse – finish painting exterior



Paint cottage adjoining Courthouse



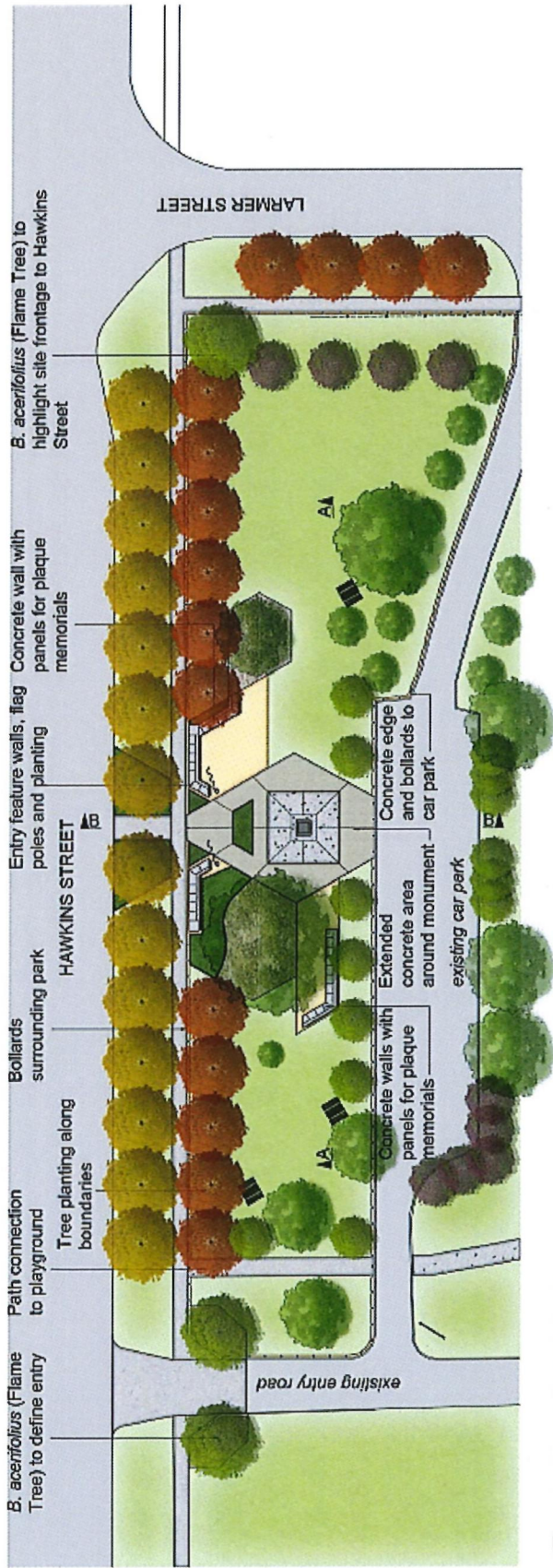
Old café – repair and paint frontage



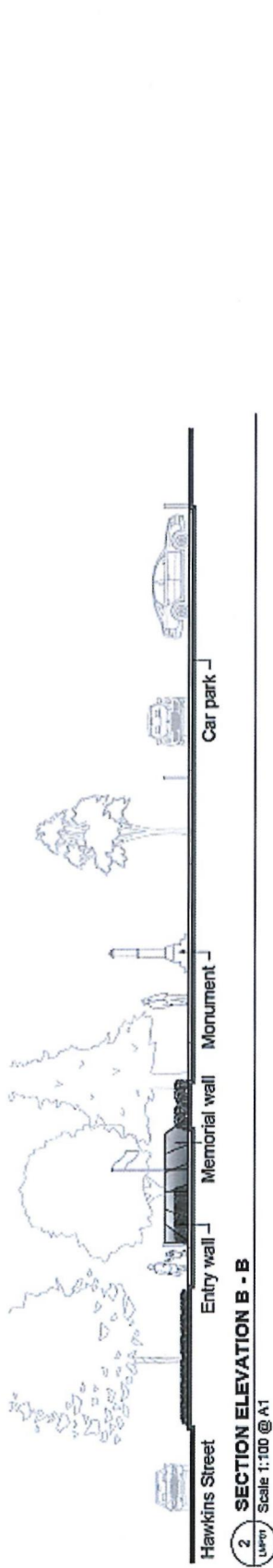
Butcher – paint frontage



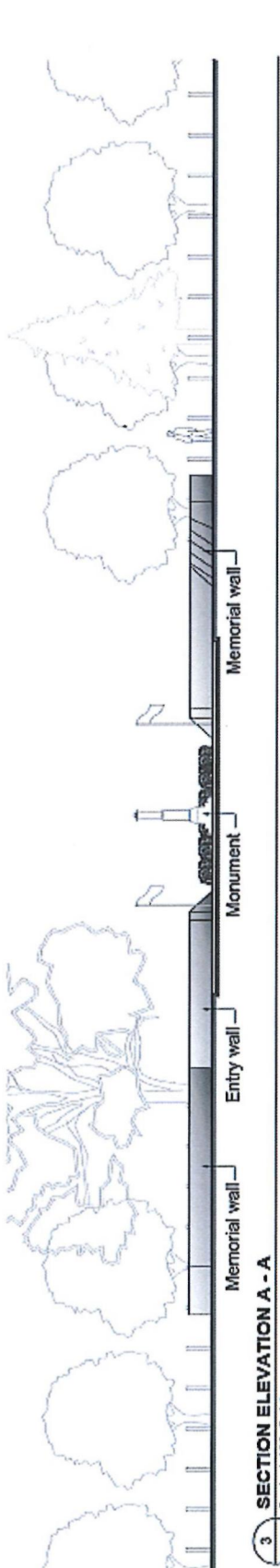
Urana Hotel – paint verandah timbers



1 LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN
 Scale 1:250 @ A1



2 SECTION ELEVATION B - B
 Scale 1:100 @ A1



3 SECTION ELEVATION A - A
 Scale 1:100 @ A1

LEGEND

- EXISTING TREES** retained and protected
- MONUMENT** retained
- CONCRETE WITH SAW CUTS** retained
- GRASS** retained
- PROPOSED TREES - EVERGREEN**
e.g. *Corymbia citriodora* 'Scenturous' and *Brachycton populneus* x *acerifolius* 'Jerdone Red' (as noted)
- TREES - DECIDUOUS**
e.g. *Myssa sylvatica* or *Pistachia chinensis*
- STREET TREES- DECIDUOUS**
e.g. *Ulmus parvifolia*
- TREES - DECIDUOUS**
e.g. *Lagerstroemia* 'Tuscarora'
- GARDEN BED**
Rosmarinus officinalis - Rosemary
- GRAVEL**
Crushed granite
- CONCRETE**
exposed ag with saw cuts
- BOLLARDS**
125mm x 125mm black
- CONCRETE WALLS**
wall panels for entry and plaques
- MULCH**
beneath trees where required
- PICNIC SETTING**
to Council standards
- FLAGPOLES**
relocated and uplighted

NOTES:

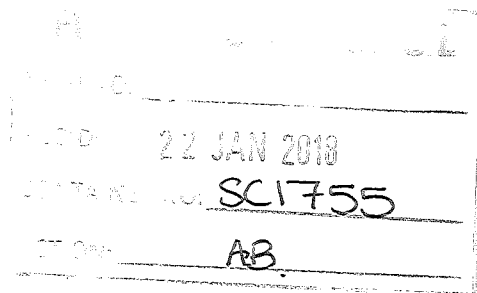
1. New Street Trees to Hawkins Street and Larmer Street by Council as part of Council's Street Tree Replacement Strategy.
2. Steel edge between grass/gravel and grass/mulch.
3. Master Plan only. Subject to further design prior to construction.



Department
of Industry

LBN17/1067

Mr Adrian Butler
Interim General Manager
Federation Council
PO Box 77
COROWA NSW 2646



Dear Mr Gillard

Participation in the Land Negotiation Program

I acknowledge Federation Council's interest in participating in the Land Negotiation Program (the program). As you are aware, the program proposed voluntary negotiations between council, the Department of Industry (DoI) – Crown Lands and the relevant Local Aboriginal Land Councils to determine the most appropriate owner of Crown land.

The department has been advised that the Cummeragunga and Albury & District Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs) are unable to participate in the negotiations at this time. Unfortunately, this means that the proposed negotiations in Federation Local Government Area (LGA) are unable to proceed.

I apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused, and want to assure you that we are looking for opportunities to include Federation Council in the 2018/19 or 2019/20 rounds of negotiations with the respective Local Aboriginal Land Councils. I will keep you informed, should those opportunities arise.

If you have any further queries or wish to discuss this issue further, please contact Olivia West, Principal Policy and Program Manager – Land Negotiation in DoI Crown Lands, on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

ALISON PEPPER
A/DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY – CROWN LANDS

15/01/18

[REDACTED]

**Fwd: MDA Position on Senate decision to disallow Northern Basin Amendment.
[=NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION]**

[REDACTED]

28 February 2018 at 17:17

FYI

To be included as inwards correspondence at the March Council Meeting

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Executive Assistant
[REDACTED]



federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au

100 Edward St (PO Box 77), Corowa NSW 2646

This message is intended for the addressee named and may contain confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient, please delete it and notify the sender.

Views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, and are not necessarily the views of the Federation Council.

----- Forwarded message -----

[REDACTED]

Date: 23 February 2018 at 15:11

Subject: Fwd: MDA Position on Senate decision to disallow Northern Basin Amendment. [=NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION]

[Quoted text hidden]

4 attachments

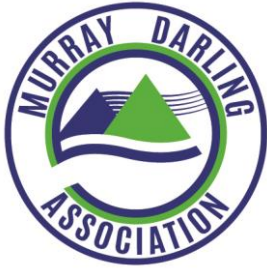


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21K

 **Precis and talking points - disallowance motion.pdf**
223K

 **Senate division.pdf**
509K

 **Media release - MDA position on senate disallowance.pdf**
261K



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Precis and Talking points for use by MDA Chairs and Mayors

DISALLOWANCE MOTION

Background

Last night the Senate voted 32-30 in favour of Senator Sarah Hanson-Young's disallowance motion against the Northern Basin Amendment, which reduced the water recovery target in the Northern Basin from 390GL to 320GL.

The disallowance motion was supported by Labor, Greens and Nick Xenophon Team Senators, along with Cory Bernardi and Derryn Hinch.

The NSW and Victorian Governments have subsequently called on the Commonwealth to investigate all options to overturn the decision. They say that if the decision isn't overturned, the Plan cannot be delivered.

Talks are continuing between Labor and the Federal Government. Labor says it was very close to reaching agreement, but time ran out before the vote had to be held. It says it can't agree to the reduction with the 450GL of upwater "at risk" and when compliance measures "haven't been addressed sufficiently".

The disallowance motion cannot be reversed. There are now two options to achieve the recommendations of the Northern Basin Amendment:

1. The Northern Basin Review can be done again, but would have to present substantially different findings.
2. The recommendations of the Northern Basin Review can be legislated.

The disallowance motion on the SDL adjustment mechanism (605GL) must be voted on by May 8 (within 15 days of notice of motion) but can be put to a vote on any Senate sitting day before then.

Talking points

- The Murray Darling Basin Plan is a ground-breaking piece of legislation, highly regarded around the world. We encourage all governments in Australia to maintain the highest levels of commitment to this Plan.
- We are five years into a comprehensive and complex Plan to deliver a sustainable future for all communities across the Basin. It is essential that we stay the course.

- Our communities across the Basin have borne the pain, in some cases intense disruption, to bring about the achievements we've seen to date, including the recovery of more than 2100 of the required 2750GL.
- To see the Basin Plan compromised for political purposes is gravely disappointing.
- The disallowance motion provides almost no additional environmental benefit, but has left our communities reeling. Economic impacts will soon be felt. Social impacts are immediate, with communities already reporting feelings of disbelief, devastation, and uncertainty.
- We acknowledge that the serious issues of monitoring and compliance need to be addressed to deliver a fair and balanced outcome and commend the work already underway in NSW in response to allegations of water theft.
- It is essential this work continues, but these issues should not be conflated with the Basin Plan Amendments.
- The decision in the Senate last night is being seen as a serious setback for South Australian communities, with our members and community leaders across the Basin, particularly those in South Australia, noting that there are no winners in this decision.
- The Basin Plan is already under threat and would become completely untenable if the upcoming disallowance motion on the SDL adjustment mechanism (projects 605GL) passes.
- We encourage all members to engage with their MPs and Senators to ensure they vote down the disallowance and support the continuation of the Basin Plan in the interests of all Australians.

Related Media Releases

[Murray Darling Basin Authority position](#)

[Victorian State Government position](#)

[NSW State Government position](#)

QLD State Government position

Federal Minister for Water and Agriculture

been a concerning systemic failure to protect low flows in unregulated rivers in the northern basin. That failure is not a failure arising from criminal activity; it is a failure deliberately engineered by the New South Wales water minister. That minister made changes in 2012, which were extremely significant, to allow irrigators to exchange lower-security water licences for higher-security licences at next to no cost, to allow unlimited carryover from year to year, to remove any limits on pump sizes, and to allow an individual take limit of up to 300 per cent in one year. These aren't failures that arise from a handful of criminals; these are systemic failures that arise from a failure of management by the New South Wales government.

The PRESIDENT: The question is that the disallowance motion moved by Senator Hanson-Young be agreed to.

The Senate divided. [19:14]

(The President—Senator Ryan)

Ayes32
 Noes30
 Majority.....2

AYES

Bartlett, AJ
 Bilyk, CL
 Chisholm, A
 Di Natale, R
 Farrell, D
 Griff, S
 Hinch, D
 Lines, S
 McAllister, J (teller)
 Moore, CM
 Patrick, RL
 Pratt, LC
 Siewert, R
 Steele-John, J
 Urquhart, AE
 Whish-Wilson, PS

Bernardi, C
 Brown, CL
 Collins, JMA
 Dodson, P
 Gallacher, AM
 Hanson-Young, SC
 Ketter, CR
 Marshall, GM
 McKim, NJ
 O'Neill, DM
 Polley, H
 Rice, J
 Singh, LM
 Sterle, G
 Watt, M
 Wong, P

NOES

Abetz, E
 Birmingham, SJ
 Burston, B
 Canavan, MJ
 Colbeck, R
 Fawcett, DJ (teller)
 Fifield, MP
 Gichuhi, LM
 Hume, J
 Macdonald, ID
 McGrath, J
 O'Sullivan, B
 Reynolds, L
 Ryan, SM
 Seselja, Z

Anning, F
 Brockman, S
 Bushby, DC
 Cash, MC
 Duniam, J
 Fierravanti-Wells, C
 Georgiou, P
 Hanson, P
 Leyonhjelm, DE
 Martin, S.L
 McKenzie, B
 Paterson, J
 Ruston, A
 Scullion, NG
 Williams, JR

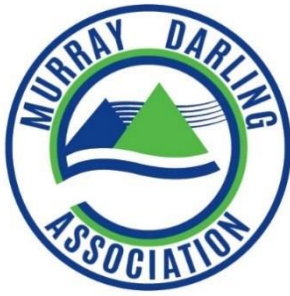
PAIRS

Cameron, DN
 Carr, KJ
 Gallagher, KR
 McCarthy, M

Molan, AJ
 Smith, D
 Sinodinos, A
 Cormann, M

Senator Payne did not vote, to compensate for the vacancy caused by the resignation of Senator Kakoschke-Moore

Question agreed to.



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MEDIA RELEASE

Councils from across the Basin call on all governments to 'stay the course'

Local government is calling on the Government and Opposition to reach agreement over the way forward after a vote in the Senate last night to disallow a key amendment threatens to derail the Murray-Darling Basin Plan.

The Basin Plan was struck a critical blow when the Senate voted 32-30 to disallow the Northern Basin Amendment, which reduced the water recovery target in the Northern Basin from 390GL to 320GL. The vote has caused NSW and Victoria to consider withdrawing from the Plan.

Murray Darling Association National President Cr Thurley said the economic impacts of the Senate's vote would be felt soon and social impacts were immediate, with communities already reporting feelings of disbelief, devastation and uncertainty.

"We urge all governments to reach agreement on a way forward as soon as possible and demonstrate to all Basin communities that they are acting in their best interests," he said.

"There must also be unity against the second disallowance motion, which would make the Basin Plan completely untenable if it passed. Communities must have confidence that the mechanisms in the Plan that provide for adaptive management will be respected."

A disallowance motion against the 605GL of Sustainable Diversion Limit adjustment projects was deferred by the Senate yesterday, with a vote to be held on or before May 8.

Cr David Thurley said in voting against the Northern Basin Amendment, the Senate had compromised the Basin Plan for political purposes and shown a disappointing lack of regard for a process agreed to and signed by all states.

"This is an irresponsible vote that puts political interests before Basin communities and threatens to destabilise the entire Basin Plan," he said.

"The Basin Plan was always designed to be adaptive and open to review to incorporate new information. The Basin Plan Amendment was agreed in 2016 on recommendation of all state Water Ministers following an extensive scientific review process by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority, which also recommended measures to protect environmental water.

"In contrast, the disallowance motion provides no additional environmental benefit to the Basin and leaves our communities reeling."

Cr Thurley acknowledged that allegations of water theft had highlighted serious and genuine issues with monitoring and compliance, but said work was already being done to address these matters.

"We demand that this work continues, but these issues should not be conflated with the Basin Plan Amendments," he said.

MDA CEO Emma Bradbury said the challenge for all Basin governments was to work together in their commitment to a healthy river system and stability for communities.

"We urge all governments to continue discussions to find a way forward and deliver certainty and stability for our communities," she said.

[END]

For more information, contact MDA CEO Emma Bradbury on 0419 519 274. All Region Chairs are also available for comment.

Contact information for the Chairs of the Murray Darling Association

Region	Name	Organisation	Mobile Phone	Email Address/ Chair
Region 1	Cr David Thurley	Albury City Council	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Region 2	Cr Peter Mansfield	Moira Shire Council	0428 574 422	petermansfield@moira.vic.gov.au
Region 3	Cr Leigh Byron	Balranald Shire Council	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Region 4	Cr Darriea Turley	Broken Hill City Council	0469 242 122	Darriea.Turley@brokenhill.nsw.gov.au
Region 5	Cr Peter Hunter	Renmark Paringa Council	0447 477 244	p.hunter@renmarkparinga.com.au
Region 6	Cr Barry Featherston	Alexandrina Council	0447 888 565	barry.featherston@alexandrina.com.au
Region 7	Cr David Shetliffe	Town of Walkerville	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Region 8	Cr Denis Clark	Northern Areas Council	0469 448 725	denis.clark@northernareas.com.au
Region 9	Cr Paul Maytom	Leeton Shire Council	0447 888 888	[REDACTED]
Region 10	Vacant			
Region 11	Cr John Campbell (guest)	Gunnedah Shire Council	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Region 12	Cr Richard Marsh	Balonne Shire Council	0469 692 222	richard.marsh@balonne.vic.gov.au



Country Mayors Association of NEW SOUTH WALES

Chairperson: Cr Katrina Humphries
PO Box 420 Moree NSW 2400
02 6757 3222
ABN 92 803 490 533

MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY, 2 MARCH 2018 JUBILEE ROOM, PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY

The meeting opened at 9.02 a.m.

1. ATTENDANCE:

Armidale Regional Council, Cr Simon Murray, Mayor
Armidale Regional Council, Mr Peter Dennis, CEO
Bathurst Regional Council, Cr Graeme Hanger, Mayor
Bega Valley Shire Council, Cr Kristy McBain, Mayor
Bland Shire Council, Cr Tony Lord, Mayor
Blayney Shire Council, Cr Scott Ferguson, Mayor
Blayney Shire Council, Ms Rebecca Ryan, General Manager
Carrathool Shire Council, Cr Peter Laird, Mayor
Carrathool Shire Council, Ms Joanne Treacy, General Manager
Coffs Harbour City Council, Cr George Cecato, Deputy Mayor
Coffs Harbour City Council, Mr Stephen McGrath, General Manager
Coolamon Shire Council, Cr John Seymour, Mayor
Coolamon Shire Council, Mr Tony Donoghue, General Manager
Cowra Shire Council, Cr Bill West, Mayor
Dubbo Regional Council, Mr Michael McMahon, Acting General Manager
Federation Council, Cr Patrick Bourke, Mayor
Federation Council, Mr Adrian Butler, Acting General Manager
Forbes Shire Council, Mr Steve Loane, General Manager
Gilgandra Shire Council, Cr Doug Batten, Mayor
Glen Innes Shire Council, Cr Steve Toms, Mayor
Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Cr Bob Kirk, Mayor
Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Mr Warrick Bennett, General Manager
Griffith City Council, Cr John Dal Broi, Mayor
Griffith City Council, Mr Brett Stonestreet, General Manager
Gunnedah Shire Council, Cr Jamie Chaffey, Mayor
Inverell Shire Council, Cr Paul Harmon, Mayor
Kempsey Shire Council, Cr Liz Campbell, Mayor
Kiama Municipal Council, Cr Mark Honey, Mayor

Kiama Municipal Council, Ms Kerry McMurray, Director Corporate, Commercial and Community Services
Leeton Shire Council, Cr Paul Maytom, Mayor
Leeton Shire Council, Ms Jackie Kruger, General Manager
Mid-Western/Mudgee Regional Council, Cr Des Kennedy, Mayor
Mid-Western/Mudgee Regional Council, Mr Brad Cam, General Manager
Moree Plains Shire Council, Cr Katrina Humphries, Mayor
Moree Plains Shire Council, Mr Lester Rogers, General Manager
Murray River Council, Cr Christopher Bilkey, Mayor
Murray River Council, Mr Des Bilske, General Manager
Murrumbidgee Council, Cr Ruth McRae, Mayor
Murrumbidgee Council, Mr Craig Moffitt, General Manager
Narrabri Shire Council, Cr Catherine Redding, Mayor
Narrabri Shire Council, Mr Stewart Todd, General Manager
Narromine Shire Council, Cr Craig Davies, Mayor
Narromine Shire Council, Mr Phil Johnston, Executive Manager Economic Development
Oberon Shire Council, Cr Kathy Sajowitz, Mayor
Oberon Shire Council, Mr Garry Wallace, General Manager
Parkes Shire Council, Cr Barbara Newton, Deputy Mayor
Shellharbour City Council, Cr Marianne Saliba, Mayor
Singleton Council, Cr Sue Moore, Mayor
Snowy Monaro Regional Council, Cr John Rooney, Mayor
Tamworth Regional Council, Cr Col Murray, Mayor
Tamworth Regional Council, Mr Paul Bennett, General Manager
Temora Shire Council, Cr Rick Firman, Mayor
Temora Shire Council, Mr Gary Lavelle, General Manager
Tenterfield Shire Council, Cr Peter Petty, Mayor
Upper Lachlan Shire Council, Cr Brian McCormack, Mayor
Upper Lachlan Shire Council, Mr John Bell, General Manager
Uralla Shire Council, Cr Michael Pearce, Mayor
Wagga Wagga City Council, Cr Greg Conkey, Mayor
Wagga Wagga City Council, Mr Peter Thompson, General Manager
Walcha Council, Cr Eric Noakes, Mayor
Warren Shire Council, Cr Rex Wilson, Mayor
Warren Shire Council, Mr Glen Wilcox, General Manager
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Cr Peter Shinton, Mayor
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Mr Roger Bailey, General Manager
LGNSW, Cr Linda Scott, President
Premier and Cabinet, Mr Don Murray
Premier and Cabinet, Mr Harry Henderson
Premier and Cabinet, Mr Bruce Whitehill
Premier and Cabinet, Mr Nick White
Telstra, Mr Michael Marom

APOLOGIES:

As submitted

SPECIAL GUESTS:

- Deputy Police Commissioner Regional NSW Field Operations, Gary Worboys
- Peter Primrose, Shadow Minister for Local Government
- Acting Consul General Linda Daetwyler, US Consul General, Sydney
- Lindsay Cane, CEO, Royal Far West

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the General Meeting held on 3 November 2017 be accepted as a true and accurate record (Temora Shire Council / Glen Innes Severn Council).

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- Letter to Premier Re Establishment of Minister and Department of Local Government – no reply
- Recycling issue and China
- The \$50 million for Telco blackspots needs to be kept track of

4. Membership

RESOLVED That Warren Shire Council and Dungog Shire Council be admitted as members of the Association (Singleton Council/Gilgandra Shire Council)

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Outward

- Cr Craig Davies, Mayor, Narromine Shire Council, advising that Narromine Shire Council has been admitted as a member of the Association
- Cr Neville Kschenka, Mayor, Narrendera Shire Council, advising that Narrendera Shire Council has been admitted as a member of the Association
- The Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Minister for Skills and Minister for Small Business thanking him for his presentation to the 3 November meeting
- The Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Roads and Maritime and Freight thanking her for her presentation to the 3 November meeting
- Mr Mark Smethurst, Commissioner, State Emergency Services thanking him for his presentation to the 3 November meeting
- Ms Margaret Crawford, Auditor General of NSW thanking her for her presentation to the 3 November meeting
- Hon Gabrielle Upton MP, Minister for the Environment, Minister for Local Government and Minister for Heritage enquiring into the affect of China's decision to stop importing 24 different types of solid waste by the end of 2017
- The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP, Premier requesting consideration of establishing a Department of Local Government with only Local Government responsibilities
- The Hon Andrew Constance MP, Minister for Transport and Infrastructure asking for the closing date for submissions to the Transport Strategy 2056 be extended to 18 February 2018

Inward

- (a) Carmen Dwyer, Acting Executive Director Waste and Resource Recovery, EPA, Re China's decision to stop importing various solid waste (Copy Attached)

NOTED

RESOLVED That the Association follow up with the Premier on the matter of having a separate Minister for Local Government with only Local Government responsibilities (Temora Shire Council/Singleton Council)

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

RESOLVED That the financial reports for the last quarter were tabled and accepted (Singleton Council / Gunnedah Shire Council)

7. Local Government Remuneration

RESOLVED That the Association lobby the State Government, Local Politicians and the Remuneration Tribunal or the appropriate body to reassess the very poor level of remuneration for NSW Mayors Deputy Mayors and Elected Members (Narromine Shire Council/ Tenterfield Shire Council)

8. Grant Funding

RESOLVED That the Association lobby the NSW Government and specifically the Premier and Deputy Premier to instigate protocols surrounding Grant funding that leads to an outcome in line with councils needs and expectations (Narromine Shire Council/Leeton Shire Council)

9. Water Utility Privatisation

RESOLVED That the Hon Niall Blair, Minister for Regional Water, Minister for Trade and Industry, and Minister for Primary Industry and the CEO of Water NSW be invited to the next meeting of the Association (Upper Lachlan Shire Council/Shellharbour City Council)

10. Deputy Police Commissioner Regional NSW Field Operations, Gary Worboys

The Deputy Police Commissioner spoke on the reengineering of the police force in NSW with the formation of Police Districts with an officer in charge model replacing Local Area Commands. There has been a 34% drop in property crime and a search warrant issued every three days. The police districts have renewed the enthusiasm for policing. By the end of March the formation of Police Districts will be completed. Mayors and General Managers should have a regular interaction with their local police. The Commissioner is passionate about change and is repositioning senior police from the city to the country. There is a primary focus on domestic violence with officers specifically allocated to those crimes

11. Peter Primrose, Shadow Minister for Local Government and Michael Daley, Shadow Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

Both Peter Primrose and Michael Daley answered questions from the floor. A copy of Peter Primroses intended address is attached to the minutes

- 12. Acting Consul General Linda Daetwyler, US Consul General, Sydney**
The Consul General in Sydney runs consular operations for US citizens as well as issuing visas for entry into the United States. The office also visits American prisoners in NSW prisons most of whom are there for drug offences. The United States is visited by three million Australians each year who spend approximately \$9 billion whilst there. They generally visit the larger cities and don't experience the smaller cities that have a lot to offer. Likewise when Linda was first posted to Sydney twelve months ago she concentrated on seeing what Sydney has to offer but is now exploring country NSW and was impressed when she recently travelled to Moree and Lightning Ridge. She has learnt a lot about opals, solar farming and pecans which are exported to the United States for the traditional pecan pie eaten on Thanksgiving Day. There are many connections between our two countries and the relationship on both sides is cherished.
- 13. Lindsay Cane, CEO, Royal Far West**
The key drivers for Royal Far West are to improve the health and wellbeing of country children, to ensure that all country children have access to essential services, to reduce the impact of physical, social, emotional and mental disorders and trauma on childrens' health and to enhance service delivery, access and advocacy for vulnerable country children and families. Royal Far West has 150 fulltime staff who run their guest house, health service social support services. Childhood vulnerability in Australia is 22% but is two to three times that in rural Australia. When children start school they are vulnerable in physical health, social competence, emotional maturity, speech/language and communication. Vulnerable children have poorer educational outcomes, higher levels of functional disability, chronic mental health problems, higher risk of unemployment, difficulty establishing relationships, contact with the criminal justice system and higher risk of homelessness. Royal Far West is campaigning to have the National Regional Development Agenda to include "Reduce National Childhood Vulnerability from 22% to 10%"
- 14. Telephone Blackspots**
Mr Harry Henderson, Premier and Cabinet, advised that both Telstra and Vodaphone were having problems with Forestry and Crown Lands with black spots. It appears that government is stopping government doing their jobs
- 15. Retaining Banking Services in Country Towns**
Each Council needs to liaise with their banking prover to ensure the retention of existing services or seek a new provider
- 16. Lobbying Priorities**
Priorities identified
1. A better rating system (rate pegging to go) and also more funds given to rural and regional councils from State Government which acknowledges the challenges of large areas/small rate bases;
 2. Fairer distribution of FAGs;
 3. State Forestry Corporation and National Parks being asked to pay rates (yes there is a working group on this already but a letter from CMA adds weight to their argument);

4. Review of the NDRRA funding criteria – it currently doesn't cover recreational assets and after our east coast low in 2016 I can tell you that we have lost \$3 million in assets that we can't recover now.
5. Push for State Government to look at affordable housing criteria for rural and regional areas – assistance in some form???
6. Review of Seniors SEPP (Housing for Seniors or People with a Disability) 2004 which requires in many instances access to a bus stop for public transport, walking distance to the CBD etc which is hard to achieve in some regional and rural areas which just leads to people leaving an area.
7. State Government incentives for business relocation out of metro NSW to regional/rural NSW
8. Cost of power
9. Sale of Snowy Hydro
10. Auditor General's report on performance reporting.

Each member of the Executive to nominate the areas they would like to Chair and members be invited to participate in committees

17. Newcastle Container Terminal

RESOLVED That the Association forward a letter of support to Freight and Ports supporting the Newcastle Container Terminal (Gunnedah Shire Council/Narrromine Shire Council)

18. Superannuation

RESOLVED That David Smith CEO Local Government Super be invited to address the next meeting on the Defined Benefits Scheme Contribution Employer Contribution Rates and he asked to supply the Association with a copy of the Trust document (Upper Lachlan Shire Council/Goulburn Mulwaree Council)

19. Grant Funding

Adam Marshall advised that the Stronger Communities Fund had been increased by \$100 million up to \$300 million and grants will be twice the level of the first round of funding. With the sale of the Snowy Hydro and funding coming to regional NSW councils will need to come up with some big picture projects

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1.00pm.

Cr Katrina Humphries
Chair – Country Mayor's Association of NSW

SPEECH BY PETER PRIMROSE MLC, SHADOW MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT, TO THE COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION OF NSW AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY ON FRIDAY 2nd MARCH 2018.

I would like to begin as I always do by acknowledging the traditional owners of the land on which we meet, and pay my respects to their elders past, present and emerging. There is a huge amount happening in the local government sphere at the moment, and much more to come. But today I can cover only a few areas in the time available to me.

Joint Regional Organisations:

When the Government introduced its voluntary Joint Regional Organisations Bill late last year, we gave it support. We were critical because it was about a year overdue, but because Councils would be allowed to decide whether to join or not, we were happy to support it.

It correctly is your choice, not Macquarie Street's.

I am worried about the pittance in funding being offered by the government to support new JRO's, and will push for increased funding so your local communities are not left out of pocket in the same way that forcibly merged councils have been.

JROs are one way to help councils share the costs of obtaining the skills and other resources they need.

As I said in my second reading speech, the JRO legislation itself is a mess. There are many holes. For instance, once a council has joined there is no mechanism to get out short of a proclamation by the Governor. The boundary restrictions were done without consultation and are too restrictive, and the exclusion of metropolitan areas makes no sense.

But we will work with the current government to correct any ongoing problems, or fix them when we are next in government, because we want JROs to succeed.

Forced Council Mergers:

Anyone who seriously believes that this Government has really given up on its forced merger agenda should listen to the Premier's often repeated rhetoric complaining that there are too many councils.

Before the last state election, the then Premier, the current Premier, the current Deputy Premier and the current Minister all publicly promised that there would be no forced council mergers. Now they are making the same promise again.

I have to be honest and tell you that I don't trust them. I have yet to see anything that binds current and future Liberal and National party members against moving for more forced council mergers should they win the next state election.

For that reason, I am very proud that as a result of resolutions passed at our Labor Annual Conference, NSW Labor has now unanimously resolved to put into its binding platform a policy to oppose forced council mergers both now and in the future. Any MP who breaches this Platform can be expelled.

NSW Labor has no problems supporting voluntary council mergers, but we oppose both forced mergers, and we also oppose forced demergers.

The next State Labor Government will legislate to allow voluntary demergers, but we will not force demergers on local communities.

Count Backs:

While the Government can move fast on some things, others seem to drag on forever.

Back on 30th August in 2016 the Parliament unanimously passed legislation to allow 'countbacks' instead of costly by elections. Since that time there have been a number of costly by-elections, many in regional NSW, costing councils anywhere up to half a million dollars, while confused residents who failed to vote have been hit with a \$55 fine.

That fine is paid to the State Government coffers, not to the council.

You see, the legislation cannot be used until the regulations have been enacted. So I asked the Minister why the 15 month costly delay?

On the 14th November last year she replied. She said that the Office of Local Government '*has commenced work*' on drafting the regulations.

After 15 months.

I checked again last week, and still no regulation.

Now I do not blame the Office of Local Government. Its resources have been cut back so hard that I have been told it is often now called the 'Cupboard of Local Government.' But this type of delay, which is costing councils and ratepayers big time is just not good enough.

IPART:

Nor is there any sign of a Government announcement in response to the Final Report of the IPART Review into the Local Government Rating System. That was presented to the Minister fourteen months ago in December 2016, and has been kept a secret ever since. I genuinely

hope that it will address critical issues such as the increasingly contested rate peg so we can get some serious debate on this issue.

Savings:

On other matters financial, this year's state budget lists \$110 million that was not spent because some council mergers did not proceed, as 'savings'. The money will now go back into Consolidated Revenue and in the budget papers is listed as a 'government saving'.

So if your Council is being told by the Government that you cannot have funding for an urgent project unless you can say where the money would come from, just point to the 2017/18 Budget Statement, Budget Paper Number 1, page A4-5, under Office of Local Government.

There's a lazy \$110 million there that should be available to local councils feeling the pinch and not be simply listed as a 'saving'.

The question is: why isn't this pool of \$110 million pot of funding that was allocated for local government being made available as grants to your councils for your communities?

Even more galling however is the fact that earlier the Auditor-General slammed the Government for spending \$4.5 million on its 'Stronger Councils, Stronger Communities' political ad campaign. The Auditor-General – hardly a political hack – said the campaign 'compromised value for money' and was 'inconsistent with the Government's own advertising guidelines'.

\$4.5 million wasted. Yet at the same time they claim they don't have enough money to make regional roads safer.

I guess that's what you can expect from a Government that wants to spend over \$2.5 billion in Sydney to knock down and rebuild two stadiums. Their priorities are all wrong. We unashamedly prioritise funding for hospitals and schools over stadiums.

Compare these astronomical figures to what is happening to our great public libraries. The NSW Public Library Association points out that the NSW state government provides the lowest per capita funding for libraries of all states and territories in Australia. State funding represents just a pittance of 7.5 per cent of the total operating costs of NSW libraries compared to 23.6 per cent in 1980.

The former Premier promised to look at a 'sizeable increase' for local libraries, but in this year's budget they only received a paltry 1.8% increase. Again, the Government's priorities are all wrong.

On the same day that the NSW state budget was delivered last year – on 20th June - Bill Shorten in a speech in Canberra to the National General Assembly of Local Government reconfirmed that the next Federal Labor Government will put constitutional recognition of local government to a referendum of the Australian people.

NSW Labor strongly supports this move, not only because it will guarantee federal funding arrangements with local councils, but also because it will help protect all NSW councils against any further forced mergers.

Constitutional recognition of local government is also another way to encourage all three levels of government to work together more effectively, which is the basis of the long overdue Far West Initiative.

Cost shifting:

In its final report in October 2015, the Legislative Council Inquiry into Local Government recommended:

‘That the NSW Government eschews future cost shifting and commits to providing adequate funding to local government for any new services, assets or regulatory functions that it devolves to local councils.’

The Labor Opposition supported this recommendation. Local Government NSW in its last report estimated that cost shifting cost councils around \$680 million, and I expect the next report will show that this figure has ballooned even further.

An immediate step that Labor has announced is to endorse the Local Government NSW recommendation for a detailed annual Local Government Budget Statement to be provided as part of each state budget. The Budget Statement will provide a breakdown of expenditure, both capital and recurrent, and distinguish between payments for services provided on behalf of the state and those provided to local government for its own purposes.

This will be one step to increase budget transparency in NSW, and help implement our policy of reducing cost shifting.

I am always happy to visit councils and local communities to talk about the matters I have raised today or any other council issues. My details are on the NSW Parliament website, so please email or call.

Labor’s fundamental approach to local government is this: local communities should run local councils, not Macquarie Street. The State Government should set the broad regulatory framework.

Equally local government IS government, not a company board of directors. No one objects to having a model code of conduct, but any moves to use the code shut down legitimate debates about community issues - by elected representatives of the community - is just not on and does not have our support.

Finally, I want to reiterate an undertaking that I gave you last year.

Should I have the privilege of becoming the Minister for Local Government after the next state election, I will aim to meet regularly with local councils throughout the state.

I want to make it clear that I am not only interested in listening, but in speaking face to face and actually hearing what you have to say.

Thank you, and I now look forward to your questions.

Attachment 12.4



**COROWA AMATEUR SWIMMING
AND LIFE SAVING CLUB INC**

PO Box 100
COROWA NSW 2646

President: Craig Compton **Vice President:** Dave Coppolino **Treasurer:** Paul Schnelle
Email: corowatri@corowatri.com
Website: www.corowatri.com

27 January, 2018

Amber Harvey
Federation Shire
PO Box 77
Corowa NSW 2646

FEDERATION COUNCIL	
TRIM NO:	_____
REC'D:	- 1 FEB 2018
CONTAINER NO:	CY110-01
ACTION:	AA / AB

Dear Amber

Re: 2018 Corowa Triathlon

On behalf of the Corowa Swimming Club, I would like to personally thank you for your assistance with this year's Corowa Swimming Club Triathlon. The Triathlon is a wonderful community event and is a showpiece event for the local region.

This year we saw well over 100 athletes brave the warmer weather with similar numbers of supporters and volunteers cheering them on. We have received lots of positive feedback from competitors and the Triathlon Australia officials in attendance offered sincere praise of the efficiency, commitment and positive friendly attitude of the volunteers. It is a testimony to you and all involved that we have competitors travelling several hours from places like Parramatta, Drummoyne, Ganmain, Leeton, Canberra, and Bendigo to compete. We also have wonderful local support as well from competitors and from local sponsoring businesses.

The event is the major annual fundraiser for our Club and requires an enormous amount of volunteer input to proceed. It generates a lot of social media interest as well as local support from the Free Press and WIN News.

The event would not be profitable for us without your support as a volunteer. We sincerely appreciate your involvement and hope that you enjoyed the experience as much as we did. We look forward to your support in 2019. If we have a pool, then 20th January, 2019 is the most likely date for next year's event. Lock it in on your calendar!

Kind regards

Paul Schnelle

Attachment 12.5



ACN 002 320 630 - ABN 73 002 320 630

To: Federation Councillors

PO Box 77

Corowa NSW 2646

Re: Seal Roads Ski Park.

FEDERATION COUNCIL	
TRIM NO:	_____
REC'D:	- 9 FEB 2018
CONTAINER NO:	SC963-05
ACTION:	Adrian Butler Rachelle Herson

I would like to seek Federation Councils support in our endeavour to establish the Max Kirwan Ski Lakes as a world class facility. Over the years we have held World, National, and State titles at our Ski Park and the feedback we receive is that they love the area of Yarrawonga/Mulwala and the lakes are world class. However the negatives are the dust from the drive to the lakes entrance and from the entrance into the lakes.

For each event the venues must bid for the chance to hold the titles. The draw back for us is the dust from the roads so to overcome this we would like Federation Shire to seal the six hundred meters of Wemyss Road to the ski Park entrance. Our commitment is to have the road sealed from the entrance another six hundred meters into the Ski Park centre. As with our Northern car park we contracted Federation Shire to do the foundations and seal the car park, we would again be looking to contract Federation shire to seal the road from the entrance into the centre of the ski park.

The economic benefit to the township of Mulwala and Federation Shire can be seen by the success of past events. In 2014 we held the World Juniors Championships and twenty five countries came and competed at the event and a number of those teams stayed in Corowa as accommodation was booked out in Mulwala. The same numbers also attended the world disabled Championships in 1993, World Barefoot Titles 2004 and 2014, and numerous National Titles.

The Mulwala Water Ski Club currently have over seventy members of our ski team and many of those are world class skiers. Our ski team have competed in many countries around the world and of the thirty five member Australian show ski team twenty six of the team are from the Mulwala Water Ski Club.



Melbourne Street, Mulwala NSW 2647

Club (03) 5744 1888 - Golden Inn Restaurant (03) 5744 1515 - La Porchetta (03) 5744 1507
- Holiday Park (03) 5744 1050 - Pro Shop (03) 5744 2777

In concluding your support in sealing the road into the ski park will enable us to bid successfully for world and national events which in turn will benefit Mulwala and Federation Shire economically and eliminate the dust problem caused by competitors and local skiers who choose to train at these world class ski lakes.



Peter Duncan

CEO

Mulwala Water Ski Club

14/02/2018

Attachment 12.6



ACN 002 320 630 - ABN 73 002 320 630

To: Federation Councillors

PO Box 77

Corowa NSW 2646

FEDERATION COUNCIL	
TRIM NO:	_____
REC'D:	- 9 FEB 2018
CONTAINER NO:	5C963-05
ACTION:	Adrian Butler Rachelle Henson.

Re: Rate increase.

After a discussion with Adrian Butler on the 24th January 2018 regarding the increase in the Mulwala Water Ski Club rates I was advised to write to council to make you aware of our concerns.

We received our rate invoice for the current year and noticed it had increased by over thirteen percent on the previous year when we had been told that rates would not increase by more than seven percent. I and Kaye Ferguson finance controller for the club arranged a meeting with acting Federation Council CEO Peter Gall at Federation offices on the 24th November 2017 where he had difficulty explaining the extra increase in rates to us. Peter said he would look into our rate increase and get back to us.

In January 2018 we again received notice of our rates with no change and a \$2,000 fine for late payment. We again organised a meeting with Adrian Butler interim CEO of Federation Shire and his financial administrator. We again explained our concerns and that we have been waiting for a reply from Peter Gall as to the rate increase.

Adrian was understanding of our concerns and explained how the various rates are calculated and the difficulty that council has in administering a fair system for the whole community. The Mulwala Water Ski Club is understanding of council needing to increase revenue for the shire however our rates have risen by 36% over the past six years which is way over what we understood to be the cap (Please see attached spread sheet showing rate increases). On top of our rates we were also paying council \$20,000 per year to lease crown land at the club which also increased by \$10,000 this year to \$30,000.



Melbourne Street, Mulwala NSW 2647

Mulwala Water Ski Club have accepted the rate increases over the past six years however would like council to give some relief in future rate increases. With the last six years rate increases we feel we are wearing a greater share of the funding of the shires rates.

If you would like to discuss the clubs concerns further please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.



Peter Duncan

CEO

Mulwala Water Ski Club

14/02/2018

Rates Club House
Rates Holiday Park
Rates Ski Park

2016/2017	2017/2018	Increase	% increase last 6 years
24288	27303	3015 or 13%	36%
30064	33637	3573 or 12%	32%
2600	3696	1096 or 43%	84%

Federation Shire Business Rate Component has increase overall by 5.85% in 2017/2018