



**FEDERATION
COUNCIL**

Ordinary Council Meeting

Minutes

Tuesday, 20 July 2021

Council Chambers, Corowa
Commenced 9.32 am



Council Values

Councils corporate values were adopted in 2017 and in various ways, Council is continuing to ensure they remain visible and at the front of mind in all aspects of Council business and operations. Including them in the Council Business Paper agendas is another way of continuing to be visible with the Council values.

These values will be reviewed and updated/readopted in the new Council post the September 2021 elections.

Embracing change

We will create our future by being innovative and encouraging new ideas, opportunities and better ways of doing things.

Quality outcomes

We will strive for excellence and to deliver value for money for the community.

Accountability

We will plan well and report on our progress. We will ensure fair and transparent decision-making and take responsibility for our actions.

Collaboration

We support each other as a team and will engage closely with the community.

Customer focus

We will be responsive and accessible to the community. We will be open, respectful and truthful in our dealings.

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1. OPENING MEETING AND READ LIVE STREAMING STATEMENT

The Mayor opened the meeting at 9.32 am.

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. This includes any filming by television cameras if attendance is approved by the General Manager or Mayor.

2. 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.

3. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

PRESENT:

The Mayor, Councillor PMJ Bourke (Chairperson), Councillors AC Kennedy, GJ Law, DS Longley, FT Longmire, NW Wales APM and SM Whitechurch.

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr A Butler (General Manager), Ms J Shannon (Director Corporate and Community Services), Ms S Appleyard (Director Development and Environmental Services), Mr S Carmichael (Director Engineering Services), Mrs Alannah Greenwood (Manager Communications and Engagement) and Mrs R Henson (Executive Assistant – Minute Taker).

3.1 APOLOGIES

Chair to ask for any apologies at meeting.

Councillor Miegel has been granted a leave of absence for the period 21 May 2021 to 8 August 2021, inclusive from the May 2021 Ordinary Council Meeting (159/21FC).

RECOMMENDED that the apology received from Councillors AC Kennedy, PI Miegel and BJ Thomas be accepted.

229/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Wales and Whitechurch that the apology received from Councillors PI Miegel and BJ Thomas be accepted.

3.2 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Application for leave of absence received by Chair to be tabled at meeting.

Councillor Kennedy has requested a leave of absence for all meetings for the period 20-21 July 2021, inclusive to attend the funeral for the father of one of his employees – ***Withdrawn as funeral date was moved so Councillor Kennedy was able to now attend the meeting.***

Councillor Thomas has requested a leave of absence for all meetings for the period 14 July to 31 July 2021 due to the loss of her mother.

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Councillor Kennedy be granted a leave of absence for all meetings for the period 20-21 July 2021, inclusive to attend the funeral for the father of one of his employees; and
2. THAT Councillor Thomas be granted a leave of absence for all meetings for the period 14 July to 31 July due to the loss of her mother.

230/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Kennedy and Law that Councillor Thomas be granted a leave of absence for all meetings for the period 14 July to 31 July 2021 due to the loss of her mother.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING 15 JUNE 2021

RECOMMENDED that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15 June 2021 be confirmed.

231/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Law and Longley that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15 June 2021 be confirmed.

5. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Disclosures of interest declarations received by the Chair to be noted.

The Mayor, Councillor Bourke declared a significant non-pecuniary interest Part 5 (Non-pecuniary) of Council's Code of Conduct and Clause 16 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice in item 8.7 Urana Aquatic Centre Management Expression of Interest as he is the Chair of the Urana Bowling Club and will leave the meeting when the item is discussed.

The General Manager, Adrian Butler declared a pecuniary interest under Part 4 (Pecuniary Interest) of Council's Code of Conduct and Clause 16 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice in item 7.7 Review of General Manager and Senior Staff Remuneration – Consultation Paper and item 7.11 General Manager's Performance Review as the matter is about his contract and payments and will leave the meeting when the items are discussed.

RECOMMENDED that Council note the disclosures received.

232/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Kennedy and Law that Council note the pecuniary interest disclosures received from Adrian Butler (General Manager) in agenda item 7.7 Review of General Manager and Senior Staff Remuneration – Consultation Paper and item 7.11 General Manager's Performance Review; and the significant non-pecuniary disclosure from Councillor Bourke in agenda item 8.7 Urana Aquatic Centre Management Expression of Interest.

6. MAYORAL MINUTE(S)

6.1 NO ITEMS

The Mayor of behalf of Council offered our condolences to Councillor Thomas on the loss of her mother. Council's thoughts and prayers are with her at this time.

233/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Law and Kennedy to note the Mayoral Minute.

BRING FORWARD ITEM 8.10 TO ALLOW PUBLIC SPEAKER MR ROBERT PEARCE TO ADDRESS COUNCIL ON ITEM 8.10

Mr Pearce addressed Council.

234/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Law and Kennedy that Council bring forward item 8.10 Rates Harmonisation.

8.10 RATES HARMONISATION

Author: Jo Shannon, Director Corporate and Community Services

Summary

This report recommends to Council the adoption of an updated Revenue Policy to provide a common, harmonised rating structure across the entire Federation Council area.

Background

In May 2016 the Local Government (Council Amalgamations) Proclamation amalgamated the former Corowa Shire Council and Urana Shire Council into Federation Council. The Local Government (Council Amalgamations) Proclamation also included a “rate freeze period”, effectively freezing the rate structure of both previous Councils until 1 July 2020. The final date was later deferred to 1 July 2021.

The following table indicates the varying rate structures that applied to Rating Categories for Corowa and Urana Shire Councils.

Category	Structure	Source
Farmland	Base rate plus ad valorem*	Former Corowa
	Ad valorem*, subject to a minimum amount	Former Urana
Residential	Base rate plus ad valorem*	Former Corowa
	Ad valorem*, subject to a minimum amount	Former Urana
Business	Base rate plus ad valorem*	Former Corowa
	Ad valorem*, subject to a minimum amount	Former Urana

* As defined in section 498(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, the ad valorem amount of a rate is to be levied on the land value of rateable land.

At the end of the rate freeze, the different rating structures are to be harmonised in accordance with the legislative framework.

In late 2019, Council engaged CT Management, a local government consultancy firm with experience in rates and revenue harmonisation, to assist with identifying potential options and undertaking analysis of the impact on ratepayers.

A report was provided to Council detailing four different options for the rating structure:

- Apply a common base rate per property assessment (\$297) plus ad valorem, consistent with the former Corowa Shire Council Revenue Policy,
- Apply a lower common base rate per property assessment (\$241) plus ad valorem
- Apply a common base rate per property assessment (\$297) plus ad valorem, and introducing a ‘village’ sub category for residential properties with a \$237 base rate
- Apply a higher common base rate per property assessment (\$529) plus ad valorem

Council did not make a determination on a preferred option. Council sought to obtain a greater understanding of what the models would look like if Council’s 8% Special Rate Variation application was successful and also what the views of the community would be.

Rates Advisory Committee

At its March 2021 meeting, Council called for Expressions of Interest from community members to participate on a Rates Advisory Committee to provide advice on future rating structures for the Federation Council area.

The purpose of the Committee is to:

- Provide advice to Council in relation to the harmonised general rating structure due to take effect on 1 July 2021
- Provide recommendations to Council on opportunities to make improvements to the general fund rating structure for 2022/23 and 2023/24
- Provide advice into any future Special Rate Variations.

Since being established the Committee has had four meetings. The meetings have enabled the Committee to understand the key parameters within which a Council has to set its rating structure, be provided with more detail from the CT Management review into rating options and alternative different rating options.

The draft minutes of meetings 2-4 are attached for information.

Community information sessions

Community information sessions were conducted in May 2021 at six locations across the Council area. CT Management provided high level information on the rating options report that they had prepared, and key parameters that Council needs to consider in deciding on a new rating strategy. These sessions were also used to provide information to community members on the Delivery Program, Annual Budget and Long Term Financial Plan.

Options for community feedback

Following feedback from the Rates Advisory Committee and advice that IPART had approved Council's 8% Special Rate Variation application, Council officers developed updated models to better reflect options available to Council in the current environment. This would enable clearer options to be presented to the community.

Not all options modelled were presented for community feedback. This was particularly relevant for the option considering a different residential rating category for those in villages as opposed to towns. This model requires significantly more consideration and engagement to define what a village is, and therefore the impact on different property owners.

Late changes to the Local Government Act 1993

Late changes to the Local Government Act 1993 came in June 2021 that may have enabled rates harmonisation to be phased in over eight years.

Advice from the Office of Local Government is that if Council would like to phase-in the rates harmonisation changes it would be required to re-advertise the phased-in rating structure for the required period of 30 days. This option is not feasible for the 2021/22 financial year given the timeframes that apply to the adoption of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan and the making and levying of rates.

Community Engagement

Community feedback

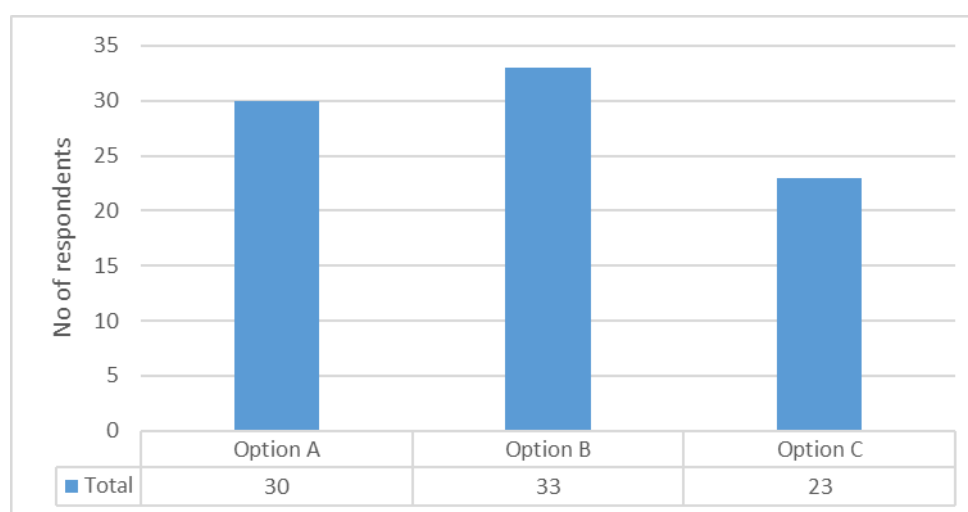
Three options were presented to the community – with a common base rate for all properties (high (A), medium (B) and low (C)) combined with an ad valorem. The following table provides detail on the options presented.

	Model	Base rate (all properties)	Ad valorem rates	Residential rates proportion
A	Base rate at \$370 for all properties plus ad valorem charge depending on value of land owned	\$370.00	Business: \$0.006277 Farmland: \$0.001973 Residential: \$0.003868	Residential rate-payers contribute 51.9% of the total general rates collected by Council.
B	Base rate at \$348 for all properties plus ad valorem charge depending on value of land owned	\$348.00	Business: \$0.006277 Farmland: \$0.002164 Residential: \$0.003668	Residential rate-payers contribute 49.0% of the total general rates collected by Council.
C	Base rate at \$303.30 for all properties plus a higher ad valorem charge depending on value of land owned	\$303.30	Business: \$0.006687 Farmland: \$0.002284 Residential: \$0.003889	Residential rate-payers contribute 47.3% of the total general rates collected by Council.

This opportunity was promoted through local media, Council’s social media platform, Council’s website and at the community information sessions.

In addition, a community flyer was distributed to all properties in the Federation Council area. The flyer provided further detail on the project and sought feedback on the three options presented. Feedback closed in late June 2021. There were mixed views on the preferred model, with different opinions provided with respect to which ratepayers should be contributing more or less. A report on the engagement results is included in the attachments.

The following graph reports the option preferred by respondents to the survey. As indicated there were mixed views on which was a better option.



Further detail on the feedback, including individual comments, is contained in the attached engagement report.

Rates Advisory Committee feedback

As anticipated, differing views were also received from members of the Rates Advisory Committee. In summary the following provides a brief summary of perspectives from Rates Advisory Committee members:

- Some participants support southern ratepayers contributing more than northern ratepayers due to a perceived economic advantage for southern property owners
- Contribution to Gross Domestic Product by farmland in the north should be considered
- Some participants support Option C, or even a lower base rate, with farmland and higher value properties paying higher rates
- Some participants support Option B (the medium base rate)
- Some participants support the option of a phase-in of changes over two years
- Some participants support introducing a simple system now and then refine over coming years with respect to considering the town/ village option or other alternatives

Additional feedback was also received from a committee member unable to attend the last meeting, supporting Option A. This submission supported the financial sustainability and viability of farmland properties, particularly those that are locally owned and operated, and recognises the flow-on economic benefit obtained by residential and business property owners when the business of local farmers is successful. The impact on residential and business ratepayers was also acknowledged and reference made to Council's Hardship Policy that is available for those in need during this change.

Attachments

- 6.1.1 Rates Advisory Committee – Minutes – 19 May 2021 (21/28797)
- 6.1.2 Rates Advisory Committee – Minutes – 27 May 2021 (21/28937)
- 6.1.3 Rates Advisory Committee – Minutes – 14 July 2021 (21/29117)
- 6.1.4 Rates harmonisation 2021/22 - Community engagement survey results (21/29232)
- 6.1.5 Revenue Policy 2021/22 – proposed Rates section (21/29428)

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Well Governed Federation

Outcome: *Strong civic leadership and governance supporting equity across communities and effective communication with residents.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 5.1 *Ensure rates and fees are in line with community needs.*

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 5.1.1 *Finalise rate harmonisation project, and implement recommendations to be effective 1 July 2021.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 5.3 *Ensure good governance and administration.*

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 5.3.1 *Implement Long Term Financial Plan.*

Financial Implications

Council's rating structure is considered as part of the Statement of Revenue Policy and forms part of the annual budget and long-term financial sustainability plan. An outcome of the Rates Harmonisation Project is a revised Statement of Revenue Policy for commencement at 1 July 2021.

Financial Sustainability

The recommendation will have a neutral impact on Council's Long Term Financial Plan Financial Sustainability indicators.

Risk Implications

Council's role of levying rates on rateable properties comes with significant responsibility. Council is required to consider a range of factors when determining how total general rates to be collected will be distributed between properties, including:

- Legislative responsibilities under the Local Government Act 1993
- NSW Rating Principles
- Community capacity to pay
- Community feedback

The extensive review process, establishment of the Rates Advisory Committee and the community engagement that has been undertaken all serve to support decision making of Council and to reduce the reputational risk when forming a view on how the total rates should be apportioned.

Legal Implications

The Local Government Act 1993 requires Council to determine rates and charges in accordance with specific legislative requirements.

Section 405 of the Act requires Council to have adopted an Operational Plan before the beginning of each year that details the activities to be engaged in by the council during the year as part of the delivery program covering that year. The operational plan must also include a statement of the council's revenue policy for the year and include the rating structure to be applied.

In June 2021 Council adopted its Delivery Program and Operational Plan and a Revenue Policy. The rating structure was specifically excluded to enable appropriate consideration to be given to feedback obtained through the rates harmonisation community engagement process.

Whilst this means that the existing Revenue Policy is deficient, this recommendation will now ensure that the final Revenue Policy contains all elements required under the legislation.

Council Officer Views

There are a number of options available to Council that have been modelled. These are detailed in the following table:

	Model	Residential rates proportion	Rate payers impacted
A	Base rate at \$370 for all properties plus ad valorem charge depending on value of land owned	Residential ratepayers contribute 51.9% of the total general rates collected by Council.	<p>Increases rates payable by residential and business categories and reduces rates payable by farmland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase for higher value residential and business properties from former Corowa Council area • Increase for residential and business properties from former Urana Council area • Decrease for all farmland properties

	Model	Residential rates proportion	Rate payers impacted
B	Base rate at \$348 for all properties plus ad valorem charge depending on value of land owned RECOMMENDED	Residential ratepayers contribute 49.0% of the total general rates collected by Council.	Maintains a similar amount of rates from residential properties as currently collected. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase for residential and business properties from former Urana Council area • Minimal change for residential and business properties in Corowa, Howlong and Mulwala • Minor increase for all farmland properties
C	Base rate at \$303.30 for all properties plus a higher ad valorem charge depending on value of land owned	Residential ratepayers contribute 47.3% of the total general rates collected by Council.	Increases rates payable by the farmland category and reduces rates payable by residential and business categories. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase for residential and business properties from former Urana Council area • Decrease for residential and business properties from former Corowa Council area • Increase for all farmland properties
D	Base rate at \$280 for all properties plus a higher ad valorem charge depending on value of land owned	Residential ratepayers contribute 47.3% of the total general rates collected by Council.	Increases rates payable by the farmland category and reduces rates payable by residential and business categories. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal change for residential and business properties from former Urana Council area • Decrease for residential and business properties from former Corowa Council area • Increase for all farmland properties

Following consideration of a range of factors, it is recommended to Council to adopt a rating structure that aligns with Option B (base rate for all properties of \$348 plus ad valorem).

This position has been arrived at after considering numerous factors including:

- Challenge in determining which localities should be a town or village or even rural residential
- Feedback from some community members not wanting there locality to be deemed a village as this may result in a reduction in services in future
- Feedback on the significance of the impact on residential properties in the north where current residential rates are significantly less than those in the south
- Council’s previously stated position in February 2021 for the 8% Special Rate Variation for the Corowa Aquatic Centre to be applied as an even dollar amount to each assessment (\$67 increase) and therefore increasing the proportion of rates paid by residential properties to 49%
- Feedback from rural ratepayers regarding their perceived ‘lack of services’

- The likelihood that a future Special Rate Variation of significance to be invested in roads is likely to impact on farmland rates and/or high-value properties
- Increases to rates above the rate peg for farmland properties in the south that have occurred since merger
- Alignment with the NSW Rating Principles
- Level of current residential rates compared to those in other NSW local government areas
- The future Special Rate Variation foreshadowed in the Long Term Financial Plan 2021 – 2031 which will impact on Council’s investment in roads and other assets throughout the Council area

This model also results in the least impact on the most ratepayers as rates collected in each category remain consistent with that applied in 2021/22. It effectively results in shift from farmland ratepayers in the north to business and residential ratepayers in the north.

If Council wishes to adopt a residential – village rating category, it is recommended that further analysis and community engagement be undertaken prior to July 2022 considering an acceptable definition for villages and towns.

If Council wishes to adopt an environmental rating category, it is recommended that further analysis and community engagement be undertaken prior to July 2022 to consider the impact on other rateable properties.

Council will then be able to consider any changes to the rating structure for 2022/23.

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Council note the report on the Federation Council rates harmonisation project;
2. THAT Council note the draft minutes of the meetings of the Rates Advisory Committee;
3. THAT Council consider the submissions received in relation to the harmonised rating structure options for 2021/22;
4. THAT in accordance with Section 405 of the Local Government Act 1993 Council:
 - a. makes and levies the following Schedule of Rates for the Year Ending 30 June 2022 being:
 - i. Farmland Rate: For land categorised Farmland, levy an ad valorem amount of 0.216400c/\$ with a base rate of \$348.00 (Yield \$3,711,294 – Base Amount 9.95%);
 - ii. Ordinary Residential Rate: For land categorised Residential, an ad valorem amount of 0.366800c/\$ with a base rate of \$348.00 (Yield \$4,386,455 – Base Amount 49.62%);
 - iii. Business Rate: For land categorised as Business, an ad valorem amount of 0.627700c/\$ with a base rate of \$348.00 (Yield \$852,803 – Base Amount 27.99%);
 - b. directs the 2021/22 Revenue Policy be amended accordingly pursuant to the Revenue Policy - Rates section attachment;

- c. directs the General Manager to prepare and serve the rate notices for the 2021/22 financial year;
5. THAT the variations as detailed in this report and attachments, including any other changes as resolved at this meeting be adopted.

235/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longmire and Kennedy:

1. THAT Council note the report on the Federation Council rates harmonisation project;
2. THAT Council note the draft minutes of the meetings of the Rates Advisory Committee;
3. THAT Council consider the submissions received in relation to the harmonised rating structure options for 2021/22;
4. THAT in accordance with Section 405 of the Local Government Act 1993 Council:
 - a. makes and levies the following Schedule of Rates for the Year Ending 30 June 2022 being:
 - i. Farmland Rate: For land categorised Farmland, levy an ad valorem amount of 0.216400c/\$ with a base rate of \$348.00 (Yield \$3,711,294 – Base Amount 9.95%);
 - ii. Ordinary Residential Rate: For land categorised Residential, an ad valorem amount of 0.366800c/\$ with a base rate of \$348.00 (Yield \$4,386,455 – Base Amount 49.62%);
 - iii. Business Rate: For land categorised as Business, an ad valorem amount of 0.627700c/\$ with a base rate of \$348.00 (Yield \$852,803 – Base Amount 27.99%);
 - b. directs the 2021/22 Revenue Policy be amended accordingly pursuant to the Revenue Policy - Rates section attachment;
 - c. directs the General Manager to prepare and serve the rate notices for the 2021/22 financial year;
5. THAT the variations as detailed in this report and attachments, including any other changes as resolved at this meeting be adopted.

7. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

7.1 COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS – PROGRESS TO 30 JUNE 2021

Author: Adrian Butler, General Manager

Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the progress being made on actions taken as a result of resolutions passed at previous Council Meetings. The progress in this report is shown as at end of June 2021. Consideration will be given as to the frequency of this report coming before Council. This could be monthly or quarterly. The document will be uploaded to the Council portal and updated after each Council meeting.

Comments are included for most ongoing resolutions, as to their status, including where action has been undertaken to partly progress. To assist Councillors, updated comments are shown in blue.

Background

Please find attached a schedule of incomplete resolutions passed by Council including some from the former Urana Shire Council resolutions. Urana Shire kept a monthly record of action against resolutions, commencing in early 2013, and this was reported to Council each month for consideration. Corowa Shire also maintained a monthly resolution register. These were reviewed monthly by Directors and any outstanding actions from the previous month were reported to the next meeting. Corowa Shire did not have any outstanding resolutions at the commencement of Federation Council.

Each month staff will update this, with the status and any action taken or proposed to be taken, to implement/complete the resolution. When a resolution is considered complete, it will be noted as such. As above, if the recommendation to remove all items marked as 'completed' is passed, those resolutions will not appear in the next month's report, hence if Council feels insufficient action has been taken, they need to pass a new or amended resolution with respect to any areas of concern.

Council also as a project funded by the New Council Implementation Fund, has purchased a software package to enhance Council's agenda management process for Business Papers, including for Council and Committee meetings. The software package has a functionality that will also allow a far more economical and efficient method of managing resolutions passed, and action against. This is expected to come online sometime later in this calendar year or early next year. Ultimately the resolutions register is then aimed to be made available on Council's public website.

Community Engagement

Council's Business Papers, including Agendas and Minutes, and the Council meetings including live stream and recording, are considered another engagement tool used by Council to engage the community in Council's business. This report therefore is a critical aspect of that, to ensure the public are able to more easily be aware of Council's actions with respect to resolutions passed.

Attachments

7.1.1 Resolution Register with progress as at end June 2021 (20/25867)

Links to Council's Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Well Governed Federation

Outcome: *Strong civic leadership and governance supporting equity across communities and effective communication with residents.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 5.3 Ensure good governance and administration.

Financial Implications

Items that have financial implications beyond normal budgeting will be reported separately to Council for consideration.

Financial Sustainability

Adopting this recommendation is considered to have a neutral impact on Council's Long Term Financial Sustainability.

Risk Implications

A resolution register is considered a valuable risk management tool. Council needs to ensure it is appropriately reviewing and managing the progress of actioning resolutions as they affect a broad range of Council's operations.

Legal Implications

As with risk, Council passes many resolutions that have legal aspects, and Council needs to ensure it is compliant with legislation in all aspects. This report is another way of ensuring Council's reporting mechanisms are legally compliant and best practice.

RECOMMENDED that Council note the report on progress against Council resolutions passed, and approve the deletion of all items marked "Complete" showing progress to the end of June 2021.

236/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Kennedy and Law that Council note the report on progress against Council resolutions passed, and approve the deletion of all items marked "Complete" showing progress to the end of June 2021.

7.2 SEPTEMBER 2021 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING, BRIEFING SESSION AND COUNCILLOR WORKSHOP – RECOMMENDED CHANGE OF DATE

Author: Rachelle Henson, Executive Assistant

Summary

The purpose of this report is to recommend that the September 2021 Council Meeting, be postponed from 21 September 2021 to Tuesday 28 September 2021. The reason for the recommended postponement is due to staff including the General Manager, being required to be in attendance at the Land and Environment Court hearing for DA2020/162.

Background

Council has been notified that DA2020/162 before the Land and Environment Court, will be heard on 20-22 September 2021. The September Briefing Session is therefore also recommended to be moved to the Thursday prior to the 28 September, and the Councillor Workshop is also recommended to be moved from the 21 September to the afternoon of the 28 September, after the Council meeting, as per normal practice.

Given this is also the first meeting of the new Council, it is also considered a good move to allow more time for the new Council to be appointed and inductions and any other materials and resources circulated prior to their first meeting.

Community Engagement

Council notifies the public of any Ordinary and Extraordinary meetings as required, and they are all live streamed.

Attachments

7.2.1 Nil.

Links to Council's Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Well Governed Federation

Outcome: *Strong civic leadership and governance supporting equity across communities and effective communication with residents.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 5.3 *Ensure good governance and administration.*

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 5.3.14 *Council meeting agendas and minutes distributed and available in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice.*

Financial Implications

Council meeting costs are minimal and met within existing budgets.

Financial Sustainability

Proceeding with this recommendation will have a neutral impact on Council's Long Term Financial Plan 2021-2031 financial sustainability ratios.

Risk Implications

None foreseeable.

Legal Implications

Council is required to give notice of meetings and ensure public access.

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Council note the report on the September 2021 Ordinary Council Meeting, Briefing Session and Councillor Workshop;
2. THAT the September 2021 Ordinary Council Meeting be postponed from 21 September 2021, and held on Tuesday 28 September 2021 in the Corowa Council Chambers commencing at 9.30 am;
3. THAT the September Councillor Workshop be postponed from 21 September 2021, and held on Tuesday 28 September 2021 in the Corowa Council Chambers commencing at 1.30 pm; and
4. THAT the September Briefing Session be postponed from 13 September 2020 to Thursday, 23 September 2021 in the Corowa Council Chambers commencing at 4.00 pm.

237/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longley and Longmire:

1. THAT Council note the report on the September 2021 Ordinary Council Meeting, Briefing Session and Councillor Workshop;
2. THAT the September 2021 Ordinary Council Meeting be postponed from 21 September 2021, and held on Tuesday 28 September 2021 in the Corowa Council Chambers commencing at 9.30 am;
3. THAT the September Councillor Workshop be postponed from 21 September 2021, and held on Tuesday 28 September 2021 in the Corowa Council Chambers commencing at 1.30 pm; and
4. THAT the September Briefing Session be postponed from 13 September 2020 to Thursday, 23 September 2021 in the Corowa Council Chambers commencing at 4.00 pm.

7.3 COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION - CONSTITUTION REVIEW AND ANY MOTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

Author: Adrian Butler, General Manager

Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek endorsement of the draft Country Mayors Association (CMA) draft constitution. The report also seeks delegation for the General Manager to finalise draft motions with respect to the latest lobbying areas for the CMA to advocate to the NSW and Federal Governments, on behalf of member councils.

Council along with many other rural and regional NSW councils, is a member of the CMA. The Constitution of the CMA has been reviewed by the executive committee and requires review and endorsement by Council.

Background

The Constitution of the CMA has not been reviewed since 2014. The Executive Committee have recently reviewed it and have made suggested amendments. Members are to be given two months notice of any amendments. Attached is a copy of the suggested amendments (printed in red) which will be listed for consideration their next meeting to be held on the 6 August 2021.

Seeking information in relation to issues of importance - Extract Email from CMA

Attention Mayors and General Managers

*At our last meeting held on the 28 May 2021 resolutions regarding issues of importance to Regional and Rural NSW ie health and water security were considered. The next two issues of importance to be considered are **finance and skills and education**.*

The major areas of importance identified were

- *Financial Assistance Grants fairer criteria and distribution*
- *Cost shifting*
- *Inability by small councils to make co contributions for projects and grant application*
- *Funding major projects/streamlining the approvals process*
- *Workforce Skills Development*

Members are invited to submit motions on these issues to the 6 August meeting to be received by the 16 July 2021. It would be appreciated if any motions submitted could be accompanied by an explanatory report.

Councillor input is welcome to any suggested draft motions and should be forwarded to the General Manager by or on meeting day, to allow lodgement. An extension has been sought until after the Council meeting.

Community Engagement

Council should consider motions on areas related to above, and of matters that they become aware of including through local community/stakeholder engagement.

Attachments

7.3.1 Draft CMA Constitution (21/23106)

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Theme: Well Governed Federation

Outcome: *Strong civic leadership and governance supporting equity across communities and effective communication with residents.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 5.2 *Work toward the equitable servicing of all areas.*

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 5.2.1 *Work with regional and state organisations to ensure consideration of cross Council and border issues.*

Financial Implications

Council has budgeted for the continuing membership of the Country Mayors Association. Due to COVID-19, Council's Mayor and General Manager have not attended a meeting for over 12 months however, as they do not offer a virtual attendance. This has proven very cost effective for Council's travelling and accommodation budget, and assisted in offsetting other increased expenditure areas as a result of managing the risks from COVID-19.

Financial Sustainability

Should Council provide draft motions to support the Country Mayors Association's key focus areas, the following areas, if lobbying is successful, would be considered a good chance to improve Council's financial sustainability.

- Financial Assistance Grants fairer criteria and distribution
- Cost shifting
- Inability by small councils to make co contributions for projects and grant application

Risk Implications

None foreseen.

Legal Implications

None foreseen.

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Council endorse the proposed changes to the CMA Constitution; and

2. THAT Council delegate to the General Manager authority to submit motions in relation to the following areas –
 - Financial Assistance Grants fairer criteria and distribution
 - Cost shifting
 - Inability by small councils to make co contributions for projects and grant application
 - Workforce Skills and Education

238/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Law and Kennedy:

1. THAT Council endorse the proposed changes to the CMA Constitution; and
2. THAT Council delegate to the General Manager authority to submit motions in relation to the following areas –
 - Financial Assistance Grants fairer criteria and distribution
 - Cost shifting
 - Inability by small councils to make co contributions for projects and grant application
 - Workforce Skills and Education

7.4 MULWALA BRIDGE – NSW GOVERNMENT PUBLIC CONSULTATION PHASE SEEKING VIEWS ON GREEN OR GREY ROUTE

Author: Adrian Butler, General Manager

Summary

This report updates Council with respect to the NSW Government’s planning for a new bridge over Lake Mulwala. Residents are invited to provide feedback on either the green or grey routes, to help Transport for NSW understand the community’s thoughts about the preferred option for a new bridge to link Mulwala in NSW to Yarrawonga in Victoria.

The report seeks Council’s endorsement of lodging a letter in favour of the Green Route, to be lodged to Transport for NSW, in response to the current submission period calling for community views on either the green or grey route. This is consistent with Council’s current position adopted in July 2019.

Background

In 2015, the ‘Grey’ option was favoured and endorsed by the NSW and Victorian governments. Moira Shire and then Federation Council, have however strongly supported the Green Route, backed by strong community opinion undertaken by polls.

Transport for NSW and VIC Roads have responded to community sentiment and the strong advocacy by both Federation and Moira Shire Councils. The NSW Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, the Honourable Paul Toole MP, along with local member Justin Clancy MP, recently visited Mulwala and held meetings with Federation and Moira Shire Councils and community representatives.

Council will be aware that they have a current resolution to support the Green Route, from the July 2019 Council meeting, based on the strong community backing of this alignment, following Council’s survey conducted during May June 2019.

Community Engagement

Council has undertaken extensive community engagement on this matter, leading to Council's decision to support the Green Route. Council has also highlighted this position and the opportunity for the public to lodge a submission on the bridge route prior to the end of July via advertising.

Public Consultation History – Federation Council

On being elected, from strong community lobbying, Federation Council resolved to survey the Mulwala community via postcode, of those on the electoral role, during May/June 2019 to understand their views of the preferred route of the new bridge required over Lake Mulwala.

The survey process was voluntary and completed under a strict, robust and defensible process. Council strongly encouraged participation by the residents. The survey documentation and results were independently distributed and collated by a mailing and survey management firm recommended by and following advice from the NSW EC. The results showed a total of 1562 surveys were distributed on 25 May 2019, with 28 days to return them.

867 completed surveys were returned, and 73 unopened surveys were returned. Of those who voted, 604 (70%) were in favour of option one (Green route); and 259 (30%) were in favour of option two (Grey route). This is a return rate of just over 55%, and is considered extremely high for a voluntary survey.

This is a strong validation of the topic's importance to the community, and justifies Federation Council's decision to conduct the survey. It is also a very strong representative sample, to gain 55% of the views of a particular target audience.

Main points recommended to make in Council's submission letter - Some of the Green Route Advantages

- Community Support including both Councils.
- Potentially less impact on Cultural Heritage – Freddie Dowling, Bpangerang Elder now deceased, has written letters to both Victorian and NSW State Governments with concerns of possible Aboriginal Heritage in the Sandhill near the existing bridge/route for the Grey Bridge. The Grey route therefore would be considered to have significant issues in having an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) approved.
- Removes through-traffic and reduces congestion in Belmore Street Yarrawonga.
- Provides direct access to the Yarrawonga Foreshore supporting tourism and allows Federation Council to proceed with revisiting their 2014 Mulwala Foreshore Plan and potentially mirroring the Yarrawonga Plans.
- A green route decision assists in the formation of Council's growth strategy commencing in the next few months, to inform a potential future transport corridor alongside the railway line to the Tocumwal Road. Council has a 455 lot residential subdivision currently lodged.
- Potential for a shorter bridge build if the shallow areas of the green crossing are filled not requiring as long a bridge as the grey route.

Key Principles of a Green Route

- 1) Freight (Efficiency, Safety, Connection)
- 2) Tourism (growth)
- 3) Cultural Sensitivity
- 4) Community Support

It is acknowledged that the proposed alignment of the Green Route as now being exhibited, differs from what was previously consulted. The previous route travelled along Gulai Road Mulwala. The new proposal extends further north alongside the rail line and enters Melbourne Street further north.

Attachments

- 7.4.1 Media Release – Have your say on Plans for the New Mulwala Bridge (21/25152)
- 7.4.2 Mulwala Bridge Project Notification – June 2021

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 ‘Our Community Our Opportunity’

Theme: Built Federation

Outcome: *Maintained and improved infrastructure that meets the needs of residents and industry.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 1.1 *Maintain and improve roads, bridges and footpaths to meet the needs of residents and industry.*

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 1.1.6 *Continue to lobby NSW State Government for a new bridge over Lake Mulwala.*

Financial Implications

None foreseen.

Financial Sustainability

Adopting this recommendation is considered to have a neutral impact on Council’s Long Term Financial Sustainability.

Risk Implications

None foreseen.

Legal Implications

None foreseen.

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Council note the report on the public consultation period by Transport for NSW on the location for the new bridge required over Lake Mulwala; and
2. THAT Council endorse a submission to be lodged in respect to Council’s preferred position of the green route for the new bridge required over Lake Mulwala based on the points as made in this report.

239/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Wales and Whitechurch:

1. THAT Council note the report on the public consultation period by Transport for NSW on the location for the new bridge required over Lake Mulwala; and
2. THAT Council endorse a submission to be lodged in respect to Council’s preferred position of the green route for the new bridge required over Lake Mulwala based on the points as made in this report.

7.5 SUBMISSION OF MINUTES FROM SECTION 355 COMMITTEE - OAKLANDS TOWN IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

Author: Adrian Butler, General Manager

Summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Minutes of the Section 355 Committee meeting of the Oaklands Town Improvement Committee, and consider the items for adoption, as recommended by the Committee.

Background

On 22 March and 7 June 2021 Oaklands Town Improvement Committee Section 355 Committee met to discuss items in relation to their delegated functions and purpose. The main items for discussion are the issues surrounding the state of some blocks of land in Oaklands, and relating law and order matters including numbers of horses on blocks, and people living in substandard conditions on blocks, and noise complaints such as generators running. Council's regulations staff along with NSW Police are working on these matters.

This committee has not met very often over the years, and it is very pleasing to see a re-elected Committee with a strong energy to meet more regularly and work with Council on current matters, and then also on more forward looking positive matters such as projects.

The minutes of this meeting are attached for inclusion in the Council meeting on 20 July 2021.

Community Engagement

The committee advertise notice of meetings, including their Annual General Meeting that adopted the new office bearers. The meetings are also open to the general public to attend.

Attachments

7.5.1 Oaklands Town Improvement Committee Meeting Minutes – 22 March 2021 – 21/24035.

7.5.2 Oaklands Town Improvement Committee Meeting Minutes – 7 June 2021 – 21/24097.

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Well Governed Federation

Outcome: *Strong civic leadership and governance supporting equity across communities and effective communication with residents.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 5.3 Ensure good governance and administration.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 5.3.21 Implement framework for supporting compliance with all Council committees.

Risks/Issues Raised

1. Status of Bore at Oaklands Pool;
2. Finance – Status of funds provided by Council;
3. Compliance Issues eg living on blocks without power and water, horses in town limits;
4. Request for basketball court for Oaklands youth;
5. Request for access from West Corugan for Stock and Domestic water access to Oaklands Lawn Cemetery; and
6. Request review of town skip bins and tip times.

Financial Implications

There are no additional financial implications as a result of adopting the recommendation in this report. Council does not have the financial resources to employ additional regulatory staff to manage the growing number of complaints in respect to possible illegalities on blocks, particularly in the smaller villages. This is something that will need to be addressed going forward.

Financial Sustainability

Adopting the recommendation in this report is considered to have a neutral impact on Council's Long Term Financial Sustainability.

Risk Implications

Council manages this risk through its normal policies and procedures.

Legal Implications

Council staff manage legal matters through appropriate measures and ensuring compliance with legislation and obtaining legal advice where necessary. This can sometimes not be understood by the community complainants, and the fact that in some areas, Council is limited in its powers.

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Council receive and note the Minutes of the Oaklands Town Improvement Committee dated 22 March 2021 (21/24035) and 7 June 2021 (21/24097); and
2. THAT Council note the risks/issues raised of the Oaklands Town Improvement Committee minutes dated 22 March and 7 June 2021 and follows up on areas under Councils control, and reports back to the Committee at the next meeting.

240/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Kennedy and Law:

1. THAT Council receive and note the Minutes of the Oaklands Town Improvement Committee dated 22 March 2021 (21/24035) and 7 June 2021 (21/24097); and
2. THAT Council note the risks/issues raised of the Oaklands Town Improvement Committee minutes dated 22 March and 7 June 2021 and follows up on areas under Councils control, and reports back to the Committee at the next meeting.

7.6 COUNCIL DECISION MAKING PRIOR TO THE SEPTEMBER 2021 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

Author: Adrian Butler, General Manager

Summary

This report formally notifies Council of the Caretaker Period for Council, commencing 6 August 2021, ahead of the September 2021 Local Government Elections.

Background

Councils are expected to assume a "caretaker" role during election periods to ensure that major decisions are not made which would limit the actions of an incoming council.

Councils, General Managers and other delegates of councils (other than a joint regional planning panel, a local planning panel or the Central Sydney Planning Committee) must not exercise the following functions during the caretaker period:

- Entering into any contract or undertaking involving an expenditure or receipt by the council of an amount equal to or greater than \$150,000 or 1% of the council's revenue from rates in the preceding financial year (whichever is the larger).
- Determining a "controversial development application", except where a failure to make such a determination would give rise to a deemed refusal, or such a deemed refusal arose before the commencement of the caretaker period.
- Appointing or reappointing the council's general manager (except for temporary appointments).
- In certain circumstances, these functions may be exercised with the approval of the Minister.

Key points

"Controversial development application" means a development application for designated development under section 4.10 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 for which at least 25 persons have made submissions during community consultation.

The caretaker period for the September 2021 local government elections commences on Friday 6 August 2021 and ends on Saturday 4 September 2021.

Restrictions on use of Council Resources during this period

Council officials must not use council resources, property (including intellectual property), and facilities for the purposes of assisting their election campaign or the election campaign of others unless the use is lawfully authorised and proper payment is made where appropriate.

In the 40 days preceding the election, councils need to consider whether their publications could amount to an "electoral matter".

Council officials must use council resources lawfully, ethically, effectively and carefully keeping in mind the council's code of conduct and other policies such as the policy on the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities to mayors and councillors.

"Electoral matter" is defined under clause 356A of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, and broadly includes any matter that is intended or likely to affect voting in an election. The name, photograph and likeness of a candidate fall within the definition of "electoral matter".

Council publications that promote the achievements of the council may also potentially fall within the definition of "electoral matter".

Under the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW, the following must not be used for the purpose of assisting anyone's election campaign:

- Council resources, property or facilities (unless the resources, property or facilities are otherwise available for use or hire by the public and any publicly advertised fee is paid for use of the resources, property or facility); and
- Council letterhead, council crests and other information that could give the appearance it is official council material.

Breaches of a council's code of conduct may result in disciplinary action.

Councils and council officials should be mindful of the need to maintain community confidence in the integrity of the performance of the council's functions and activities in the lead-up to elections. Councils should be mindful of how the community may perceive any of their activities or actions during this time.

Community Engagement

The Community will be informed via this Business Paper and the Livestream Council meeting, if interested.

Attachments

- 7.6.1 OLG Circular 21-12 "Electoral matter" and use of council resources prior to local government elections (21/24900)
- 7.6.2 OLG Circular 21-17 Council decision-making prior to the September 2021 local government elections (21/28048)

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Well Governed Federation

Outcome: *Strong civic leadership and governance supporting equity across communities and effective communication with residents.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 5.3 Ensure good governance and administration

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 5.3.2 Support NSW Electoral Commission process and conduct of Local Government election 2021.

Financial Implications

None foreseen.

Financial Sustainability

Adopting the recommendation in this report is considered to have a neutral impact on Council's Long Term Financial Sustainability.

Risk Implications

Managed adequately.

Legal Implications

By adopting this recommendation, Council will ensure compliance with the relevant legislation provided it adheres to the requirements outlined.

RECOMMENDED that Council note the report on entering into Caretaker Period prior to the September 2021 Council elections, and endorse the processes required to ensure compliance with the relevant legislation through this period.

241/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longley and Law that Council note the report on entering into Caretaker Period prior to the September 2021 Council elections, and endorse the processes required to ensure compliance with the relevant legislation through this period.

Adrian Butler (General Manager) left the meeting at 10.18 am.

7.7 REVIEW OF GENERAL MANAGER AND SENIOR STAFF REMUNERATION – CONSULTATION PAPER

Author: Rachelle Henson, Executive Assistant

Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise that the Minister for Local Government, has announced a review of general manager and senior staff remuneration. The project is titled - Review of General Manager Remuneration – Consultation Paper.

A consultation paper has been issued to seek the views of the local government sector and other stakeholders and the broader community.

Currently, councils are free to determine the remuneration they pay to their general managers and senior staff based on a range of considerations including the skills and experience applicants bring to the role, the size and operational complexity of the council, market conditions and industry benchmarks. Councils are required to publicly report on the remuneration they pay to their general managers and senior staff in their annual reports.

The consultation paper examines how executive remuneration is set in other jurisdictions and at other levels of government. It considers a range of options from maintaining the status quo through to introducing greater regulation of the remuneration councils may pay to their general managers and senior staff.

Background

Council should consider if they wish to make a submission on this paper. The paper and other information is available via the link below.

<https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Review-of-General-Manager-Remuneration-Consultation-Paper.pdf>

Extract from Paper –

Have your say - We now want to hear from you.

Key questions to consider

- *Do you think more regulation is needed in relation to how much councils pay their general managers?*
- *Why or why not?*
- *If yes, what should this regulation look like?*
- *Who should decide how much councils pay their general managers?*

Submissions may be made in writing by COB 9 August 2021 to the following addresses.

Post: Locked Bag 3015

NOWRA NSW 2541

Email: olg@olg.nsw.gov.au

Submissions should be labelled 'Review of General Manager Remuneration' and marked to the attention of OLG's Council Governance Team.

Submissions received by the Office of Local Government may be made publicly available at its discretion.

If submissions are made public, contact details will be redacted. The name of the person making the submission may be released unless the person has requested to remain anonymous. Any submissions received are also subject to the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009.

For more information, please contact OLG's Council Governance Team on (02) 4428 4100 or via email at olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.

Community Engagement

Undertaken by the Office of Local Government.

Attachments

7.7.1 Review of General Manager and Senior Staff Remuneration – Consultation Paper

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Well Governed Federation

Outcome: *Strong civic leadership and governance supporting equity across communities and effective communication with residents.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 5.3 Ensure good governance and administration.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – N/A

Financial Implications

Council has to budget each year for all wages including General Manager and Senior Staff remuneration.

Financial Sustainability

Council would need to determine a position on this matter to allow this section to be completed. If Council choose not to make a submission or support as an industry, the current general manager remuneration structure and provisions (not individually), this would not impact on Council's Long Term Financial Sustainability. Council's Long Term Financial Plan contains provision for the current structure.

Council would require an external resource to make this submission given the conflict of interest that the General Manager would have in preparing or assisting to prepare any such submission.

Risk Implications

None foreseen.

Legal Implications

None foreseen.

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Council note the report on the review of General Manager and Senior Staff Remuneration being conducted by the NSW Office of Local Government; and
2. THAT Council consider if it wished to make a submission on the review of General Manager and Senior Staff Remuneration being conducted by the NSW Office of Local Government and provide the General Manager with the information prior to the deadline to allow submission.

242/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Kennedy and Law:

1. THAT Council note the report on the review of General Manager and Senior Staff Remuneration being conducted by the NSW Office of Local Government; and
2. THAT Council consider if it wished to make a submission on the review of General Manager and Senior Staff Remuneration being conducted by the NSW Office of Local Government and provide the General Manager with the information prior to the deadline to allow submission.

Adrian Butler (General Manager) returned to the meeting at 10.25 am.

7.8 URANA CARAVAN PARK MANAGEMENT CONTRACT – REQUEST FOR INCREASED REMUNERATION

Author: Adrian Butler, General Manager

Summary

This report advised of a request from the Manager of the Urana Caravan Park, for an increase to the remuneration in the contract to manage the park. The request also proposes various other improvements recommended at the Park.

The current Manager has been managing the park since June 2019. The contract has a three year term, ending in June 2022.

Background

The report is recommended to be considered in the closed confidential section of the meeting, for commercial in confidence reasons as provided for under the Local Government Act 993 Section 10. The Manager will also address Council at the Briefing Session.

Community Engagement

N/A due to confidentiality reasons. The original tender was publicly advertised.

Attachments

7.8.1 Nil.

[Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework](#)

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Natural Federation

Outcome: *Sustainable rural landscapes and waterways offering tranquillity and attractive recreational spaces.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 3.1 *Provide quality recreational spaces.*

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 3.1.1 *Implement Parks and Reserves Maintenance program including Building Management, Caravan Parks, Parks & Presentation and Cemeteries.*

[Financial Implications](#)

Council would need to consider any increase in light of the current budget and if any additional funds were required, would be recommended to not increase until such time as another allocation was varied to support this.

[Financial Sustainability](#)

Depending on Council's final decision. Council currently does not have anything other than moderate increases in its Long Term Financial Plan for the management costs for this Caravan Park.

[Risk Implications](#)

Council will manage this through the process.

[Legal Implications](#)

Council needs to ensure compliance with the Local Government Act and Regulation especially with respect to tendering, and variations, and the contract clauses. Legal advice is being sought and will be available to Council on meeting day.

RECOMMENDED that Council defer report 7.8 Urana Caravan Park – Request for increase to Contract Remuneration to the closed session of Council in accordance with section 10A Part 2 of the Local Government Act and Clause 14.1 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice as the matters and information are the following:

- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

243/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longmire and Kennedy that Council defer report 7.8 Urana Caravan Park – Request for increase to Contract Remuneration to the closed session of Council in accordance with section 10A Part 2 of the Local Government Act and Clause 14.1 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice as the matters and information are the following:

- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

7.9 ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL PANEL OF CONDUCT REVIEWERS

Author: RAMJO – Authorised by Adrian Butler, General Manager

Summary

This report seeks Council's approval to appoint a regional panel of conduct reviewers as selected through the Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation (RAMJO), in line with the Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct (the Procedures).

Background

Section 440 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* requires that all councils and joint organisations adopt a Code of Conduct which incorporates the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct (the Code).

The Code states that Councils are required to establish a panel of Conduct Reviewers to inquire into alleged breaches of the Code by their Administrator, Mayor, Councillors or General Manager. Councils may establish their own panel, or they may enter into an arrangement with one or more other councils to share a panel.

RAMJO's (previously RAMROC "Riverina and Murray Regional Organisation of Councils") current regional panel of conduct reviewers will conclude their term on 30 June 2021, whereby the Council must appoint a new panel for a four-year term.

The RAMJO Board and General Managers agreed to participate in an Expression of Interest procurement process to acquire service providers capable of acting in this role. A review panel was formed consisting of Mr Philip Stone (General Manager Edward River Council), Ms Bridgett Leopold (RAMJO) and Ms Bella Thomas (RAMJO).

After evaluating the responses received, RAMJO proposes that Council establish a panel of conduct reviewers from the below list of providers.

Results of EOI Process

The review panel assessed the responses on a simple "meets / does not meet requirements" basis against the following five criteria:

- Experience in and knowledge of review of Code of Conduct Matters;
- Fee (including Hourly or Fixed Fees);
- Ability to prepare investigation reports, final decisions and recommendations;
- Qualifications, financial viability and capacity; and
- Based within RAMJO region.

A total of six responses were received, three from human resources/investigation agencies and another three from law firms. All six responses have passed the assessment and meet the required criteria as being capable of assisting in Code of Conduct matters. The details are provided in the closed session report.

Attachments

7.9.1 Nil.

[Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework](#)

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Well Governed Federation

Outcome: *Strong civic leadership and governance supporting equity across communities and effective communication with residents.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 5.3 *Ensure good governance and administration.*

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – N/A

[Financial Implications](#)

Councils budget processes allows for these processes to occur if required.

[Financial Sustainability](#)

Adopting this recommendation is considered to have a neutral impact on Council's Long Term Financial Sustainability.

[Risk Implications](#)

Managed as part of the process.

[Legal Implications](#)

The process to manage this is in accordance with the Local Government Act and Code of Conduct regulations.

RECOMMENDED that Council defer report 7.9 Establishment of a Regional Panel of Conduct Reviewers to the closed session of Council in accordance with section 10A Part 2 of the Local Government Act and Clause 14.1 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice as the matters and information are the following:

- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

244/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Wales and Whitechurch that Council defer report 7.9 Establishment of a Regional Panel of Conduct Reviewers to the closed session of Council in accordance with section 10A Part 2 of the Local Government Act and Clause 14.1 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice as the matters and information are the following:

- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

7.10 [URANA MULTI-PURPOSE HEALTH SERVICES \(HOSPITAL\) – DRAFT CLINICAL SERVICES PLAN TO SUPPORT A NEW FACILITY TO BE BUILT](#)

Author: Adrian Butler, General Manager

[Summary](#)

This report advised Council that the Murrumbidgee Health District (MLHD) have developed a draft Clinical Services Plan (CSP) that supports the development of a new Multi-Purpose Service (MPS)

(Hospital) for Urana. The existing MPS was built in the 70's and added to in the 80's and was the first of the MPS model built in the state.

The site therefore whilst still being functional, now no longer meets modern requirements, including for staff and patient safety, aged care management, and emergency areas.

The MPS is supported by a very good Manager and staff co-hort, and the local GP, provides Visiting Medical Officer services to the site.

Background

Council is (via the Mayor and General Manager from the pre-merger period) still a member of the Local Health Advisory Committee (LHAC). Attached is the Urana LHAC submission in support of the CSP. Whilst the LHAC is in general support, and it is very exciting to think at some stage in the future, a new facility will be built pending funding, the submission also includes some points around other desired features that should be considered in detailed planning.

Community Engagement

Undertaken by the Urana LHAC and MLHD.

Attachments

7.10.1 Urana LHAC reply to Urana MPS CSP 070721 Final Version

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Social Federation

Outcome: *Close knit and welcoming communities where people come together and support each other.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 4.2 Improve Healthcare.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Actions – 4.2.1 Facilitate networking meetings of key health stakeholders and practitioners to identify any gaps in health care provision.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Actions – 4.2.2 Advocate for health services that meet the needs of the community.

Financial Implications

N/A.

Financial Sustainability

N/A.

Risk Implications

N/A.

Legal Implications

N/A.

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Council note the report on the Urana Multi-Purpose Health Service draft Clinical Services Plan; and

2. THAT Council support the submission by the Urana Local Health Advisory Committee, by way of a letter to the Murrumbidgee Local Health District, in support of the draft Clinical Services Plan, to support construction of a new facility in the future.

245/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Kennedy and Longley:

1. THAT Council note the report on the Urana Multi-Purpose Health Service draft Clinical Services Plan; and
2. THAT Council support the submission by the Urana Local Health Advisory Committee, by way of a letter to the Murrumbidgee Local Health District, in support of the draft Clinical Services Plan, to support construction of a new facility in the future.

7.11 GENERAL MANAGER PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Author: Adrian Butler, General Manager

Summary

This report allows Council to consider the annual performance review conducted on Monday, 19 July, as required under the General Managers Employment Contract.

Background

Council has a Performance review committee that meets annually with the General Manager, facilitated by Local Government Management Solutions. A summary of this review is included in the confidential section of the business paper.

Community Engagement

N/A

Attachments

7.11.1 Nil.

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Well Governed Federation

Outcome: *Strong civic leadership and governance supporting equity across communities and effective communication with residents.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 5.3 Ensure good governance and administration.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – N/A

Financial Implications

Council budgets for the facilitation of the General Manager and Director reviews each year.

Financial Sustainability

Adopting this recommendation is considered to have a neutral impact on Council's Long Term Financial Sustainability.

Risk Implications

Managed as part of this process.

Legal Implications

Reviews are required as part of this contract.

RECOMMENDED that Council defer report 7.11 on the General Managers Performance Review to the closed session of Council in accordance with section 10A Part 2 of the Local Government Act and Clause 14.1 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice as the matters and information are the following:

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

246/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Law and Kennedy that Council defer report 7.11 on the General Managers Performance Review to the closed session of Council in accordance with section 10A Part 2 of the Local Government Act and Clause 14.1 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice as the matters and information are the following:

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

247/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longmire and Law that the meeting be adjourned for morning tea at 10.30 am.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING

248/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longmire and Kennedy that the meeting resumed at 11.02 am with all Councillors present.

**A BUTLER
GENERAL MANAGER**

8. DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

8.1 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

Summary

This report is to provide Council with an update on its financial performance for the month ending 30 June 2021.

Report

The accompanying report provides a summary of key financial results for the month ending 30 June 2021 in the following areas:

- Capital works program
- Debtors
- Cash balance
- Investments

Community Engagement

Community engagement was conducted on the draft Annual Budget and Long Term Financial Plan 2020-2030, with feedback considered by Council prior to the adoption of final plans. This report provides the community with information on Council's financial performance against the approved Annual Budget.

Attachments

8.1.1 Financial Performance Report for 30 June 2021 (21/27755)

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Well Governed Federation

Outcome: *Strong civic leadership and governance supporting equity across communities and effective communication with residents.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 5.3 Ensure good governance and administration.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 5.3.1 Implement Long Term Financial Plan and associated strategies.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 5.3.10 Demonstrate appropriate, effective and efficient financial services.

Financial Implications

The financial implications are contained within the attached report.

Financial Sustainability

Proceeding with this recommendation will have a neutral impact on Council's Long Term Financial Plan 2020-2030 financial sustainability ratios.

Risk Implications

This reporting increases accountability for the use of Council resources and reduces the risk of unfavourable financial performance in delivering on Council's Delivery Program and Annual Operational Plan.

Legal Implications

There are no anticipated legal implications from proceeding with this recommendation.

RECOMMENDED that Council note the financial performance report as at 30 June 2021.

249/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Law and Longley that Council note the financial performance report as at 30 June 2021.

8.2 MINUTES AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE - 11 JUNE 2021

Author: Heidi Neumeister, Governance Officer

Summary

Councils Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) met on 11 June 2021 to discuss and review improvement actions and financial aspects of Councils operations.

The Committee's recommendations are outlined in the minutes attached.

Note: The Committee has not yet endorsed the minutes as being a true and correct copy. These will be endorsed at its August 2021 meeting.

Minutes from the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 5 March 2021, submitted to Council at its 20 April Ordinary Meeting as a draft, were endorsed by the Committee on 11 June 2021 as being a true and correct copy and are now final.

Background

In 2016, the NSW Government proposed changes under the Local Government Act 1993 to require each council to establish an Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee. The Committee would keep under review key aspects of the council's operations including compliance, risk management, fraud control, financial management, governance, implementation of the strategic plan, delivery program and strategies, service reviews, collection of performance measurement data and any other matters as prescribed by the regulations.

The requirement to have an established Audit Risk and Improvement Committee was expected to take effect from March 2021 (within 6 months of the ordinary elections) with a further 8 core requirements to be rolled out once prescribed by 2026. The postponement of the elections due to COVID-19 may impact on this timeline which will also consider feedback from council's on the proposed changes, provided in 31 December 2019.

Federation Council's Audit Risk and Improvement Committee has been operational since September 2017. The Committee is currently appointed for the term of Council. The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee operates according to a Committee Charter adopted by Federation Council on 29 June 2017 and reviewed at least every two years. The most recent version was adopted by Council on 20 October 2020.

The Committee meets 5 times per year with one of the meetings dedicated to financial reporting. The Director Corporate and Community is the Chief Audit Executive.

Community Engagement

N/A.

Attachments

8.2.1 Draft Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Minutes – 11 June 2021 (21/24797)

8.2.2 Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Minutes – 5 March 2021 (21/6790)

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Well Governed Federation

Outcome: *Strong civic leadership and governance supporting equity across communities and effective communication with residents.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 5.6 *Provide operational efficiency and effectiveness to ensure a resilient and responsive organisation.*

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 5.6.11 *Provide Risk and Compliance Services.*

Financial Implications

Payments to Independent Committee members as budgeted. No change to existing budget required.

Financial Sustainability

Proceeding with this recommendation will have a neutral impact on Council's Long Term Financial Plan 2020-2030 financial sustainability ratios.

Risk Implications

There is a risk of non-compliance with the Guidelines under section 23A of the Local Government Act 1993 if Council fails to appropriately manage its Internal Audit functions.

There is a risk of overcommitting to improvement actions without additional resources to implement changes. This needs to be managed effectively through the internal audit plan which is currently under review for the next 3 year period.

Legal Implications

There is a risk of non-compliance with the Guidelines under section 23A of the Local Government Act 1993 if Council fails to appropriately manage its Internal Audit functions.

Without implementation: High

With implementation: Low

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Council receive and note the Draft Minutes of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 11 June 2021;

2. THAT Council receive and note the Minutes of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 5 March 2021 as being final; and
3. THAT the Minutes of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 5 March are uploaded to the Council's website in accordance with Schedule 1 Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2018.

250/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Whitechurch and Wales:

1. THAT Council receive and note the Draft Minutes of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 11 June 2021;
2. THAT Council receive and note the Minutes of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 5 March 2021 as being final; and
3. THAT the Minutes of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 5 March are uploaded to the Council's website in accordance with Schedule 1 Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2018.

8.3 COROWA TOURISM ADVISORY S355 COMMITTEE

Author: Gerard Van Emmerik, Manager Community and Economic Development

Summary

Council has determined to establish a Corowa Tourism Advisory Section 355 Committee. This paper is to update Council on the progress regarding its establishment and seek endorsement for its proposed membership.

Background

At its July 2020 Council meeting, Council endorsed a recommendation to support in principle the establishment of a new Tourism Advisory Committee for Corowa (Resolution 247/20FC). Since then a number of meetings have been held with a range of stakeholders to further develop the focus of the committee.

Subsequent to this, Council staff engaged with tourism and local businesses to develop a Terms of Reference for the Committee. This was developed and endorsed by Council at its December 2020 meeting (Resolution 430/20FC). Based on the consultation, it was agreed that the committee would consist of no less than six and not more than twelve members

- Up to 9 local business representatives aligned to Federation Council's key Tourism Pillars :
 - On the Water
 - Outdoor Adventure
 - Sport
 - History, Arts and Culture
 - Events and Festivals
 - Food and Drink
- Each Tourism Pillar can be represented by up to two members

Following on from the meeting, an expression of interest (EOI) was advertised for interested tourism operators to nominate for the committee. An initial EOI was advertised on 4 March 2021, closing on 31 March. At the close of the process there were seven responses. Two clearly met the criteria of on the water whilst one met the food and drink category. The other seven did not clearly meet any of the pillar categories. In addition there was an expression of interest from outside the Corowa township.

As a result it was decided that a further EOI period was advertised on 3 May 2021, and closed on 4 June, 2021. This time there were 12 nominations, which included the 7 held over from the initial EOI process. One expression of interest has since been withdrawn and has not been included.

Name	Business	Background/Interest in Committee	Pillar Represented	Location
Dean Druce	Corowa Whiskey and Chocolate	Owens and operates Corowa Whiskey and Chocolate	Food and Drink	Corowa
Stuart Whisson	Corowa Business Chamber	Has a great interest in the future of Corowa being heavily involved with many aspects involving council, events and preparation of events, chamber of commerce and community assistance.	Events and Festivals	Corowa
Stephen Kent	Corowa Business Chamber	Is keen to see Corowa make the most of its assets and in so doing help local businesses to be sustainable into the future	Events and Festivals	Corowa
Christine Kent	Corowa Business Chamber	Loves Corowa and would like to help promote it, because it has a lot to offer tourist. Would bring enthusiasm to help with whatever needs to be done.	Events and Festivals	Corowa
Robyn Holden	Design and Print	Background in Executive administration, Corporate Events and Marketing. She commenced a Facebook and Instagram page (Foodies Guide on the Murray) and began promoting locals on both sides of the river free of charge. It was well received and highlighted a number of issues which she would love to address.	Events and Festivals	Corowa

Name	Business	Background/Interest in Committee	Pillar Represented	Location
Julie Upton	Bindaree Holiday Park	I believe that tourism is the key to keeping Corowa alive and business thriving. Has a vested interest in seeing tourist coming to our town, as a part owner at Bindaree Holiday Park, but also because as a 40 year resident who love to see people succeed. Believes Corowa suffers when there is no tourists in town and wants to see everyone who is willing to run a business have a chance at succeeding. Believes she can bring valuable input to a Tourism advisory committee for Corowa.	Accommodation	Corowa
Leigh Booth	Balldale Hotel	As the owner of the Balldale Hotel and a long term visitor and new resident to the area, he is keen to ensure the continued growth in the region for the present and the future.	Food and Drink also Accommodation	Balldale
Dave Walton	Maverick Marine	Keen to promote Corowa	On the Water	Corowa
Geoff Mallows	Heritage Motor Inn	Has previously been involved on the Tourism Board for the Old Corowa Shire. He has a passion for tourism. He is also the President of the Corowa Festival of Dance which runs a 5 day Social Dance event on the NSW Labour day weekend and he realises the importance and value of the tourism dollar and to keeping guests in the area as long as possible.	Accommodation also Events and Festivals	Corowa
Craig Waldron	Waldron's IGA	Feels that tourism is important to Federation council's economy and this is an opportunity to help grow and improve the offer we have.	Food and Drink	Corowa

Name	Business	Background/Interest in Committee	Pillar Represented	Location
Brendan Kavanagh	Semi-Retired	Moved to Mulwala about 2 years ago partly to be nearer to children. We have visited this area including Albury on and off prior to moving here and fell in love with the area. Has a strong interest in what happens and often discuss possible improvements. Has a varied background including being self-employed as well as having worked in both local and state government, most recently for DELWP in the management of Crown land and, most recently, as the Manager, Fire Training & Capability, Port Phillip Region. In local government, was employed as the Manager of Recreation & Leisure Facilities	Nil	Mulwala

In terms of the pillar requirements there are three representing food and drink, four representing events and festivals, two representing accommodation, one representing on the water and one unspecified. In addition two were based outside of Corowa, one in Mulwala and the other in Balldale. In addition whilst accommodation is not recognised as a pillar, given the applications it is recommended that this be considered as a relevant pillar.

Given that the location of the participants ins not clearly referenced as a limiting factor in the terms of reference, in committee membership, staff liaised with the key businesses involved in establishing the committee to seek their views on the these issues. The consensus was that businesses from Balldale could be represented as there was currently no existing group or body that would represent their business. It was felt that other organisations such as Yarrawonga Mulwala Tourism and Business and the Howlong Progress Association Inc. would be best placed to support business / tourism operators in those towns and as such membership from the these towns should not be accepted. Whilst this is accepted it is important to note that there is a representative organisation for Balldale being the Balldale Town Improvement Inc organisation.

In addition there are a number of pillars not represented at all though the EOI's submitted (outdoor adventure, sport and history, arts and culture) whilst events and festivals are and food and drink are over represented.

Given the comments through the report and the criteria that up to nine businesses are represented, staff recommend that the EOI from Mr Kavanagh be excluded because he is outside of Corowa and not aligned to a tourism business or pillar. A further recommendation is that given there can only be nine members maximum and there is an over representation from the events and festivals pillar, it is recommended that a number of the events and festivals representatives be excluded.

As a consequence the recommendation is that rather than accept or reject any of the three representatives from the Corowa Business Chamber who have nominated as individuals, it is more prudent to allow the chamber events group to have a nominated representative. This way as office bearers' change, the group can still have representation. It would be up to the Corowa Chamber to nominate their representative from the existing EOI nominations.

Similarly there is an over representation from the food and drink pillar and it is recommended that Mr Waldron be excluded as he does not operate a specifically tourism focussed business whereas the other nominations do. This would bring the committee numbers to seven and the representation in the events and festival and food and drink area to two. This number allows room for members from the absent pillars to be added at a later stage.

Community Engagement

Specific engagement has occurred with a range of tourism related businesses in the early discussions around the committee and more broadly through the engagement process through the two expressions of interest processes.

Attachments

8.3.1 Terms of Reference - TOR - Corowa Tourism Advisory 355 Committee (21/26518)

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Economic Federation

Outcome: *Visitor Data will show yield from visitor data information.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 2.8 Increase Tourism.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action –2.8.5 Participate in opportunities for regional collaboration that drives visitation to the Riverina / Murray Region.

Financial Implications

The Council has committed a budget of \$10,000 to fund the activities recommended by the committee.

Financial Sustainability

Proceeding with this recommendation will have a neutral impact on Council's Long Term Financial Plan 2020-2030 financial sustainability ratios.

Risk Implications

None foreseen.

Legal Implications

Managed as part of Councils processes.

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Council note the contents of report Corowa Tourism Advisory S355 Committee; and
2. That Council endorse the recommendation for the following people to be members of the Corowa Tourism S335 Advisory Committee

➤ Dean Druce	Corowa Whiskey and Chocolate	Food and Drink
➤ Leigh Booth	Balldale Hotel	Food and Drink
➤ Corowa Chamber Events Committee		Festivals and Events
➤ Robyn Holden	Design & Print	Festival and Events
➤ Julie Upton	Bindaree Holiday Park	Accommodation
➤ Geoff Mallows	Heritage Motor Inn	Accommodation
➤ Dave Walton	Maverick Marine	On the Water
➤ Vacant		Outdoors
➤ Vacant		History, Arts and Culture

251/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longley and Kennedy:

1. THAT Council note the contents of report Corowa Tourism Advisory S355 Committee; and
2. That Council endorse the recommendation for the following people to be members of the Corowa Tourism S335 Advisory Committee

➤ Dean Druce	Corowa Whiskey and Chocolate	Food and Drink
➤ Leigh Booth	Balldale Hotel	Food and Drink
➤ Corowa Chamber Events Committee		Festivals and Events
➤ Robyn Holden	Design & Print	Festival and Events
➤ Julie Upton	Bindaree Holiday Park	Accommodation
➤ Geoff Mallows	Heritage Motor Inn	Accommodation
➤ Dave Walton	Maverick Marine	On the Water
➤ Vacant		Outdoors
➤ Vacant		History, Arts and Culture

3. THAT Council add Craig Waldron as an additional 'Food and Drink' pillar and the TOR be amended accordingly.

8.4 FEDERATION COUNCIL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Author: Gerard Van Emmerik, Manager Community and Economic Development

Summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Draft Federation Economic Development Strategy 2021-2025 for endorsement to enable it to be placed on public exhibition.

Background

At its March 2021 meeting, Council endorsed the awarding of a tender for the completion of the Federation Council Economic Development Strategy 2021-25 to Canberra based consultants Delos Delta Pty Ltd.

Since that time staff have been working with Delos Delta Pty Ltd to engage with relevant stakeholders and develop the draft strategy in line with the agreed project plan.

To date the following has been achieved:

1. Completed Research Report
2. Consultation Summary Report
3. Draft Economic Development Strategy

Still to be produced is the Strategy Implementation and Resourcing Plan which is underway (internal document).

Given the timing of the project process, officers are now pleased to provide Council with a copy of the draft strategy and gain their endorsement to place it on exhibition for the required 28 days to enable all stakeholders to have an opportunity to review and provide feedback prior to coming back to Council for adoption.

Community Engagement

Stakeholder engagement and consultation took place over the week commencing May 3, 2021 and consisted of the following

- Nine face to face consultation sessions in Corowa, Urana, Howlong and Mulwala including representatives, local business owners, regional, state and federal agency representatives, Council staff, Youth Council and community and business representatives.
- One on line session; and
- Seven one on one meetings with large businesses across a range of industry sectors
- On line surveys

Across these engagement opportunities, there were 120 face to face participants and 70 completed surveys, with responses all contributing feedback which has helped to shape the strategy.

Attachments

- 8.4.1 Final Project Plan - Federation Council Economic Development Strategy (21/26593)
- 8.4.2 Final Research Report - Federation Council Economic Development Strategy (21/26596)
- 8.4.3 Final Consultation Summary Report - Federation Council Economic Development Strategy (21/26599)
- 8.4.4 Draft Economic Development Strategy (21/26805)

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 ‘Our Community Our Opportunity’

Theme: Economic Federation

Outcome:

Census data will show that local population and employment rates (in target sectors) are increasing.

Visitor data will show that yield from increasing visitation numbers.

Economic data will show that lost retail expenditure from the local area has reduced.

Economic data will show that Gross Regional Product (GRP) for target sectors is increasing.

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal

2.1 Work toward achieving higher rates of population and employment growth, especially in youth and young family segments.

2.2 Support workforce development.

2.4 Support inward investment.

2.5 Support entrepreneurship and industrial diversification.

2.6 Support a collaborative regional approach to economic development.

2.7 Support the agricultural industry.

2.8 Increase tourism.

2.10 Support business development.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action

2.1.1 Conduct initiatives to support higher rates of population and employment growth, especially in youth and young family segments.

2.1.2 Ensure strategy and long term planning includes development of projects to achieve higher rates of population and employment growth, especially in youth and young family segments.

2.1.3 Ensure strategy and long term planning considers the development of new residential land to achieve higher rates of population and employment growth, especially in youth and young family segments.

2.2.1 Facilitate training opportunities to support industry development.

2.4.2 Lobby other levels of government for increased investment across the entire Council area.

2.5.2 Continue building and engaging with networks by industry sector.

2.5.4 Ensure strategy and long term planning considers development of industrial land projects.

2.5.5 Ensure an effective sales strategy is implemented for Council's Business Park land across the area, including Corowa, Howlong and Mulwala.

2.6.1 Facilitate local business support services.

2.6.2 Continue to convene industry meetings and attract supporting business and infrastructure.

2.6.3 Support operation of business chambers.

2.6.4 Support and encourage innovative industry trials and projects.

2.6.5 Provide support for incoming business/ investment enquiries.

2.6.6 Investigate support for and attraction of microbusinesses to the area.

2.6.7 Build relationships with government, education and industry peak bodies including NSW government agencies, Murray Regional Development Australia, and joint organisations.

2.6.8 Consider opportunities to work collaboratively with neighbouring Councils, tourism and business associations.

2.6.9 Progress opportunities from the Regional Economic Development Strategy.

2.6.10 Maintain membership with Murray Regional Tourism and Destination Riverina Murray and actively participate in regional initiatives.

2.6.11 Participate in relevant joint organisations.

2.7.1 Actively participate in agribusiness forums.

2.7.2 Implement findings and recommendations of agricultural industry gap analysis and feasibility study.

2.7.3 Provide effective and efficient Saleyard Management and Maintenance Services.

2.8.1 Maintain a destination website that promotes the products and experiences available in the region.

2.8.2 Deliver quality information services that meets the needs of visitors.

2.8.3 Continue to develop and market the electronic newsletter as a means for communicating with tourism stakeholders.

2.8.4 Continue to implement a marketing plan to promote the Federation Region as a holiday destination choice.

2.8.5 Participate in opportunities for regional collaboration that drives visitation to the Riverina / Murray Region.

2.8.6 Identify opportunities for product development that will drive visitation to the Federation region.

2.8.7 Advocate for investment in key tourism products, as per the Murray and Riverina Region Destination Management Plan.

2.8.8 Actively seek opportunities for external funding to support the development of key tourism product.

2.8.9 Implement the new North of the Murray Branding strategy.

2.8.10 Attract events to the region through the Event Sponsorship program. 2.10.1 Advocate for business development grants program.

2.10.2 Collaborate with local and regional business chambers and other business development organisations to achieve shared outcomes.

Financial Implications

Nil, funding for the development of the strategy was made available through the operational budget.

Financial Sustainability

Proceeding with this recommendation will have a neutral impact on Council's Long Term Financial Plan 2020-2030 financial sustainability ratios.

Risk Implications

In terms of timing it is important that the consultation can occur during the caretaker period, to ensure that the implementation of the strategy is not delayed. Not endorsing the strategy for exhibition would mean that the strategy is not able to be endorsed and implemented until November 2021 at the earliest.

Legal Implications

Nil.

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Council note the contents of the Federation Council Economic Development Strategy report; and
2. THAT Council endorse the draft Economic Development Strategy 2021-25 being placed on public exhibition on 21 July 2021, for a period of 28 days.

252/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Law and Longmire:

1. THAT Council note the contents of the Federation Council Economic Development Strategy report; and
2. THAT Council endorse the draft Economic Development Strategy 2021-25 being placed on public exhibition on 21 July 2021, for a period of 28 days.

8.5 SUBMISSION OF MINUTES FROM SECTION 355 COMMITTEE - FEDERATION ARTS COMMITTEE

Author: Gerard Van Emmerik, Manager Community and Economic Development

Summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Minutes of the Federation Arts Committee Section 355 Committee AGM and June 2021 meetings and consider the items for adoption, as recommended by the Committee.

Background

On 26 May 2021 the Federation Arts Committee Section 355 Committee held their AGM. In addition in a subsequent meeting held on 23 June 2021 they met to begin preparing for the 2021 Federation Art and Photo Prize exhibitions.

The minutes of these meetings are attached for inclusion in the Council meeting on 20 July 2021.

Community Engagement

Undertaken as part of processes.

Attachments

8.5.1 Federation Arts Committee AGM Minutes – 26 May 2021 (21/26307)

8.5.2 Federation Arts Committee Minutes – 23 June 2021 (21/26308)

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 ‘Our Community Our Opportunity’

Theme: Social Federation

Outcome: *Close knit and welcoming communities where people come together and support each other.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 4.10 Celebrate the areas rich culture and heritage.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 4.10.1 Support the work of the Arts and Culture Committee.

4.10.2 Develop a program of Arts & Culture initiatives that provides an opportunity for all sectors of the community to participate.

4.10.3 Consider opportunities for the installation of public art, in accordance with the Public Art Strategy.

4.10.4 Celebrate National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observation Committee (NAIDOC) Week.

4.10.5 Support local artists and galleries to foster a creative community.

4.10.6 Explore opportunities to develop Arts Trails in collaboration with key stakeholders.

Financial Implications

Funded within the budget.

Financial Sustainability

Adopting this recommendation is considered to have neutral impact on Council’s Long Term Financial Sustainability.

Risk Implications

None foreseen.

Legal Implications

None foreseen.

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Council receive and note the Minutes of the Federation Arts Committee AGM dated 26 May 2021 (21/26307);

2. THAT Council receive and note the Minutes of the Federation Arts Committee meeting dated 23 June 2021 (21/26308); and
3. THAT Council accept the recommendations of the Federations Arts Committee regarding new office bearers from their AGM.

253/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Law and Kennedy:

1. THAT Council receive and note the Minutes of the Federation Arts Committee AGM dated 26 May 2021 (21/26307);
2. THAT Council receive and note the Minutes of the Federation Arts Committee meeting dated 23 June 2021 (21/26308); and
3. THAT Council accept the recommendations of the Federations Arts Committee regarding new office bearers from their AGM.

8.6 COMPLETION OF ROUND 1 OF THE DROUGHT COMMUNITIES - EXTENSION PROGRAM

Author: Gerard Van Emmerik, Manager Community and Economic Development

Summary

Federation Council was invited to apply for an initial \$1 million in funding under the Federal Government's Drought Communities Extension Program to support communities impacted by drought. 14 projects were identified by Council and approved for completion. These projects have now been completed and the funding report submitted. Subsequently a further \$1 million was provided through the extension program and again 14 projects were identified for funding. At this stage only two of these projects remain incomplete.

Background

Twenty two representatives of the Federation Drought Committee met on 2 October 2019 to discuss a list of identified projects, nominate additional projects and provide feedback on the projects' ability to benefit the broader communities of Federation Council and meet the programs funding guidelines. Guidelines required that projects must have no less than \$25,000 of eligible expenditure and be completed by 30 June 2020. Projects also had to result in the employment of locals, contribute to the economic activity of the area or lead to the retention of business, services and facilities.

Nineteen projects were considered on the day with attendees assessing the projects based on the broad community and financial benefits and their ability to be completed by the programs completion date. The projects funded under round one included:

Infrastructure Projects

1. Urana Reliable Water Pipeline Project (\$250,000)
2. BOM Weather Station/s Installation (\$70,000)
3. Morundah Main Street Park Upgrade (\$25,000)

4. Boree Creek Park Sprinkler Installation (\$25,000)
5. Rand Recreation Reserve Toilet Upgrade (\$140,000)
6. Morundah Theatre Improvements (\$100,000)
7. Rand Town Improvement Projects (\$65,000)
8. Soil moisture data probes across the Federation Council (\$25,000)
9. Oaklands Cemetery Toilets (\$80,000)
10. Rand Memorial Hall Toilets (\$30,000)

Event Projects

11. Federation Council Breakfast Event Series (\$25,000)
12. Building Resilience in Federation Council – Event Series (\$70,000)
13. Sustainable Livestock Production – Drought & Recovery Events (\$25,000)
14. Soil Moisture Probe Measurement Event (\$25,000)

Industry Support

15. Drought Support Officer (\$45,000)

The round one projects were due to be completed by 30 June 2020, however as a result of the impacts of COVID-19, an extension was provided till 31 December 2020 with the final acquittal report being submitted by 1 March 2021. All round one projects have now been completed with the required final acquittal documentation having been submitted.

The event projects had strong outcomes. The AIM breakfast event series was an online event due to COVID. It resulted in 55 women in agriculture from within Federation Council being able to attend the event free of charge with a further 22 attending via web based sessions. In total 120 wellness hampers were also distributed to women across the Council area.

The Sustainable Livestock Production – Drought & Recovery Workshops saw 220 local agriculture industry representatives attend the five sessions spread across Coreen, Morundah, Urana , Oaklands and Corowa. The Building Resilience in Federation Council Event Series also had strong support with dozens of local farmers participating in the program.

A project report was completed at the conclusion of the round one projects and this is attached. The projects identified and funded under the second round of funding included the following:

Infrastructure Projects

1. Oaklands Bowling Green Resurfacing (\$150,000)
2. Daysdale Water Improvements (\$35,000)
3. Savernake Hall Upgrades (\$35,000)
4. Bruce Richardson Park (\$25,000)
5. Urana Bowling Green (\$180,000)
6. Boree Creek Hall (\$25,000)
7. Urana Aquatic Centre Reliable Water (\$115,000)
8. Boree Creek - Tim Fischer Park – Tim Fischer Statue (\$40,000)
9. Balldale Water – (\$200,000)
10. Wi-Fi Boosters for Community Halls and Farming Communities - (\$50,000)
11. Rand Bowling Club Upgrades (\$25,000)
12. New Pedestrian Bridge (\$50,000)
13. Urana Caravan Park Camp Kitchen Deck – (\$30,000)

Industry Support

14. Project Manager (\$50,000)

To date, all round two projects with the exception of the Urana Aquatic Centre Reliable Water and Balldale Water projects are complete. Delays in these projects have occurred through issues relating to regulatory compliance and access to qualified trades as a result of COVID-19. A further extension for these projects until 31 March 2022 has been requested and Council is awaiting formal notification of the outcome.

Community Engagement

Engagement with stakeholders has been ongoing since the initial meetings in October 2019. The feedback received by Council was a mix of project specific and general in nature.

Project Specific

- a) The GST component was not allowed for in project allocations to community projects. It was the view of many organisations that this should have been included.
- b) It was felt by many of the groups that the timing of information regarding timelines, funding deed obligations quoting and contracting should have been provided. One group identified that the time needed to factor in contractor lead times meant that their project only had a window of three months to be completed. They felt that a better idea of the timing may have resulted in different projects being put forward.
- c) A better spread of projects could have been considered. In round one particularly there were three toilet projects, two in the one town. There could have been a range of other projects considered given more time.
- d) Many groups felt it would have been preferable for Council to project manage all the projects, reducing the time commitment on community.
- e) It was also suggested that project control groups could have been established for each project. Whilst the Drought Officer did play a role in offering advice and support, a greater level of advice and support was preferred.
- f) The grant support and advice offered by Council was beneficial to many groups, who without the support would have made the projects more difficult to complete.

General Comments

- g) Many farmers involved in the early meetings, whilst appreciating the opportunity to recommend projects and offer advice in the early stages, would have preferred not to have to attend meetings face to face as the timing of meetings was not always convenient.

Attachments

8.6.1 Drought Extension Program - Round 1 Project Report (21/26900)

[Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework](#)

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Economic Federation

Outcome: *Census data will show that local population and employment rates (in target sectors) are increasing.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 2.2 Support workforce development.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 2.2.1 Facilitate training opportunities to support industry development.

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 2.6 Support a collaborative regional approach to economic development.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 2.6.2 Continue to convene industry meetings and attract supporting business and infrastructure.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 2.6.4 Support and encourage innovative industry trials and projects.

[Financial Implications](#)

The budget for the Round 1 projects was \$1million with \$1,000,145.34 being expended on the projects. The budget overrun was covered by Council.

[Financial Sustainability](#)

Proceeding with this recommendation will have a neutral impact on Council's Long Term Financial Plan 2020-2030 financial sustainability ratios.

[Risk Implications](#)

These were managed through the projects.

[Legal Implications](#)

Part of the requirements under the grant agreement is that Council must invite the relevant Minister/s to participate in an opening / launch event. The Federal government requires a minimum of three dates to be provided for consideration and a minimum of three months notice to ensure politician have enough time to get them into their diaries. Council could consider putting three dates forward for a celebration of the completion of round one projects or wait until the completion of Round 2 projects, scheduled for completion by 31 March 2022, and have a larger single event. Council could look to submit the relevant paperwork now to ensure an event can be held as soon as the Round 2 projects are complete.

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Council note the contents of the Completion of Round 1 of the Drought Communities - Extension Program report; and
2. THAT Council staff set a date to hold a completion event for the funded projects and host a single event for the two rounds of funding, allowing staff to meet existing reporting and grant agreement requirements.

254/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longmire and Kennedy:

1. THAT Council note the contents of the Completion of Round 1 of the Drought Communities - Extension Program report; and
2. THAT Council staff set a date to hold a completion event for the funded projects and host a single event for the two rounds of funding, allowing staff to meet existing reporting and grant agreement requirements.

8.7 URANA AQUATIC LEISURE CENTRE MANAGEMENT EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Author: Gerard Van Emmerik, Manager Community and Economic Development

Summary

The purpose of this report is to update Council on progress made with regards to the ongoing management arrangements for the newly opened Urana Aquatic Centre (UAC) Building and for Council to endorse a recommendation regarding ongoing management of the centre.

Background

On 30 March 2021, Council advertised an expression of Interest (EOI) relating to the management of the Urana Aquatic Centre. The EOI process closed on 16 April 2021.

At its closing date the process resulted in one application being received. Since then Council staff have undertaken a range of meetings and other discussions regarding the content in the application to gain clarity on the implications of Council.

Community Engagement

As indicated a EOI for management of the UAC was advertised on 30 March 2021.

Attachments

8.7.1 Nil.

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 ‘Our Community Our Opportunity’

Theme: Built Federation

Outcome: *Maintained and improved infrastructure that meets the needs of residents and industry.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 1.2 Maintain and improve aquatic, recreational and other community facilities to meet the needs of residents.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 1.2.1 Implement Capital Works Program to address priority facility needs.

Financial Implications

There are financial implication of Council which are identified in a confidential report.

Financial Sustainability

Proceeding with this recommendation will have a neutral impact on Council’s Long Term Financial Plan 2020-2030 financial sustainability ratios.

Risk Implications

Council is managing the risk associated with this process through external probity advice.

Legal Implications

There has been no formal legal advice sought, however Council did engage an independent Probity Officer through the process to ensure compliance given the proposed contract could be considered of high risk or of a controversial nature.

RECOMMENDED that Council defer report 8.7 on the Urana Aquatic Centre Management EOI to the closed session of Council in accordance with section 10A Part 2 of the Local Government Act and Clause 14.1 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice as the matters and information are the following:

- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

255/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Law and Kennedy that Council defer report 8.7 on the Urana Aquatic Centre Management EOI to the closed session of Council in accordance with section 10A Part 2 of the Local Government Act and Clause 14.1 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice as the matters and information are the following:

- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

8.8 STRONGER COUNTRY COMMUNITIES FUND (SCCF) - ROUND 4

Author: Gerard Van Emmerik, Manager Community and Economic Development

Summary

This report advises staff were unable due to time constraints and a lack of plans, to submit projects as agreed on at the June Council meeting as follows.

Federation Council resolved on 15 June (199/21FC) to make application for identified projects under the SCCF Round four. These projects were:

- Urana Caravan Park Improvement Project
- Urana and Oaklands Medical Centre Upgrades
- Federation Council Shade Sail Project

Applications for each of these projects were progressed to a point where all of the information available for each project was compiled and draft applications were composed. With applications due at 12pm on Friday 25 June, project teams were given as much time as possible (until 10.30am on the day of submission) to provide the required detail around project planning and budgetary requirements to grants staff. Unfortunately this information was not able to be provided by the project managers and as such, a decision was taken that the draft applications did not reach the standard required to result in a successful application to the NSW State Government.

Submitting partial or incomplete applications poses a legitimate reputational risk for Council in future grants processes and as a result the decision was made not to submit.

As a result of progressing draft applications to this point, the grants team will continue to gather the required information to ensure that strong applications are able to be submitted to future grant opportunities.

Council staff will continue to explore opportunities for funding opportunities for the identified projects, along with other targeted projects, through all possible means including other NSW State Government funds, Federal Government funding and other forms of investment and collaboration.

Background

Federation Council has received funding in the first three rounds of the Stogner Country Communities Fund (SCCF) for a range of projects both managed directly by Council, and in conjunction with community groups.

SCCF Round 1
\$1,067,714 (3 projects)

SCCF Round 2
\$3,308,776 (15 projects)

SCCF Round 3
\$559,867 (1 project)

Council also resolved at its meeting on 15 June 2021 (199/21FC) that it would also provide support other community/organisation lodged applications for projects.

Community Engagement

Council supported a number of community applications to the SCCF through initially holding a community grants workshop in the weeks leading up to applications closing. This workshop, held at the Corowa Civic Bowls Club had twenty residents attend from across the Council area. A video of the presentation was subsequently uploaded to the Council website and sent to all participants.

Where community groups decided to submit applications to the program, Council provided letters of support and/or landowners' consent forms. Council was also active in supporting applications by providing feedback and strategic support in the development of a number of community applications. These included:

- Corowa Rutherglen Football Netball Club
- Howlong Cricket Club
- Howlong Golf Resort
- Mulwala Progress Association
- Oaklands Recreation Reserve
- Rand Town Improvement Committee

Attachments

8.8.1 Nil.

[Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework](#)

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Well Governed Federation

Outcome: *Strong civic leadership and governance supporting equity across communities and effective communication with residents.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 5.2 *Work toward the equitable servicing of all areas*

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 5.2.3 Continue to actively seek grant funding for a range of projects across the council area

[Financial Implications](#)

Whilst there has been no direct impact on Council through the non submission of applications, it does result in a loss of **potential** grant funding, of up to \$510,000.

[Financial Sustainability](#)

Proceeding with this recommendation will have a neutral impact on Council's Long Term Financial Plan 2020-2030 financial sustainability ratios.

[Risk Implications](#)

Councils project risks are managed as part of the Council processes.

[Legal Implications](#)

N/A.

RECOMMENDED that Council note the report on the Stronger Country Communities Fund (SCCF) - Round 4.

256/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longmire and Wales that Council note the report on the Stronger Country Communities Fund (SCCF) - Round 4.

8.9 [FEDERATION COUNCIL GRANT MANAGEMENT POLICY](#)

Author: Gerard Van Emmerik, Manager Community and Economic Development

[Summary](#)

The purpose of this report is to advise Council on the development of the Grant Management Policy and to seek endorsement for it to go out for public exhibition prior to final adoption once finalised.

This Policy documents Council's approach to grant seeking and outlines how Council maximises the benefits to the Federation Council by taking an organisation wide approach through targeting efforts to priority projects and managing the risks associated with the grants process.

Council receives grant allocations and actively seeks grant funds for both recurrent and non-recurrent activities, operational and capital works projects. Incoming grants comprise roughly a third of Council's revenue and administration activities need to be proactively managed. Doing so enables Council to meet community expectations and maximise benefit to the Federation region within its existing capacity.

Grant seeking success is directly linked to an application's competitiveness and the applicant's past record in both project and grant management. Successful applications share basic characteristics:

- The application is well planned.
- The proposed project is included in Council's strategic/operational plans. (Applications that reflect Council priorities are more competitive.)
- The project is developed to investment ready status.
- The applicant and project are both eligible for the funding.
- The application requirements are met.

The development of investment-ready projects and competitive applications requires Council to draw on its existing resources. Where resources are limited, it is imperative that Council develops projects in a well-targeted manner.

This approach is consistent with Council's project and program planning system in which there will always be projects being developed and delivered in line with Council's strategic priorities. As a result, Council will maintain a list or 'pipeline' of projects from early concept through to investment-ready (seeking funding), delivery and completion stages. This approach will deliver clearly defined projects that support Council to secure funding for these projects.

Background

In conjunction with members of the Community and Economic Development team, Council's Grant Management Policy has been developed over the period of the last 12 months.

Council has made an undertaking through its Community Strategic Plan to support community priorities and objectives and has committed actions in its Delivery Program requiring it to seek opportunities for grant funds through a variety of avenues.

Since amalgamation, Council has received many grants that have provided funds for minor and major projects across the LGA. The number of grants received and the possibility of further opportunities has influenced the need to ensure all grants are managed in a compliant, effective and efficient manner. It is also imperative that projects that may present future grant opportunities are identified and developed in readiness for application once grant funding becomes available.

Community Engagement

It is intended that the Grants Policy be placed on public exhibition, ensuring that members of the community can both review and provide feedback to the policy prior to adoption.

Attachments

8.9.1 Grant Management Policy (21/10990)

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Well Governed Federation

Outcome: *Strong civic leadership and governance supporting equity across communities and effective communication with residents.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 5.2 *Work toward the equitable servicing of all areas*

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 5.2.3 *Continue to actively seek grant funding for a range of projects across the council area.*

Financial Implications

The Grant Management Policy potentially can improve and drive positive financial outcomes for Federation Council through ensuring a more streamlined grants process which equates to the development of more robust and effective applications and ensuring that funding opportunities are not missed via poor planning or preparation internally at Council.

Financial Sustainability

Proceeding with this recommendation will have a neutral impact on Council's Long Term Financial Plan 2020-2030 financial sustainability ratios.

Risk Implications

Will assist in risk management.

Legal Implications

Will assist in managing legal risks.

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Council note the report on Federation Council Grant Management Policy; and
2. THAT Council endorses the Grant Management Policy for a 28 day exhibition period for public feedback.

257/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Kennedy and Longley:

1. THAT Council note the report on Federation Council Grant Management Policy; and
2. THAT Council endorses the Grant Management Policy for a 28 day exhibition period for public feedback.

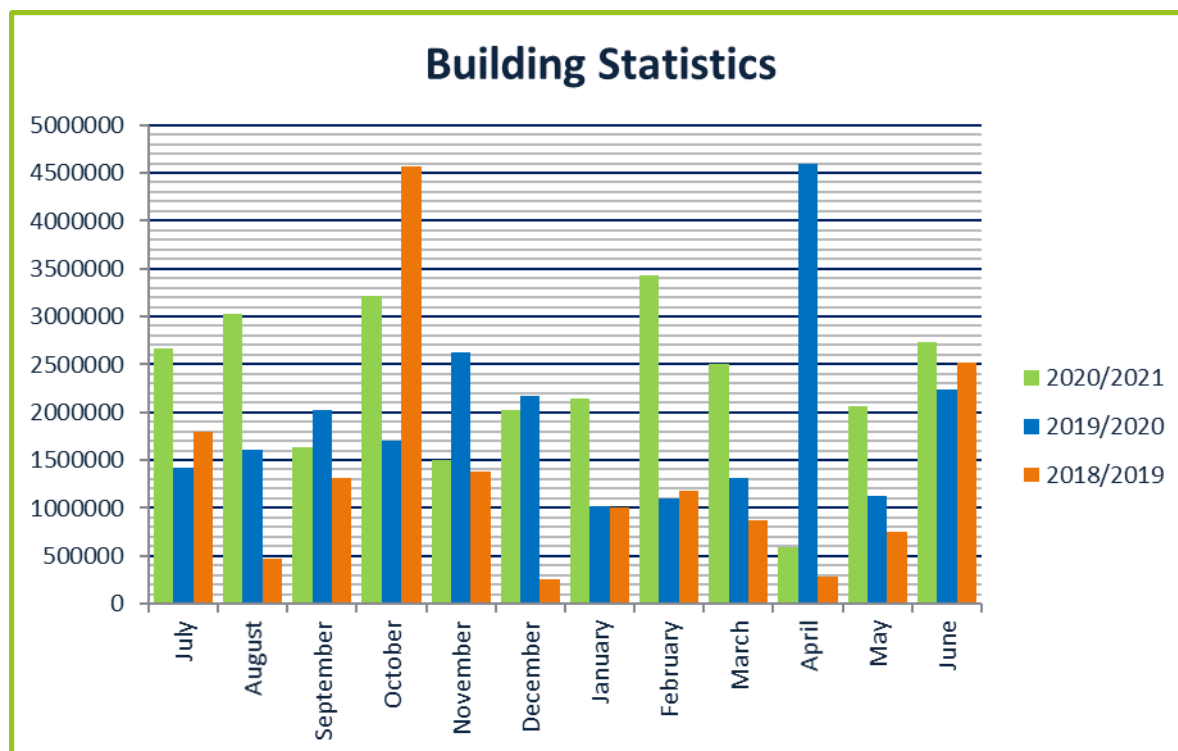
J SHANNON
DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

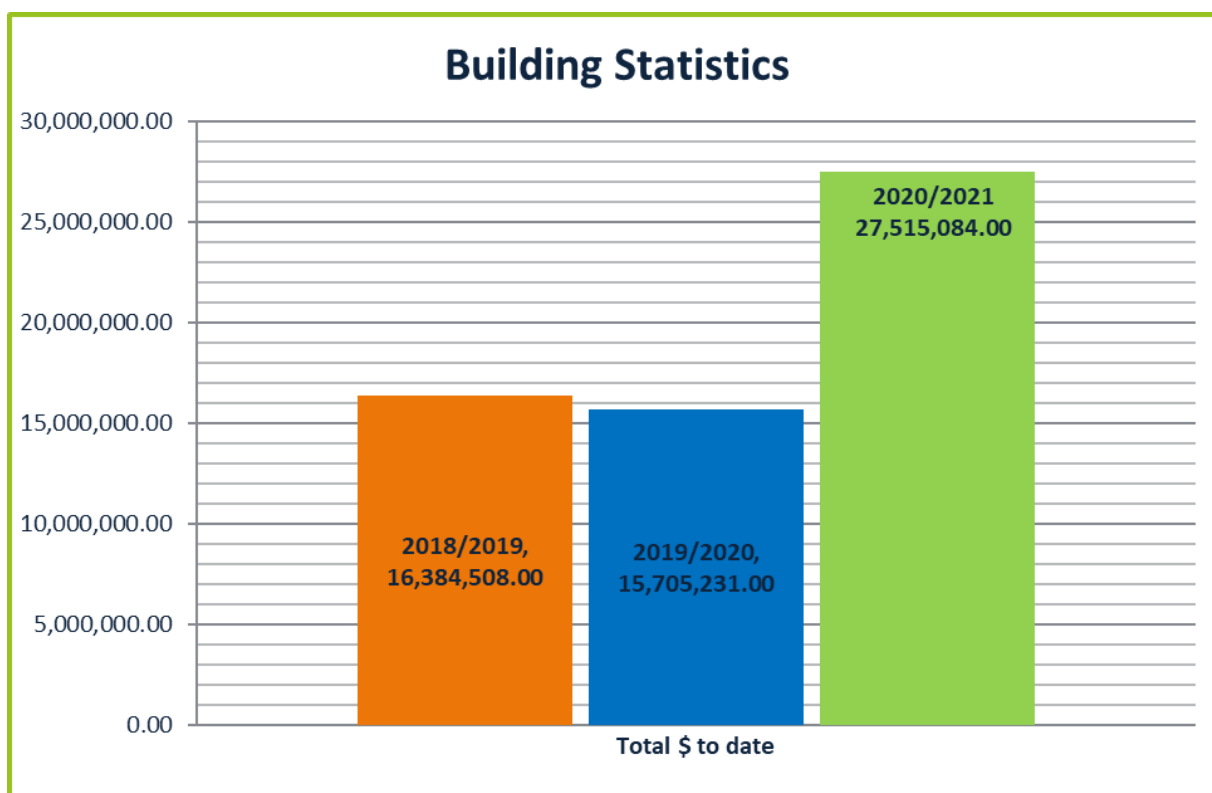
9. DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT

9.1 BUILDING APPROVALS – COMPLYING AND CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATES APPROVED

This report provides for Councils information, the construction and complying development certificates issued in the month of June 2021. The report also includes graphs on the value of works approved, over the last three financial years. These graphs show that building activity is continuing to grow each year, which is a positive indicator for the local economy and developer confidence.

2021/93	109-121 Sanger Street Corowa	Alterations & Additions
2021/113	93 River Street Couth Corowa	Shed
2021/111	14 Cypress Way Mulwala	Dwelling with garage
2021/65	13 Kywong-Howlong Road Howlong	Shed & Rainwater Tank
2017/106/2	186-196 Melbourne Street Mulwala	Reconfiguration of northern end of caravan park
2021/112	1755 Merton Road Mulwala	Farm Shed
2021/106	18 O'Brien Court Corowa	Shed
2021/108	58 Defence Drive Mulwala	Industrial Shed
2021/114	48 Defence Drive Mulwala	Industrial Shed
2021/96	21 Defence Drive Mulwala	Storage Shed, Office & Amenities
2021/117	13 Kingfisher Drive Mulwala	Garage
2021/115	37-39 Erne Street Mulwala	Demolition & construction of new shed
2019/158/2	211 Melbourne Street Mulwala	Pool Pavilion, Deck, Laundry & Toilet Facilities
2021/73	1755 Merton Road Mulwala	Dwelling, Multi-purpose room, Garage & Garden Shed
2021/118	32 Cypress Way Mulwala	Shed
2021/120	47-53 Romney Street Mulwala	Shed
2021/71	13 Parliament Street Corowa	Dwelling
2021/518	10 Marie Court Howlong	Dwelling





[Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework](#)

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 ‘Our Community Our Opportunity’

Theme: Built Federation

Outcome: *Maintained and improved infrastructure that meets the needs of residents and industry.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 1.7: *Consistent and appropriate land use planning outcomes.*

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 1.7.1: *Provide Building Control and Planning Services.*

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Council note the report on construction/complying development certificates issued since the June 2021 Ordinary Council meeting; and
2. THAT Council pass on their congratulations to the Planning and Development team and other staff involved including Engineering team on this very high number of approvals being issued.

258/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longley and Whitechurch:

1. THAT Council note the report on construction/complying development certificates issued since the June 2021 Ordinary Council meeting; and
2. THAT Council pass on their congratulations to the Planning and Development team and other staff involved including Engineering team on this very high number of approvals being issued.

9.2 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS APPROVED UNDER DELEGATED (STAFF) AUTHORITY SINCE THE 1 JUNE 2021 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 June 2021 Ordinary Council meeting.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION REGISTERED NO. 2021/105

Application for a 2 lot subdivision on general industrial land being Lot 32; DP1133854; 1-6 Cobar Court, Corowa.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION REGISTERED NO. 2021/68

Application for a 2 lot subdivision on general residential land being Lot 7; Section 35; DP758296; 1-5 Martin Street, South Corowa.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION REGISTERED NO. 2021/30

Application for a dwelling on low density residential land being Lot 110; DP125963; 3 Lara Close, Mulwala.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION REGISTERED NO. 2021/88

Application for a dwelling on low density residential land being Lot 16; Section 21; DP758269; 194 Church Street, South Corowa.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION REGISTERED NO. 2021/109

Application for the removal of a church on general residential land being Lot 20; Section B1; DP978429; 23 Albert Street, Corowa.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION REGISTERED NO. 2021/101

Application for a dwelling on general residential land being Lot 2; DP1235748; 73 Jude Street, Howlong.

[Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework](#)

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Built Federation

Outcome: *Maintained and improved infrastructure that meets the needs of residents and industry.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 1.7: *Consistent and appropriate land use planning outcomes.*

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 1.7.1: *Provide Building Control and Planning Services.*

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 June 2021 Ordinary Council meeting.

259/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longmire and Kennedy 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 June 2021 Ordinary Council meeting.

9.3 REGIONAL AND STATE SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS LODGED

Summary

This report provides for Council's information, the Development Applications lodged with Council, that have been assessed based on the information presented on lodgement, to be Regionally or State significant. These applications are required to be determined by the Western Joint Regional Planning Panel (JRPP) for regionally significant applications, or by the State Government for State significant applications. Council staff have a role in regionally significant applications, to assess the applications and present a report to the JRPP for their determination. Council is consulted on State significant applications but do not assess those.

As the applications progress, the table will be updated for each Council meeting, to reflect any approvals issued and any new applications lodged. Those applications then listed as approved won't appear the following month.

STATE SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT 8804 –

Application for Howlong Sand and Gravel Quarry Expansion on RU1 - Primary Production and E3 Environmental Management land comprising Lots 173, 174, 174A & 231, DP 753744, Lot 1, DP 1039973, Lot 1, DP 798291, Lots 3 & 4, DP 113703, Lot 1 DP 741037 and two Unnamed Crown Roads – Additional Information requested from a number of agencies, including Council.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION REGISTERED NO. 2020/37 - REGIONAL

Application for Concept Development for residential Subdivision development total 495 Lots and detailed Stage 1 approval for 106 Lots on R1 – General Residential land being Lots 1&2, DP 1082130; Lots 69, 70, 71, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, DP 752290: Lot 2 DP600973 & Lots 6 & 7 DP 253594 - North Street and Tocumwal Road, MULWALA NSW 2647– Briefing session with Western Regional Planning Panel Scheduled for 23 July 2021.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION REGISTERED NO. 2021/259 - REGIONAL

Application for 5MG Solar Farm on E3 – Environmental Management land being Lots 2, DP 842047 - 7 Wemyss Road, Mulwala NSW 2647– On exhibition until 4 August 2021.

[Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework](#)

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Built Federation

Outcome: *Maintained and improved infrastructure that meets the needs of residents and industry.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 1.7: *Consistent and appropriate land use planning outcomes.*

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 1.7.1: *Provide Building Control and Planning Services.*

RECOMMENDED that Council note the July 2021 update report on the Regional and State Significant Development Applications Lodged.

260/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Law and Kennedy hat Council note the July 2021 update report on the Regionally Significant Development Applications Lodged.

9.4 PLANNING PROPOSAL FOR PREPARATION OF FEDERATION LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN

Author: Susan Appleyard, Director Development and Environmental Services

Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise that a draft planning proposal has been prepared to facilitate preparation of a Local Environmental Plan (LEP) for the Federation Local Government area, and to seek Council endorsement to refer this to the Minister.

The Federation LEP will be a consolidation of the Corowa and Urana LEPs, and it will integrate updated flood planning for Daysdale, Urana – Boree Creek, Morundah, Oaklands, Rand and Urana Villages and the Murray River towns [Howlong, Corowa & Mulwala].

The current LEPs are similar having both been prepared in accordance with the State mandated standard LEP template but have differences in their controls and land use tables. The proposed Federation LEP is administrative with its key purpose being to harmonise the LEPs and create a single planning instrument, rather than make any fundamental changes.

It is recommended that the Draft Federation LEP 2021 be endorsed by Council to proceed to the next stage for a Gateway Determination.

Background

Federation Council was proclaimed on 12 May 2016, comprising of the former Shires of Corowa and Urana. Federation Council is operating under two separate local environmental plans (LEPs), which represent the planning controls prior to amalgamation. These being:

- i) Corowa Local Environmental Plan (CLEP) 2012, which applies to land in the former Corowa Shire area
- ii) Urana Local Environmental Plan (ULEP) 2011, which applies to land in the former Urana Shire area

From August 2019 until February 2020 community consultation was undertaken to inform the preparation of the new Federation LEP. This was included as part of Federation's Local Strategic Planning Statement with Planning Priorities 1 & 2 both including the Action 'Develop a new Federation Local Environmental Plan (Short-Medium Term)'.

The new LEP is not intended to be a comprehensive review of all planning controls, but a consolidation of the existing LEPs applicable across the Federation local area. The approach prioritised consistency across land use policies and development controls. However, where this was not possible the approach was either to use the Standard Instrument LEP wording, adopt the 'best-fit' option, or under extenuating circumstances introduce a new policy/planning approach.

Amendments made during the consolidation of the Local Environmental Plans include:

1. New LEP Aims
2. New Minimum Lot Size objectives
3. Increase in length of time for temporary use of land to 100 days
4. New provisions for total floor area of secondary dwellings
5. Increase in relevant distance for development near zone boundaries to 50 metres
6. Changes to miscellaneous permissible uses to adopt higher values

7. Merging provisions of Riparian land and waterways (Urana) and Development on river front areas (Corowa)
8. Minor changes to the permissibility of Intensive Plant Agriculture, Roads, Water Reticulation Systems, and Home Industries/ Home Businesses.
9. Applying both RU1 and E3 zones for clause 'Erection of dwelling housing on land in certain rural and environmental protection zones'.
10. Zone R5 Large Lot Residential being made a closed zone.
11. Correcting mapping anomalies to Land Zoning and Lot Size Maps

The Draft Federation LEP does not seek to introduce any new zones or remove any existing zones.

SUSTAINABILITY

The planning proposal will make limited changes to the planning framework, with no change to sustainability outcomes.

STATUTORY COMPLIANCE/POLICY

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT 1979

Section 3.33 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (the Act)* requires the planning proposal authority (Council) to prepare an explanation of and justification for the proposed LEP. The attached planning proposal satisfies that requirement.

Section 3.34 of the Act requires Council to forward the planning proposal to the Minister to obtain a gateway determination. Should Council adopt the recommendation of this report the planning proposal will be sent to the Minister to obtain his determination.

FEDERATION COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT

Planning Priority 1 – Consistent Approach to Land Use Planning

Actions:

1. Develop a new Federation Local Environmental Plan. (*Short-Medium Term*)

Financial Implications

No additional implications, funded through budget. Funding for the preparation of the planning proposal has been provided by the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. Existing resources will be utilised for exhibition and delivery of the proposal, consequently no additional funding is required.

Financial Sustainability

Proceeding with this recommendation will have a neutral impact on Council's Long Term Financial Plan 2020-2030 financial sustainability ratios.

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Built Federation

Outcome: *Maintained and improved infrastructure that meets the needs of residents and industry.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 1.7 Consistent and appropriate land use planning outcomes – transparent and accessible information on land use planning outcomes.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 1.7.3 Provide Development Assessment Services.

Risk Implications

Managed through the project. There are manageable risk implications for Council associated with this report. Changes to the permissibility of certain types of development may affect potential development options, however the range of permitted uses remains wide and continues to facilitate the suitable use of land. Should Council choose not to proceed with consolidation, the approach to lodging and assessing applications for development across the LGA will continue to be inconsistent and lengthy. It will also prevent Council from implementing Action 1 of the Federation LSPS and limit compliance with Objective 1.7 of the Community Strategic Plan.

Legal Implications

As above.

Community Engagement

Upon Gateway approval, the Draft LEP will be placed on public exhibition for the mandatory period of 28 days.

OPTIONS

1. Retain two separate Local Environmental Plans
This option is not supported. It is important for the Federation community to have a set of controls reflective of the entire LGA, which is simplified and enables a consistent approach to development.
2. Merge the two Local Environmental Plans

CONCLUSION

Preparation of a new LEP for Federation will result in a single policy document for Council and the community. It will also enable the controls in the current LEPs to be harmonised where appropriate, as well as reflecting the direction that Council and the community wish to take.

It is recommended that Council endorse Option 2: Merge the Corowa LEP 2012 and the Urana LEP 2011.

Attachments

- 9.4.1 The planning Proposal for the Draft Federation Local Environmental Planning Plan 2021 with associated documentation:
Attachment 1 – LEP Comparison Table
Attachment 2 – Land Use Matrix
Attachment 3 – Draft Local Environmental Plan Maps

RECOMMENDED that the Planning Proposal for the preparation of Federation Local Environmental Plan be referred to the Minister in accordance with section 3.34 Gateway Determination of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

261/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Kennedy and Law that the Planning Proposal for the preparation of Federation Local Environmental Plan be referred to the Minister in accordance with section 3.34 Gateway Determination of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

9.5 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION 2020/162 – CLASS 1 APPLICATION TO THE NSW LAND AND ENVIRONMENT COURT - UPDATE

Author: Susan Appleyard, Director Development and Environmental Services

Summary

This report provides an update on the Class 1 Application to the NSW Land and Environment Court, for Development Application 2020/162.

Background

A class 1 proceeding was lodged on 22 December 2020.

The appeal was against the respondent (Federation Council's) deemed refusal of Development Application No. 2020/162, lodged 1 May 2020, as amended 5 August 2020, for –

the subdivision of 335 residential lots to be delivered in 13 stages, removal of native vegetation, demolition of existing buildings, creation of three public reserves for the purposes of drainage and public open space and associated civil works at 169-199 Redlands Road and 42-80 Cemetery Road, Corowa.

Orders Sought

1. The appeal is upheld.
2. Development Application No. 2020/162 for the subdivision of 335 residential lots to be delivered in 13 stages, removal of native vegetation, demolition of existing buildings, creation of three public reserves for the purposes of drainage and public open space and associated civil works including earthworks, drainage works and construction of roads at 169-199 Redlands Road and 42-80 Cemetery Road, Corowa.
3. The Respondent is to register the development consent granted in relation to Development Application No. 2020/162 on the NSW Planning portal within 14 days of the date of these orders.
4. The Respondent is to public a notice of the development consent granted in relation to the Development Application NO 2020/162 on its website in accordance with Clause 124 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 (NSW) within 14 days of the date of these orders.

On 4 May 2021 the Section 34 Conciliation Conference commenced.

On 3 and 9 June 2021 negotiation sessions were held between the parties.

On 15 June 2021 both parties agreed that the section 34 conciliation conference should be terminated and the Court was advised.

On 22 June 2021 a Directions hearing was held. The short minutes of order from that meeting are provided as an attachment.

STATUTORY COMPLIANCE/POLICY

The Conciliation conference and associated negotiations were undertaken without prejudice in accordance with Section 34 of the Land and Environment Court Act 1979. This means that the details of the conference and the negotiations were confidential.

As the matter will now be determined by the Court the details from this point on can be made public and will be available to the public via the Court website.

From the Short Minutes of Order the following key details are noted:

1. The hearing dates are set for the 20-22 September 2021.
2. The hearing will commence on site day 1 at 10am. (Dependent on COVID-19 restrictions allowing this, with Sydney Court attendants/commissioner etc. involved).
3. Applicant is seeking leave to rely on amended plans and additional information to be provided by 31 July 2021.
16. The respondent consent authority is to file and serve notice of objectors who wish to give evidence in the hearing.

All parties that made an objection to DA2020/162 will be advised the provisions from the Short Minutes of order noting the 4 items above.

Community Engagement

Council is providing information as required and allowable and as legally advised (due to some issues being required for legal reasons in the early proceedings to be kept confidential. Now the matter is going to an open Court hearing, Council can make information more readily available. Council also continues to engage with local representative group, the Corowa Community Action Group.

Attachments

9.5.1 Short Minutes of Order

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 ‘Our Community Our Opportunity’

Theme: Built Federation

Outcome: *Maintained and improved infrastructure that meets the needs of residents and industry.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 1.7 Consistent and appropriate land use planning outcomes – transparent and accessible information on land use planning outcomes.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 1.7.3 Provide Development Assessment Services.

Financial Implications

The full cost of the proceedings is unknown. The Town planning legal budget allocation will be utilised for the proceedings with a budgetary updated to be provided at the October 2021 meeting of Council. Council continues to seek advice on if recovery of costs can be sought should Council be successful in this case.

Financial Sustainability

Adopting this recommendation is considered to have a neutral impact on Council’s Long Term Financial Sustainability.

Risk Implications

Risks are managed in line with legal advice and Councils risk management processes.

Legal Implications

Council has required significant legal advice on this matter and continuing.

RECOMMENDED that Council note the report on Development Application 2020/162 – Class 1 Application to the NSW Land and Environment Court – Update.

262/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Wales and Whitechurch that Council note the report on Development Application 2020/162 – Class 1 Application to the NSW Land and Environment Court – Update.

S APPLEYARD
DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

10. DIRECTOR ENGINEERING SERVICES REPORT

10.1 REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF WORKS PROGRAM – JUNE 2021

Author: Steve Carmichael, Director Engineering Services

Summary

The following activities were undertaken within the month of **June** 2021 by the Works teams. A summary of the activities is provided below for information.

- **Fixing Local Roads Program - Vegetation Safety**
Program completed (contractor in conjunction with Council).
- **FLR Program - Traffic Facilities**
Continue audit of signs & guideposts for upgrade/replacement in urban streets and rural roads throughout Federation Council. Commence replacement program of signs & guideposts.
Completion of upgrade of Regulatory town speed limit signs from “A” size to “B” size, (50, 60, 80, 100 km/h), Howlong, Urana, Boree Creek.
- **Church Street water main 300mm**
Works completed.
- **Corowa – Mulwala Cycleway**
Works on hold due to wet weather.
- **LRCI Grant - Gravel Roads Maintenance**
Carrols lane, Woolshed Road, Lavis Road, Glencoe Road, Glenara Road, Lilydale Road, Morningside Road, Piggins Road, Felton Road, Mahonga Lane.
- **LRCI grant – Hume Street Mulwala Kerb & Gutter Replacement Stage two**
Works 90% complete, sealing works will be undertaken when weather conditions are more favourable.
- **Spring Drive/Stuckeys Road (MR 314 segment 230)**
Removal of redundant culvert and drainage works – in conjunction with Transport for NSW.
- **COVID-19** - Work Crews continue with high productivity output with some changes to work methods. Washing of hands during the day at regular intervals, regular cleaning and sanitising of vehicles & plant.

Completed		Planned	
Location	Month	Location	Month
Grader Operation Crew 1: Carrols lane, Woolshed Road, Lavis Road, Glencoe Road, Glenara Road, Lilydale Road, Morningside Road, Piggins Road, Felton Road, Mahonga Lane.	June	FLR Program – shoulder rehabilitation LRCI grant – gravel roads maintenance	July
Grader Operation Crew 2: Corowa-Mulwala cycleway – on hold until ground conditions improve. FLR Traffic Facilities sign/guidepost installations	June	Corowa – Mulwala cycleway. Gravel re-sheeting program.	July

Other Works

Construction 1:

Various Customer Requests.

Completion of Church Street South Corowa 300mm water main replacement pipe laying and connection to network.

Spring Drive Stuckeys Road MR 314Sseg 230 culvert removal and drainage works

Next: FLR Traffic Facilities sign/guide post replacements. FLR Drainage works in problem areas.

Construction 2:

Various Customer Requests.

FLR Traffic Facilities sign/guide post replacements.

90% completion of Hume Street Mulwala drainage and K&G replacement. (Sealing works to be done when weather improves).

Next: Corowa – Mulwala Cycleway culvert installation.

FLR Traffic Facilities sign/guide post replacements.

Sundry Gang: FLR Program Traffic Facilities sign upgrades, various Customer Requests. Footpath grinding/repairs. Traffic control for construction crews & contractors where required. Assist Construction crews to cover staff leave.

Flocon Patching Truck: Urban and rural pothole patching as per Reflect. Assist Construction crews on Capital Works Projects & shoulder grading with traffic control as required.

Heavy Trucks: Support Grader Gangs & Construction Gangs on construction projects & maintenance - hauling spoil, gravel, and sand. Cart excess spoil to Corowa Landfill for cover & capping.

Attachments

10.1.1 Nil.

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Built Federation

Outcome: Maintained and improved infrastructure that meets the needs of residents and industry

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 1.1 Maintain and improve roads, bridges and footpaths to meet the needs of residents and industry.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 1.1.1 Implement Road Management Services (including road, footpath and stormwater drainage construction and maintenance).

Financial Implications

Within budgets.

Financial Sustainability

Based on delivering these projects within the approved budget, proceeding with this recommendation will have a neutral impact on Council's Long Term Financial Plan 2020-2030 financial sustainability ratios.

RECOMMENDED that Council note the Report on the Progress of Works Program – June 2021.

263/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Kennedy and Whitechurch that Council note the Report on the Progress of Works Program – June 2021.

10.2 [REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM – JUNE 2021](#)

Author: Leigh Ashford, Acting Director Engineering Services

[Capital Works Program](#)

Progress on Council 2020/2021 Capital Works Program is as detailed over the page:

Work Order	Budget	Actuals
Expenditure		
Capital		
Drainage		
00002392 - 111 Sturt Street, Howlong - Drainage Works	11,000	10,623
00002393 - Lucan Street & Beams Street, Mulwala - Drainage Upgrade	11,400	5,612
00002394 - River Street & Dock Street, South Corowa	26,500	26,490
00002396 - Holbeach Street, Howlong Drainage Upgrade	120,000	109,674
00002446 - Church Street, South Corowa - Drainage Improvements at Federation Ave & Dock Street Intersections	33,000	32,970
00002552 - Thompson Street, Oaklands - Drainage Upgrade	50,000	525
00002553 - Widgewa Street, Morundah - Drainage Upgrade	70,000	68,637
00002597 - Corowa Aerodrome - Replacement of Drainage Lines (\$130,000)	130,000	0
Drainage Total	451,900	254,531
Drought		
00002256 - Drought Funding - Round 1 - Urana reliable water pipeline project (\$250,000)	250,000	250,000
00002266 - Drought Funding - Round 1 - Rand Town Improvement Projects (through Rand Town Improvement Committee) (\$65,000)	65,000	65,000
00002297 - Drought Funding - Round 2 - Daysdale Water Improvements (\$35,000)	35,000	25,800
00002298 - Drought Funding - Round 2 - Savernake Hall Upgrades (\$35,000)	35,000	35,000
00002299 - Drought Funding - Round 2 - Bruce Richardson Park (25,000)	25,000	32,700
00002301 - Drought Funding - Round 2 - Boree Creek Hall (25,000)	25,000	23,752
00002302 - Drought Funding - Round 2 - Urana Aquatic Centre Reliable Water (\$115,000)	115,000	17,459
00002303 - Drought Funding - Round 2 - Boree Creek - Tim Fischer Park - Tim Fischer Statue (\$40,000)	40,000	21,647

Work Order	Budget	Actuals
00002304 - Drought Funding - Round 2 - Balldale Water (\$200,000)	200,000	14,220
00002305 - Drought Funding - Round 2 - Wi-Fi Boosters for Community Halls and Farming Communities (\$50,000)	50,000	14,697
00002306 - Drought Funding - Round 2 - Rand Bowling Club Upgrades (\$25,000)	25,000	25,000
00002307 - Drought Funding - Round 2 - New Pedestrian Bridge (\$50,000)	50,000	208,162
00002308 - Drought Funding - Round 2 - Urana Caravan Park Camp Kitchen Deck (\$30,000)	30,000	27,495
00002309 - Drought Funding - Round 2 - Industry Support Project Manager (\$50,000)	50,000	50,000
Drought Total	995,000	810,932
Recreation		
00001865 - Swimming Pool Redevelopment : Structure	6,940,608	6,027,639
00001923 - Stronger Country Communities R2 - Oaklands Recreation Reserve – Change room and Toilet Block Upgrade(\$449,820)	303,240	307,328
00001926 - Stronger Country Communities R2 - Urana Aquatic Leisure Centre Building(\$243,531)	377,692	500,298
00001927 - Stronger Country Communities R2 - Lighting Upgrade for Rennie Recreational Reserve(\$272,965)	51,414	131,061
00001931 - Urana Dexter Windmill (Grant \$178,418)	100,000	45,121
00001953 - Stronger Country Communities R2 - Urana Aquatic Centre - Pedestrian Bridge(\$182,342)	166,647	122,942
00001954 - Stronger Country Communities R2 - Ball Park Multisport Pavilion(\$199,353)	175,300	165,632
00002287 - Urana Sports Ground Upgrade - NSW Office of Sport Funding (\$225,000)	132,000	108,727
00002290 - Bangerang Park - Sprinkler System	33,927	33,927
00002452 - Corowa Swimming pool - fit out	44,485	38,950
00002472 - Mulwala WTP - Boat Shed Retaining Wall	6,080	0
00002534 - LED Lighting Upgrade (Project ID 369)	810,925	740,377
Recreation Total	9,142,318	8,222,102

Work Order	Budget	Actuals
Roads		
00001767 - Regional Growth Fund - Corowa Mulwala Trail Cycleway path	3,175,126	1,012,519
00001832 - Daysdale - Federation Way - 900m Road Reconstruction and floodway upgrade at s-bends : Sealed (SCF Budget\$500,000)	500,000	648,710
00002137 - Fixing Country Roads - Federation Way Upgrade - 83.23km to 107.27km North of Riverina Highway - RNSW 2312	900,000	593,533
00002148 - Doctors Road Timber Bridge (\$680,000 - Grant for \$340,000)	603,054	429,932
00002451 - Repair Program - Cocketgedong Rd Project 3KM`s	762,504	716,970
00002486 - RTR - Savernake Road Widen and Seal 4km FY20/21 \$280,000	280,000	279,251
00002488 - Reseal program 20/21 - EMILY CRT HOWLONG - Chainage - Includes all	8,500	5,377
00002489 - Reseal program 20/21 - TOWNSEND ST HOWLONG - Chainage - Hawkins to Kennedy	16,000	16,964
00002490 - Reseal program 20/21 - TOWNSEND ST HOWLONG - Chainage - n/a	0	9,410
00002491 - Reseal program 20/21 - KENNEDY ST HOWLONG - Chainage - Sturt to Hovell + Hovell to join	8,000	10,754
00002492 - Reseal program 20/21 - KENNEDY ST HOWLONG - Chainage - Hume west to cul-de- sac	5,500	10,000
00002493 - Reseal program 20/21 - HOVELL ST HOWLONG - Chainage - Pell to Kennedy	5,000	16,202
00002494 - Reseal program 20/21 - BALLDALE/COREEN RD - Chainage - Mahonga Lane to Trenten Valley Rd Stage 1	162,000	162,000
00002495 - Reseal program 20/21 - BALLDALE/COREEN RD - Chainage - Joes Lane to Federation Way Stage2	196,000	196,000
00002497 - Reseal program 20/21 - REDLANDS RD - Chainage - Skehans Lane to Hudson Rd	84,500	84,500
00002498 - Reseal program 20/21 - RENNIE RD - Chainage - 100m from Redlands Road to Hudson Rd	91,500	91,500
00002499 - Reseal program 20/21 - BURAJA RD - Chainage - Riverina Hwy Ch 5.950 to Ch 7.300	58,000	58,066
00002502 - Reseal program 20/21 - BOREE CREEK RD - Chainage - Drummond St Ch 6.800 to Ch9.800	161,000	72,051
00002504 - Reseal program 20/21 - GREENVALE RD - Chainage - Federation Way Ch 3.300 To Ch 4.500	38,500	31,034
00002506 - Reseal program 20/21 - OURA ST RAND - Chainage - Bong St Ch 0.000	19,000	591

Work Order	Budget	Actuals
00002509 - Reseal program 20/21 - Howlong Hawkins St Shoulders	296,500	89,322
00002511 - Resheeting program 20/21 - WARMATTA RD - Origin - From Tocumwal Rd	84,000	66,722
00002512 - Resheeting program 20/21 - COADS Rd - Origin - Emu Park Rd	43,500	27,524
00002513 - Resheeting program 20/21 - NEWFIELD RD - Origin - Rennie Rd	51,000	38,291
00002514 - Resheeting program 20/21 - ONE TREE LANE - Origin - Riverina Hwy	39,000	25,375
00002515 - Resheeting program 20/21 - COREEN VALE RD - Origin - MaCartneys RD	60,000	51,677
00002516 - Resheeting program 20/21 - MOSSDALE RD - Origin - Hopefield RD	96,000	98,001
00002517 - Resheeting program 20/21 - MORNING SIDE RD - Origin - Hopefield RD	27,000	14,902
00002518 - Resheeting program 20/21 - BARRAGUNDA RD - Origin - Boree Creek Rd	24,000	19,076
00002519 - Resheeting program 20/21 - CALOOLABAH RD - Origin - Barragunda rd	33,000	30,105
00002520 - Resheeting program 20/21 - NOWRANIE RD - Origin - Back Berrigan Rd	102,000	110,000
00002521 - Resheeting program 20/21 - WEST GUMS RD - Origin - n/a	6,000	6,381
00002522 - Resheeting program 20/21 - BOUNDARY RD - Origin - Strontian Rd	24,000	28,080
00002523 - Resheeting program 20/21 - ROLLS RD - Origin - Four Corners Rd	84,000	28,503
00002524 - Resheeting program 20/21 - KILPATRICKS RD - Origin - Clear Hills Rd	9,000	5,641
00002525 - Resheeting program 20/21 - WANGAMONG RD - Origin - End of Seal Oaklands	15,000	15,625
00002526 - Resheeting program 20/21 - WOODHOUSE RD - Origin - Oaklands Berrigan Rd	45,000	56,422
00002527 - Resheeting program 20/21 - MARDLINGS RD - Origin - Northcotes Rd	24,000	24,692
00002528 - Resheeting program 20/21 - DUNCANS RD - Origin - Mardlings Rd	60,000	39,258
00002529 - Resheeting program 20/21 - KREUTZBERGER RD - Origin - Byrnedale RD	6,000	7,156
00002548 - Footpath Replacement Program : Footpaths	67,049	19,456
00002554 - Heavy Patching Regional Roads 20-21	149,000	95,672
Roads Total	8,419,233	5,343,245

Work Order	Budget	Actuals
Sewer		
00002375 - Mulwala Rising main Lang Street to North St Pump Station - Planning and Design (Project ID 278)	20,273	0
00002376 - Pump Replacement Program - Corowa Edward ST SPS (Project ID 281)	101,468	100,110
00002377 - Pump Replacement Program - Corowa Piggin Court SPS (Project ID 282)	20,550	31,413
00002378 - Pump Replacement Program - Corowa Rugby Club SPS (Project ID 283)	20,275	25,222
00002379 - Pump Replacement Program - Corowa Airport SPS (Project ID 284)	9,950	5,555
00002380 - Pump Replacement Program - Corowa Hamersley Road SPS (Project ID 285)	26,050	14,670
00002381 - Pump Replacement Program - Mulwala Wynani Road SPS	14,950	13,189
00002382 - Pump Replacement Program - Mulwala McKee Street SPS (Project ID 287)	20,550	26,354
00002383 - Pump Replacement Program - Urana SPS No. 1 (Project ID 288)	24,050	23,677
00002384 - Pump Replacement Program - Urana SPS No. 2 (Project ID: 289)	12,350	11,939
00002385 - Pump Replacement Program - Urana SPS No. 3 (Project ID: 290)	8,500	8,057
00002387 - Corowa STP - Rebuild Sludge Ponds (Project ID: 320)	2,386	1,870
00002389 - Corowa STP - Establish Tree Irrigation system (Project ID: 322)	1,250	355
00002390 - Howlong STP - Complete Rock Dam Walls (Project ID 324)	102,550	107,196
00002397 - Howlong STP - New Step Screen & Auger (Project ID: 326)	157,463	0
00002398 - Mulwala Sewer - Replace SPS lids (Project ID: 327)	10,410	0
00002399 - Mulwala STP - Replace Existing Step Screen & Auger (Project ID: 328)	152,821	16,020
00002400 - Mulwala STP - Replace Split Cycle A/C for Operational Areas (Project ID: 329)	60,000	37,448
00002401 - Oaklands STP - Epoxy Damaged inlet works (Project ID: 330)	13,523	0
00002402 - Urana SPS - Epoxy Damaged Inlet Works (Project ID: 333)	13,250	0
00002403 - Shed for Sewer Rodding Machine & Plumbing Equipment (Project ID: 335)	15,205	0
00002404 - Major Microwave Network Upgrade - Corowa Civic Centre to Urana Council Building - Supply, Install Commission (Project ID: 336)	20,273	21,396

Work Order	Budget	Actuals
00002405 - Major Microwave Network Upgrade - Corowa Civic Centre to Urana Council Building - Monitoring & Control System (Project ID: 337)	15,205	728
00002406 - Treatment Plants & Pumping Stations - Backup Generator Connections - Treatment works (Project ID: 339)	20,273	8,682
00002407 - Treatment Plants & Pumping Stations - Backup Generator Connections - W & S Pumping Stations (Project ID: 340)	20,273	25,529
00002408 - Solar Facility - Telemetry Installation (Project ID: 341)	40,546	4,122
00002409 - Annual Switchboard Replacement, Upgrade & Maintenance Program - Sewerage Pumping Stations (Project ID: 343)	70,956	50,860
00002410 - Howlong Sewerage Treatment Works (Project ID: 373)	202,732	0
00002411 - Howlong Industrial Estate - Sewerage Fund	423,000	136
00002444 - Oaklands STP - Amenities building Maintenance (Project ID: 331)	10,000	0
00002551 - Corowa Road Mulwala Sewer Realignment	80,000	3,420
00002589 - Replacement of Pump Bayley St SPS Mulwala	16,200	477
Sewer Total	1,727,282	538,425
Water		
00001990 - Howlong Water Treatment Plant - Elec & Control system upgrade	43,811	38,768
00002187 - Corowa Water - Enclose DAFF cells (Project ID: 292)	40,546	20,728
00002188 - Corowa Water - Extension of filter platform walkway (Project ID: 293)	20,273	0
00002191 - Howlong Water - Duplicate existing backwash pump (Project ID: 302)	91,024	90,300
00002192 - Howlong Water - Laboratory renovations	318	318
00002217 - Howlong Water - Clear Water Pump Station Land Scaping - \$25,000	11,564	11,564
00002218 - Mulwala Water - Replace Raw Water Flow Meter (Project ID: 309)	7,096	0
00002235 - Water Main replacement in Ball Park in and around the Pool area - \$75k (Budget from W2196)	513	513
00002277 - Water main Extension Corowa Saleyards	66	66

Work Order	Budget	Actuals
00002292 - Water main Replacement - Carson Drive 150mm (270m long) - \$68,150	3,203	2,281
00002293 - Water main Replacement - Church St South Corowa 100mm (695m long) - \$97,550	1,154	232
00002412 - Corowa Water - Netherby WPS Flow Meter (Project ID: 294)	30,410	0
00002413 - Corowa Water - Netherby WPS Reline suction main (Project ID: 295)	76,024	76,024
00002414 - Corowa WTP - Upgrade WPS - Pumps & Board (Project ID: 297)	60,819	39,873
00002415 - Corowa Water - Netherby WPS - Replace Switchboard (Project ID: 298)	20,000	0
00002416 - Corowa WTP Improve laboratory Facilities (Project ID: 299)	15,205	3,271
00002417 - Corowa WTP - Investigate & Design New Bore Adjacent to Plant - Emergency Supply (Project ID: 300)	15,205	0
00002418 - Howlong Water - New Trunk Main from WTP to Town Reservoir Planning and Design (Project ID: 301)	90,237	10,770
00002419 - Howlong Water - Raw WPS - New Low Level Intake - Investigation & Design (Project ID:303)	13,982	0
00002420 - Howlong WTP - Refurbish filters (Project ID: 304)	301,500	273,918
00002421 - Howlong Water - WTP - Provide Shelter over Settled Water Pumps (Project ID: 305)	7,095	10,788
00002422 - Howlong WTP - Service Water Pump Upgrade (Project ID: 306)	6,137	0
00002423 - Howlong WTP - Investigate & Design New Submersible Pump Capacity & Connection to Existing Main (Project ID: 308)	48,092	0
00002424 - Mulwala Water - New WTP - Negotiate Land Purchase from Federal & Rezone as part of new LEP * (Project ID: 310)	150,000	0
00002425 - Mulwala WTP - Replacement of PAC Dosing pumps (Project ID: 311)	10,137	9,196
00002426 - Mulwala Reservoirs - New Chlorine & pH Analysers (Project ID:313)	20,218	17,283
00002427 - Water Reticulation Analyses & Computer Modelling - Howlong & Mulwala (Project ID: 315)	96,430	76,860
00002428 - Install pressure sensors at strategic locations (Project ID: 318)	10,137	1,052
00002429 - Annual Switchboard Replacement, Upgrade & Maintenance Program - Other Switchboard Replacement & Upgrade program (Project ID: 344)	15,205	25,175
00002430 - Annual Switchboard Replacement, Upgrade & Maintenance Program - Heat Shield Plates Upgrade Program (Project ID: 345)	5,068	7,245
00002431 - Annual Switchboard Replacement, Upgrade & Maintenance Program - Switchboard Cabinet Cooling	15,205	12,570

Work Order	Budget	Actuals
Program (Project ID: 346)		
00002432 - Annual Switchboard Replacement, Upgrade & Maintenance Program - Equipment Temperature Monitoring Program (Project ID: 347)	15,205	10,122
00002433 - Variable Speed Drive Installation with Remote Monitoring & Control system (Project ID: 348)	10,137	9,682
00002434 - Water Main Replacement - Corowa Birdwood St, Guy St to Fed Ave DN225 (Project ID: 266)	36,900	4,452
00002435 - Water Main Replacement - Corowa Birdwood St, Guy St to Fed Ave DN80 up to DN100 (Project ID: 267)	22,445	0
00002436 - Water Main Replacement - Corowa Fleming Dr, Honour Ave to Albert St DN100 (Project ID: 268)	75,850	87,347
00002437 - Water Main Replacement - Corowa Honour Avenue to Rivalea - valves (Project ID: 270)	10,215	9,502
00002438 - Water Main Replacement - Mulwala install new valves (Project ID: 271)	30,610	127
00002439 - Water Main Replacement - Corowa Church St, Spring Dr to Cotton St DN300 (Project ID: 273)	295,000	263,142
00002440 - Water Main Replacement - Loughnan St, Under railway line (Project ID: 274)	15,535	76
00002441 - Howlong Industrial Estate - Water Fund	132,000	0
00002445 - General W & S Routine Maintenance - Electrical, Radio/Telemetry & Microwave (Project ID: 349)	25,341	7,669
Water Total	1,895,912	1,120,914

Attachments

10.2.1 Nil.

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Built Federation

Outcome: Maintained and improved infrastructure that meets the needs of residents and industry

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 1.1 Maintain and improve roads, bridges and footpaths to meet the needs of residents and industry.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 1.1.1 Implement Road Management Services (including road, footpath and stormwater drainage construction and maintenance).

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 1.3 Maintain and improve water supply, sewerage, and flood protection services and systems to meet the needs of residents and industry.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 1.3.1 Implement Capital Works Program for sewerage and water services.

Financial Implications

Within budgets.

Financial Sustainability

Based on delivering these projects within the approved budget, proceeding with this recommendation will have a neutral impact on Council's Long Term Financial Plan 2020-2030 financial sustainability ratios.

RECOMMENDED that Council note the Report on Council's 2020/2021 Capital Works program – June 2021.

264/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longley and Law that Council note the Report on Council's 2020/2021 Capital Works program – June 2021.

10.3 COMMON SEAL - MOU NEW KERBSIDE COLLECTION CONTRACT

Author: Anthony Rintala, Manager Operations

Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek the common seal of Council to be affixed to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The former Corowa kerbside collection contract with Cleanaway expires in mid-2024 and preparations are already underway for the new contract which is expected to be advertised early 2022 which will allow the new contractor sufficient time to establish themselves for the new contract duration.

Over the past year or so Council officers have been representing Council at regular Halve Waste meetings along with Albury, Wodonga, Indigo and Greater Hume. Now the time has come to formalise Councils commitment to the new contract by applying the common seal to the memorandum of understanding.

Background

Former Corowa has a contract with Cleanaway for the kerbside collection for a 12 year period which is set to expire mid-2024, this contract is in conjunction with the Halve Waste group of Councils Albury, Wodonga, Indigo and Greater Hume.

Former Urana have a kerbside collection with Oraglo Pty Ltd which is renewed on a yearly basis.

In anticipation of the expiration of the Cleanaway contract, and as part of the draft waste strategy preparation, Council has conducted a due diligence report to determine, from a financial perspective the benefits of remaining in the collaborative procurement arrangement. With the outcome of this analysis informing us that the rates we currently have through this arrangement are much cheaper than if we provided the service in-house. Refer to attached 1.3 for further reading on this report.

A further body of work is recommended to be undertaken to determine if the former Urana Shire collection area joins the new kerbside collection contract, or if they remain under current arrangements. This decision does not need to be made until early 2022.

Community Engagement

A community survey was conducted as part of the preparation of the waste strategy with 173 responses. The main feedback that Council gained from the survey that relates to the kerbside collection can be summarised as per the points below:

- (a) Investigate an increase to the frequency of kerbside collections,
- (b) Extend kerbside collection services to rural villages and northern towns,
- (c) More education and communication materials to increase awareness and proper use of services and facilities

The increase in collection frequency of kerbside collections is unlikely due to the cost, and we are trying to encourage source separation of recoverable materials which will not be as effective if we provide a waste service more frequently.

As mentioned in the background section of the report a further body to work ought to be undertaken to determine if the former Urana joins the new kerbside collection contract, or if they remain under current arrangements. This decision does not need to be made until early 2022.

Remaining as part of the Halve Waste group of Councils we have access to a plethora of education materials and waste education officers which should satisfy this component of the survey feedback.

Attachments

- 10.3.1 MOU Waste & Recycling Collection Services - Kerbside Tender - Final
- 10.3.2 MOU Governance - Waste & Recycling Collection Services Tender
- 10.3.3 Review of Kerbside Collections.1d (21/6354)

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Built Federation

Outcome: *Maintained and improved infrastructure that meets the needs of residents and industry.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 1.8 Improve waste management services.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 1.8.1 Finalise and implement Council wide Waste Management strategy and ensure alignment of service levels to residents and industry needs.

Financial Implications

Exact costs are unknown at this stage until the tender has been conducted and evaluated. There are no direct additional budget impacts that are unfunded as a result of this report.

Financial Sustainability

The collaborate procurement arrangement with the Halve Waste group of Councils is the most efficient method for Council to provide this service as demonstrated by the due diligence report completed as part of the waste strategy.

Risk Implications

The risk is low at this stage as by participating in the tender process Council is not bound to accept any bid and can withdraw and go our own way in future if required.

Legal Implications

As above. The group of Councils obtains legal advice as needed.

RECOMMENDED that Council authorise the use of the Common Seal to sign the memorandum of understanding document.

265/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longley and Whitechurch that Council authorise the use of the Common Seal to sign the memorandum of understanding document in relation to proposed new joint curb side collection contract for the region.

10.4 MAINTENANCE GRADING STRATEGY FOR ROADS 2021-22

Author: Leigh Ashford, Acting Director Engineering Services

Summary

The purpose of this report is to outline the strategy for 2021-22 maintenance grading program.

Background

Council has approximately 988km of Roads classified as rural gravel roads and a further 274 km of roads which have been formed but not gravelled. Some of the roads classified as gravelled are in reality gravel patched only.

The previous Corowa Shire Council and Urana Shire Council, both had a flexible, structured maintenance program. Graders progressively worked their way around the Council area and unless a dangerous situation occurred, customer requests were referred to the grading program and customers advised the estimated time before the grading crew would be in the area. Flexibility in the program was needed to take into account changes in weather conditions.

Historically funding levels for grading have been below the desirable technical level and the expectations of the community.

Federation Council's maintenance grading program has been based largely on customer requests. This is inherently inefficient as grader crews are spend a lot of time travelling between jobs.

Council's Operation's Section has been working on the issue and has proposed a strategy that reinstates the previous cyclical maintenance program.

The major points of the program are:

The rural areas of the Council will be split into 4 sections These will roughly be north of Urana, between Daysdale and Urana, the northern part of the Riverina Highway to Daysdale, and south of the northern part of the Riverina Highway.

It is proposed to use 4 graders and crews for the work, one for each section.

Most roads will only be graded once per annum. This is programmed to be carried out between June and The end of September each year.

Some major gravel roads may require a second grade which will be carried out in January.

Town streets will be graded in December/ January.

Grading improves the ride quality and helps protect roads from water damage, however the trade-off is that each time a road is graded some of the pavement surface is lost. Grading should only be done if there are benefits in grading the road and not just because it is on an annual list.

The maintenance grading crew will make judgements regarding the method of maintenance based on the condition of the road at the time. This could include not grading the road as there is no physical benefit.

It is proposed that customer making requests will be firstly referred to the grading schedule. Requests claiming that the road is dangerous will be inspected to determine the level of damage to the road before a decision is made about the treatment. The treatment may not be to divert grading resources to the area but might include a range of strategies which includes, installing warning signs, closing a lane or even temporarily closing the road and implementing a detour.

Requests relating to ride quality such as corrugations and potholes will be treated in a similar manner.

Community Engagement

Community engagement has been limited to comments made in the development of the Community Strategic Plan and issues identified in the Community survey. The community survey suggested that only 23% of residents were satisfied with the state of the rural roads.

Council has recently had its inaugural Roads Committee meeting which is to discuss roads issues.

Attachments

10.4.1 Nil.

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 'Our Community Our Opportunity'

Theme: Built Federation

Outcome: *Maintained and improved infrastructure that meets the needs of residents and industry.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal –1.1 Maintain and improve roads, bridges and footpaths to meet the needs of residents and industry.

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 1.1.2 Implement Capital Works Program for Regional Roads, Rural Sealed Roads, Rural Unsealed Roads, Urban Sealed Roads, footpaths and bridges.

Financial Implications

It is expected that the maintenance grading schedule can be delivered within the 2021-22 budget allocation for these activities.

Financial Sustainability

The proposed maintenance grading program has been developed around budgets set by Council this financial year. It is likely the level of service of some roads will decline as funds do not allow additional grading to take place as the road condition declines. Council will consider a special rate variation application with the new Council, after community consultation, to improve Councils longer term road and other asset and service funding.

Risk Implications

The proposed grading program should be more efficient than the previous program and allow more roads to be graded within the available funds. Applying this process across the council area, will provide a more equitable arrangement for all property owners, however some roads that were graded regularly may see a reduction in the number of grades.

Legal Implications

Managed as part of this process.

RECOMMENDED that Council note the report on the proposed maintenance grading strategy for 2021/22.

266/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longmire and Kennedy that Council note the report on the proposed maintenance grading strategy for 2021/22.

10.5 HOWLONG WATER FILTRATION PLANT – EMERGENCY REPAIRS

Author: Benjamin Falconer, Manager Utilities

Summary

This report advises Council of emergency repairs and subsequent budget movements required for the Howlong Water Plant.

Background

The Howlong Water Filtration Plant supplies potable water to the Howlong community comprising approximately 2,700 persons. The filtration plant has a peak production capacity of 6ML per day and is a lagoon sedimentation with twin rapid gravity sand filter treatment process. The Filtration Plant was commissioned in 1987 and has operated for a period of 35 years which is approximately half of its original design life. The plant is due for its mid-life refurbishment.

On 21 June 2021 filter 1 experienced a catastrophic failure of the filter floor which floated due to excessive backwash pressure. The filter floor is designed to resist an uplift force of 30kPa, backwash pressure exceeded this limit resulting the floor floating. This floating of the filter floor dislodged filter floor planks which has compromised the floor grouting and water stop seals and resulted in a substantial quantity of filter media and gravel pack washing out into the chamber below the filter floor.

Council contacted Water Treatment Australia (WTA), who supplied the filter floors, nozzles and associated hardware to the original contractor who constructed the Howlong Water Filtration Plant. WTA attended site on 22 June 2021 and assessed the filter damage. It was agreed that the filter required removal of all media and the floor needed to be removed to assess the damage. This work was undertaken by WTA on 24 and 25 June 2021. It was found that all 30 of the filter floor planks were damaged and require replacement. Further inspection has identified the most likely cause of the excess backwash pressure and resulting floating of the filter floor as iron bacteria and manganese build up has blocked the fine filter nozzle orifices which has resulted in increased backwash pressure.

WTA's Melbourne based process engineer attended site 29 June 2021 to confirm the required scope of repairs and a quotation to undertake the repairs was received by Council on 30 June 2021. The quote totals \$211,796.65 including GST to repair and recommission filter 1 and \$89,512.50 including GST to modify filter 2. This is a total of \$301,309.25 including GST.

During the process engineers visit both Council and WTA identified a number of design flaws requiring rectification to avoid the floor floating again including the selection of filter nozzles with larger orifices, reconfiguration of the air scour header assemblies and installation of backwash pressure relief vents. These works are required for each filter. Council will also install mid-stream chlorine dosing to prevent iron bacteria and algal growth.

WTA have also been asked to redesign the filters to dual media filtration in lieu of the existing sand only media to improve filter performance.

Challenges

Until repairs are complete to Filter 1, the Howlong Water Filtration Plant can only operate at 50% capacity. As summer approaches, it is paramount that works are expedited and completed prior to end of September 2021. After this date, if these works are not completed, harsh water restrictions will be required to be introduced on all consumers of the Howlong town water supply to ensure usage remains below the treatment plants capacity.

The timeframe required to go out to market with a standard tendering process will push the time frame well into summer 2021/2022. It will take around 2 weeks to prepare tender documentation, tender advertisement will require at least 4 weeks, and assessment and award will require no less than 2 weeks, before a recommendation for Council approval can be made. Council's ability to make a decision on engaging a contractor may also be delayed as Council will enter caretaker mode at some stage in this process due to the Local Government Election.

Assessment of quotation

Water Treatment Australia are the original equipment supplier for this water treatment plant. They have the filter floor plank moulds, structural details and expertise to remanufacture the 30 required filter floor planks. The filter nozzles are available in stock and they are able to commence manufacture of the planks as the quotation is accepted. All other suppliers will be required to reverse engineer the filter floor planks, including manufacturing the moulds and undertaking structural design which will significantly increase the required timeframe and cost.

Water Treatment Australia have indicated that they will be able to complete works by end of September if approval is received by the end of this week.

A review of pricing has also found that the rates supplied by Water Treatment Australia are consistent with other similar projects undertaken by Council's Engineering Staff in the last 10 years (Condobolin Water Filtration Plant Filter Reconstruction, Albury Water Filtration Plant B DAFF

upgrade and Plant A Filter Refurbishment). Bill Ho from NSW DPIE was also contacted 2 July 2021 to confirm pricing was consistent with that being seen by the department for similar works.

Procurement process for emergency/urgent works

Section 55 Clause 3 Part (k) of the NSW Local Government Act 1993 provides Council with the ability to accept quotations without calling tenders for “a contract made in case of emergency”.

Council’s Delegations of Authority Part 2 Delegations from the General Manager to Staff Version 6.0 dated 14 July 2021, Part 9 – Financial Management- Finance, Section 9. Authorise Expenditure for Urgent Works (unlimited) delegates Directors the authority to authorise expenditure outside the budget approved by Council in order to undertake urgent works to reduce or eliminate a significant health or safety hazard.

The requested works at Howlong Water Filtration Plant are both a health and safety risk as the damaged filter impairs Council’s ability to provide fire fighting water through the reticulation system (safety) and exceeding the plants capacity may result in water quality not meeting the drinking water guidelines or the requirements for safe drinking water under the NSW Public Health Act 2010, and in an extreme event demand may exceed supply leaving customers without drinking water or water for hygiene purposes (health).

The General Manager has endorsed this work.

Community Engagement

N/A

Attachments

10.5.1 Nil

Links to Councils Integrated Planning Framework

Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028 ‘Our Community Our Opportunity’

Theme: Built Federation

Outcome: *Maintained and improved infrastructure that meets the needs of residents and industry.*

Delivery Program 2018-22 4 year Goal – 1.3 Maintain and improve water supply, sewerage, and flood protection services and systems to meet the needs of residents and industry

Operational Plan 2021/2022 Action – 1.3.1 Implement Capital Works Program for sewerage and water services.

Financial Implications

Council has approved \$80,000 in the 2021-2022 budget for the refurbishment of the Howlong Water Filtration Plant filters. It is proposed that existing approved funds be divert from projects that can be delayed in the adopted water fund capital works projects to cover the additional \$221,309.25. This will be notified through the normal quarterly budget review process. The proposed approved capital works projects that the funds will come from are;

Project	Approved budget	Amount to be transferred to filter refurbishment budget
Howlong WFP – duplicate backwash pump	\$85,000	\$85,000
Water reticulation analysis and computer modelling	\$111,500	\$35,000
Water mains replacement	\$329,800	\$101,500

Financial Sustainability

Adopting this recommendation is considered to have a neutral impact on Council’s Long Term Financial Sustainability.

Risk Implications

Council needs to do this work to manage the risk of water supply.

Legal Implications

Staff ensured compliance with the Local Government Act and regulations and Council staff delegations.

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Council endorse the General Manager actions in accepting the quotation provided by Water Treatment Australia Pty Ltd to the value of \$301,309.25 including GST for the repair and recommissioning of Filter 1 and modifications to Filter 2 at the Howlong Water Filtration Plant, under Section 55 Clause 3 Part (k) of the NSW Local Government Act 1993 due to the work being emergency work; and

2. THAT Council endorse the following changes to the budget -

Project	Approved budget	Amount to be transferred
Howlong WFP – duplicate backwash pump	\$85,000	\$85,000
Water reticulation analysis and computer modelling	\$111,500	\$35,000
Water mains replacement	\$329,800	\$101,500

267/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Kennedy and Longley:

1. THAT Council endorse the General Manager actions in accepting the quotation provided by Water Treatment Australia Pty Ltd to the value of \$301,309.25 including GST for the repair and recommissioning of Filter 1 and modifications to Filter 2 at the Howlong Water Filtration Plant, under Section 55 Clause 3 Part (k) of the NSW Local Government Act 1993 due to the work being emergency work; and

2. THAT Council endorse the following changes to the budget -

Project	Approved budget	Amount to be transferred
Howlong WFP – duplicate backwash pump	\$85,000	\$85,000
Water reticulation analysis and computer modelling	\$111,500	\$35,000
Water mains replacement	\$329,800	\$101,500

S CARMICHAEL
DIRECTOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

11. NOTICES OF MOTION / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

11.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCIL WATER LICENCES

Moved by Councillor Thomas:

THAT Council provide their water licence details to the next Council Meeting.

Background information to support this motion

The NSW State Government are in the process of finalising 12x NSW Water Strategies one being the MURRAY. Linked to the strategy is the TOWN WATER REDUCTION PROGRAM. A clear understanding of this program is yet to ascertain from DPIE, hence the importance to have a transparent process of allocation of water resources at a LGA level.

11.2 NOTICE OF MOTION - HONOUR BOARDS, COUNCILLOR GROUP PHOTO AND INSTALLATION OF ABORIGINAL FLAG IN CHAMBERS

Moved by Councillor Thomas:

1. **THAT Council update the honour boards;**
2. **THAT Council add Councillors photo in the Corowa and Urana Chamber in respect to the last four fabulous years of the inaugural Federation Council representatives; and**
3. **THAT Council install the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags in both the Corowa and Urana Chambers.**

268/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longmire and Kennedy that Council defer report item 11.1 Notice of Motion - Council Water Licences and item 11.2 Notice of Motion - Honour Boards, Councillor Group Photo and Installation of Aboriginal Flag in Chambers to the August 2021 Council Meeting.

12. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

12.1 ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes and Report of a Meeting of the Roads Advisory Committee held in the Corowa Civic Centre, Murray Room, Corowa on Thursday, 17 June 2021 commencing at 3 pm

Meeting Objective: Roads Committee – Inaugural Meeting

Chairperson: Steve Carmichael – Director Engineering Services

Secretary: Steve Carmichael

Attendees: Steve Carmichael – Director Engineering Services
Councillor Thomas
Councillor Longmire
Wayne Galloway – Contract Project Manager

Apologies: Leigh Ashford – Manager Infrastructure
Tony Rintala – Manager Operations
Scott Donders – Development and Design Engineer
Adrian Butler – General Manager (tried joining remotely)

Welcome from the Chair Steve Carmichael

Item 1: Previous Minutes Steve Carmichael

Action: No Previous Minutes

Item 2: Road Advisory Committee Terms of Reference (21/25277) Steve Carmichael

Minutes: Members present went through the terms of reference in detail and all agreed it was an acceptable document.

Action: Recommend to Manex and Council that the Road Advisory Committee terms of Reference be adopted. Steve Carmichael By Date
July Council Meeting

Item 3: Update on other documentation prepared to date. Steve Carmichael

Footpath and Cycleway Policy
Footpath and Cycleway Procedure
Transport Asset Management Plan
Road Maintenance Management Plan
Asset Inspection Field Guide
Fact Sheet – Maintenance Grading
Road Improvement Strategy

Maintenance Grading Schedule

Council Road Network Map

Documents are stored in Content Manager (SC 4632)

Minutes: Committee informed that draft documentation would be distributed with the minutes and would be dealt with by the committee at future meetings.

Action: Draft documentation to be circulated and actioned at future meeting. Steve Carmichael

Item 4: **Possible inclusion of interested parties on the committee and field trips to discuss road issues in general including the current shortfall in funding for transport infrastructure** Councillor Thomas

Minutes: General discussion ensued and all agreed this was a desirable way forward especially as Council was considering a special rate variation to help with funding for Transport infrastructure assets.

Action: Endorsement by Council Steve Carmichael Council Meeting

Next Meeting: TBA

Meeting closed at 4 pm.

Attachments

12.1.1 Road Advisory Committee Terms of Reference (21/25277)

12.1.2 Councillor Report from IPWEA Local Roads Conference 7 June 2021 (21/28980)

RECOMMENDED:

1. THAT Council note the minutes of the Roads Advisory Committee Meeting held on 17 June 2021; and
2. THAT Council adopt the Road Advisory Committee Terms of Reference (21/25277).

269/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longley and Law:

1. THAT Council note the minutes of the Roads Advisory Committee Meeting held on 17 June 2021; and
2. THAT Council adopt the Road Advisory Committee Terms of Reference (21/25277).

13. REPORTS FROM DELEGATES

13.1 VERBAL REPORTS FROM DELEGATES

Verbal reports to be provided by delegates at the meeting.

Councillor Law reported on her attendance at two Federation Arts Prize Committee meetings, as well as an Arts and Culture meeting and Ageing Well Committee meeting.

Councillor Longmire reported on his attendance at the Daysdale Water Committee meeting and the Corowa Saleyards Consultative Committee meeting.

Councillor Wales reported on his attendance at the Yarrawonga Mulwala Tourism Meeting, the National Volunteer Week Luncheon in Mulwala, and representing the Mayor at the Murray River Police District Medal and Award Ceremony in Albury.

RECOMMENDED that that the verbal reports from delegates be noted.

270/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Law and Kennedy that that the verbal reports from delegates be noted.

14. CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION/FOR INFORMATION

14.1 RESPONSE - PRIME MINISTER - COVID-19 - DOMESTIC BORDER CLOSURES (21/24915)

Letter dated 11 June 2021 from the Prime Minister in response to Council's letter in regards to impacts due to border closures. A copy of this letter is included with the agenda.

14.2 COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION (CMA) (21/25487)

Letter received 18 June 2021 from the President of the CMA in regards to Emergency Services Levy and seeking Council support and lobbying our local member. A copy of this letter is included with the agenda.

14.3 THE HON. SHELLEY HANCOCK MP- MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT (21/24823)

Letter dated 10 June 2021 from Minister Hancock advising Council of the important amendments recently made to the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act). A copy of this letter is included with the agenda.

14.4 MURRAY ARTS – ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Forwarding a copy of their Annual Report 2020. A copy of the annual report is included with the agenda.

RECOMMENDED that the correspondence items 14.1-14.4 as tabled in the July 2021 Business Paper be noted.

271/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Law and Wales that the correspondence items 14.1-14.4 as tabled in the July 2021 Business Paper be noted.

15. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

RECOMMENDED that Council move to closed session under section 10A Part 2 of the Local Government Act and Clause 14.1 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice to discuss item 7.8 Urana Caravan Park – Request for increase to Contract Remuneration, item 7.9 Establishment of a Regional Panel of Code of Conduct Reviewers, item 7.11 on the General Managers Performance Review and item 8.7 Urana Aquatic Centre Management Expression of Interest which contains matters and information are the following:

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors),
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

272/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Kennedy and Law that Council move to closed session at 11.45 am under section 10A Part 2 of the Local Government Act and Clause 14.1 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice to discuss item 7.8 Urana Caravan Park – Request for increase to Contract Remuneration, item 7.9 Establishment of a Regional Panel of Code of Conduct Reviewers, item 7.11 on the General Managers Performance Review and item 8.7 Urana Aquatic Centre Management Expression of Interest which contains matters and information are the following:

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors),
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

CLOSURE OF MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

CLOSED COUNCIL

BRING FORWARD ITEM 7.11

273/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longley and Law that Council bring forward item 7.11 General Manager Performance Review.

Ms J Shannon (Director Corporate and Community Services), Ms S Appleyard (Director Development and Environmental Services), Mr S Carmichael (Director Engineering Services), Mrs Alannah Greenwood (Manager Communications and Engagement) and Mrs R Henson (Executive Assistant – Minute Taker) left the meeting at 11.48 am.

Mr A Butler (General Manager) left the meeting at 11.53 am.

7.11 GENERAL MANAGER PERFORMANCE REVIEW – CONFIDENTIAL

274/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Whitechurch and Kennedy:

1. THAT Council note the General Managers Annual Performance Review conducted on 19 July 2021, by the General Managers Performance Review Committee;
2. THAT Council endorse the General Managers Performance Review Committee's appraisal as more than satisfactory;
3. THAT Council note the performance of the General Manager and endorse a 2.5% increase as per item 8.3 of the General Manager's contract; and
4. THAT Council note the General Manager intent to seek renewal of his contract in September 2021 and that Council endorse a vote of confidence in the General Manager for his time with this Council.

Mr A Butler (General Manager), Ms J Shannon (Director Corporate and Community Services), Ms S Appleyard (Director Development and Environmental Services), Mr S Carmichael (Director Engineering Services), Mrs Alannah Greenwood (Manager Communications and Engagement) and Mrs R Henson (Executive Assistant – Minute Taker) returned to the meeting at 12.17 pm.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

275/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Law and Kennedy that the meeting be adjourned for lunch at 12.24 pm.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING

276/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Longmire and Law that the meeting resumed at 1.32 pm with all Councillors present.

7.8 URANA CARAVAN PARK MANAGEMENT CONTRACT – REQUEST FOR INCREASED REMUNERATION - CONFIDENTIAL

277/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Wales and Kennedy:

1. THAT Council note the report on the Urana Caravan Park Management Contract;
2. THAT Council advise contractors that the request for increased payment is not able to be supported due to requirements of the LG act and that further review and negotiation occur with the contractors regarding the other request made; and
3. THAT Council received a further report to the September Council meeting.

7.9 ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL PANEL OF CODE OF CONDUCT REVIEWERS - CONFIDENTIAL

278/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Kennedy and Longley:

1. THAT Council note the report on the establishment of a regional panel of Code of Conduct reviewers;
2. THAT Council endorse the establishment a regional panel of conduct reviewers and appoint the reviewers as selected by the RAMJO through an Expression of Interest (EOI) process, on a four year term commencing 1 July 2021” with the reviewers being –
 - Local Government Legal
 - Moray & Agnew Lawyers
 - BAL Lawyers
 - Sinc Solutions
 - Centium
 - Wise Workplace
3. THAT Council authorises the General Manager to sign any contracts as required on it’s behalf.

The Mayor, Councillor Bourke left the meeting at 1.59 pm and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Whitechurch took the Chair.

Councillor Law left the meeting at 2.01 pm.

Councillor Law returned to the meeting at 2.03 pm.

8.7 URANA AQUATIC LEISURE CENTRE MANAGEMENT EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - CONFIDENTIAL

279/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Kennedy and Longley:

1. THAT Council Note the contents of the Urana Aquatic Centre Management Expression of Interest report;
2. THAT Council accept the EOI from the Urana Bowling Club, for the management of the Urana Aquatic Centre based on Option 3, with an overall cost exposure to Council of \$46,810 and the inclusion of the four stipulations outlined; and
3. THAT Council authorises the General Manager to Sign a Management Agreement on its behalf.

The Mayor, Councillor Bourke returned to the meeting at 2.21 pm and resumed the chair.

RE-OPENING OF THE MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

280/21FC **RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Wales and Kennedy that Council move to open session and report business from closed committee at 2.22 pm.

OPEN COUNCIL

The Chairperson advised the meeting of the resolutions passed in the closed session.

The General Manager provided an update to the disclosure provided by the Mayor during the closed session.

Update conflict of interest for item 8.7 – Cr Bourke changed the interest on his disclosure form to be a pecuniary interest and not a non-pecuniary interest after further consideration.

The Mayor, Councillor Bourke declared a pecuniary interest under Part 4 (Pecuniary Interest) of Council's Code of Conduct and Clause 16 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice in item 8.7 Urana Aquatic Centre Management Expression of Interest as he is the president of the Urana Bowling Club and will leave the meeting when the item is discussed.

16. CONCLUSION OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 2.27 PM.

CONFIRMED: 17 August 2021.

THE MAYOR: _____