

COONAMBLE

SHIRE COUNCIL

BUSINESS PAPER

Ordinary Council Meeting

Wednesday, 10 May 2023

Date: Wednesday, 10 May 2023

Time: 4.30 pm

**Location: Shire Chamber
Coonamble**

**Paul Gallagher
GENERAL MANAGER**

Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held in the Shire Chamber, Coonamble on Wednesday, 10 May 2023 at 4.30 pm.

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1 OPENING MEETING

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

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

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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

3 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

4 APOLOGIES/APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

5 DEPUTATION/DELEGATIONS

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Coonamble Shire Council held on Wednesday, 12 April 2023 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings of the meeting.



MINUTES

**Ordinary Council Meeting
Wednesday, 12 April 2023**

**MINUTES OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE
ON WEDNESDAY, 12 APRIL 2023 AT 4.30 PM**

PRESENT: Mayor Tim Horan, Deputy Mayor Ahmad Karanouh, Cr Karen Churchill, Cr Pat Cullen, Cr Bill Fisher, Cr, Cr Terence Lees, Cr Brian Sommerville

Cr Adam Cohen attended via Video Link

IN ATTENDANCE: Paul Gallagher (General Manager), Bruce Quarmby (Director Corporate Services), Dirk Jol (Acting Manager Infrastructure), David Levick (Acting Manager Economic Development & Growth), Marina Colwell (Executive Support Officer)

1 OPENING MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting at 4.34 pm, advising the attendees of the following:

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

- Attendance at the meeting is to be taken as consent by a person to their image and /or voice being webcast (time will be allowed by the Chairperson for people to leave the meeting before it starts);
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2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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

3 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil

4 APOLOGIES/APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

APOLOGY

RESOLUTION 2023/47

Moved: Cr Fisher

Seconded: Cr Churchill

That the apology from Cr Barbara Deans be noted and approved.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

5 DEPUTATION/DELEGATIONS

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION 2023/48

Moved: Deputy Mayor Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Terence Lees

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Coonamble Shire Council held on Wednesday, 8 March 2023 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings of the meeting.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

7 DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr Horan declared a pecuniary interest in item 12.5 Coonamble Shire Council Waste Collection Contract as his sister has an interest in the current Waste Collection contract, and he advised he would leave the room and not partake Item 1 of the recommendation and he would return for item 2.

8 MAYORAL MINUTE

MAYORAL MINUTE

RESOLUTION 2023/49

Moved: Mayor Tim Horan

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Ahmad Karanouh

That the Mayoral Minute be received as a Verbal Report.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

SECTION A - MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY COUNCIL

SECTION B - MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

9 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil

10 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

10.1 CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLUTION 2023/50

Moved: Cr Terence Lees

Seconded: Cr Bill Fisher

That the correspondence listed in the body of the report be noted.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

10.2 COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS UPDATE

RESOLUTION 2023/51

Moved: Cr Karen Churchill

Seconded: Cr Bill Fisher

That Council notes the contents of Annexure 1 attached to the report on the status of Council resolutions.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

10.3 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

RESOLUTION 2023/52

Moved: Cr Terence Lees

Seconded: Cr Brian Sommerville

That Council note the information contained in the Community Services Progress Report.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

10.4 STATUS OF INVESTMENTS - MARCH 2023

RESOLUTION 2023/53

Moved: Cr Bill Fisher

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Ahmad Karanouh

That Council notes the list of investments from 01 March 2023 to 31 March 2023 and that these investments comply with section 625(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* and Council's Investment Policy.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

10.5 RATES AND CHARGES COLLECTIONS - MARCH 2023**RESOLUTION 2023/54**

Moved: Cr Pat Cullen

Seconded: Cr Terence Lees

That Council notes the information provided in the report.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0**10.6 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & GROWTH - PROGRESS REPORT****RESOLUTION 2023/55**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Bill Fisher

That the contents of this report be noted.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0**10.7 SALEYARDS REPORT- 31 MARCH 2023****RESOLUTION 2023/56**

Moved: Cr Karen Churchill

Seconded: Cr Pat Cullen

That Council note the information provided in this report.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

10.8 ENVIRONMENT AND STRATEGIC PLANNING PROGRESS REPORT**RESOLUTION 2023/57**

Moved: Cr Terence Lees

Seconded: Cr Brian Sommerville

That Council note the information contained within the Environmental and Strategic Planning Progress Report.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

10.9 APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER COUNCIL'S DONATIONS POLICY**RESOLUTION 2023/58**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Karen Churchill

That Council resolves to provide financial assistance to the Coonamble Golf Club in the amount of \$5,000.00.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

10.10 DRAFT OPERATIONAL PLAN ACTION ITEMS**RESOLUTION 2023/59**

Moved: Cr Karen Churchill

Seconded: Cr Terence Lees

- 1. That Council notes the information contained in this report.**
- 2. That Council adopt 'in principle' the draft Operational Plan 2023 / 2024's action items.**
- 3. That these action items along with the remaining components of the entire Operational Plan 2023 / 2024 be placed on public exhibition for 28 days prior to its final adoption by Council no later than 30 June 2023.**

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

10.11 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES - WORKS IN PROGRESS**RESOLUTION 2023/60**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Karen Churchill

That Council note the information in this report.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

10.12 TOORAWEEAH ROAD UPGRADE - MONTHLY STATUS UPDATE**RESOLUTION 2023/61**

Moved: Cr Bill Fisher

Seconded: Cr Karen Churchill

That the information be received and noted.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

10.13 POOL OPERATIONS**RESOLUTION 2023/62**

Moved: Cr Bill Fisher

Seconded: Cr Terence Lees

That Council

- 1. Resolves not to pursue unsupervised access to Coonamble and Gulargambone aquatic facilities.**
- 2. Seek tenders for contractors to manage both facilities.**
- 3. Review the operation of the Quambone facility including particularly remote camera security and alarms linked to on call staff.**

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

10.14 STREET TREES**RESOLUTION 2023/63**

Moved: Cr Karen Churchill

Seconded: Cr Bill Fisher

That Council

- 1. Receive and note the draft Coonamble Street Tree Transition Plan 2033.**
- 2. Council place the Coonamble Street Tree Transition Plan 2033 on public exhibition and workshop the plan concept with the community and local Chamber of Commerce, with a further report to be provided to Council following the consultation.**
- 3. Note the proposal to draft a Quambone and Gulargambone Street Tree Transition Plans 2033 in the near future.**
- 4. Note that the bougainvillea's will be planted on a "T" shaped trellis adjacent to the footpath at 67 Aberford Street, Coonamble.**
- 5. That the budget for street trees be considered for an increase in the draft budget and the time frame for the program be reduced by five (5) years.**
- 6. That tree planting be considered in the main street where there are no awnings.**

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

10.15 COONAMBLE CEMETERY**RESOLUTION 2023/64**

Moved: Cr Pat Cullen

Seconded: Cr Bill Fisher

That Mrs Rogan's donation and the beautification works be noted.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0**10.16 WHEEL STOPS - CASTLEREAGH STREET, COONAMBLE****RESOLUTION 2023/65**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Pat Cullen

That Council:

- 1. Receive and note the results of the Wheel Stop Survey.**
- 2. Seek quotations to undertake the replacement of the wheel stops with concrete wheel stops potentially painted white or the Ochre Orange in line with Councils branding to improve visibility.**
- 3. Line mark the parking bays in conjunction with the replacement of the wheel stops.**
- 4. Note that the cost for these works are estimated to be \$50 000.00 and to be funded from the sealed urban roads capital renewal budget for 2022 – 2023.**
- 5. That Councillors view a sample of the proposed wheel stop prior to purchasing.**

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees, Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0**11 NOTICES OF MOTIONS/QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE/RESCISSION MOTIONS**

Nil

At 5.47 pm Council breaks for tea.

Council resumes the meeting at 6.15 pm in closed session.

12 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**RESOLUTION 2023/66**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Pat Cullen

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

12.1 Gulargambone Pool

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - g of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with advice concerning litigation, or advice as comprises a discussion of this matter, that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege.

12.2 Master Inland Rail Development Agreement (MIRDA)

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - e of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law.

12.3 Site considerations for the Coonamble Artesian Bathing Experience - and potential alternatives

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

12.4 Coonamble and Gulargambone Waste Facility

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - a of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

12.5 Coonamble Shire Council Waste Collection Contract.

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - a of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

CARRIED

12.1 GULARGAMBONE POOL

RESOLUTION 2023/67

Moved: Cr Bill Fisher

Seconded: Cr Terence Lees

That Council note the response in respect of the addresses to Council and Coonamble Times article.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

12.2 MASTER INLAND RAIL DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT (MIRDA)**RESOLUTION 2023/68**

Moved: Cr Bill Fisher

Seconded: Cr Terence Lees

That Council endorse the draft Master Inland Rail Development Agreement (MIRDA) between Coonamble Shire Council and the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC), save and except clause 5.3 Contamination, for execution by the General Manager.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

12.3 SITE CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE COONAMBLE ARTESIAN BATHING EXPERIENCE - AND POTENTIAL ALTERNATIVES**RESOLUTION 2023/69**

Moved: Cr Karen Churchill

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Ahmad Karanouh

That Council resolve to:

- 1. Continue with Option A (the Golf Club site) as the preferred site until all land tenure issues are exhausted.**
- 2. Continue with investigations of other potential sites in the event that Option A (the Golf Club site) does not come to fruition.**

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

Council staff – Bruce Quarmby, Dirk Jol, David Levick and Marina Colwell left the meeting at 7.30pm and did not return.

12.4 COONAMBLE AND GULARGAMBONE WASTE FACILITY**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council resolve to:

- 1. Extend the Castlereagh Hire contract for a period of three (3) months from 1 July 2023 and then offer a month by month contract up to and no later than 30 December 2023.**
- 2. Develop a plan for Council to run and operate the waste facilities in-house with its own day labour and plant, with a report to be presented back to Council within the next quarter.**

Mayor Horan declared an interest in item one (1) and left the room whilst the matter was discussed. The Mayor vacated the chair and the Deputy Mayor Karanouh to the chair for discussions on the item.

At 7.55 pm, Mayor Tim Horan left the meeting.

12.5 COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL WASTE COLLECTION CONTRACT.**RESOLUTION 2023/70**

Moved: Cr Karen Churchill

Seconded: Cr Bill Fisher

That Council resolve:

- 1. To call for quotations for waste collection to 30 June 2024.**

In Favour: Crs Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

Mayor Horan returned to the meeting and took the chair for discussions on item two (2).

RESOLUTION 2023/71

Moved: Cr Karen Churchill

Seconded: Cr Bill Fisher

2. That staff investigate the options for council to run and operate the waste collection in-house, with a report to be presented back to council within the next quarter.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

RESOLUTION 2023/72

Moved: Cr Karen Churchill

Seconded: Cr Brian Sommerville

That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council at 8.25pm.

In Favour: Crs Tim Horan, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Pat Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh, Terence Lees and Brian Sommerville

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

Cr Fisher and Cr Lees left the room after returning from closed section to attend a bushfire.

13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

The Meeting closed at 8.32pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council held on 10 May 2023.

.....
CHAIRPERSON

7 DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

8 MAYORAL MINUTE

MAYORAL MINUTE

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

MAYORAL MINUTE

Councillors

I submit below information relative to my activities on behalf of Council since the April 2023 meeting. Although it's been a quiet period, there has been progress on some long-standing issues.

It is pleasing to see the recruitment of staff continuing and I look forward to welcoming the following people who will be joining Council following recruitment:

- Kerri Murphy – Director Infrastructure
- Sergei Iagunkov – Manager Water and Sewer
- Mick Bell – Manager Parks and Open Spaces
- David Levick – Manager Economic Development & Growth
- Lesley Duncan - Manager Planning, Building and Compliance.

Council is advertising for both the Director Community and Development and Manager People and Culture roles.

The General Manager has acknowledged we still have a number of other vacancies (both indoor and outdoor) across Council operations and has asked staff to be patient whilst we begin recruiting to eventually have a full team across all of Council.

1. Coonamble Rodeo Association – Additional Camping Area

In company with the General Manager, I attended a recent meeting of the Coonamble Rodeo Association, at which the matter of an additional camping area for events being held at the Showground was further discussed.

Prior to that meeting, I was accompanied by the General Manager and the Manager of Economic Development and Growth, on a site inspection of the area of Showground Reserve on the eastern side of the highway adjacent to the Showground.

Councillors are aware that this area was leased to the late Mr Ted Ryan for many years and following his death, the lease was taken up by his daughter until its expiry some considerable time ago.

On several occasions in the past, I have met with family members of the former lessees, who wish to continue to use the area to graze a few head of stock. The negotiations have been amicable and the third party is agreeable to co-operate with other users for specific events being held at the Showground, e.g. rodeo / campdrafts / show, etc. In order to accommodate all parties a Plan of Management is being

prepared for this arrangement to work without inconvenience or disruption to either party.

Councillors would recall the complaints that emanated from last year's rodeo, with the overflow of people camping in the Sportsground. It is prudent that we ensure this situation is better managed in the future. The concept of using the vacant land opposite the grounds was discussed and the Rodeo Committee has now obtained approval through its insurance for the camping.

Council will assist by undertaking the following tasks:

- Apply for a speed reduction on the highway to assist in managing traffic coming from the south.
- Provide vehicle gateway off the lane.
- Provide a pedestrian gateway off the grounds to control safety of pedestrians.
- Slash the paddock and laneway and grade around the boundary to clear any fire danger.
- Provide nightline to funnel vehicles within camping area.
- Provide VMS prior to speed drop "warning of local traffic hazard".
- Provide bunting for walkway on both sides of Rodeo Committee.

The Rodeo Committee will be responsible for the following:

- Lighting towers x 3.
- Public toilets.
- Security staff from 6.00 p.m. to 6.00 a.m. on Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 June (Friday 9 June to be managed by the Committee and Rotary).
- Manage the vehicle access (no access from 9.30 p.m. nightly until daylight).
- Daily cleaning of camping area and toilets.
- Provision of bins for rubbish and signage displaying rules etc.
- The Committee will manage all ticketing and return paddock in a clean and tidy condition.

2. Coonamble Chamber of Commerce Meeting

Council was represented at the last meeting of the Chamber of Commerce by the General Manager, Manager of Economic Development and myself. Also, it provided an opportunity to introduce the General Manager to Chamber members.

The "hot topic" was obviously discussion surrounding the /sins of the Soil Hotel (SOTS) and, in essence, I believe that the concept was supported as a means of rejuvenating the main street. Retention of the façade of the building was discussed at length and Councillors may recall the articles and my response which appeared in a recent issue of the Coonamble Times.

3. Coonamble Feedlot – Proposed Expansion

On Wednesday 3 May 2023 the General Manager and I met with Messrs David and Angus Chadwick regarding their proposal to expand the current feedlot to accommodate additional numbers.

The owners are liaising with Council's officers regarding lodgment of a development application and progressing through the various processes associated with this type of development.

We are very aware of the length of time any project of this nature takes to come to fruition, having to comply with requirements of the various authorities concerned.

The feedlot is an essential value-adding industry which provides work and, in turn, boosts the local economy and Council would welcome any expansion which would provide additional benefits to our area.

Messrs David and Angus Chadwick have indicated their intention to address Council's June meeting to provide the latest update and status of their proposed project.

In May 2022 Council was addressed by Mr David Chadwick on this same proposal and it would now be an opportune time to hear the latest progress and future plans.

4. Meeting with Roy Butler's Team

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend this meeting last week, however the General Manager had the opportunity to catch up with members of Roy Butler's team, Melissa Manchee (Barwon Electorate Officer) and John Clements (Senior Policy Advisor) when they visited Coonamble.

Many issues were discussed which are relevant to the Barwon Electorate throughout and the following items which are more pressing locally were discussed:

- *Land development:* The General Manager outlined the need to provide housing to entice people to relocate here for economic growth to occur in the LGA. The General Manager sought assistance and advocacy to progress land development and advised the representatives that Council is looking at various options for land development for both residential and industrial.
- *Employment:* This is an issue nationally and the ability to get both qualified and unqualified staff hinders the delivery of services to our communities. We are fortunate that we are progressing with our recruitment, however the General Manager spoke about support for the Water Alliance setting up a Centre of Excellence for training in LG water and sewerage operations. This is a specialized area of training in water security and the need to train plant operators and builders is paramount and the encouragement of youth into these fields should be a priority.
- *Water security and sewerage services:* This goes hand-in-hand with land development. Whilst we have a good water supply from the bores, Council requires another water reservoir to cater for peak demands and eliminate the need to impose water restrictions on the community. It was agreed that there would be support from Roy to facilitate Council meetings with the appropriate

departments and the Minister. The sewer is not so dissimilar to the above – we have an aging treatment plant which will need work to facilitate more development.

5. Conclusion

Prior to signing off, I want to congratulate our General Manager and commend him on his achievements in the short time he has been with Council. Paul has made some positive changes to the organization and continues to make decisions which will have a beneficial flow-on effect for our communities.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayoral Minute be received and noted.

SECTION A - MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY COUNCIL

SECTION B - MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

9 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil

10 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

10.1 CORRESPONDENCE

File Number: C20

Author: Marina Colwell-Executive Support Officer

Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager

Annexures: Nil

CORRESPONDENCE

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

Date	Information Sent	Author	In	Out	Sent
11/04//2023	Coulton’s Catch Up – Monday 10 April 23	Mark Coulton MP	✓	✓	✓
17/04/2023	Coulton’s Catch Up – Monday 10 April 23	Mark Coulton MP	✓	✓	✓
20/04/2023	Circular – 23-01 Public Spaces	OLG	✓	✓	✓
03/05/2023	MDBA Newsletter – River Reach	MDBA	✓	✓	✓
	Coulton’s Catch Up – Monday 1 May 23	Mark Coulton MP	✓	✓	✓
	Coulton’s Catch Up – Monday 24 April 23	Mark Coulton MP	✓	✓	✓
	Quarry Operations	Paul Gallagher GM		✓	✓

RECOMMENDATION

That the correspondence listed in the body of the report be noted.

10.2 COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS UPDATE

File Number: C17; C20

Author: Marina Colwell-Executive Support Officer

Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager

Annexures: 1. Resolutions Update - May 23

PURPOSE

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

BACKGROUND

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

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

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

(b) Financial Considerations

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

COMMENTARY

A table with information about outstanding Council resolutions is attached as Annexure 1 to the report, in the following format:

Date	Resolution No.	Action Required	Responsible Officer	Status/Update

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the contents of Annexure 1 attached to the report on the status of Council resolutions.

Council Resolutions Update - Annexure 1

Date	Resolution No.	Matter Description	Action Required	Responsible Officer	Status/Update
11.1.22	2022/11	Priority Items to be Pursued	Review & Adoption of Approvals & Order Policies – within 12 months	Manex (Executive Management Team)	Progressing
11.1.22	2022/11	Priority Items to be Pursued	Review of Delegations – within 12 months	GM	Ongoing.
9.2.22	2022/21	Youth Services in LGA	Determine current services, coordination and possible duplication and gaps analysis	ELESPC	Ongoing.
9.2.22	2022/29	LEP Amendments	Availability of suitable residential land – including small rural blocks, larger rural subdivisions, restrictions on acreage size in RU1 zoning	ELESPC	LEP Amendment for housekeeping amendments tabled at 13 May 2022 meeting
9.2.22	2022/30	CDEP-like community employment and training program	Discussions with Federal MP and other stakeholders	Mayor/GM	Redi.e are administrating similar funding and they have indicated that they are interested in applying for this funding for Coonamble – with a letter of support from Council
9.2.22 14.8.22	2022/44 2022/225	Compulsory Acquisition of land – Bore Baths	Legal processes to be followed	Casual MED&G (David)	Acquisition is in progress
9.3.22	2022/53	Report be prepared for Council's consideration - available Council owned or controlled land as well as information on the Native Title status of the land adjoining the Coonamble Jockey Club.	Report be prepared for Council's consideration, including the community feedback gathered, so that it can be used to inform the future direction and progress of the project	MEDG (David)	Confidential report to be considered at the April 2023 meeting.

Date	Resolution No.	Matter Description	Action Required	Responsible Officer	Status/Update
15.6.22	2022/116	Plan of Management – Sports Oval	Inclusion of ‘one off camping facility’ at the sports oval - plan	Bruce/MUS	Progressing – the inclusion of the ability for the Sportsground to act as a ‘one off camping facility’ has been included in the draft plan
15.6.22	2022/121	Review of Social Media Policy	Review the policy, place on public exhibition for required time inviting submissions from the community before adoption	AMED (David)	Awaiting a suitable time for workshop with Councillors - Ongoing
15.6.22	2022/129	Draft Masterplan for the Coonamble Pool & McDonald Park Precinct	That Council places the Masterplan on public exhibition for required time inviting submissions from the community before adoption	Manager Urban Services MUS (Phil)	Report to be prepared - Pending results back from structural engineer. Awaiting response.
15.6.22	2022/136	Notice of Motion (Cr Churchill): 1. Collection of information regarding ‘slow down signs’ at Gulargambone	Meeting with Transport for NSW to be held regarding use of radar signage during harvest period.	MR (Dirk)	Report to April Ordinary Meeting Waiting on TfNSW in order to report to council
15.6.22		2. Fence – Tully Park & Preschool	Meet with representatives to discuss the possibility of a new fence, prepare a report to be bought back to Council with estimated costs	Bruce	On Hold – meeting to be arranged between Council and Committee
15.6.22		3. Coonamble Men’s Shed	Prepare a report to be bought back to Council with the estimated costs & likelihood of facilitating the following: *Improved security *Installation of Solar Panels	Bruce	On hold – Funding to be included in 2023/04 Draft Operational budget for Council’s consideration and determination.

Date	Resolution No.	Matter Description	Action Required	Responsible Officer	Status/Update
13.7.22	2022/153	Industrial Land Review	Council to research the possibility of acquiring land for industrial use	AMED (David)	Ongoing.
10.8.22	2022/204	Substitute Area for local sporting clubs	Investigate alternative and appropriate area for substitute sports grounds	(MUS)	Meetings being held with User Groups with preliminary findings indicating the issue is a scheduling challenge rather than a capacity issue. Unable to schedule meeting with Junior Rugby League as no committee. New committee has formed so a new meeting and time to be set.
09.11.22	2022/264	Cemeteries Maintenance	Staff to develop a Plan of Management for the Cemeteries within the Shire	Dirk / MUS	Plan of Management in development.
09.11.22	2022/265	Traffic Stoppers - CBD	Community Consultation to be undertaken on either removal or retention.	Dirk/David	Survey out to public to close 18/3/23
09.11.22	2022/267	Housing Strategy	Council to seek expressions of interest from persons with available land and or houses	GM/Bruce	ongoing
09.11.22	2022/269	Warrena Weir Plan of Management (POM)	POM to be put on exhibition inviting community feedback	Bruce/David	Small amendments and corrections required in the plan before calling the public consultation.
09.11.22	2022/291	Coonamble CBD	Investigations to be carried out on the development of the CBD	Bruce	Ongoing
14.12.22	2022/289	Review of Signage (mining)	Review the signage at the entrances to the town	Dirk/David	Clarification on Signs meeting framework of LEP & DCP; draft signage being prepared
14.12.22	2022/290	Evaluation of 2022 Coonamble Street Carnival	Staff to gather feedback from the recent event for evaluation before the 2023 event takes place	David	Progressing

Date	Resolution No.	Matter Description	Action Required	Responsible Officer	Status/Update
14.12.22	2022/300	Resourcing Strategy	Workforce Management Strategy to be placed on public exhibition inviting submissions from the community	Amanda	Progressing
08.02.23	2023/9	Joint Organisation Membership	Council approach the FNWJO to become a member	GM	A letter of application has been forwarded to the FNWJO - waiting on a response. Advice has been received that FNWJO has accepted council, the chair is waiting on advice from the OLG
08.02.23	Motion	Historian recognition	Angie Little to be added to Coonamble's Nick Name Hall of Fame	David	Ongoing; locating a caricaturist
08.02.23	2023/22	Betterment Programme	Council endorse the submission to the OLG from NSW Local Government Recovery Grant	Dirk	Council endorse the submission to the OLG from NSW Local Government Recovery Grant
08.02.23	2023/32	ED&G – Progress report	That Council authorise the General Manager to prepare an Expression of Interest for the Growing Regional Economies Fund, centred on upgrading Coonamble's CBD, with secondary components focused on housing, expanded pre-school/ childcare facilities and the airport.	GM	Had discussions with the Deputy Director of the NSW Department of Regional NSW who advised Council that upgrading the CBD couldn't be justified without growth in a particular industry; she recommended focusing on airport upgrades, justifying its relevance in improving access to health care as a key strategy of the Western Plains Regional Economic Development Strategy (REDS).
08.02.23	2023/42	Real Country Business Case	That the contract for the joint tender between Coonamble, Gilgandra and Warrumbungle Shire Councils, T2/23 Real Country Tourism Experience	David	Decisions forwarded to Gilgandra Shire Council who is managing the contract.

Date	Resolution No.	Matter Description	Action Required	Responsible Officer	Status/Update
			Strategy and Infrastructure Business Case, be awarded to People Place and Partnership.		
08.02.23	Motion	Purchasing Policy	That a review be carried out on Council's local performance purchasing Policy, with respect of the application of a Local Indexing factor applied for local contractors and the dollar value of the tender, Council staff also to review the Tender Process for receipt of tenders.	Bruce/Deborah	Progressing – An amended draft Local Preference Policy is currently being prepared for Council review and endorsement.
08.02.23	2023/45	SOTS	<p>1. That authorises the Mayor and the General Manager to negotiate a purchase price with the owner of the SOTS and bring a report back to Council.</p> <p>2. That Council continue investigations to finance and redevelop the site – as well as the overall enhancement of the Coonamble CBD precinct – through either grant funding, a public-private partnership arrangement, purchase-then-lease model or other models yet to be identified.</p> <p>3. That Council prepare costings on the upgrades of the engineering section and on the current RMS building and a report be brought back to council for consideration.</p>	GM	<p>13/4/2023</p> <p>term 1; Confidential advice on the purchase of the SOTS was provided on 11 March to councillors.</p> <p>In accordance with the direction of Council that the upper limit for purchase was fixed an offer was made to the owner who has agreed to the price. There was a caveat that we had to report the matter back to Council, we had to seek approval from the OLG and undertake some more due diligence and we could be some time away before actually purchasing the site. Our next steps;</p> <p>Make contact with the OLG as we have a statutory requirement to report the business activity and gain OLG approval.</p>

Date	Resolution No.	Matter Description	Action Required	Responsible Officer	Status/Update
					<p>We are sourcing quotes from a business analysis company that can do a business case study for the site with respect to more detailed options on the site, I.e. private partnerships, lease arrangements, suitable business lease to buy and overall financial returns for the options available etc.</p> <p>A further report to Council re resolution on purchase etc once the due diligence has been completed.</p> <p>Item 2; Staff are in the progress of investigations to finance and redevelop the site</p> <p>Item 3; No action on this item, will be subject to the outcome of the SOTS, staff have investigated some alternative sites but nothing firm at this point in time</p>
12.04.23	2023/59	Draft Operational Plan Action Items	Council adopt 'in principle' the draft Operational Plan Action Items	Director Corporate	Works in progress the document along with draft budget to be presented to the May meeting
	2023/62	Pool Operations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do not pursue unsupervised access to Coonamble & Gular pools 2. Seek tenders for management of both facilities 3. Review Quambone pool operations – remote camera/security to linked on call staff 	MUS	Works in progress with a further report to council

Date	Resolution No.	Matter Description	Action Required	Responsible Officer	Status/Update
	2023/63	Street Trees	Exhibit the Street Tree Plans, the time frame for the program be reduced by five (5) years, consider planting trees in the Main street where there are no awnings.	MUS	Works in progress
	2023/65	Wheel Stops	Seek quotations for replacement, Line-marking the bays, Councillors to inspect a sample of the proposed wheel stops prior to purchase	Director Infrastructure/ Manager Roads	No progress as yet
	2023/68	Master Inland Rail Development Agreement (MIRDA)	That Council endorse the draft MIRDA	GM	Waiting on the agreement document to be provided to council for signing and execution
	2023/69	Site Considerations for Artesian Bath	Continue with Opt A (Golf Club Site) and continue with investigations of other possible sites.	MED&G	Works in progress
	2023/70	Waste Collection Contract	Council to call for quotations for waste collection to June 2024	Director Infrastructure	Works in progress
	2023/71	Waste Collection	Staff to investigate the possibility of operating the collection in-house	Director Infrastructure	Works in progress

10.3 STATUS OF INVESTMENTS - APRIL 2023

File Number: Investments General - I5
Author: Imogen Pawley, Finance Assistant
Authoriser: Bruce Quarmby, Director Corporate Services
Annexures: 1. Imperium Portflio Report April 2023

PURPOSE

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

BACKGROUND

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

L1.4.10 Maintain long term financial viability.

(b) Financial Considerations

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

COMMENTARY

Council will note the change in format of the investment report being tabled for Council's information. The format of the report has been configured to demonstrate Council's compliance with the relevant legislative requirements along with Council's own adopted Investment Policy.

The attached Investment Report was calculated at 30 April after all maturing dates for investments had passed.

AVAILABLE WORKING FUNDS

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

As at the 30 / 06 / 2022 the balance of Unrestricted and unallocated cash (working funds) was \$2,642 million.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

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

(b) Legal Implications

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

(c) Social Implications

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

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

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

(f) Risk Implications

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

CONCLUSION

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

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the list of investments from 1 April 2023 to 30 April 2023 and that these investments comply with section 625(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* and Council's Investment Policy.



Investment Report

01/04/2023 to 30/04/2023

Portfolio Valuation as at 30/04/2023

Issuer	Rating	Type	Alloc	Interest	Purchase	Maturity	Rate	Capital Value	Accrued	Accrued MTD
IMB Bank	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	03/03/2023	03/05/2023	3.9100	2,500,000.00	15,800.68	8,034.25
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	04/10/2022	03/05/2023	4.0600	1,000,000.00	23,247.67	3,336.99
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/11/2022	08/05/2023	4.2000	2,000,000.00	40,273.97	6,904.11
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	14/02/2023	15/05/2023	4.1500	2,000,000.00	17,282.19	6,821.92
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	27/10/2022	25/05/2023	4.2400	1,500,000.00	32,409.86	5,227.40
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	28/11/2022	29/05/2023	4.1700	1,000,000.00	17,593.97	3,427.40
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	04/10/2022	01/06/2023	4.1900	1,500,000.00	35,988.08	5,165.75
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	12/12/2022	13/06/2023	4.1700	3,000,000.00	47,983.56	10,282.19
AMP Bank	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	23/09/2022	21/06/2023	4.3500	2,000,000.00	52,438.36	7,150.68
IMB Bank	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	02/02/2023	03/07/2023	4.1500	1,000,000.00	10,005.48	3,410.96
Commonwealth Bank	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	09/02/2023	10/07/2023	4.4300	1,000,000.00	9,830.96	3,641.10
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	13/03/2023	14/08/2023	4.5100	1,000,000.00	6,054.52	3,706.85
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	20/02/2023	21/08/2023	4.5800	1,000,000.00	8,783.56	3,764.38
Commonwealth Bank	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	01/03/2023	01/09/2023	4.7000	500,000.00	3,927.40	1,931.51
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	03/03/2023	04/09/2023	4.6500	2,000,000.00	15,032.88	7,643.84
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	10/03/2023	11/09/2023	4.6000	1,500,000.00	9,830.14	5,671.23
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	27/03/2023	27/09/2023	4.6000	1,000,000.00	4,410.96	3,780.82
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	05/04/2023	05/10/2023	4.4000	1,500,000.00	4,701.37	4,701.37

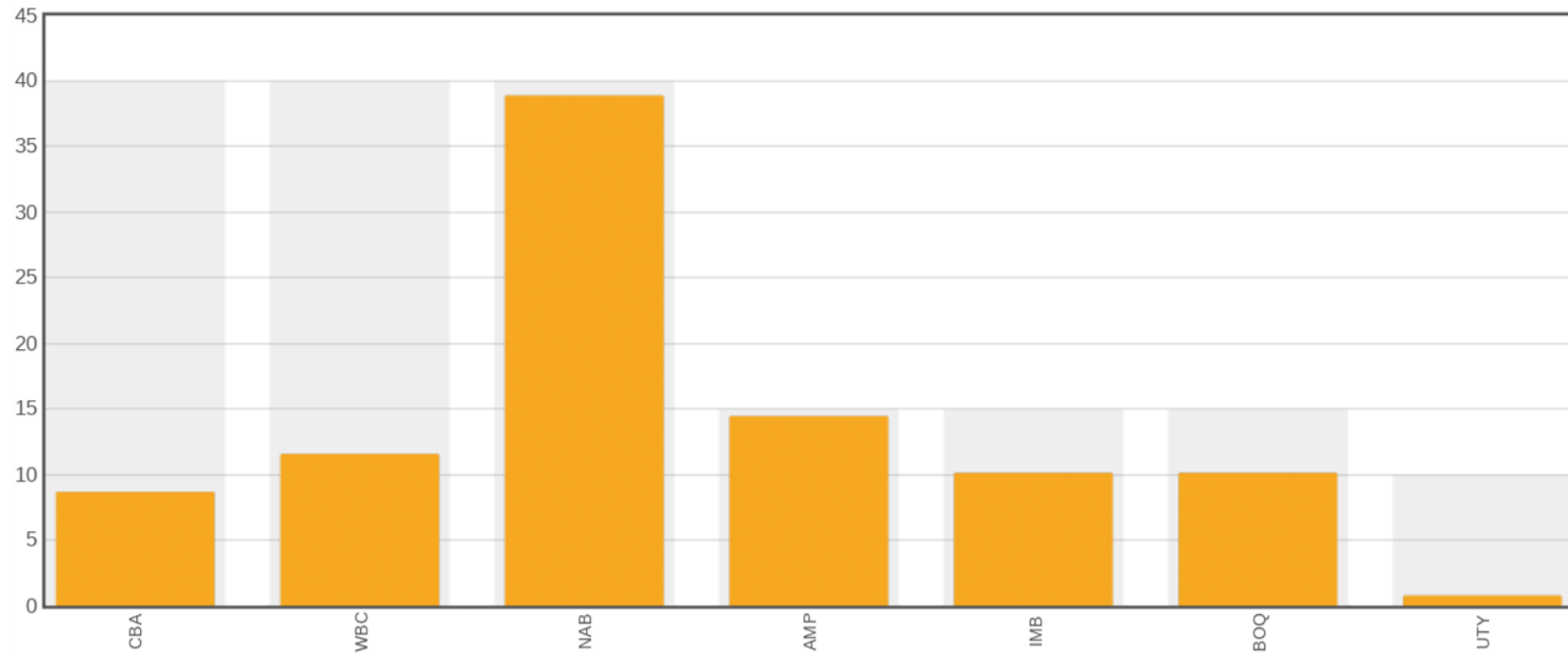
Issuer	Rating	Type	Alloc	Interest	Purchase	Maturity	Rate	Capital Value	Accrued	Accrued MTD
AMP Bank	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	19/04/2023	16/10/2023	4.9000	2,000,000.00	3,221.92	3,221.92
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	24/04/2023	24/10/2023	4.5500	1,000,000.00	872.60	872.60
Unity Bank	Unrated	TD	GENERAL	Monthly	18/11/2022	18/11/2023	4.2000	250,000.00	373.97	373.97
AMP Bank	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	17/04/2023	16/04/2024	4.9000	1,000,000.00	1,879.45	1,879.45
IMB Bank	BBB+	FRTD	GENERAL	Quarterly	04/08/2022	06/08/2024	3.8649	1,000,000.00	8,894.56	3,176.63
IMB Bank	BBB+	FRTD	GENERAL	Quarterly	17/01/2022	16/01/2025	4.1900	1,000,000.00	1,607.12	1,607.12
Commonwealth Bank	A-1+	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	30/04/2023	30/04/2023	3.6000	1,500,000.00	4,438.36	4,438.36
TOTALS								34,750,000.00	376,883.61	110,172.79

Counterparty Compliance as at 30/04/2023

Short Term Investments

Compliant	Bank Group	Term	Rating	Invested	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Limit (\$)	Available
✓	Commonwealth Bank	Short	A-1+	3,000,000.00	8.63	40.00	-	10,900,000.00
✓	Westpac	Short	A-1+	4,000,000.00	11.51	40.00	-	9,900,000.00
✓	NAB	Short	A-1+	13,500,000.00	38.85	40.00	-	400,000.00
✓	AMP Bank	Short	A-2	5,000,000.00	14.39	15.00	-	212,500.00
✓	IMB Bank	Short	A-2	3,500,000.00	10.07	15.00	-	1,712,500.00
✓	BOQ	Short	A-2	3,500,000.00	10.07	15.00	-	1,712,500.00
✓	Unity Bank	Short	Unrated	250,000.00	0.72	10.00	-	3,225,000.00
TOTALS				32,750,000.00	94.24			

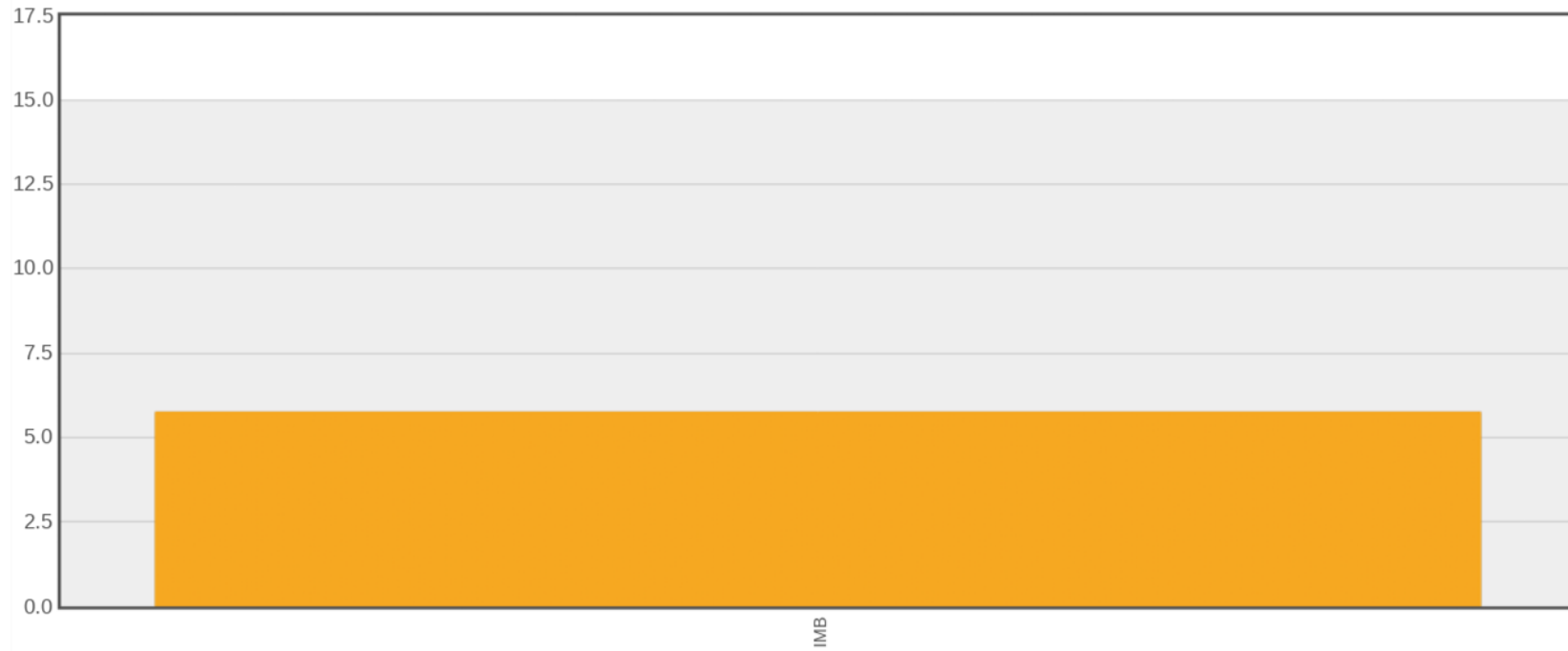
Counterparty Compliance - Short Term Investments



Long Term Investments

Compliant	Bank Group	Term	Rating	Invested	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Limit (\$)	Available
✓	IMB Bank	Long	BBB+	2,000,000.00	5.75	15.00	-	3,212,500.00
TOTALS				2,000,000.00	5.75			

Counterparty Compliance - Long Term Investments

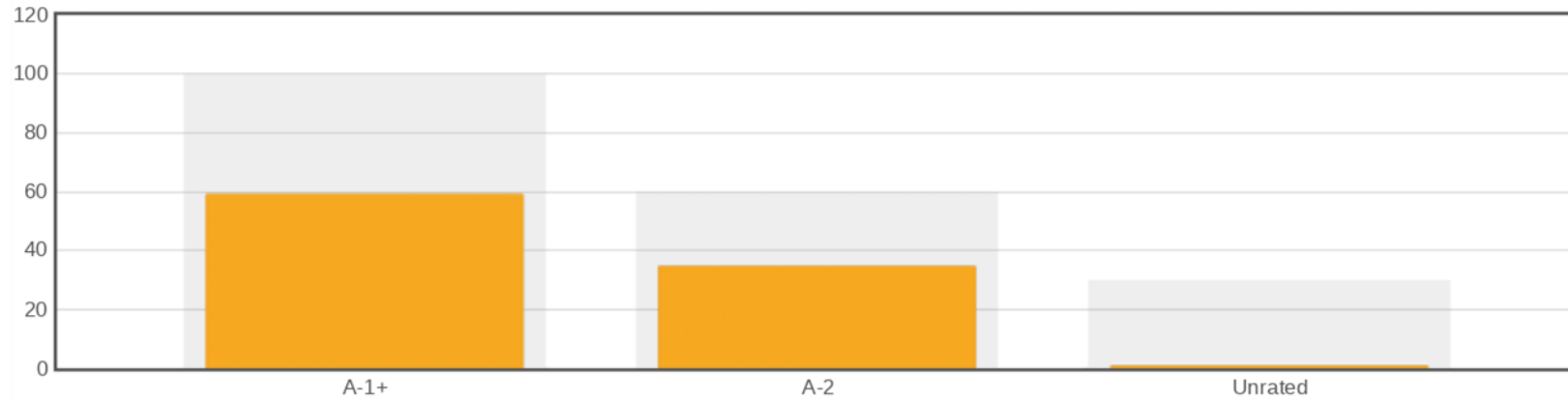


Credit Quality Compliance as at 30/04/2023

Short Term Investments

Compliant	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Available
✓	A-1+	20,500,000.00	58.99	100.00	14,250,000.00
✓	A-2	12,000,000.00	34.53	60.00	8,850,000.00
✓	Unrated	250,000.00	0.72	30.00	10,175,000.00
TOTALS		32,750,000.00	94.25		

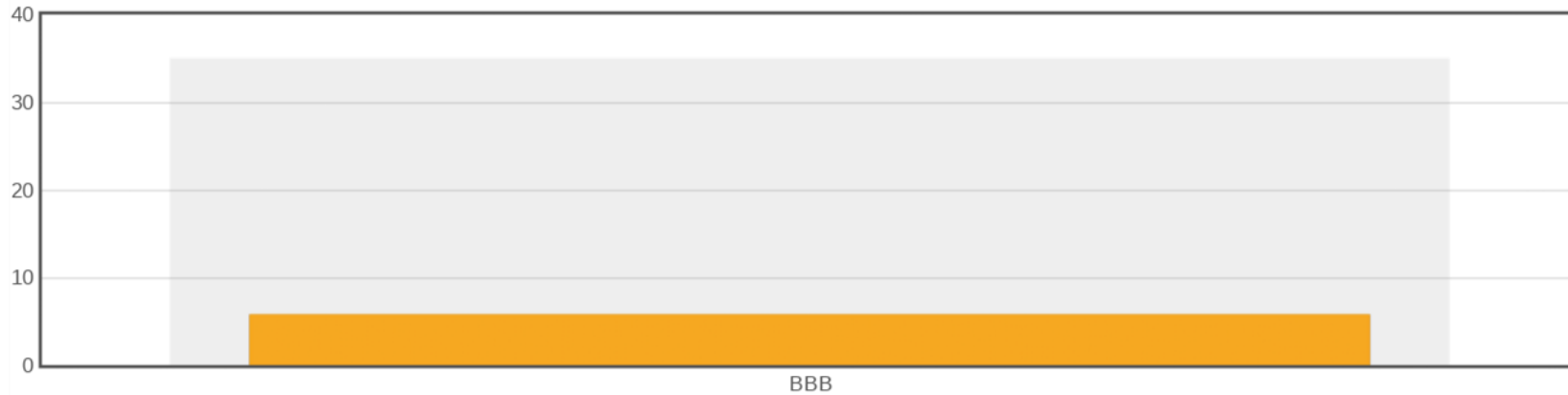
Credit Quality Compliance - Short Term Investments



Long Term Investments

Compliant	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Available
✔	BBB	2,000,000.00	5.75	35.00	10,162,500.00
TOTALS		2,000,000.00	5.75		

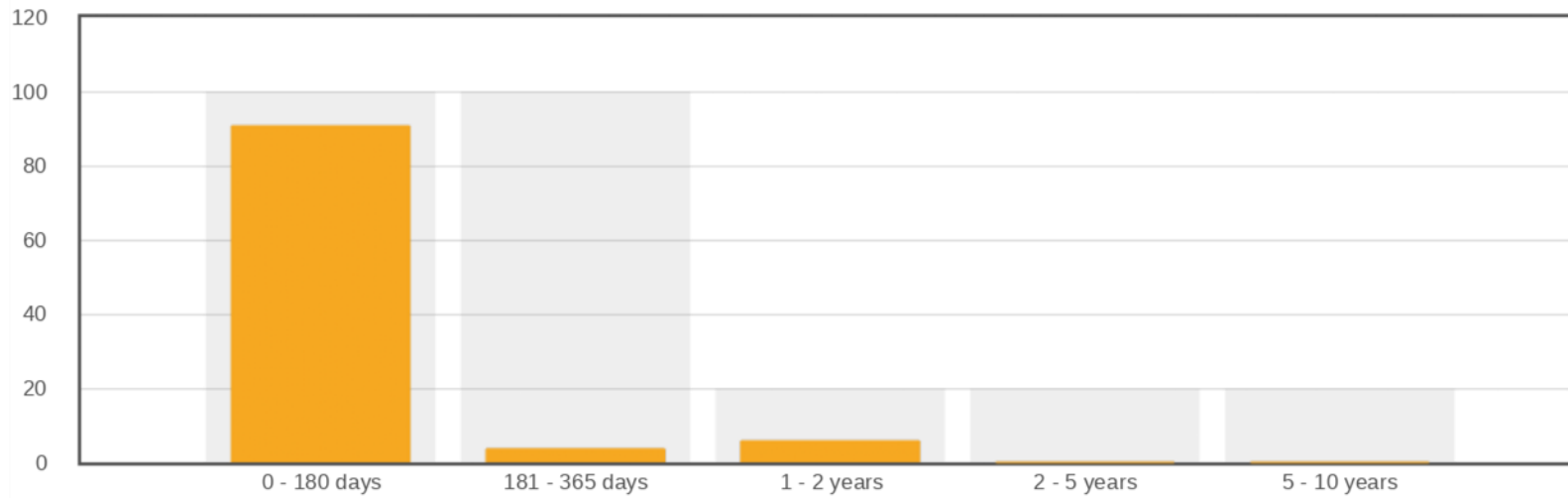
Credit Quality Compliance - Long Term Investments



Maturity Compliance as at 30/04/2023

Compliant	Term	Invested	Invested (%)	Min Limit (%)	Max Limit (%)	Available
✓	0 - 180 days	31,500,000.00	90.65	0.00	100.00	3,250,000.00
✓	181 - 365 days	1,250,000.00	3.60	0.00	100.00	33,500,000.00
✓	1 - 2 years	2,000,000.00	5.75	0.00	20.00	4,950,000.00
✓	2 - 5 years	-	0.00	0.00	20.00	6,950,000.00
✓	5 - 10 years	-	0.00	0.00	20.00	6,950,000.00
TOTALS		34,750,000.00	100.00			

Maturity Compliance



10.4 RATES AND CHARGES COLLECTIONS - APRIL 2023**File Number: Rates - General - R4****Author: Kylie Fletcher, Revenue Officer****Authoriser: Bruce Quarmby, Director Corporate Services****Annexures: Nil****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to be updated with the most recent information pertaining to its rates and charges collections – as applicable to the month of April 2023.

It should be noted that due to staff availability this report was calculated and produced at 1 May 2023 with 34 days of data and compared with reports produced in the prior year which included 30 days of data.

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

The annual rate charges are set out within Council's 2022 / 23 Operational Plan.

(b) Financial Considerations

The annual rate charges are set out within Council's 2022 / 23 Operational Plan.

	30 April 2023	30 April 2022
Rates and Charges	2,270,950.85	2,375,362.77
Water & Sewer Consumption Charges	395,225.97	521,707.49
Total	\$2,666,176.82	\$2,897,070.26

COMMENTARY**Rates and Charges**

	30 April 2023	30 April 2022
Rates and charges in arrears as at 30 June 2022	1,020,037.33	905,674.57
Rates/charges levied & adjustments for 2022/23	7,514,788.43	7,134,607.30
Pension Concession	-105,681.23	-107,988.61
Amounts collected as at 30 April 2023	-6,158,193.68	-5,556,930.49
Total Rates and Charges to be Collected	\$2,270,950.85	\$2,375,362.77

The amount levied for rates and charges for 2022 / 23 includes the current year's annual rates and charges and any interest added since the date the rates notices

were issued. The amount received as of 30 April 2023 includes receipts for both arrears and the current year’s amounts outstanding.

It should be noted that the rates and charges 2022 / 23 levied amount is reduced by the pensioner concession of \$105,681.23; reducing the amount of income derived from these rates and charges. Of this concession, Council’s contribution is 41.96%, which represents an amount of \$44,347.42.

The rates and charges as of 30 April 2023 represent 26.61% of the total annual rates and charges levied and outstanding (compared with 29.54% on 30 April 2022).

Water Consumption Charges

	30 April 2023	30 April 2022
Water & Sewer Consumption Charges and arrears as at 30 June 2022	329,760.33	401,325.23
Water & Sewer Consumption charges & adjustments 2022/23 year to date	412,409.47	659,770.87
Amounts collected as at 30 April 2023	-346,943.83	-539,388.61
Total Water & Sewer Consumption Charges to be Collected	\$395,225.97	\$521,707.49

The consumption charges as at 30 April 2023 represents 53.25% of the total water consumption charges outstanding (compared to 49.17% on 30 April 2022).

Debt Recovery Agency

In accordance with its adopted Debt Recovery Policy, Council continues to work with its Debt Recovery Agency to recover monies owed to Council. All actions undertaken by Council, or its Agency are done so in accordance with the provisions within the *Local Government Act 1993* and Council adopted Debt recovery policy.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

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

(b) Legal Implications

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

(c) Social Implications

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

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report. However, it needs to be acknowledged that Reserve Bank interest rate increases with the additional increase in the cost of living could have an impact on Council's ability to collect its rates and charges.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

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

(f) Risk Implications

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

CONCLUSION

The rates and charges as at 30 April 2023 represent 26.61% of the total annual rates and charges levied and outstanding from previous years by Council (compared with 29.54% on 30 April 2022). The water consumption charges as of 30 April 2023 represent 53.25% of the total water consumption charges outstanding from previous years (compared to 49.17% on 30 April 2022).

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the information provided in the report.

10.5 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & GROWTH - PROGRESS REPORT

File Number: D5
Author: David Levick-Acting Manager Economic Development and Growth
Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager
Annexures: Nil

PURPOSE

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

BACKGROUND

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

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework







- ED1.2 Develop our economy, including the visitor economy.
- I1.5 Adopt successful strategies which maximise our community’s access to quality infrastructure and assets (I1.5.2 – Coonamble Livestock Regional Market).

(b) Financial Considerations

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

COMMENTARY

Coonamble Artesian Bathing Experience Land Acquisition Update

Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10
					
Survey to LRS	Application to OLG	Proposed acquisition notices	Approval	Acquisition	Title Creation

Council’s application to acquire the Crown Land near the Coonamble Jockey Club is at Step 7 of the 10-step process, requiring sign-off by the relevant Minister and NSW Governor.

This Step 7 is now on indefinite hold until a new Minister is sworn in, following the change in State Government on 25 March 2023. Once signed off, the proposed acquisition is placed on public display for three months, following which the remaining steps can progress, depending on submissions received and any Native Title claims made during the public exhibition period.

Grants

Overview:

Status	This Month	Last Month	Year to Date
Grant-funded projects completed	1	5	31
Grants to be acquitted	4	8	
Grants in progress	20	20	
Grant submissions awaiting decision	1	1	
Successful grant applications	0	1	32

Detailed Status:

Grants completed & awaiting acquittal	Responsibility	Comment
Coonamble Community Recycling Centre	CPD	
Town Entrance Public Art (DSP)	CPD	
LRC11 – Quambone Park Toilet	INF	
Australia Day 2023	CPD	

Grants in progress	Responsibility	Comment
Gulargambone Youth Centre external upgrades	CPD	Final stages underway.
Restore Trooper Stables at Museum	CPD	DA submission
Riverside Caravan Park Development	CPD	Ongoing
Youth Council re-establishment	CPD	Variation being drafted.
Women’s Change Rooms at Sportsground	CPD	Detailed design stage.
Walking Loop around Sportsground	CPD	In progress
Coonamble Family and Youth Fest	CPD	In progress
Pedestrian and Mobility Plan revision	INF	In progress
Cycleway Plan	INF	In progress
Limerick Street Footpath	INF	Preparing tender
Youth Week 2023	CPD	In progress
Coonamble Artesian Bathing Experience	CPD	Land acquisition
Coonamble Youth Empowerment Program	CPD	Tender development
Business Cases for Tourism Infrastructure	CPD	In progress
Gulargambone Sportsground Amenities	CPD	Funding Deed signed
Coonamble Region Art Trail	CPD	Funding Deed signed
Wanderers Tennis Club court upgrades	CPD	Funding Deed signed
Female Friendly Community Facilities	CPD	Funding Deed signed
Mosquito Management Plan	INF	In progress
Autumn Holiday Break Program	CPD	In progress

Communications

Council continues to maintain its communication with the community through:

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

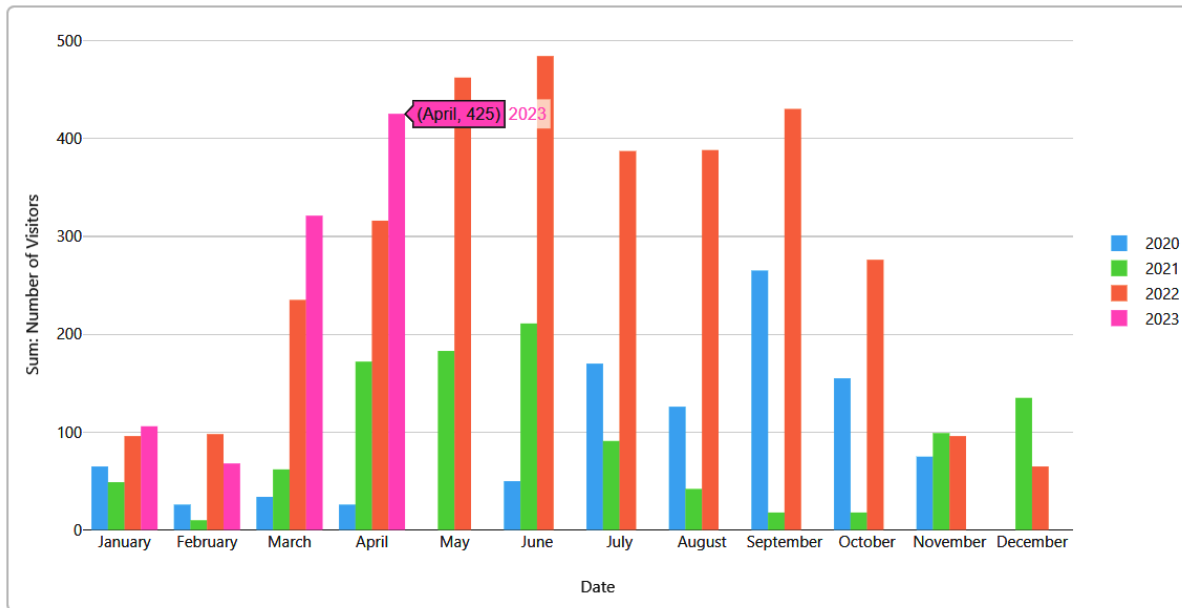
The Facebook posts that achieved the greatest reach during April related to the promotion of the Warrena Weir Youth and Family Fest, (with a reach to 2,273 people) and Drovers on the Castlereagh Highway (with a reach of 1,953), with another 5 posts reaching 1000+ people. These related to the school holiday fun program, the traffic hazard when a tree came down over King Street, Coonamble, and RV camping at the showground during Easter. Although an informal medium of communication from Council to the Community, the significance of Facebook as a means by which to share information quickly and widely with the community is an important one.

Social Media (Facebook) Summary

Measure	This Month	Last Month	Year to Date
Number of posts	17	11	534
Increase in number of followers	+45	+24	+1057
Total number of followers	2808	2763	
Reach	16,592	5,498	

Tourism Statistics

During April 2023, the Information and Exhibition Centre attracted 425 visitors, again increasing in numbers compared with previous years.



There has been a notable trend of residents from across the Shire visiting the Centre for the first time. About 20 local residents visited the Centre during April, for the purpose of seeing it for the first time. Additionally on Monday, 24 April, the Information and Exhibition Centre hosted a weaving workshop as part of the Coonamble High School and Coonamble Public School staff development day. Led by the Coonamble AECG, the purpose of this culture day was for staff to learn more about the Indigenous history and culture of the Coonamble area.

Approximately 90 teachers participated in the weaving workshop, facilitated by Tourism and Events Officer, Maddi Ward. The pieces created will be stitched together to form a collaborative work that will be displayed at the schools and at the Information and Exhibition Centre.



The Centre’s facilities, design and range of information have consistently received positive feedback from visitors. The ‘School Bus’ sculpture continues to be a draw card and an important point of engagement for our visitors.

On 20 April and 21 April, two tour groups visited the Information and Exhibition Centre and the Museum. Travelling from interstate, Kangaroo Bus Lines Brisbane brought 40 visitors to our Centre and, more locally Langley's Coaches from Narromine, brought 15 tourists in their all-male tour group.

Museum Statistics

During April, 62 visitors explored the Museum Under the Bridge, up from 18 the previous month. This level of visitation has been supported by touring groups and school holidays enabling local families and teachers to visit, some based in Quambone and Gulargambone.

As identified, lighting maintenance has been carried out, greatly impacting the safety and presentation of the Museum. The task of more detailed archival cleaning and storage of items will be carried out in the coming months.

Events

- Warrena Youth and Family Fest. In celebration of Youth Week 2023, Coonamble Shire Council is looking to host a free youth and family event at Warrena Weir. At the time of this report, proposed activities include prize giveaways, free BBQ lunch, local musicians, yabby catching, carp muster, birdwatching, dance workshop, colouring in, mobile device photography workshop as well as local services and community groups running activities and building engagement.

Upcoming events:

- Marthaguy Picnic Races, Saturday 6 May 2023
- Coonamble Rodeo and Campdraft, 10-12 June 2023

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

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

(b) Legal Implications

There are no legal implications directly associated to this report.

(c) Social Implications

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

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications directly associated to this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

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

(f) Risk Implications

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

CONCLUSION

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

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the contents of this report be noted.

10.6 SALEYARDS REPORT- 30 APRIL 2023**File Number: S1****Author: Deborah Tatton, Acting Manager Finance****Authoriser: Bruce Quarmby, Director Corporate Services****Annexures: 1. Saleyards and Truckwash - Revenue & Expenditure****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to keep Council informed of monthly income and expenditure associated with the saleyards.

BACKGROUND

The following information details income and expenditure associated with the Coonamble saleyards for the month of April 2023.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

14.1 Ensure long term management and protection of our community assets.

(b) Financial Considerations

The Saleyards / Truck wash unit was originally set up as a business unit for Council.

Saleyards Activities

During the month of April, one (1) sale was held at the Coonamble Saleyards, with the sale held on 27 April 2023.

Due to circumstances outside of Council's control the following planned maintenance that was originally scheduled to be completed in May 2023, will be completed at the saleyards, during the month of June 2023:

- The permanent repair/replacement of the damaged laneway fence in W4 yard. Temporary repairs were carried out during the month of March 2023 to allow the planned sales to proceed.
- The cleaning and backfill of five (5) dirt yards.
- The replacement/repair of two (2) leaking/damaged troughs.
- The installation of isolation valves on troughs throughout the yards.
- Other planned scheduled maintenance.

Following the question being raised at its April Council meeting, Council is advised that the practice of not washing out the two (2) concrete yards that are covered in dirt is a long-standing practise. From the information obtained looking into the question it has eventuated as the demand for dirt yards is greater than the demand for concrete yards.

Truck Wash

The following planned maintenance will be completed at the Truck wash facility, during the month of May 2023:

- The scheduled resetting of the pumps.

- General maintenance as required.

SALEYARDS ACCOUNT 01/07/2022 - 30/04/2023

Saleyard Operations:

Income	104,856.00
Expenditure	121,464.00
Surplus	-16,608.00

Truck wash:

Income	24,269.00
Expenditure	14,758.00
Surplus	9,511.00

Summary:

Income	129,125.00
Expenditure	136,222.00
Surplus	-7,097.00

(c) Governance/Policy Implications

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

(d) Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

(e) Social Implications

There are no social implications arising from this report.

(f) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

(g) Economic/Asset Management Implications

Works are generally scheduled in accordance with Council’s adopted Operational Plan and Budget to ensure Council’s assets are maintained to an appropriate standard within budget limitations. This asset needs some major maintenance works but has been running at a financial deficit for years. More favourable seasonal conditions means that this asset is currently being used on a more frequent basis, but there are risks for Council involved with knowingly using an asset that does not comply with all legislative and other industry standards. Although a difficult situation to address, Council will have to objectively consider all facts surrounding the saleyards, and the most appropriate way forward with responsibly managing this facility into the future.

Council adopted the following resolution at its Ordinary Meeting held on 15 September 2021:

RESOLUTION 2021/217

Moved: Cr Bill Fisher Seconded: Cr Karen Churchill

That Council pursues the development of an upgrade plan for the Saleyards facility to comply with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) and other Government Agencies' requirements and that the Executive Leader Environment, Strategic Planning obtains quotes in this regard for Council's consideration.

CARRIED

(h) Risk Implications

Maintenance works are scheduled and carried out within budgetary constraints to reduce Council's overall risk exposure.

CONCLUSION

The saleyard operations are being closely monitored to ensure a more effective and sustainable strategy for the long term.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the information provided in this report.

ScreenName: Saleyards - Council report
 Data: General Ledger Data
 Filter: All
 Calendar: YTD for April 2022-23

2023 01:00 AM
 Hide Zero: Off

Account No	Annual Amended Budget	Jul MTH Actuals	Aug MTH Actuals	Sep MTH Actuals	Oct MTH Actuals	Nov MTH Actuals	Dec MTH Actuals	Jan MTH Actuals	Feb MTH Actuals	Mar MTH Actuals	Apr MTH Actuals	May MTH Actuals	Jun MTH Actuals	YTD Actuals
5700-0002 - SALEYARDS														
05 - Revenue														
5700-1150 - Saleyards Fees & Charges - Casual	-3,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5700-1152 - Saleyards Fees & Charges - Sale	-88,500	-9,804	-9,432	-10,408	-10,666	-18,634	0	-7,105	-9,846	-20,416	-8,544	0	0	-104,856
5700-1496 - Grants - Saleyards Safety Upgrade	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
05 - Revenue Total	-91,500	-9,804	-9,432	-10,408	-10,666	-18,634	0	-7,105	-9,846	-20,416	-8,544	0	0	-104,856
06 - Expenditure														
5700-2245 - Saleyards Insurances	10,980	10,978	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,978
5700-2255 - Saleyards Electricity Charges	6,580	0	465	432	1,397	531	1,106	641	634	712	909	0	0	6,829
5700-2260 - Saleyards Telephone Expenses	630	50	52	54	0	0	104	102	2	102	2	0	0	468
5700-2270 - Saleyards Rates & Charges	10,615	5,238	0	210	1,925	77	1,369	0	55	0	0	0	0	8,873
5700-2330 - Saleyards Operating Expenses	11,505	197	0	2,353	1,537	2,164	212	327	104	314	392	0	0	7,600
5700-2335 - Saleyards Operating Expenses No GST	7,500	0	937	0	0	831	1,854	0	811	1,691	1,308	0	0	7,433
5700-2340 - Saleyards Maintenance Expenses	78,770	1,887	2,120	9,161	3,219	6,118	14,809	21,515	3,520	6,581	10,353	0	0	79,283
5700-2925 - Saleyards Buildings Depreciation	11,038	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5700-2930 - Saleyards Facilities Depreciation	2,744	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
06 - Expenditure Total	140,362	18,350	3,574	12,210	8,078	9,721	19,454	22,585	5,126	9,400	12,964	0	0	121,464
5700-0002 - SALEYARDS Total	48,862	8,546	-5,858	1,802	-2,588	-8,913	19,454	15,480	-4,720	-11,016	4,420	0	0	16,608
5750-0002 - TRUCKWASH														
05 - Revenue														
5750-1150 - Truck Wash User Fees	-29,000	-5,846	0	-2,341	0	-3,366	-2,621	-3,700	-1,250	0	-5,145	0	0	-24,269
05 - Revenue Total	-29,000	-5,846	0	-2,341	0	-3,366	-2,621	-3,700	-1,250	0	-5,145	0	0	-24,269
06 - Expenditure														
5750-2245 - Truckwash Insurance	72	72	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	72
5750-2255 - Truck Wash Electricity Charges	2,790	0	85	107	686	106	94	88	281	176	246	0	0	1,867
5750-2260 - Truck Wash Telephone Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5750-2270 - Truckwash Rates & User Charges	13,565	0	7	0	3,751	150	2,740	0	110	0	0	0	0	6,758
5750-2340 - Truck Wash Mntce & Repairs	16,020	0	399	1,853	1,972	0	464	0	291	638	444	0	0	6,061
5750-2930 - Depn - Other Structures	10,400	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
06 - Expenditure Total	42,847	72	491	1,960	6,409	256	3,298	88	682	814	690	0	0	14,758
5750-0002 - TRUCKWASH Total	13,847	-5,774	491	-381	6,409	-3,110	677	-3,612	-568	814	-4,455	0	0	-9,511
Total	62,709	2,772	-5,367	1,421	3,821	-12,023	20,131	11,868	-5,288	-10,202	-35	0	0	7,097

10.7 ENVIRONMENT AND STRATEGIC PLANNING PROGRESS REPORT

File Number: E5

Author: Bruce Quarmby, Director Corporate Services

Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager

Annexures: Nil

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the activities within Council's Environmental Services section and Strategic Planning information for the month. This progress report considers town planning and strategic land use planning, compliance and regulation, environmental management, public health, and waste management matters as they arise.

BACKGROUND

The Environment Services section focuses on all town and environmental planning requirements including regulation and compliance, public health requirements, waste management, and environmental management considerations. Strategic Land Use Planning refers to updates to Council's planning instruments and are also included. This report provides a summary of December 2022 and January 2023.

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

- Compliance and Regulation

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

- Development Application Information

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

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

These types of development applications are rare.

- Strategic Land Use Planning

Matters relating to the potential amendments to Council's planning instruments such as the Coonamble Local Environmental Plan or Council's Development Control Plans. Council staff also attend forums, committees and workshops

around strategic land use planning, and this will be provided to Council for information.

- **Sustainability and Environmental Management**

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

- **Ranger's Monthly Report**

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

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

P3.1.2. Inspection of Food Premises.

I3.3.1. Implementation Waste Management recommendations.

EN1.1.1. Enforcement of environmental regulations.

EN.1.1.2. Continue to review Local Environmental Plan.

EN.1.1.3. Ensure compliance with NSW Building Certification.

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

EN.1.1.5 Approvals completed within timeframe required.

P2.2.4 Controlling straying animals.

(b) Financial Considerations

There are no direct financial considerations with this report.

COMMENTARY

Compliance and Regulation

Overgrown blocks

Inspections continue for overgrown properties in Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone since the commencement of a fulltime Regulatory Officer in November 2021. Since the last reporting period no new properties has been added to the register.

The total number of properties active on our Overgrown Block Register is 29

The split of the overgrown properties across the Shire is:

- Coonamble: 11
- Gulargambone: 10

- Quambone: 8

31 properties have complied with Council instructions and cleaned up their property, and Council has been in communication with the remaining property owners. Correspondence explains why owners must reduce excess vegetation because it causes concerns to surrounding residents and may become harbourage for vermin and other undesirable species and pose a fire risk. Depending on the block, pigeons may also cause a health hazard issue. The correspondence explains the process of how Council as the Local Authority has responsibility to ensure that all land or premises are in a safe or healthy condition and explains this regulatory process.

Blocks with unsafe levels of waste:

Council has a register for properties found to have levels of rubbish or waste causing or likely to cause threat to Public Health or the health of an individual. Since the last reporting period no additional properties have been added to this register. For the three properties on the register Council staff have contacted the owner(s) regarding the condition of their block at the time of our inspection.

Correspondence explains why owners must reduce excess waste and rubbish because it causes concerns to surrounding residents and may become harbourage for vermin and other undesirable species and pose a fire risk. The correspondence explains the process of how Council as the Local Authority has responsibility to ensure that all land or premises are in a safe or healthy condition and explains this regulatory process.

The split of the properties with unsafe levels of waste across the Shire is:

- Gulargambone: 1
- Quambone: 2

As previously reported to Council, Council has followed the necessary procedure with the issuing of orders to clean up a fire damaged block in Quambone. As Council has not received a response, it has been necessary to seek quotations from suitably licenced and qualified individuals to carry out the required works. Whilst the initial quotes have been received, management has had to revisit the quotes to review the scope of works provided and ensure the appropriate desired outcome is achieved.

Development Control Orders, Public Health Orders and Infringements

Since the last reporting period no new Orders have been issued.

Development Application Under Delegated Authority

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

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

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

Under delegated authority, the following is a summary of applications approved in March 2023.

April 2023			
Application Number	Description of Works	Address of Proposed Works	Approved Date
CC002/2022	Alterations and additions	Lot 1 DP961887, 40 Castlereagh St Coonamble	4/4/2023
SC001/2023	Boundary alterations	Lot 1 DP754278, Lots 5 & 6 DP1016413, Lots 48-51 DP754278 Beanbah Road & Castlereagh Highway, Coonamble	5/4/2023
SC002/2023	Boundary alterations	Lot 10 DP604040, Lot 342 DP827309 & Lot 7 DP1016413 Beanbah Road, Coonamble	5/4/2023
SC003/2023	Boundary Alteration	Lot32 DP727124 & Lot 29 DP753424 Merri Merri Road, Quambone	5/4/2023
SC – 24908d6f	Pool Certificate	14 Castlereagh St Coonamble	12/4/2023
DA006/2023	Transportable Home	Lot 1 DP213131, 3065 Back Gular Rd Combara	17/4/2023
CC 004/2023	Residential Shed	Lot 1 DP205710 20 Bertram St Coonamble	20/04/2023

Ranger’s Report

The Ranger’s report is provided for April 2023. The follow is a summary of companion animal statistics.

<u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>Year to Date 2022/2023 Total</u>
Infringements (Animals)	0	0
Infringements (Other)	0	0
Change of Details	9	65
Microchipped dogs	7	108
Registrations	1	17
Nuisance dog declaration	0	0
Dangerous dog declaration	0	1
Menace dog declaration	0	0
Seized Dogs	0	1

Impounded animals

During the month of April 2023, a total of thirteen (13) dogs and nine (9) cats were impounded. The following provides a breakdown:

April	Dogs	Cats
Returned to owners	0	0
Rehomed	12	0
Euthanised	1	9
Impounded*	13	9

*Of the total impounded during April, 13 dogs were surrendered from Coonamble, 0dogs from Gulargambone and 0 from Quambone.

Dog attacks

Nil (0) reported during the month of April.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

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

(b) Legal Implications

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

(c) Social Implications

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

(d) Environmental Implications

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

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

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

(f) Risk Implications

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

CONCLUSION

The Environment and Strategic Planning Progress Report has considered town planning and strategic land use planning, waste management, compliance and regulation, and environmental management and health since the last meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the information contained within the Environmental and Strategic Planning Progress Report.

10.8 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW - MARCH 2023

File Number: Financial Quarterly Review F2-2
Author: Bruce Quarmby-Director Corporate Services
Authoriser: Paul Gallagher, General Manager
Annexures: 1. Quarterly Budget Review March 2023 (under separate cover)
2. Draft Fees and Charges 2023-2024 (under separate cover)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a quarterly budget review statement in accordance with Regulation 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (the Regulations). Please refer to the Annexure relating to this report.

BACKGROUND

Regulation 203 of the Regulations states that:

(1) Not later than 2 months after the end of each quarter (except the June quarter), the responsible accounting officer of a council must prepare and submit to the council a budget review statement that shows, by reference to the estimate of income and expenditure set out in the statement of the council's revenue policy included in the operational plan for the relevant year, a revised estimate of the income and expenditure for that year.

(2) A budget review statement must include or be accompanied by:

(a) a report as to whether or not the responsible accounting officer believes that the statement indicates that the financial position of the council is satisfactory, having regard to the original estimate of income and expenditure, and

(b) if that position is unsatisfactory, recommendations for remedial action.

(3) A budget review statement must also include any information required by the Code to be included in such a statement.

The Code referred to above is the Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting. While earlier versions of the Code had an appendix that listed minimum requirements, these were removed a few years ago as they are of no relevance to the financial statements (which is the main purpose of the Code). In the absence of any instructions in the Code, the Quarterly Budget Review Statement publication issued in 2010 by the then Division of Local Government, NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet, details the minimum requirements and these requirements have been met in the preparation of the Quarterly Budget Review Statements (QBRs). The quarterly review should act as a barometer of Council's financial health during the year, and it is also a means by which Councillors can ensure that Council remains on track to meet its objectives, targets and outcomes as set out in its Operational Plan.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

L1.4.10 Maintain long term financial viability.

(b) Financial Considerations

The December budget review as tabled for Council's consideration has a substantial number of variations to the originally adopted 2022 / 23 Operational Budget. Most of these variations represent the necessary accounting treatment associated with adjustments to grant funded programs and their anticipated workflow timings.

COMMENTARY

Appendix A contains further detailed information in regard to Cash and Investments, Contract and Consultancy Expenses and its progression towards achieving adopted Key Performance Indicators as of 30 June 2023.

Council commenced the 2022 / 23 financial year with the original operational budget surplus of \$105,170. At the completion of the March 2023 review Council's estimated budget result for the 2022 / 2023 financial year has deteriorated to an anticipated operational deficit of \$1,078,490.

Council's position after Non-operating expenditure has been considered has also shifted to a \$453,214 draw down on Council's working funds.

Council will note that as in the past, the March Quarter budget review contains a higher-than-normal number of adjustments to its operational budgets, when compared to other budget reviews. This is because the March quarterly budget review is managements last opportunity to adjust its adopted operational budgets to best reflect the anticipated result. The main adjustments that have impacted the overall operational result for the March review are related to the accounting treatment of grant funded programs, the downturn in the anticipated operational result for the Quarry coupled with adjustments to employee related expenses.

As in the past with the preparation of budget reviews, where increases in expenditure have been identified, management has also identified potential savings in the budget to offset these increases. Some of these adjustments are as follows:

- Corporate Services Salaries and Allowances – (P.2) The expenditure vote has been reduced by \$645,000. These savings have resulted from budgeted positions within the organisational structure being vacant for a period throughout the year.
- Internal Audit Costs – (P.3) The expenditure vote has been reduced by \$70,000 to better reflect the anticipated level of expenditure as at the 30 June 2023.
- Asset Management Salaries and Allowances – (P.3) The expenditure vote has been reduced by \$236,096. These savings have resulted from budgeted

positions within the organisational structure being vacant for a period throughout the year. These savings have been utilised to fund an increase in use of contract services within the Asset management function of \$150,000. The additional funding for contract services will be utilised to carry out an Electronic Road condition survey, as well as Renewal Modelling and development of a five (5) year renewal program for Council's consideration.

- Interest on Investment Income – (P.3) The income budget has been increased by additional allocation of \$138,688. This is due to continuing better than anticipated returns on Council Investments.
- Engineering Contract Services – (P.3) The Contract Services vote has been increased by \$382,75 to better reflect the anticipated level of expenditure as at the 30 June 2023. The increase in Contract Services costs is partially offset by an increase in Flood Damage income of \$204,609.
- Storekeeper Salaries and Wages – (P.4) The expenditure vote has been reduced by \$100,000. These savings have resulted from budgeted positions within the organisational structure being vacant for a period throughout the year.
- Oncost Recoveries – (P.4) The budget for funding generated through Oncost recoveries has been reduced by \$800,000 to better reflect the anticipated level for the 2022 / 23 financial year. This reduction has resulted due to a combination of budgeted positions within the organisation structure being vacant, coupled with a reduction in several works programs that contribute to the overall predicted level of Oncosts recovered.
- Plant Hire Income – (P.4) The budget for funding generated through plant hire income has been reduced by \$200,000 to better reflect the anticipated level for the 2022 / 23 financial year. This reduction has resulted due to a combination of prevailing adverse weather conditions during the first six (6) months of the 2022 / 2023 financial year coupled with other operational issues that have impacted negatively on Council's works program.
- Stormwater Drainage Maintenance – (P.7) The expenditure vote has been increased by \$70,000. The additional allocation of funds will allow for a drain cleaning and CCTV program to be carried out on Council's stormwater drainage network.
- Youth Services Salaries and Wages – (P.8) The expenditure vote has been reduced by \$80,000. These savings have resulted from budgeted positions within the organisational structure being vacant for a period throughout the year.

- Community Services Wages – (P.8) The expenditure vote has been reduced by \$238,725,000. These savings have resulted from budgeted positions within the organisational structure being vacant throughout the year.
- Coonamble Water- User Pay Charges – (P.10) The income has been reduced by \$100,000 to better reflect the anticipated level of income as at the 30 June 2023. This reduction in anticipated income is due to combination of the prevailing climatic conditions experienced during the first half of the 2022 / 2023 financial year, coupled with an increase in the percentage of water meters failing to record any consumption.
- Quarries, Pits and Crusher Internal Sales Income – (P.14) The income vote has been reduced by \$750,000 to better reflect the anticipated level of income as at the 30 June 2023. This reduction in income is due to a combination of the of prevailing adverse weather conditions during the first six (6) months of the 2022 / 2023 financial year coupled with several machinery breakdowns which have negatively impacted on the production of materials at the Quarry.
- General Expenses – Quarry & Crusher Operations – (P.14) The expenditure vote has been increased by \$100,000 to better reflect the anticipated level of expenditure as at the 30 June 2023. The increase in budgeted costs can be attributed to the increased production of pre-coated aggregate and the costs associated with the production of this product.
- General Expenses – Operating Costs – (P.14) The expenditure vote has been increased by \$200,000 to better reflect the anticipated level of expenditure as at the 30 June 2023. The increase in budgeted costs has been offset by an anticipated savings in Contractors Quarry Operations (P.14) of \$299,998.
- NSW Local Government Recovery Grant – (P.15) The income vote has been increased by \$1,000,000 which represents the grant funds Council have received under this program. Council will recall that these grant funds have been earmarked to fund the installation of culverts on the Pilliga Road. Following advice provided by Council's Engineering Department, the budgetary allocation for these works have been included in Council's Non-operational budget on (P.20). Council will note that \$150,000 has been allocated to be spent in the 2022 / 2023 financial year with the balance of the funding to be transferred to Council Unspent Grant fund Reserve. This transfer to Reserve will fund the works when they are completed in the 2023 / 2024 financial year.
- Regional and Local Roads Repair Grant Program – (P.15) The income vote has been increased by \$2,935,000 which represent the grant funds Council have received under this program. Following advice provided by Council's Engineering Department, the budgetary allocation for these works have been included in Council's Non-operational budget on (P.20). Council will note that \$300,000 has been allocated to be spent in the 2022 / 2023 financial year with the balance of the funding, being \$2,635,454, to be transferred to Council

Unspent Grant fund Reserve. This transfer to Reserve will fund the works when they are completed in the 2023 / 2024 financial year.

- Flood Damage Funding – (P.15) In accordance with the advice provided by Council's Engineering Department, the budgetary allocation for anticipated revenue for works associated with the restoration of Council's Flood damaged Road's network has been adjusted to reflect the planned level of income and expenditure for the 2022 / 23 financial year. Council will note the corresponding reduction of \$4,800,000 in Council Non-operational budget (P.20).
- Economic Development Salaries and Wages – (P.17) The expenditure vote has been reduced by \$300,000. These savings have resulted from budgeted positions within the organisational structure being vacant throughout the year.
- Coonamble Sportsground – Construction of walking loop – (P.19) In accordance with Council resolution passed at its February 2023 Council meeting, an additional \$75,000 has been allocated to the project to allow completion of the works. In accordance with the resolution this increase in funding has been sourced from Council's development fund (P.19).
- Coonamble Pool Capital Renewal/Upgrade Program – (P.19) In accordance with the advice provided by Council's Urban Service Department, the budgetary allocation for works associated with the renewal and upgrades to the Coonamble Pool have been adjusted to reflect the planned level of income and expenditure for the 2022 / 23 financial year.
- Coonamble Caravan Park Upgrade – (P.19) In accordance with the advice provided by Council's Economic Development and Engineering Department, the budgetary allocation for works associated with the renewal and upgrades to the Coonamble Caravan Park have been adjusted to reflect the planned level of income and expenditure for the 2022 / 23 financial year.
- Coonamble CBD revitalisation design costs – (P.19) In accordance with the advice provided by Council's Economic Development Department, the budgetary allocation for works associated with the design costs for the revitalisation of the Coonamble CBD have been adjusted to reflect the planned level of income and expenditure for the 2022 / 23 financial year.
- Coonamble Sewer Mains relining – (P.21) In accordance with the advice provided by Council's Engineering Department, the budgetary allocation for works associated with the relining of sewer mains in the Coonamble township have been adjusted to reflect the planned level of income and expenditure for the 2022 / 23 financial year.
- Gulargambone Sewer Mains relining – (P.21) In accordance with the advice provided by Council's Engineering Department, the budgetary allocation for

works associated with the relining of sewer mains in the Gulargambone township have been adjusted to reflect the planned level of income and expenditure for the 2022 / 23 financial year.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

There are no governance or policy implications arising from this report.

(b) Legal Implications

The September budget review has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Regulations 2005* – Regulation 203

(c) Social Implications

There are no social implications arising from this report.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

During the 2022 / 23 financial year Council has programmed asset maintenance and capital renewals in order to satisfy required Key Performance Indicators.

(f) Risk Implications

There are no risk implications arising from this report.

CONCLUSION

Whilst the current Operational Budgeted result is indeed in deficit, management will continue to review its operations seeking to identify where possible, savings in operational costs or alternatively additional revenue streams.

Taking this into consideration, it is my opinion that the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for Coonamble Shire Council for the Quarter ended 31 March 2023 indicates that Council's financial position at 30 June 2023 to be satisfactory at year end, having regard to the projected estimates of income and expenditure and the original budgeted income and expenditure

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council approves the variations to votes as listed in the budget review documents distributed under separate cover.**
- 2. That Council notes, in the opinion of the Responsible Accounting Officer based on the information as presented in the March Budget review; that Council will be in a satisfactory financial position as at 30 June 2023.**
- 3. That Council notes the classification and position of Council's estimated restricted (reserve) funds as at 31 March 2023.**

10.9 OPERATIONAL PLAN 2023-24 FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION

File Number: C8

Author: Deborah Tatton, Finance and Procurement Manager

Authoriser: Bruce Quarmby, Director Corporate Services

Annexures: 1. Draft Operational Plan & Budget 2023-2024 (under separate cover)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council’s approval to place the draft Coonamble Shire Council Operational Plan 2023/24 on public exhibition for 28 days to invite comments/submissions from the community. Please refer to the Annexure included under separate cover relating to this report.

BACKGROUND

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

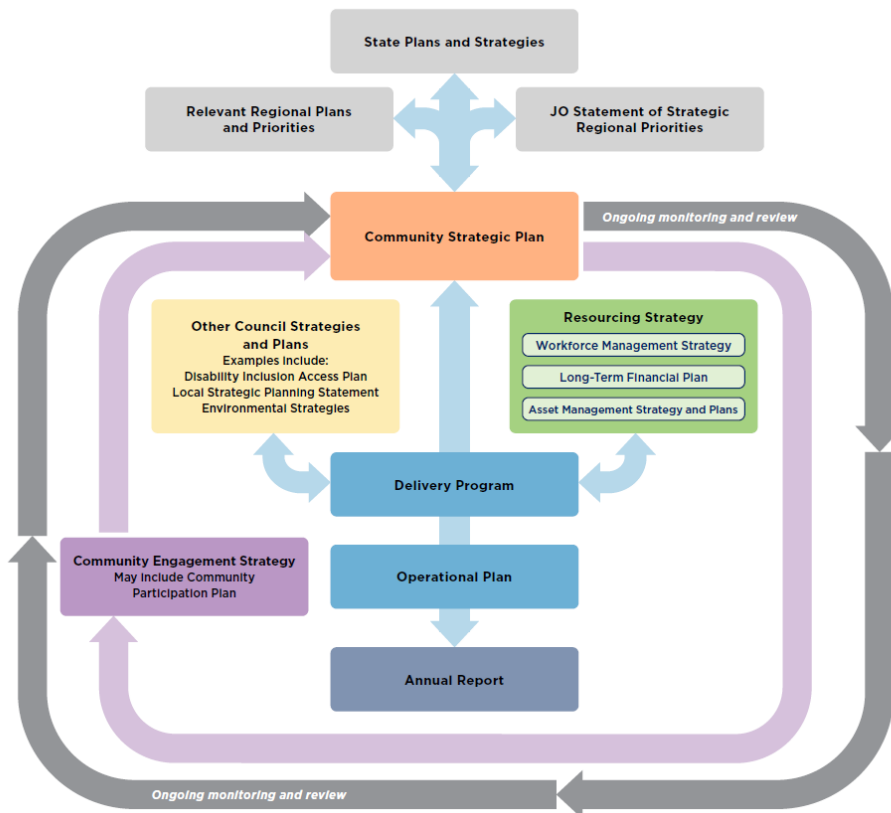


Figure 1: IP&R Framework

Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

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

The main components include:

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

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

The information contained in this report is focused on developing the new Community Strategic Plan which will also lead to the development of the Delivery Program and ensuing Operational Plans. This report recommends the public exhibition of the draft Community Strategic Plan, Draft Delivery Program and Draft Operational Plan.

(b) Financial Considerations

There are no direct financial considerations with the proposed public exhibition of documents.

COMMENTARY

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

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

Attached to this report and includes a recommendation for Council to endorse the public exhibition of the following documents:

1. Draft Operational Plan (statement of revenue policy, annual actions and annual budget).
- 2.

Draft Operational Plan (2023 to 2024)**Draft Operational Plan Executive Summary**

Council's draft 2023/24 Operational plan provides a direct link to the four (4) year Delivery Program and, in turn, the Community Strategic plan. The Program is set out in the five (5) key areas of Our People, Our Infrastructure, Our Economy, Our Environment, Our Leadership: each area with a series of objectives, goals, strategic and specific actions along with performance measures.

Council's draft Budget comprises the following:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| • Operational Revenue of | \$38,527,558 |
| • Operational Expenditure of | \$32,379,961 |
| • Capital Expenditure of | \$49,771,886 |
| • Loan Repayments (Principal) | \$ 46,203 |

The 2023/24 draft Budget as tabled, presents Council with an operational surplus of \$6,147,597. Council should note that main contributing factor to the budgeted surplus is the increase in the amount of operational grants that Council will receive in the 2023/2024 financial year.

Whilst the draft Budget result, reflects an operational surplus, it should be noted that several factors have influenced this result, including an increase in insurance premiums, the legislated requirement of Council to have an Internal Audit function, coupled with the assumption of a 3.7% increase in Council general rates income.

Council's planned capital expenditure budget of \$49,771,886 can be broken down into the following classes:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| • Information Technology | \$ 190,300 |
| • Cemetery | \$ 22,000 |
| • Environment | \$ 250,000 |
| • Public Order and Safety | \$ 20,000 |
| • Plant Acquisitions | \$ 3,873,000 |
| • Council Buildings | \$ 2,709,331 |
| • Sport and Recreation | \$ 2,189,685 |
| • Transport and Communication | \$ 29,935,651 |
| • Ancillary Road Facilities | \$ 150,000 |
| • Economic Services | \$ 1,843,169 |
| • Water Supply | \$ 6,027,750 |
| • Sewer Supply | \$ 1,200,000 |

Draft Operational Plan Background

In line with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*, relating to the Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework, Council is required to develop an annual Operational Plan that is derived from the four (4) year Delivery Program which, in turn, is developed from the ten (10) year Community Strategic Plan.

The *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) states the following in **Section 405** with regards to the **Operational Plan**:

- 1) *A council must have a plan (its "operational plan") that is adopted before the beginning of each year and details the activities to be engaged in by the council during the year as part of the delivery program covering that year.*
- 2) *An operational plan must include a statement of the council's revenue policy for the year covered by the operational plan. The statement of revenue policy must include the statements and particulars required by the regulations.*
- 3) *A council must prepare a draft operational plan and give public notice of the draft indicating that submissions may be made to the council at any time during the period (not less than 28 days) that the draft is to be on public exhibition. The council must publicly exhibit the draft operational plan in accordance with the notice.*
- 4) *During the period of public exhibition, the council must have for inspection at its office (and at such other places as it may determine) a map that shows those parts of its area to which each category and sub-category of the ordinary rate and each special rate included in the draft operational plan applies.*
- 5) *In deciding on the final operational plan to be adopted, a council must consider any submissions that have been made concerning the draft plan.*
- 6) *The council must post a copy of its operational plan on the council's website within 28 days after the plan is adopted.*

Draft Operational Plan Commentary

The Operational Plan consists of a “written part” where strategies and actions have been developed for the 2023 / 24 financial year to achieve the goals and objectives that have been identified in the Community Strategic Plan and the Delivery Programme. The “financial part” of the Operational Plan provides for the financial resources to enable Council to implement the strategies and actions as set out in the Operational Plan for 2023 / 24.

After an analysis of the way in which Council’s Delivery Program had been presented as part of Council’s annual Operational Plans and Budgets, the draft Operational Plan actions for the next financial year have been refined.

The Draft 2023/24 Budget as presented to Council is broken down into two major components; the first being the Operational Budget, which deals with the day-to-day operations of the Council. The other component as presented is the Non-Operational component; this section covers Council’s Capital Works Budget and other transactions that affect its financial position (Balance Sheet).

As discussed at the Council’s budget workshop, the draft Operational Surplus of \$6,147,597, is broken down into the following results for each of its three (3) funds.

Draft Budgeted Operations Result for 2023/24	\$6,147,597
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Comprised of the following fund results

General Fund	\$5,719,083
Water Fund	\$173,615

Sewerage Fund \$ 254,898

Council's draft Non-Operational Budget result for 2023/24 is summarised in the table below:

Draft Budgeted Non-Operational Result for 2023/24	\$12,413,506
--	---------------------

Comprised of the following fund results

General Fund	\$12,464,110
Water Fund	(\$50,604)
Sewerage Fund	\$ 0

In preparing the 2023 / 24 draft Budget for consideration it was necessary to base the predicted levels of income and expenditure on a range of core financial assumptions. These assumptions are based on prior results and staff research. Dealing first with Council's Income streams the following assumptions were used:

- The full rate peg increase of 3.7% has been applied to Council's General Rate Revenue.
- Based on the current pricing structures and associated system costs, Council's Water Access Charges and User Charges have been increased as follows in line with Long Term Financial Plan:

	<u>Access Charge</u>	<u>User Charge</u>
Coonamble	5% increase	10% increase
Gulargambone	2.5% increase	2.5% increase
Quambone	2.5% increase	2.5% increase

- Based on the current pricing structure and associated system costs, Council's Sewer Access Charges for Coonamble have been increased by 10 percent, whilst the Sewer Access Charge for Gulargambone has been increased by five (5) percent. At the March 2022 Council adopted a new funding model pertaining to the Coonamble sewerage charges to be amended for the additional revenue to be phased in over a four (4) period (instead of a three (3) year period).
- Due to the required changes to Council's Solid Waste Management Practices and the subsequent increase costs to Council for the provision of these services, Council has been required to increase the income generated by these charges.
- The Income from Financial Assistance Grants has been budgeted to increase by one percent (1.0%).
- The income from interest earned on Council's investments has been modelled on an average interest rate of 4.5% for the 2023/24 financial year with an average amount of \$32 million invested in compliance with the Investment Policy.

The following core assumptions were used in estimating Council's Expenditure streams:

- fully fund the organisational structure for the 2023 / 24 financial year.
- Insurance Premium expenses were increased by 7.5%
- Electricity expenses were increased by 18%.
- Unless a specific adjustment was requested, expenditure votes were increased, on average by four (4) percent on the projected 2022 / 23 expenditure. This is in line with current
- In accordance with the relevant accounting standards, Council's depreciation expenses have been budgeted for utilising the most up to date financial information.

In working through the budgeting process to achieve a positive operational result, several potentially significant issues were identified by management. The two major issues identified by management were Council's continued "dependence" on grant funding coupled with the impact that changes to Council's levels of depreciation expenditure, once recognised, could have on the operational result.

Dealing first with the issue of grant funding, whilst it is indeed a positive for Council to be able to attract significant levels of grant funding to fund both operational and capital works, it also has the capacity to "divert" Council's attention away from certain financial and operational issues. In addressing the core "hidden" financial issue, whilst the income received from grant funds may allow Council to achieve a balanced or surplus result it has the effect of negatively impacting on Council's own source operating revenue ratio. This ratio is a measure of Council's fiscal flexibility, in essence the lower this ratio is for Council, the more dependant Council is becoming on securing external funding in the form of grants to fund its operations.

For Council's information, based on the information contained with the 2022 / 23 draft Budget, its projected own source operating revenue ratio for the upcoming financial year will be 57% which is below the current minimum benchmark ratio of 60% as set by the Office of Local Government.

In relation to the potentially "hidden" operational issues caused by an increased reliance on grant funding, the main area of concern identified is its possible impact on the planning and allocation of Council resources. This occurs when Council must juggle its own workplans and priorities to ensure that the grant funded projects are completed on time and in accordance with the funding agreements. This is made especially more difficult for Council staff to achieve when there is a delay in the announcement and finalisation of grant funding agreements. Council then runs the risk as being perceived by its local constituents as not being responsive to the local needs, as often its own works programs and projects may be placed on the back burner to allow completion of the grant funded works.

The other significant issue identified by management was the impact that changes to the level of depreciation expenditure, as recognised by Council, has on the budgeted operational result. Given that, as per the tabled draft 2023 / 24 Operational Budget, depreciation expenditure currently accounts for 20% of Council's total budgeted expenditure, due care and consideration needs to be given to decisions that may impact on the overall level of depreciation expenditure incurred by Council.

Typically, these decisions relate to either the acquisition, renewal, or disposal of Council Assets. As such, the importance of taking into consideration a whole-life

costing approach when dealing with Council assets cannot be understated, as decisions such as these not only affect Council's current, but future financial performance.

Whilst Council should take into consideration the information contained above, and that it indeed may cause concern moving forward in the future, Council is still currently in a strong financial position. This is supported by the fact a number of key performance ratios, such as its Unrestricted current ratio and Debt service cover ratio remain above the industry benchmarks, as set by the Office of Local Government.

Council's Revenue Policy:

Council proposes to continue to levy ordinary rates using a structure comprising a minimum amount to which an ad valorem component is added. The full annual rate pegging increase of 3.7%, as advised to Council, has been applied for the purpose of these calculations. Other significant changes to the revenue policy are as follows:

- The Water Access charges for Coonamble have been increased by 5 percent on the base access fee.
- The Water Access charges for Gulargambone and Quambone have been increased by 2.5 percent on the base access fee.
- The Sewer Access charges for Coonamble have been increased by 10 percent.
- The Sewer Access charges for Gulargambone have been increased by five percent.
- The Water Usage charges for Coonamble and Quambone have been increased by 10 percent, whilst Gulargambone Water Usage charges have been increased by 2.5 percent. These increases in charges are based on the current pricing structure and associated system costs for the provision of this service to ratepayers, for the respective systems.
- The Domestic Waste Management charges for Coonamble have been increased by 30 percent for the first collection service and 40 percent for the provision of each additional service.
- The Domestic Waste Management charges for Gulargambone have been increased by 5 percent for the first collection service and 40 percent for the provision of each additional service.
- The Domestic Waste Management charges for Quambone have been increased by 15 percent for the first collection service and 40 percent for the provision of each additional service.

Draft Operational Plan Conclusion

Council's draft 2023 / 24 Operational Plan provides a direct link to the four (4) year Delivery Program and, in turn, the Community Strategic Plan. The Program is set out in the five (5) key areas of *Our People, Our Infrastructure, Our Economy, Our Environment, Our Leadership*, each area with a series of objectives, goals, strategic and specific actions along with performance measures.

Council's draft Budget comprises the following:

- Operational Revenue of \$38,527,558
- Operational Expenditure of \$32,379,961
- Capital Expenditure of \$49,696,886
- Loan Repayments of \$ 46,203

It is recommended that Council places the draft Operational Plan 2023/24, along with Council's proposed revenue policy and fees and charges, activities, and budget figures for the financial year 2023 / 24, on public exhibition for 28 days.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

The Operational Plan 2023 / 2024 action items were prepared in line with the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework Guidelines (2021) and the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework Handbook (2021).

(b) Legal Implications

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

(c) Social Implications

The suite of IP&R plans and the annexed Operational Plan 2023 / 2024 action items communicates to the community the actions which Council set out to achieve in 2023 / 2024 and the measures for each actions' progress will be assessed against.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are environmental related action items included within the Operational Plan 2023 / 2024 which are outlined in the 'Our Environment' section.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

There are economic and asset management related action items included within the Operational Plan 2023 / 2024 and these can be found in the 'Our Economy' and 'Our Infrastructure' sections.

(f) Risk Implications

Council has a responsibility to its community to produce an Operational Plan 2023 / 2024 and to ensure Council themselves are aware and understand the actions and measures. Failure to produce and note the Operational Plan 2023 / 2024 would risk compliance with the OLG's IP&R requirements, and a failure to meet its commitment made to its community to deliver the overarching CSP and DP.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that the draft Operational Plan is placed on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days and closing on 7 June 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council notes the information contained in this report.
2. That Council places the Draft Operational Plan, as attached to the report, on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days for the purpose of inviting submissions from the community.
3. That Council authorises the draft Operational Plan 2023 / 24, and hereby makes, fixes, and levies the expenditure amounts set out in the Draft 2023 / 24 Operational Plan and Budget, in annexure under separate cover to the Business Paper, for public exhibition in accordance with the provisions of Section 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993* for 28 days from Thursday, 11 May 2023, with a submission closing date of 7 June 2023.
4. That Council advertises the Operational Plan 2023 / 24 in the Coonamble Times, on its website and Facebook pages and displays the relevant documents on Council's Website, as well as making hard copies available to members of the public who request same.
5. That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 535 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW), Council makes, fixes, and levies the Rates and Charges for the 2023 / 24 financial year, and authorises same for public exhibition as part of the Council's Draft 2023 / 24 Operational Plan and Budget, in accordance with the provisions of Section 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993* for 28 days from Thursday, 11 May 2023, with a submission closing date of 7 June 2023.

Residential – Coonamble:

A Residential – Coonamble rate of 1.501 cents in the dollar on the current land values of all rateable land in the town of Coonamble, with a minimum rate of \$520.00 per annum;

Residential – Gulargambone:

A Residential – Gulargambone rate of 1.2 cents in the dollar on the current land values of all rateable land in the town of Coonamble, with a minimum rate of \$520.00per annum;

Residential – Village:

A Residential – Village rate of 1.28 cents in the dollar on the current land values of all rateable land in the village of Quambone, with a minimum rate of \$510.00 per annum;

Farmland:

A Farmland rate of 0.2261 cents in the dollar on the current land values of all rateable land in the Local Government Area being farmland, with a minimum rate of \$415.00 per annum;

Small Rural Holdings:

A Small Rural Holding rate of 0.80 cents in the dollar on the current land values of all rateable land in the Local Government Area being small rural holdings, with a minimum rate of \$540.00 per annum;

Rural Residential:

A Rural Residential rate of 0.74 cents in the dollar on the current land values of all rateable land in the Local Government Area being rural residential, with a minimum rate of \$510.00 per annum;

Business:

A Business rate of 2.3 cents in the dollar on the current land values of all rateable land in the Local Government Area being Business, with a minimum rate of \$570.00 per annum.

6. That the Schedule of Fees and Charges for the 2023 / 24 financial year be made, fixed, and charged by Council and authorised for public exhibition as part of the Council's Draft 2023/24 Operational Plan and Budget in accordance with the provisions of Section 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993* for 28 days from Thursday, 11 May 2023, with a submission closing date of 7 June 2023.
7. That Council makes, fixes, and levies the amounts contained within the Water Supply Charge Schedule for the 2023/24 financial year, and that same be authorised by Council for public exhibition as part of its Draft 2023 / 24 Operational Plan

and Budget, in accordance with the provisions of Section 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993* for 28 days from Thursday, 11 May 2023, with a submission closing date of, 7 June 2023. FURTHER, that Council makes, fixes, and levies the following charges in accordance with the provisions of Section 552 and Section 501(1) and Section 502 of the *Local Government Act 1993* on such land which water is connected or able to be connected to for the year ending June 2023:

Town/Village	Access Charge (\$20mm)	Usage Charge – 1st Tier (c/kl)	2nd Tier Pricing Limit (kl)	Usage Charge 2nd Tier (c/kl)
Coonamble	400	140	450	220
Gulargambone	500	120	450	185
Quambone	500	140	430	240

The Access Charges as above are for 20mm services, the charges below allow for the size of the water meters as required by best practice pricing. The resulting charges are shown in the table following:

Item	Coonamble (\$)	Gulargambone (\$)	Quambone (\$)
Access charge (20mm meter)	400	500	500
Access charge (25mm meter)	628	785	785
Access charge (40mm meter)	1,600	2,000	2,000
Access charge (50mm meter)	2,500	3,125	3,125
Access charge (75mm meter)	5,624	7,030	7,030
Access charge (100mm meter)	10,000	12,500	12,500

- That the Sewer Supply Charge Schedule for the 2023 / 24 financial year be approved by Council for public exhibition as part of the Council’s Operational Plan and Budget in accordance with the provisions of Section 405 of the Local Government Act 1993 for 28 days from Thursday, 11 May 2023, with a submission closing date of 7 June 2023. FURTHER, that Council makes, fixes and levies the following charges in accordance with the provisions of Section 501(1), Section 502 and Section 552 of the *Local Government Act 1993* on such

land which sewer is connected or able to be connected to for the year ending June 2023.

Residential Sewerage – Coonamble

Sewerage availability charge of \$750.00 per annum per assessment.

Residential Sewerage – Gulargambone

Sewerage availability charge of \$870.00 per annum per assessment.

Sewerage – Coonamble Flats

Sewerage availability charge of \$600.00 per annum per unit.

Sewerage – Gulargambone Flats

Sewerage availability charge of \$790.00 per annum per unit.

Non-residential Sewerage - Coonamble

Sewer charge for Non-residential Sewerage – Coonamble is not less than a minimum charge of \$750.00 per annum per assessment. Non-residential services are also subject to sewer discharge factor (usage charge) related to water consumption. The treatment charge to be applied is 270 cents per kilolitre.

Non-residential Sewerage - Gulargambone

Sewer charge for Non-residential Sewerage – Gulargambone is not less than a minimum charge of \$850.00 per annum per assessment. Non-residential services are also subject to sewer discharge factor (usage charge) related to water consumption. The treatment charge to be applied is 270 cents per kilolitre.

- 9. That the Waste Collection Service Schedule for the 2023 / 24 financial year be approved by Council for public exhibition as part of the Council's Draft 2023 / 24 Operational Plan and Budget in accordance with the provisions of Section 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993* for 28 days from 11 May 2023, with a submission closing date of 7 June 2023. FURTHER, that Council makes, fixes and levies the following charges in accordance with the provisions of Section 496 and Section 502 of the *Local Government Act 1993* for the Waste**

Collection Services (with the understanding that one (1) Waste Collection Service entitles a property owner to a 240-litre weekly garbage service per assessment – unless otherwise indicated):

Particulars	2022/23 Charge per annum (\$)
Domestic – Coonamble Occupied	360.00
Domestic Coonamble – additional Service (per additional service)	200.00
Commercial – Coonamble Occupied	360.00
Commercial Coonamble – additional Service (per additional service)	200.00
Domestic – Gulargambone Occupied	380.00
Domestic Gulargambone – additional Service (per additional service)	200.00
Commercial – Gulargambone Occupied	380.00
Commercial Coonamble – additional Service (per additional service)	200.00
Domestic – Quambone Occupied	360.00
Domestic Coonamble – additional Service (per additional service)	200.00
Commercial – Quambone Occupied	360.00
Commercial Quambone – additional Service (per additional service)	200.00
Coonamble/Vacant Land – within scavenging area	70.00
Gulargambone/ Vacant Land – within scavenging area	70.00
Quambone/Vacant Land – within scavenging area	70.00

- 10. That Council, in accordance with the provisions of Section 566(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, determines that the extra interest charges on overdue rates and charges will be levied at the maximum rate allowable and as advised by the Office of Local Government on a daily simple interest basis for**

the financial year ending 30 June 2024. The rate for the 2023 / 24 financial year is 6.0% per annum (6.00% for 2022 / 23).

- 11. That Council requests the Director - Corporate Services to present a further report, together with all submissions received, to Council at the conclusion of the public exhibition period for Council's consideration and adoption of the final 2023 / 24 Operational Plan and Budget at its Ordinary Meeting in June 2023.**

- 12. That Council, in accordance with the provisions of Section 405(6) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, places a copy of its adopted Operational Plan on its website within 28 days of it being formally adopted at the June 2023 Ordinary Meeting.**

10.10 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES - WORKS IN PROGRESS

File Number: R6
Author: Dirk Jol-Roads Manager
Authoriser: Kerrie Murphy, Director Infrastructure Services
Annexures: 1. Works in Progress for April

PURPOSE

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

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

- I1.1 Employ a strategic approach to the management of our critical road network.
- I1.2 Strengthen our strategic approach to the management of our water infrastructure and services.
- I1.3 Improve our strategic approach to the management of our sewerage infrastructure and services.
- I1.4 Strengthen our strategic approach to the management of our urban drainage infrastructure and services.
- I1.5 Adopt successful strategies which maximises our community's access to quality infrastructure and assets.
- P3.1 Provide support to our sporting, recreation and community organisations which drives improved sporting and recreational opportunities for our community.
- P3.2 Improve the quality of our parks, open spaces, sporting, and recreational facilities, including the MacDonald Park Masterplan Precinct.

(b) Financial Considerations

Provision is made within the 2022 / 2023 Operational Plan and Budget to fund the associated works and programs listed in this report.

COMMENTARY

This report aims to inform Councillors of the Works in Progress in the Infrastructure Services Directorate. Updates are provided for each Departmental area which includes Roads, Water and Sewer, Urban Services, Quarry, and Workshop.

The quarry crushing campaign awarded to Lynch Contractors continues with DGS 20 now available. The production of material will continue, with the intent of a full scope of product being available to public sale soon.

Crusher and plant breakdowns have delayed the production of product. Plant breakdowns are attributed to the increased tempo of works to supply rock to the mobile crushing campaign. This is being managed through the use of a hire articulated dump truck to supplement the workload.

(a) Governance/Policy Implications

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

(b) Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

(c) Social Implications

Maintenance works are programmed where practical, to minimise social impacts.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

(e) Economic/Asset Management Implications

Works are scheduled in accordance with Council's adopted 2022 / 23 Operational Plan and Budget.

(f) Risk Implications

Maintenance works are programmed to minimise the risk to Council and the public.

CONCLUSION

This report provides updated information on the projects and planned works within the Infrastructure Department for Council's information.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the information in this report.

Roads – Operations and Maintenance						
Project	Budget	Expenditure to Date	Comment	Start Date	End Date	Progress (%)
Urban Roads Maintenance	\$150,000	\$57,155	Ongoing.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	38%
Sealed Roads Maintenance	\$300,000	\$63,399	Routine Maintenance ongoing i.e. Potholing, guide patching, posts, etc.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	21%
Unsealed Rural Roads Maintenance	\$612,000	\$220,000.00	Ongoing and being subsidised by flood damage restoration funding.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	35%
Bridge Maintenance	\$50,000	\$5000	Assessment to be programmed.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	-
Regional Roads Maintenance	\$568,060	\$188,305	Expenditure corrected from last month.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	33%
Roads – Capital Works						

Project	Budget	Expenditure to Date	Comment	Start Date	End Date	Progress (%)
Bertram Street Reconstruction	\$350,000	\$262,500 (estimated)	Open Drain to be clean out concrete dimple mat placed	20/10/2022	28/10/2022	75%
Urban Renewal Program	\$200,000	TBC	Commenced.	01/11/2022	30/01/2023	2%
Unsealed Renewal Program (Resheeting)	\$350,000	\$287000	Commenced.	01/05/2023	30/06/2023	80%
Sealed Road Heavy Patching	\$200,000	-	To commence.	05/09/2022	30/09/2022	0%
Regional Road Capital Renewal	\$100,000	-	To commence.	01/05/2023	30/06/2023	0%
Warren Road Upgrade	\$1,267,188	-	Milestone development underway.	01/04/2023	30/06/2023	0%
Warren Road and Castlereagh Highway Intersection Upgrade	\$820,000	-	Final design still outstanding with TFNSW	06/02/2023	30/06/2023	0%
Shanklin Road Renewal	\$200,000	-	Currently being rescoped due to budget reallocation to Euronne Gully Culverts	01/04/2023	26/05/2023	0%

Wingadee Road Renewal	\$150,000	\$100 000	Reshape reform of 350m – 5000m	03/10/2022	24/02/2023	20%
Yalcogrin Street Renewal (Gular)	\$60,000	\$60,000	Completed	05/09/2022	28/10/2022	100%
Box Ridge Road Reconstruction	\$1,859,636	\$75,000	Out to tender	09/01/2023	26/05/2023	10%
Carinda Road Heavy Patching and Culverts	\$2,265,840	\$194,026	Heavy patching has commenced but site conditions making it difficult to park plant.	15/05/2022	01/04/2023	3%
Stormwater Improvement Program	\$175,000	\$120 000	JJ Richards to complete CCTV condition survey and assessment in May	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	0%
Tooraweenah Road Upgrade	\$13,566,000	\$1,186,022	Refer specific report.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	10%
Flood Restoration Works	\$7,995,000	\$2,500,000	Report for section 1 to closed committee	01/07/2022	30/06/2024	10%
Glenhaven Culverts	\$3,500,000	\$713,149	Revised Works Proposal has been approved. favourable	01/07/2022	17/02/2023	20%

			weather conditions to recommence.			
Pilliga Causeway Replacement	\$597,779	-	Rescoped to install culverts	01/07/2022	23/12/2022	0%
Euronne Gully Causeway	\$455,000	\$885 000.00	Completed	01/07/2022	23/12/2022	100%
Water – Capital Works						
Project	Budget	Expenditure to Date	Comment	Start Date	End Date	Progress (%)
Coonamble Mains Replacements	\$424,642	\$325,000.00	Maule Street complete. Mendooran Street Complete Sydney Street completed Broad Street to commence	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	70%
Coonamble Chlorine Storage Relocation	\$20,000	\$20,000	Complete	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	100%
Coonamble Reservoir Improvements	\$24,000	\$20,094.34	Complete	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	100%
Quambone Mains Replacements	\$200 000	\$140 000.00	Project complete	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	100%

Quambone New Chlorine Storage	\$45,000	-	Fencing to commence, development application in development.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	0%
Quambone Chlorine Residual Monitors	\$20,000	-	Quotations received and currently being evaluated.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	0%
Quambone Chlorine Scales and Auto Changeover	\$12,000	\$12,000	Complete	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	100%
Quambone Reservoir Improvements	\$15,000	-	RFQ awarded	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	0%
Gulargambone Mains Replacements	\$317,893	\$238,420	Kirban, Muraiman and Munnell Street complete.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%
Gulargambone Chlorine Residual Monitors	\$40,000	-	Quotations received and currently being evaluated.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	0%
Gulargambone Scales and Auto Changeover	\$24,000	\$24,000	Complete.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	100%
Sewerage – Capital Works						

Project	Budget	Expenditure to Date	Comment	Start Date	End Date	Progress (%)
Coonamble Mains Relining	\$535,000	100,000	Interflow on site cleaning mains in preparation for work	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	25%
Coonamble SPS1 Vent Stack	\$20,000	-	RFQ documents being prepared.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	0%
Coonamble STP Upgrade – Concept Design	\$250,000	-	Funding Deed accepted. Grant of \$56 000 for the options study.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	0%
Gulargambone Mains Relining	\$235,000	-	Interflow cleaning mains on site cleaning in preparation.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	0%
Gulargambone STP Maturation Pond Relining	\$60,000	\$60,000	Scope of works being developed by PWA but currently far exceeds budget allocation. Reviewing available grant funding and achievable cost savings.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	100%

Gulargambone STP Tertiary Pond Renewal	\$200,000	-	Reviewing available grant funding in consultation with the EPA.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	0%
Gulargambone STP SCADA Upgrade	\$100,000	-	Alliance Automation to be engaged (Service Agreement)	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	0%
Urban Services – Capital Works						
Project	Budget	Expenditure to Date	Comment	Start Date	End Date	Progress (%)
Cemetery Improvement Program	\$20,000	-	To commence.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	0%
Quambone Toilet Block	\$70,380	TBA	Completed	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	100%
Coonamble Pool Upgrade Program	\$466,957	\$69,916	Concrete structural integrity test results received. Currently being interpreted by third party structural engineer.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	15%

Coonamble Sportsground	\$119,450	-	Commenced work	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	0%
Footpaths Reconstruction	\$45,000	\$26 000	underway	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	60%
Street Tree Replacement Program	\$100,000	-	To be programmed in accordance with new policy.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	0%
Walking Loop Footpath Construction	\$327,083	-	Work has commenced	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	60%
Coonamble Showground Upgrades	\$25,000	-	To commence.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	0%
Quarries, Pits & Crusher Operations						
Balance Sheet	Estimated	Actual to Date	Comment	Start Date	End Date	Progress (%)
Expenditure	\$2,114,325	\$775,117	Production costs inc. staff, plant, equipment and operating costs.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	17%
Income	\$2,625,550	\$1,420,059	40mm rockfill is accounting for approx..30% of all sales to date.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	20%
Net Revenue	+\$511,225	TBC	To be reviewed	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	34%

Workshop Operations					
Plant Serviced or Repaired	Estimated Downtime Actual to Date (Hrs)	Comment	Start Date	End Date	Progress (%)

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

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In the month of April 2023, Council staff and Western Project Services conducted an intensive review of the Section 2 design (unsealed component). The 80% version was returned to JJ Ryan to amend design issues, for resubmission on May 1, for the Issue for Tender (IFT) version.

The IFT design will allow Council to proceed to tender once the review, and any changes that are critical for the tender version, are rectified.

Milestones associated with the funding deed have been extended to accommodate the delays in the design program.

A claim was lodged for the February milestone.

With changes required to the design from the review, the tender has not made the March target for tender. The designer, JJ Ryan, will have the required amendments completed in three to four weeks, allowing the project to proceed to tender.

BACKGROUND

Tooraweenah Road is the most direct route from the town of Coonamble to the Warrumbungle's.

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

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

Most of the existing sealed length requires rehabilitation or heavy patching, however, some of the sections of the sealed pavement are in a serviceable condition and will be retained. Unsealed sections of Tooraweenah Road will be upgraded and sealed.

The project aims to provide 56.8 km of sealed road with a 9.9m wide pavement and 7.5m wide seal with guideposts, centreline and edge marking.

Council has resolved to complete the project in the shortest possible timeframe, preferably within a 12-month period from the time of project approval.

(a) Relevance to Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

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

(b) Financial Considerations

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

COMMENTARY

Council's website has been updated following the Community Information Session in October 2022 and the provision of a full preliminary design in January 2023. Community consultation is continuing where requested provided by Western Project Services.

An amended Review of Environmental Factors (REF) is underway, to increase the road corridor from what was originally assessed, which will allow construction works to proceed without risk to flora or fauna.

The ITF version will replace the 80% design that is available for review on Councils website after May 1.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received and noted.

11 NOTICES OF MOTIONS/QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE/RESCISSION MOTIONS

11.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - VISUAL IMPROVEMENTS TO THE ENTRANCE OF THE CBD

File Number: D5

Annexures: Nil

SUBJECT HEADING

Visual improvements to the entrance of the CBD – Submitted by Cr Terence Lees

BACKGROUND

For some time now we have committed to the enhancement of the main street. There have been studies, community consultation and most recently the reports to develop the Sons of the Soil Hotel (SOTS) to revitalise the main street.

It is time we begin to also look at the visual amenity of the entrance to the CBD and I don't intend to go into details surrounding the issues with the corner block, but after discussing the matter with the General Manager there are opportunities with the proposed tree plantings and trellis for screening opportunities to improve the appearance on the corner.

The footpath is Councils responsibility and land which we are able to place structures on without impeding on the adjoining land. Council can kick-start some visual improvement to the main street by investing in some low-cost improvements that include.

- Use the trellis along the frontage and replant bougainvillea similar to the to that near the NAB Bank.
- Place see through type banners for the likes of the rodeo weekend, local indigenous artwork etc.
- We own the parcel of land that adjoins the vacant land, there is a blank canvas with the wall that could have a local artist paint on to brighten up what is a drab wall.
- I would also like to see some minor improvements to the vacant land with levelling, seating and plantings
- I am willing to place a large screen at my cost for the rodeo June long weekend with promotional material and a cyclic message show casing our region.
- Council could also look at using digital enhancement on the wall in lieu of a painted mural by way of outdoor projection which can display logos, event hashtags, or artwork

LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The concept is to be on our footpath, should the owner of the corner block wish to develop the vacant land the material and signage could easily be relocated to ensure it does not impede on the development.

Council can introduce screen structures to improve the visual amenity.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

We would need to provide some funds either via current allocations, grants funding opportunities or seek local artists willing to donate their time. The trellis is in place and tree planting can form part of the tree planting program.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council begin to improve the visual improvement to the CBD by replanting bougainvillea on the existing trellis and also seek artificial screening that can be attached to the trellis for screening the vacant land to promote the Shire and its activities and seek costings to improve the vacant land with levelling and seating plus the painting of a mural on the adjoining wall.

12 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

RECOMMENDATION

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

12.1 Flood Damage - Road Repair Tender - TEN230329DJ

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

12.2 Notice of Rescission - Investigation into the Purchase and Redevelopment of the Sons of the Soil Hotel Site.

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

12.3 Investigation into the purchase and redevelopment of the Sons of the Soil Hotel Site.

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

13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING