



AGENDA FOR ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

23 August, 2011

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Clause 7 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice that the Ordinary Council Meeting of Walgett Shire Council will be held in the **Rowena Town Hall** on **23 August, 2011** commencing at 10.00am to discuss the items listed in the Agenda.

A bus will be leaving the back of the Council Chambers at 8.00am sharp, please contact Executive Assistant Jodie Campbell if you require a lift on the bus.

Don Ramsland
GENERAL MANAGER

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

What is a “Conflict of Interests” – A conflict of interests can be two types:

Pecuniary – an interest that a person has in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to the person or another person with whom the person is associated.

Non-Pecuniary – a private or personal interest that a Council official has that does not amount to a pecuniary interest as defined in the Local government Act (eg. A friendship, membership of an association, society or trade union or involvement or interest in an activity and may include an interest of a financial nature.)

Remoteness

A person does not have a pecuniary interest in a matter if the interest is so remote or insignificant that it could not reasonably be regarded as likely to influence any decision the person might make in relation to a matter or if the interest is of a kind specified in Section 448 of the Local Government Act.

Who has a Pecuniary Interest? – A person has a pecuniary interest in a matter if the pecuniary interest is the interest of:

- The person, or
- Another person with whom the person is associated (see below)

Relatives, Partners

A person is taken to have a pecuniary interest in a matter if:

- The person’s spouse or de facto partner or a relative of the person has a pecuniary interest in the matter, or
- The person, or a nominee, partners or employer of the person, is a member of a company or other body that has a pecuniary interest in the matter

N.B. “Relative”, in relation to a person means any of the following:

- (a) the parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descends or adopted child of the person or of the person’s spouse.
- (b) the spouse or de facto partners of the person or of a person referred to in paragraph (a)

No Interest in the Matter

However, a person is not taken to have a pecuniary interest in a matter:

- If the person is unaware of the relevant pecuniary interest of the spouse, de facto partner, relative or company of other body, or
- Just because the person is a member of, or is employed by, the Council
- Just because the person is a member of, or a delegate of the Council to, a company or other body that has a pecuniary interest in the matter provided that the person has no beneficial interest in any shares of the company or body.

Disclosure and participation in meetings

- A Councillor or a member of a Council Committee who has a pecuniary interest in any matter with which the Council is concerned and who is present at a meeting of the Council or Committee at which the matter is being considered must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable.
- The Councillor or member must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting of the Council or Committee:
 - (a) At any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed by the Council or Committee, or
 - (b) At any time during which the Council or Committee is voting on any question in relation to the matter.

No Knowledge – A person does not breach this Clause if the person did not know and could not reasonably be expected to have known that the matter under consideration at the meeting was a matter in which he or she had a pecuniary interest.

Participation in Meetings despite Pecuniary Interest (S452 Act)

A Councillor is not prevented from taking part in the consideration or discussion of, or from voting on, any of the matters/questions detailed in Section 452 of the Local Government Act.

Non-Pecuniary Interest – Must be disclosed in meetings.

There are a broad range of options available for managing conflicts & the option chosen will depend on an assessment of the circumstances of the matter, the nature of the interest and the significance of the issue being dealt with. Non-Pecuniary conflicts of interest must be dealt with in at least one of the following ways:

- It may be appropriate that no action be taken where the potential for conflict is minimal. However, Councillors should consider providing an explanation of why they consider a conflict does not exist.
- Limit involvement if practical (eg. Participate in discussion but not in decision making or vice versa). Care needs to be taken when exercising this option.
- Remove the source of the conflict (eg. Relinquishing or divesting the personal interest that creates the conflict)
- Have no involvement by absenting yourself from and not taking part in any debate or voting on the issue as if the provisions in S451 of the Local Government Act apply (particularly if you have a significant non-pecuniary interest)

Disclosure to be Recorded (S453 Act)

A disclosure (and the reason/s for the disclosure) made at a meeting of the Council or Council Committee or Sub-Committee must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

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**AGENDA**

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1. Opening of Meeting</b>                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>2. Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners</b>                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                                                                       | <i>I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the lands within the Walgett Shire and I would also like to acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who now reside within this Shire.</i> |
| <b>3. Apologies</b>                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>4. Welcome to Visitors</b>                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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|                                                                                                       | <i>(Limited to five minute presentations, and must relate to items listed within the Business Paper)</i>                                                                                                                |
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**Apologies**

Nil

**Welcome to Visitors**

N/A

**Declaration of Pecuniary/Non Pecuniary Interests**

N/A

**Confirmation of Minutes/Matters Arising**



**MINUTES FOR  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

**TUESDAY, 26 July 2011**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** pursuant to clause 7 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice that the Ordinary Council Meeting of Walgett Shire Council will be held in the **Walgett Shire Council Chambers** on **Tuesday 26 July 2011**, commencing at 10.00am to discuss the items listed in the Agenda.

**NOTE:**

Please note that owing to the visit by NSW LGSA representatives this meeting will now be held in Walgett and not Rowena.

Don Ramsland  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

# WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

## WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

### CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

**What is a "Conflict of Interests"** – A conflict of interests can be two types:

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**No Interest in the Matter**

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- Just because the person is a member of, or is employed by, the Council
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**Participation in Meetings despite Pecuniary Interest (S452 Act)**

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WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT WALGETT COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 26 JULY 2011 COMMENCING AT 10:08AM

PRESENT

Clr I Woodcock (Mayor)
Clr B Murray (Deputy Mayor)
Clr L Walford
Clr J Keir
Clr R Greenaway
Clr G Colless
Clr M Martinez
Don Ramsland (General Manager)
Mr F Coralde (Director, Urban Infrastructure Services)
Mr R Ranjit (Director Engineering Services)
Mr G Warren (Acting Director Corporate Services)
Mr M Goodwin (Director Planning & Regulatory Services)
Mrs J Campbell (Minute Secretary)

Apologies

7/2011/1 Apologies – 26 July 2011

Resolution:

1. That apologies from Councillor Smith and Clr Lane be received and leave of absence be granted.

Moved: Clr Walford

Seconded: Clr Colless

CARRIED

Welcome to Visitors

The Mayor welcomed all visitors to the meeting and acknowledged the traditional owners of the land.

Public Forum Presentations

Ann Kennedy – Vice President of the NSW Artesian Bore Water Users Association

Ann spoke to council on the Coal Seam Gas Exploration and the effects that it will have on the Great Artesian Basin.

Declaration of Pecuniary/Non Pecuniary Interests

Clr Keir declared a non pecuniary interest in item 24 as she is involved with the restoration of the Come By Chance Hall

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

Confirmation of Minutes

7/2011/2 Minutes of Council meeting – 28 June 2011

Resolution:

That the minutes of the Council meeting held 28 June 2011 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting

Moved: Clr Colless

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

Matters Arising

Clr Murray

Clr Murray asked what was happening in relation to items that were asked at the last Council meeting which came out of the Burren Junction Budget meeting, it still says that the Director Engineering Services is currently investigating.

The General Manager advised that he and the Director Engineering Services will be visiting Burren Junction either later this week or early next week and will speak with residents there. He also advised that some of these roads have been graded as part of flood damage repairs and/or routine maintenance.

The General Manager also advised that there is a tentative date scheduled for 4 August for the Pilliga to Mungindi road project meeting with Narrabri and Warrumbungle Shires.

Clr Colless

Clr Colless asked if Council was going to go back to using local auctioneers for the sale of land for overdue rates sale.

The General Manager advised that he will be calling for Expression of Interests for conducting this auction and may also include some of Council's properties that we have been unable to sell previously.

Clr Colless also asked if we could check whoever the Auctioneer will be that if they have any staff interested in the sale to avoid any conflicts of interest.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

Reserve Trust Management Committee Reports

7/2011/3 Lightning Ridge Park Reserve Gem Gardens – Crown Reserve R230076

Resolution:

1. That Council reimburse Lightning Ridge IBC the \$150 fee, for the Lightning Ridge Gem Gardens Temporary Licence Agreement as a charge against Section 356 donations.
2. That Council in future donate the \$150 fee annually for Lightning Ridge IBC.
3. That Council advise officially the Lightning Ridge IBC of this decision.

Moved: Clr Keir
Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

Mayoral Minutes

Nil

Motions of which Notice has been given

7/2011/4 Notice of Motion – Coal Seam Gas Moratorium

Motion:

1. That Walgett Shire Council impose a moratorium for an indefinite period on any future seismic surveys, drilling or exploration for Coal Seam Gas on property under the ownership or care, control and management of the Walgett Shire Council.
2. The Walgett Shire Council requests that the relevant State Government Agency fund and undertake a full assessment of the impact of Coal Seam Gas Extraction on the sustainability of agricultural production and damage to underground aquifers within the shire area during this period.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

7/2011/5 Notice of Motion – Policy for seismic surveys

Motion:

1. That Council formulate a policy 'That all applications for seismic surveys must come before Council for consideration and cannot be dealt with under delegation'.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

Presentation of Petitions

N/A

Councillors Questions From Last Meeting

Clr Smith -

Question 1:

Skate Parks in the Shire could we have them swept more often?

Response:

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services advised that staff clean the skate parks daily. He further advised that we try to accommodate equal time to all other infrastructure all over the public places.

Question 2:

Tree guards in Main Street of Collarenebri, could we have them put in so trees can be put in come spring?

Response:

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services advised that due to failure of the town committee to facilitate the installation, Council staff will be programmed to carry out the works at the end of August.

Clr Keir

Question 1:

Following up on the closure of beds in the Walgett hospital, was the Mayor and General Manager able to talk with Kevin Humphries?

Response:

The General Manager advised that the matter was discussed with Local member Hon Kevin Humphries MP whilst in Sydney for the 2011 Annual Shires Conference. He advised that no action would be taken to reduce acute care beds at Walgett hospital.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

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Clr Martinez

Question1:

In relation to landholders in the Shire and their gravel pits, can Council approach the local landholders and ask for permission to use the gravel from their pits instead of carting them from the other side of the Shire?

Response:

The General Manager advised that Council can approach the local landholders to supply gravel but only if they have established pits (DA authorised) and there are no problems with accessing them.

Reports of Delegates and Representatives

7/2011/6 C Division Conference - Minutes

Resolution:

1. That the minutes of the 2011 Annual C Division Conference be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

7/2011/7 Lightning Ridge Advisory Board Minutes of Meeting

Resolution:

1. That the minutes of the Lightning Ridge Advisory Board Meeting held 26 May 2011 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Colless

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

7/2011/8 Netwaste Forum Minutes of Meeting

Resolution:

1. Council note the Netwaste Minutes of the Meeting held at Grenfell Bowling Club, on 24 June 2011.
2. Council note the next Netwaste Meeting is to be held at Gilgandra on 09 September 2011.
3. Council agree to send representative/s to the Netwaste Strategic Plan Workshop at Ground Central Conference Room, Dubbo City Council on 10-12 August 2011.

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

Reservation of items for Debate

Nil

Reports of Officers

7/2011/9 Meetings of the Lightning Ridge Precinct Committee - Minutes

Resolution:

1. That the Minutes of the meetings of the Lightning Ridge Precinct Committee held 13 June and 11 July 2011 be noted.
2. That representatives from the Lightning Ridge Precinct Committee be invited to address Council's August 2011 meeting.

Moved: Clr Walford
Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

7/2011/10 Council decisions Action Report – 28.06.11

Resolution:

4. That the report be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Keir
Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

7/2011/11 Circulars received from the NSW Local Government and Shires Association of NSW – July 2011

Resolution:

That:

1. The information contained in the weekly circulars from the NSW Local Government and Shires Association be received and noted.
2. Council endorse the action taken to amend the schedule of Fees and Charges for DAs and Section 149 Certificates as prescribed by legislation.

Moved: Clr Murray
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

7/2011/12 Circulars received from the Division of Local Government – July 2011

Resolution:

1. That the information contained in the Departmental circulars 11-10 to 11-15 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.
2. That pursuant to DLG Circular 11/15 Council endorse the action taken to amend the rate for overdue rates and charges to the maximum permissible rate of 11% for 2011/2012.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

7/2011/13 Monthly Calendar – July 2011

Resolution:

1. That Council receive and note the regular monthly calendar for the period July to September 2011.

Moved: Clr Keir
Seconded: Clr Colless

CARRIED

7/2011/14 Walgett Water and Sewerage Capital Works - Strategic

Resolution:

1. Endorse the proposal to locate the new water filtration plant for Walgett on the old caravan park site on Reserve 81681 on the Brewarrina Road.
2. Commence investigations into the possibility of raising the height of the weir on the Barwon River at Walgett to ensure that the town has a secure water supply into the future by convening a meeting between relevant Government Agencies and Council.

Moved: Clr Murray
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

7/2011/15 NSW Grants Commission Visit - Outcomes

Resolution:

1. That following consideration of the power point presentation, Council make a further disability submission to the NSW Grants Commission based on information provided during the Commission's recent visit to Walgett.

Moved: Clr Colless

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

7/2011/16 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from General Manager – July 2011

Resolution:

1. That the matters listed by the General Manager for brief mention or information be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

7/2011/17 Variation of Funding Agreement Strong Colli project

Resolution:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Authorise the Mayor and General Manager to sign and affix the Council seal to two copies of the Variation of Funding Agreement for the Strong Colli project.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Colless

CARRIED

7/2011/18 Community Development and Tourism Quarterly Report (April – June 2011)

Resolution:

That the Community Development and Tourism quarterly report (April– June 2011) be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Keir

Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

7/2011/19 Report on Youth Development Services – April to June 2011

Resolution:

1. That the quarterly report on Youth Development and Services for the period April 2011 – June 2011 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

7/2011/20 Government Information (Public Access) Act, 2009 Publication Guide

Resolution:

1. That Council adopt the 2011 Publication Guide to comply with statutory requirements under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009.

Moved: Clr Martinez
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

7/2011/21 Cash on Hand & Investment Report as at 30 June 2011

Resolution:

1. That the cash on hand and investment report as at 30 June 2011 be received.

Moved: Clr Murray
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

7/2011/22 Date to which deadline of rates discount applies

Resolution:

1. Council resolve to extend the deadline for which the discount is applied for early payment of rates in the 2011/2012 year from the 29th August 2011 to the 31 August 2011.

Moved: Clr Martinez
Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

7/2011/23 Quarterly Budget Review as at 30 June 2011

Resolution:

That Council note the Quarterly Review report to 30 June 2011 and all it's identified variations.

Moved: Clr Martinez

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

7/2011/24 Draft restricted cash as at 30 June 2011 and corresponding Carried Forward Projects into the 2011/2012 Budget

Resolution:

1. Council note the Draft restricted cash report, and adopt the following variations to the 2011/2012 budget:

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

| | | |
|---|---|------------------|
| Externally Restricted Grants | | \$ |
| | Youth Worker Project Walgett | 12,414 |
| | Strong Colli Grant income | (97,166) |
| | Community Services transition training grant | 8,024 |
| | YAPA | 2,500 |
| | HEP C | 700 |
| | Juvenile Justice | 1,000 |
| | Library Priority Grant | 55,489 |
| | Alive and Well Grant income to be received | (10,448) |
| | Alive and Well Grant not yet expensed | 2,706 |
| | | <u>(24,781)</u> |
| Internally restricted budget to be carried forward | | |
| | Relief regulatory officer | 11,454 |
| | LR Urban expansion design | 20,000 |
| | Local Environmental Plan | 40,000 |
| | | <u>71,454</u> |
| Proposed Capital cash restrictions to carry forward into the FY2012 Budget | | |
| Income | Collarenebri Aerodrome Grant | (26,403) |
| | Regional Infrastructure Grant income | (100,000) |
| | | <u>(126,403)</u> |
| Expense | Collarenebri Aerodrome expense | 36,731 |
| | Dementure Day care Centre Grant | 982,079 |
| | Collarenebri Showground Portable grandstand | 5,337 |
| | Levee Bank upgrade | (40,000) |
| | Council Owned Dwellings Capital expenditure | 30,000 |
| | 77 Fox Street Capital expenditure | 20,000 |
| | Burren Junction Bore Baths | 99,365 |
| | Collarenebri Tennis courts | 7,000 |
| | Walgett Showground Update | 5,000 |
| | Footpath from bowling club to hospital (Collarenebri) | 50,000 |
| | Warrena and Fox St Drainage Repairs | 88,000 |
| | Walgett Shade Shelter (unspent funds) | 1,149 |
| Regional Infrastructure Grant expense carried forward | | |
| Round 2 | Apex Park I | 3,097 |
| | Upgrade of Collarenebri Tennis Courts | 5,547 |
| | Refurbishment of Tennis courts at Carinda | 5,319 |
| | Construction of Motocross Track near LR | 10,000 |
| | Shade Shelter at Cumborah park | 2,826 |
| | Rowena Hall round II | 4,180 |
| Round 3 | Fencing and Lighting at Walgett Skate Park | 20,099 |
| | Lighting at Collarenebri Skate Park | 8,099 |
| | Apex Park stage II | 45,000 |
| | Come by Chance Hall - Restumping and Improvements | 14,799 |
| | Shade Shelter at Burren Junction Playground | 20,000 |
| | Lightning Ridge Diving Pool footpath | 20,412 |
| | Len Cram Park Lightning Ridge - Shelter Shed and BBQ | 17,799 |
| | Walgett no 1 Oval Grandstand | 33,803 |
| | | <u>1,495,639</u> |
| Variations to 2011/2012 Budget | | |
| | Internal loan interest to pay to Sewer fund | 21,000 |
| | Reduction in Museum Advisor grant expense | (8,641) |
| | | <u>12,359</u> |
| Sewer Fund (Operational Income) | | |
| | Interest from General fund for internal Loan | <u>(21,000)</u> |
| Water Fund (Capital Expense) | | |
| | Walgett Open Drains Upgrade expense | <u>69,554</u> |
|
 | | |
| Moved: | Clr Murray | |
| Seconded: | Clr Greenaway | |
| CARRIED | | |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

7/2011/25 Development and Complying Development Certificate Applications

Resolution:

It is recommended that Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note the report on Development and Complying Development Certificate applications dealt with by Council staff under delegated authority during June 2011.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

7/2011/26 Draft LEP Heritage Schedule

Resolution:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note and endorse the recommendations in the letter dated 23 June 2011 from Council's Heritage Advisor, Ray Christisson of High Ground Consulting to remove various items from the draft heritage schedule for the Walgett Local Environmental Plan.

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Keir

Planning Division:

For: Clr Woodcock, Clr Murray, Clr Keir, Clr Greenaway, Clr Colless, Clr Martinez, Clr Walford

Against: Nil

Absent: Clr Lane and Clr Smith

CARRIED

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

7/2011/27 LRMA Processing Tanks, Lightning Ridge

Resolution:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note the letter dated 1 June 2011 from the Lightning Ridge Miners' Association requesting that Walgett Shire Council provide a letter of support that the processing tanks be retained and not rehabilitated after processing operations cease on Mining Purposes Leases 70 and 243.
2. Write to the Lightning Ridge Miners' Association and state that it supports processing tanks located on Mining Purposes Leases 70 and 243 not being rehabilitated after processing operations cease. This support is provided on the basis that they are a significant component of the cultural, social and land use history of the region which Council believes will have significant future value for the community as a tourism feature.

Moved: Clr Martinez

Seconded: Clr Colless

CARRIED

7/2011/28 Walgett Shire Aboriginal Heritage Study

Resolution:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note the final report of Walgett Shire LGA Aboriginal Heritage Study, dated May 2011 as prepared by Australian Museum Business Services.
2. Endorse the land use planning related recommendations made by Australian Museum Business Services in sections 6.1.1, 6.1.2, 6.1.3, 6.1.4 and 6.1.5 of the Walgett Shire LGA Aboriginal Heritage Study, dated May 2011.
3. Request the General Manager to provide recommendations for Council's consideration regarding the requests made by the aboriginal community within section 6.2 of the Walgett Shire LGA Aboriginal Heritage Study, dated May 2011.

Moved: Clr Walford

Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

7/2011/29 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from Director of Planning & Regulatory Services

Resolution:

1. That the report by the Director of Planning & Regulatory Services on matters for brief mention, or information only, be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

Clr Keir declared a non Pecuniary Interest in the Come By Chance Hall Improvements as mentioned in the following report and took no part in discussions.

7/2011/30 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from Director Urban Infrastructure Services

Resolution:

1. That the matters listed by the Director Urban Infrastructure Services for brief mention or information only be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Colless

CARRIED

The Director Urban Infrastructure Services will provide a report to the next Council meeting on the Carinda Water Supply

12:29pm Clr Martinez left the meeting

12:30pm Clr Walford left the meeting and did not return to the meeting.

7/2011/31 IPWEA (NSW) – Annual Membership Fee

Resolution:

1. That Council approve the renewal of membership with the IPWEA.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Colless

CARRIED

12:33pm Clr Martinez returned to the meeting

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

7/2011/32 Monthly Report from Director Engineering Services – July 2011

Resolution:

That Council receive and note the regular Monthly Road & Bridge Report

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

Clr Greenaway provided the Director Engineering Services with a list of roads that need attention.

Reports of Committees

Nil

Questions for the next Meeting

Clr Greenaway

Question 1:

In relation to Council's Grid Policy, there are approximately 30 grids within the Shire that are not being used, can these be removed?

Clr Martinez

Question 1:

In relation the Lions Park in Lightning Ridge, it was agreed to move the play equipment from Lions Park to Len Cram Park, the equipment has been removed from Lions Park but has not made its way to Len Cram Park as yet.

Question 2:

Council was going to have a look at the Dump point at the entrance of the Lightning Ridge Visitor Information Centre.

Response:

The General Manager advised that we can approach the Caravan Park and Camping Association to see if they have access to any grants that Council can apply for to upgrade the facilities or create more dump points.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

Clr Greenaway

Question 1:

Can we have the names on the Organisational Chart that we receive?

Response:

The General Manager advised that he will need to investigate this issue as it may fall under operational issues.

Clr Martinez

Question 2:

Has a position in Lightning Ridge for Parks and Gardens been removed? Some applicants that applied have been advised that the position is being made into part time/casual position.

Response:

The General Manager and the Director Urban Infrastructure Services advised that they were unaware of this and the General Manager advised that he will investigate this matter.

Confidential Reports/Closed Council meeting

Nil

Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 12:40pm

To be confirmed at the meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday 23 August 2011

Mayor

General Manager

Minutes of Council meeting – 26 July 2011

Recommendation:

That the minutes of the Council meeting held 26 July 2011 be confirmed.

Moved:

Seconded:

Reserve Trust Management Committee Reports

Nil

Mayoral Minutes

Nil

Motions of which Notice has been given

Nil

Presentation of Petitions

N/A

Councillors Questions From Last Meeting

Clr Greenaway

Question 1:

In relation to Council's Grid Policy, there are approximately 30 grids within the Shire that are not being used, can these be removed?

Response:

The Director Engineering Services advised that an email was sent to Clr Greenaway requesting detailed information such as locations etc. Once the information is received, a site meeting with property owner will be conducted for further activities.

Clr Martinez

Question 1:

In relation the Lions Park in Lightning Ridge, it was agreed to move the play equipment from Lions Park to Len Cram Park, the equipment has been removed from Lions Park but has not made its way to Len Cram Park as yet.

Response:

The Director Urban Infrastructure Services advised that he discussed this issue with the Lightning Ridge Rotary Club to undertake this community project. Council staff to assist in providing some base material. The play equipment is still at the Lions Park. Project to start by early September.

Question 2:

Council was going to have a look at the Dump point at the entrance of the Lightning Ridge Visitor Information Centre.

Response:

The General Manager advised that we can approach the Caravan Park and Camping Association to see if they have access to any grants that Council can apply for to upgrade the facilities or create more dump points.

Clr Greenaway

Question 1:

Can we have the staff names on the Organisational Chart that we receive?

Response:

The General Manager had advised that future organisational charts would include staff names. Council is reminded that the management of staff is an operational issue.

Clr Martinez

Question 2:

Has a position in Lightning Ridge for Parks and Gardens been removed? Some applicants that applied have been advised that the position is being made into part time/casual position.

Response:

The General Manager advised that a suggestion had been made by the Lightning Ridge supervisor that there was insufficient work now for the position to be full time during the winter months. Alternatives including a part time position are currently being investigated.

Reports of Delegates and Representatives

1. NETWASTE STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES

REPORTING SECTION: Urban Infrastructure Services
AUTHOR: Siegfredo O Coralde – Urban Infrastructure Services
FILE NUMBER: 09/1508

Summary:

This report recommends that Council note the Steering Committee Minutes of Meeting held at Dubbo City Council on 22 July 2011.

Background:

Netwaste Steering Committee is composed of representatives for the following Council members:

Chair:

Steven Campbell Parkes Shire Council

Members:

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Paul Bennett | Forbes Shire Council | Julian Gedded | Mid-Western Regional Council |
| Fred Coralde | Walgett Shire Council | Craig Lynch | Cowra Shire Council |
| Steve Clayton | Dubbo City Council | David Neeves | Gilgandra Shire Council |
| Michael McCulloch | Dubbo City Council | Shane Wilson | Weddin Shire Council |
| Anthony Cullen-Ward | Bathurst City Council | Paul O'Brien | Blayley Shire Council |
| Wayne Davis | Orange City Council | Dwayne Willoughby | Bourke Shire Council |
| Stephen Skyes | Orange City Council | Sue Clark | Netwaste |
| | | Kristy Cosier | Netwaste |

Current Position:

Council approved sending a delegate to attend the Strategic Plan Workshop in 11-12 August 2011 at Dubbo Shire Council. A separate report by Mr. Roy White is provided in this month's Council meeting.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Nil

Governance issues:

Netwaste assisted participating Councils in developing their Community Sharps Disposal Plan.

Environmental issues:

Nil

Stakeholders:

Walgett Shire Council
Netwaste Member Councils

Financial Implications:

Nil

Alternative Solutions/Options

Nil

Conclusion:

Council will use the Netwaste template in developing its own Community Sharps Disposal Plan.

Netwaste Steering Committee Meeting

Recommendation:

1. Council note the Netwaste Steering Committee Minutes of the Meeting held at Dubbo City Council on 25 July 2011.
2. Council approve to develop its Community Sharps Disposal Plan using Netwaste template.
3. Council note the next Netwaste Steering Committee Meeting is to be held at Gilgandra on 09 September 2011.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Appendix 1 - Netwaste Steering Committee Minutes of Meeting on 22 July 2011

Appendix 2 – Netwaste Projects Update from Netwaste Projects Coordinator

Appendix 3 – Confirmation of Netwaste Steering Committee Minutes of Meeting on 18 March 2011 at Elf, Orange.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NETWASTE STEERING COMMITTEE HELD AT ELF, ORANGE ON FRIDAY 18 MARCH 2011 COMMENCING AT 11.00 AM

Acting NetWaste Chair, Wayne Davis opened meeting at 10.55pm.

1. ATTENDANCE

Steven Campbell (NetWaste Chair/Parkes Shire Council) Kristy Cosier (NetWaste), Susann Clarke (NetWaste), Gillian Kearney (NetWaste), Wayne Davis (Orange City Council-Acting NetWaste Chair) Paul O'Brien (Blayney Shire Council), Julian Geddes (Mid Western Regional Council), Michael McCulloch (Dubbo City Council), David Neeves (Gilgandra Shire Council), Shane Wilson (Weddin Shire Council), Craig Lynch (Cowra Shire Council)

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Paul Bennett, Chris Brook, Steve Clayton, Antony Cullen Ward, Stephen Sykes,

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| RESOLVED | Shane Wilson/David Neeves |
| That the apologies be accepted. | |

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were confirmed subject to an amendment to reflect Shane Wilson as an apology.

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| RESOLVED | P O'Brien /Julian Geddes |
| That the apologies be accepted. | |

3.1 Matters arising from the minutes

Tap Water Please: Michael McCulloch asked if there was going to be another campaign for "Tap Water Please" due to its success. Susann advised that NetWaste will be running the advertising campaign again but not the bottle give away but Councils can buy their own bottles and use them to support the campaign. Likely to be in September/October

Mattress Recycling: Gillian had received more information from Mission Australia and they need a collection annually of 10,000 mattresses to make it feasible to start out west. Collection by truck periodically needs 5,000 mattresses but this would be at a cost to council to transport. Data from councils was well under, so not enough quality product to go ahead at this stage.

| | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| RESOLVED | Paul O'Brien/Wayne Davis |
| That the outcomes of the matters arising were noted and accepted | |

4. 2010/11 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Kristy tabled the current 2010/11 budget for discussion on behalf of Julie Murray. No issues were raised, with the report being noted.

Draft Budget and Projects (Attachment)

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

Kristy tabled the 2011/12 Draft Budget for consideration by the committee. It was noted in particular that

- Costs shown are Project component only - they do not include administration costs.
- 2012-15 strategic planning component needs more money to reflect it's priority
- HHW previous year had \$47,000 allocated to promotion of the campaign which has not been used yet. May be able to be used after Storage facilities are in place at participating Council WMF to promote the drop off service and also promote the upcoming HHW collection campaign.

| | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| RESOLVED | Shane Wilson/David Neeves |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• That the draft project list & recommendations be accepted• That the 2011/12 Strategy be prepared and submitted to DECCW to secure annual funding by May 2011.• That a working draft budget be prepared by Julie and circulated to the Steering Committee for endorsement | |

2012-2015 NetWaste Regional Strategy (Attachment)

- Kristy provided the Committee with an overview of the Strategy Development process. (as previously described in the Forum/Workshop on 4 March that was facilitated by Bob Bailey) NetWaste needs to have the three year Strategy prepared for submission before March 2012.
- Bob Bailey (facilitator) may be available to assist with the process and working towards a workshop in July (after NetWaste Council road trips have been completed). The purpose of the workshop would to have maximum input from NetWaste members and would be a separate forum to the Steering Committee/Forum and involve all Councils. Possible date for workshop is 28 July 2011

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| RESOLVED | Shane Wilson/David Neeves |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• That the project brief for Strategy development be finalised and costs requested from Bob Bailey to undertake project• That workshop dates for Council input be locked in asap & circulated to the Councils. | |

5. NETWASTE PROJECTS UPDATE

Discussion was had around the current status of NetWaste projects (referring to circulated report titled Project Update Report March 2011) with a number of recommendations endorsed by the Steering Committee:

Used Oil collection contract: Intention is to extend existing contract for NetWaste Councils. Meeting to be arranged with TPI regarding this, and updated contact details to be circulated to Councils.

Joint Landfill Monitoring Contract: Discussion was had around whether this should be progressed (project that has been identified for a number of years but never eventuated). It was agreed to retain project and to approach Bob Bailey regarding interest in preparing tender documents as it is quite involved given the different licensing requirements at each landfill. NetWaste would need to start the process from scratch given the time that has passed since originally identified.

Processing of Organics Contract – Contracts currently with Haulaway Recyclers and Shoalhaven Recycling for signing. Once returned to NetWaste these will be distributed to Councils for signing. A meeting will be organised between Shoalhaven Recycling and interested Councils in early April 2011 to touch base and also discuss the C&D processing option originally put to

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

Councils by Haulaway Recyclers in late 2010.

It was also requested a 'Project Calendar' could be developed to highlight important dates throughout the year (forum, workshops, project timeframes etc).

| RESOLVED | Shane Wilson / Julian Geddes |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Used Oil Collection Contract to be extended for 12 months from April 2011• Approach Bob Bailey regarding Joint Landfill Monitoring Contract project and progress• Finalise Assignment of Processing of Organics Contract to Shoalhaven Recycling and set up meeting for early April 2011.• C&D Reuse/Recycling Project - Form sub committee of interested Ccls in July 2011 following completion of Dubbo trial to define project focus, assist with development of project brief and engage suitable consultant to deliver project in 2011/12.• LEMP for small Councils - circulate EOI to Ccls in May 2011 for project to be undertaken in 2011/12 (on \$ for \$ basis).• Annual HHW Collection Campaign – Undertake EOI process with Ccls in April 2011, to allow funding submission to be made to DECCW. If campaign proceeds, undertake selective quotation process in June 2011.• RESAP – Submit Final Report to Environmental Trust in April 2011 and progress implementation of the RESAP through the Sustainability Reference Group.• Liquid Waste Management Strategy – incorporate project into 2012-15 Regional Waste Strategy (budget already allocated).• Organics Management Strategy - Form sub committee of interested Ccls in early May 2011 to define project focus, assist with development of project brief and engage suitable consultant to deliver project in 2011/12.• Management of C&I Waste - incorporate project into 2012-15 Regional Waste Strategy (budget already allocated).• NetWaste Landfill Review – Discuss at RESAP meeting on 21.3.2011 to be undertaken as specific project for Central Subregion | |

5.1 HHW Storage Units. Kristy provided an update on tender recently undertaken for HHW Storage Units.

- Tender evaluation conducted on 14 March. Decision made following initial review to proceed only with the gas cylinder storage enclosures due to budget constraints. No tender submission will be accepted for the lead acid battery storage units.
- Preferred tender offered a portable unit that was slightly smaller than the specs and resulted in a reduced cost to each Council but delivered the required outcome
- There are 18 enclosures requested by Councils through the tender process. All they require is a cleared area that complies with WorkCover safety distances (i.e. 5m from the ignition source and 3m from a boundary fence line) and must be installed at a supervised site.
- Councils need to confirm their intention to proceed by Friday 25 March 2011 including number of units required.
- It is anticipated that the storage units will be onsite by the end of the Financial year (June 2011)
- A strong commitment is required by all Councils that are participating to support the rollout of the storage facilities.
- Acting Chair Wayne thanked all involved in the process to date as this has been in the making for over three years.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

| | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| RESOLVED | Paul O'Brien/David Neeves |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• That the recommendations by the evaluation committee be accepted.• That Councils confirm their participation in the contract by Friday 25 March 2011 including the required financial contribution• That tenderers be advised of the outcome W/C 28 March 2011 | |

5.2 E-Waste Campaign. Gillian provided an update on the E-Waste campaign

- EOI went to all Scrap metal Councils and 15 responded. Two non contract councils also expressed interest giving a total of 17 Councils participating this year.
- SMM agreed to include the two non scrap contract Councils
- Media Consultant has been advised, is preparing a media campaign that will run in April with budget of \$8,000.00 which will include radio/TV. Anticipated commencement of media campaign is 10 April 2011, and will run for 3 weeks.
- Information Packs will be sent to participating councils early next week.
- This year SMM have requested that the Inventory sheet (and loads) taken to Sydney are the non-ferrous items only. Scrap metal needs to be removed from E-Waste pile and placed on scrap pile.
- Recycling Credit is set at \$2000.00 per Council with a cost of \$550 per tone E-Waste. It is anticipated that the cost of recycling will largely be compensated by the Recycling Credit. (May be slightly higher given we have less than 20 Council participating.
- Drop off window is not before 27 May 2011 and not after 17 June (just under three week window). Participating Councils are responsible for transporting to SMM as was the case last year.

5.3 Future NetWaste Tender Process (Kristy)

Kristy suggested that NetWaste investigate using "Tenderlink" for future tender processes as the current system is quite involved. The "Tenderlink" process incurs a cost of approximately \$200 per tender and is a much more streamlined process. It will reduce the advertising cost of a tender process for NetWaste considerably and improve overall probity.

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| RESOLVED | Paul O'Brien/Julian Geddes |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• That NetWaste investigate using "Tenderlink" for all future tenders | |

6. LEARNING ADVISORS UPDATE

Susann provided the committee with an update

- Gilgandra Community Education Programme progressing well. Will be surveying patrons and staff at Gilgandra Ex Services Club. Survey instruments currently being printed.
- Cobar Council-Mine currently providing Recycling Bins for schools on a 12 month basis for kerbside recycling.
- Waste Art underway- @ Councils already run local competition. Regional Launch and Exhibition in Grenfell on Saturday 25 June. Next Forum is on 24 June so NetWaste members can see the Regional Exhibition for themselves. Judges have been notified. Additional entertainment also arranged- African tribal drumming using garbage bins.

Susann also requested feedback from Steering Committee regarding Education Resources and effectiveness, (what works & what is not so effective). Discussion followed and it was noted

- NetWaste Banners- could we have some A1 Corflute Posters made up-more transportable-cheaper (Suggested by Shane Wilson)

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

- ABC Programme good (has been extended)
- Investigate cost of a silk banner (Paul O'Brien)
- Wayne has also noted that brochures in foyer were often used by students for research and projects

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| RESOLVED | Paul O'Brien/Michael McCulloch |
| That NetWaste Learning Advisor's Report be noted and accepted. | |

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Invitation to attend Lachlan LandCare Steering Committee (Steven Campbell)

- Gerald Carney attended ReSAP workshop and provide input in community feedback
- Also attended December NetWaste forum requesting that NetWaste has representation on their Steering Committee.
- Steven already overcommitted, wants to know if anyone can attend.
- Suggested that Gerald do a formal presentation at net Forum in Grenfell to clarify what the outcome of NetWastes; involvement would be (educational, project collaboration etc)

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| ACTION | Gillian Kearney |
| Gillian to send invitation to Gerald to present at the June Forum in Grenfell covering LandCare objectives and what they hope to gain from NetWaste representation. | |

Flannery Centre- Skillset Central West Group Apprentices (Gillian)

NetWaste has been approached by David Hill (Skillset) to adviser of a Centre of excellence providing sustainability training modules will be opening in Bathurst in September.

- The facility (named the Flannery Centre) will house Skillset/Central West Apprentices (a Registered Training Organisation-RTO) and will offer a suite of courses to various industries and stakeholders.
- The Flannery centre will be a "green building" (similar brief as the ELF)
- Keen to work together to promote both organisations and the ELF
- Briefing paper on the Project sent to Steven Campbell for information and agreed that it would be beneficial for the Skillset Team to do a presentation at the next Forum.
- They would be able to provide training for WMF operators.

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| ACTION | Gillian Kearney |
| Gillian to send invitation to David/Ashley to present at the June Forum in Grenfell regarding the Skillset/Flannery Centre objectives and what they hope to gain from a mutually collaborative partnership. | |

Nominations for 2011/12 NetWaste Steering Committee

The Steering Committee membership is reviewed annually, with all Council representatives provided with the opportunity to participate.

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| ACTION | All Steering Committee |
| Invite nominations for the 2011/12 Steering Committee in April 2011. | |

8. NEXT MEETING-DUBBO CITY COUNCIL

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

The next NetWaste Steering Committee Meeting will be held Friday 8 July 2011 at Dubbo City Council Conference rooms immediately after the Joint Regional and Dubbo Recycling Contract Meeting (being held at 9.3-10.30) , with Steering Committee Meeting commencing at 10.30 am.

9. THANK YOU AND CLOSE

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CLOSED AT 12.40

Attachments:

1. Draft Budget 2011/2012
2. Draft NetWaste Regional Strategy Process

TO: NETWASTE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

FROM KRISTY COSIER, NETWASTE PROJECTS CO-ORDINATOR

DATE 13 JULY 2011

ON NETWASTE PROJECTS UPDATE

Below is a brief summary of the regional projects (undertaken by Projects Coordinator) and contracts currently identified and budgeted for implementation as at 13 July 2011 (includes carryover & 11/12 projects):

| Project/
Contract | Update |
|--|--|
| Collection of Used Oil Contract (M1 11/12) | Contract arrangement extended to 30 April 2012. No issues, good relationship established with Contractor. Ccls currently considering option for collection of used oil filters. |
| Collection of Scrap Metal Contract (M1 11/12) | Initial 2 year contract with Sims Metal Management (original expiry of 26 August 2011) has been formally extended for 12 months, now expiring 26 August 2012. NetWaste has the option of an additional 12 months after that if appropriate. |
| Processing of Garden Organics and Wood and Timber Contract (M1 11/12) | Shoalhaven Recycling have now been assigned this Contract (expires 12 July 2012). Feedback from Ccls has been very positive to date with no issues with regard to product quality or measurement. |
| C&D Crushing Quotation (M1 11/12) | Shoalhaven Recycling has indicated the attachment option is not viable for them but have some long term interest if ongoing processing is viable. Teleconference being held between 6 Ccls in mid July to determine appropriate way forward with engaging a Contractor, possible option is selective tender but Ccls must be committed to having the work done. |
| Joint Landfill Monitoring Contract (M1 11/12) | Project focused on economies of scale for Ccls who undertake landfill monitoring at licensed landfills in the region. 5 Ccls have indicated interest, Bob Bailey on board to develop tender specifications with this to start shortly. There is likely to be issues with contract start dates, but option to stagger this if a regional contract eventuates. |
| C&D Reuse/Recycling Project (M4, 2010/11) | Not commenced – Intended focus is to gain a better understanding of the C&D waste stream & identify industry experts & best practice approaches. Dubbo currently doing waste audit on commercial waste stream which may provide scope for future project. |
| LEMP for small Councils (M5, 2010-11) | Previously developed template for LEMP for small (unlicensed) landfills or transfer stations, funds available to work with small Ccls. Impact Environmental Consulting (who worked with Ccls to develop templates) are providing an updated cost and timeframe for consideration by Steering Cttee. |
| E-Waste Collection (M6, 2010-11) | Regional collection program now completed with 13 Ccls delivering 20.8 tonnes for recycling to Sims E-Recycling. |
| Annual HHW Cleanout Campaign (M6, 11/12) | 13 Ccls are interested in regional HHW campaign, with OEH verbally confirming funding support.
Quotation document currently being drafted, with Ccl participation to be confirmed shortly and quotation process undertaken. Intended collection period is Oct-Nov 2011.
We are also currently working with Edwina to develop communication program to ensure strong promotion of the event (funded through specific budget). |
| HHW Storage | All enclosures have now been delivered across the region with operational |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

| Project/
Contract | Update |
|--|---|
| Enclosures
(M11, 2008-09) | guide circulated to Ccls. Regional media release issued w/c 18/7/11. |
| Regional gas cylinder decommissioning arrangement | This will be investigated in late 2011 after the enclosures have been in operation for a period of time. It is difficult to predict the number of cylinders that are likely to be collected by each Ccl, with the contractor needing at least 50 per site to warrant a regional service. |
| Full Cost Accounting of Landfill
(M6, 2007-08) | Excel based tool now available through OEH, a decision needs to be made by Steering Cttee on how the NetWaste budget will be spent. |
| Organics Management Strategy (M2 11/12) | Through our recent Ccl visits, it is very obvious that organics management is a major issue for a lot of Ccls. It was thought best to wait until the 2012-15 Strategy has been developed and then focus time on this topic, starting with an initial meeting of interested Ccls in late September.
From this meeting it is proposed to define the project scope and Ccl priorities to move forward – possible ideas are preparing Business Plans on suggested models for organics management. |
| NetWaste Landfill Review | Components included (as identified in NetWaste Regional Plan): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a framework to investigate and review landfills in each LGA including those not under Council control. • Undertake a detailed investigation of the existing landfills in each LGA in accordance with the developed framework. • Formulate guidelines to assist Councils to determine whether their waste management operations are likely to give rise to future environmental liabilities. Project not commenced, discussed at March 2011 Forum & agreed to consider project in context of the RESAP for the Central Subregion. |
| Research - Alternative Bin Sizes
(M6, 2008-09) | Discussion Paper currently being prepared, input is being sought from other regional waste groups and Councils who use other bin sizes. Has not been a high priority to date. |
| GHG Toolkit – Workshops | Some time ago, NetWaste approved funds to support BOD develop a Climate Change Policy. The focus of the project has now shifted to utilising the GHG toolkit they developed with Hyder and offering 2 dedicated workshops for NetWaste Ccls to work through scenarios. Tentative workshop details are 12 October (Orange) and 13 October (Gilgandra or Narromine). |
| 2012-15 Regional Waste Strategy Development
(M8, 11/12) | Bob Bailey engaged to facilitate development of Strategy, with dedicated workshops to be held 10 & 11 August in Dubbo and 8 September in Gilgandra (preceding Forum meeting). Intended Strategy will be finalised by end September 2011. Currently 12 Ccl reps registered for Dubbo workshop with NetWaste to follow up responses next week. |
| RESAP investigation
(M8, 11/12) | New project; not commenced – intent is to gauge interest from group of Ccls (sub-regional level) to prepare RESAP. |
| Landfill Compliance Checklist (M9, 11/12) | New project; not commenced – intent is to develop resource for Ccls to assist management of small unlicensed landfills |
| Rationalising Landfills
(M10, 11/12) | New project; not commenced – intent is to provide support & learning opportunities for Ccls considering rationalisation options in regional areas. |
| Expanded polystyrene recycling (M11, 11/12) | New project; not commenced – intent is to gather background information on this waste stream and identify possible recycling opportunities and/or funding opportunities to establish new infrastructure. |
| Promotion of NetWaste | New project; not commenced – intent is to raise profile of NetWaste activities and achievements. Likely to flow out of 2012-15 Strategy development process. |
| RESAP projects | Project focus for the 8 Ccls in waste management is undertaking waste audit exercise of Council operations, with project to include a learning opportunity for Ccl staff to undertake audits. Initial project scope being defined and identifying possible consultants to obtain quotes. |
| Liquid Waste | Focus intended to be on investigating quantities of liquid waste in the region, |

| Project/
Contract | Update |
|---|---|
| Management Strategy
(To be included in 2012-15 Strategy) | how issue is managed by Ccls, opportunities for aggregation/centralisation of collections. |
| Management of C&I Waste
(To be included in 2012-15 Strategy) | New project – involved combing a number of actions from the NetWaste Regional Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a business survey to collect information on C&I Waste streams in each sub-region • Quantify & characterise C&I waste generated within the region • Identification of potential reuse/recycling options Agreed at March 2011 forum to retain project & incorporate into 2012-15 Regional Waste Strategy building on current project being undertaken by Dubbo Ccl. |

RECOMMENDATIONS

- That the report is noted
- That the Steering Committee make a decision regarding use of funds for the True Cost of Landfill project

Reservation of items for Debate

Nil

Reports of Officers

2. COUNCIL DECISIONS ACTION REGISTER – 26.07.11

REPORTING SECTION: Executive - Governance
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 10/154

Summary:

This schedule has been revised and will be provided to each Council Meeting in the revised format. It summarises action taken in respect of matters considered at the previous meeting of Council and in future will include any action from previous meetings still outstanding.

Background:

Attached is the Action Register related to the 26 July 2011 Council Meeting. The Register summarises action in respect of all Resolutions as well as any other matter raised at the Meeting which required action. The Register, in the new format, will list any matters from previous meetings (as of 26 July 2011) that have not yet been finalised.

Current Position:

Details of Action taken/being taken are flagged for each motion.

In future, at three monthly intervals, a comprehensive list of all resolutions and resulting action will be circulated for councillor's information.

It will become a ready reference for Councillors wishing to refresh their memories of action taken.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Agenda and Minutes of the 26 July 2011 Council Meeting

Governance issues:

Standard procedure dictates that Council resolutions should be implemented as soon as practical. However, sometimes matters require further follow up.

Environmental issues:

Nil

Stakeholders:

Councillors and Executive Team

Financial Implications:

Nil

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Nil

Conclusion:

That the action register be received and noted. It is suggested that any queries be passed with the General Manager or relative director prior to meeting day to facilitate at the meeting.

Council decisions Action Report – 26.07.11

Recommendation:

That the action register be received and noted.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Action Register – as of 26 July 2011

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

| Date of Meeting | Resolution Number | Resolution | Department | Action Taken | Management Officer | Date Completed |
|-----------------|-------------------|--|----------------------|---|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/1 | 1. That apologies from Councillor Smith and Clr Lane be received and a leave of absence be granted.
Moved: Clr Walford Seconded: Clr Colless | Governance | No Action Required | General Manager | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/2 | 1. That the minutes of the Council meeting held 28 June 2011 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.
Moved: Clr Colless Seconded: Clr Murray | Governance | No Action Required | General Manager | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | Matters Arising | Clr Murray asked what was happening in relation to items that were asked at the last Council meeting which came out of the Burren Junction Budget meeting, it still says that the Director Engineering Services is currently investigating.

The General Manager advised that he and the Director Engineering Services will be visiting Burren Junction either later this week or early next week and will speak with residents there. He also advised that some of these roads have been graded as part of flood damage repairs and/or routine maintenance. | Engineering Services | Arranged an onsite inspection on 11th August 2011 | Director Engineering Services | |
| 26 July 2011 | Matters Arising | The General Manager also advised that there is a tentative date scheduled for 4 August for the Pilliga to Mungindi road project meeting with Narrabri and Warrumbungle Shires. | Engineering Services | Meeting arranged for 19 August 2011 in Narrabri | Director Engineering Services | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | Matters Arising | Clr Colless asked if Council was going to go back to using local auctioneers for the sale of land for overdue rates sale.

The General Manager advised that he will be calling for Expression of Interests for conducting this auction and may also include some of Council's properties that we have been unable to sell previously.

Clr Colless also asked if we could check whoever the Auctioneer will be that if they have any staff interested in the sale to avoid any conflicts of interest. | Finance | Process of arranging sale in train | Director Corporate Services | |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

| Date of Meeting | Resolution Number | Resolution | Department | Action Taken | Management Officer | Date Completed |
|-----------------|-------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|----------------|
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/3 | <p>1. That Council reimburse Lightning Ridge IBC the \$150 fee, for the Lightning Ridge Gem Gardens Temporary Licence Agreement as a charge against Section 356 donations.</p> <p>2. That Council in future donate the \$150 fee annually for Lightning Ridge IBC.</p> <p>3. That Council advise officially the Lightning Ridge IBC of this decision.
Moved: Clr Keir Seconded: Clr Walford</p> | Urban | Letter and cheque to be sent to the Lightning Ridge IBC | Director Urban Infrastructure Services | |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/4 | <p>1. That Walgett Shire Council impose a moratorium for an indefinite period on any future seismic surveys, drilling or exploration for Coal Seam Gas on property under the ownership or care, control and management of the Walgett Shire Council.</p> <p>2. The Walgett Shire Council requests that the relevant State Government Agency fund and undertake a full assessment of the impact of Coal Seam Gas Extraction on the sustainability of agricultural production and damage to underground aquifers within the shire area during this period.
Moved: Clr Greenaway Seconded: Clr Keir</p> | Planning & Regulatory Services | Letter to be forwarded to NSW State Agencies | General Manager | |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/5 | <p>1. That Council formulate a policy 'That all applications for seismic surveys must come before Council for consideration and cannot be dealt with under delegation'.
Moved: Clr Greenaway Seconded: Clr Keir</p> | Corporate Services | Policy to be drafted for August 2011 Meeting | Director Planning & Regulatory Services | |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/6 | <p>1. That the minutes of the 2011 Annual C Division Conference be received and noted.
Moved: Clr Murray Seconded: Clr Martinez</p> | Governance | No Action required | General Manager | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/7 | <p>1. That the minutes of the Lightning Ridge Advisory Board Meeting held 26 May 2011 be received and noted.
Moved: Clr Colless Seconded: Clr Murray</p> | Governance | No Action Required | General Manager | 26/07/2011 |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

| Date of Meeting | Resolution Number | Resolution | Department | Action Taken | Management Officer | Date Completed |
|-----------------|-------------------|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/8 | <p>1. Council note the Netwaste Minutes of the Meeting held at Grenfell Bowling Club, on 24 June 2011.</p> <p>2. Council note the next Netwaste Meeting is to be held at Gilgandra on 09 September 2011.</p> <p>3. Council agree to send representative/s to the Netwaste Strategic Plan Workshop at Ground Central Conference Room, Dubbo City Council on 10-12 August 2011.
Moved: Clr Murray Seconded: Clr Keir</p> | Urban Infrastructure Services | No Action Required | General Manager | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/9 | <p>1. That the Minutes of the meetings of the Lightning Ridge Precinct Committee held 13 June and 11 July 2011 be noted.</p> <p>2. That representatives from the Lightning Ridge Precinct Committee be invited to address Council's August 2011 meeting.
Moved: Clr Walford Seconded: Clr Martinez</p> | Governance | No Action Required | General Manager | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/10 | <p>1. That the report be received and noted.
Moved: Clr Keir Seconded: Clr Murray</p> | Governance | Report being presented in new format | General Manager | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/11 | <p>1. The information contained in the weekly circulars from the NSW Local Government and Shires Association be received and noted.</p> <p>2. Council endorse the action taken to amend the schedule of Fees and Charges for DAs and Section 149 Certificates as prescribed by legislation.
Moved: Clr Murray Seconded: Clr Greenaway</p> | Governance | Appropriate Items being followed up | General Manager | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/12 | <p>1. That the information contained in the Departmental circulars 11-10 to 11-15 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.</p> <p>2. That pursuant to DLG Circular 11/15 Council endorse the action taken to amend the rate for overdue rates and charges to the maximum permissible rate of 11% for 2011/2012.
Moved: Clr Greenaway Seconded: Clr Murray</p> | Governance | Appropriate Items being followed up | General Manager | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/13 | <p>1. That Council receive and note the regular monthly calendar for the period July to September 2011.
Moved: Clr Keir Seconded: Clr Colless</p> | Governance | Councillors to advise of commitments | General Manager | 26/07/2011 |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

| Date of Meeting | Resolution Number | Resolution | Department | Action Taken | Management Officer | Date Completed |
|-----------------|-------------------|---|-------------------------------|--|--|----------------|
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/14 | <p>1. Endorse the proposal to locate the new water filtration plant for Walgett on the old caravan park site on Reserve 81681 on the Brewarrina Road.</p> <p>2. Commence investigations into the possibility of raising the height of the weir on the Barwon River at Walgett to ensure that the town has a secure water supply into the future by convening a meeting between relevant Government Agencies and Council.</p> <p>Moved: Clr Murray Seconded: Clr Keir</p> | Urban Infrastructure Services | Meeting being arranged | Director Urban Infrastructure Services | |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/15 | <p>1. That following consideration of the power point presentation, Council make a further disability submission to the NSW Grants Commission based on information provided during the Commission's recent visit to Walgett.</p> <p>Moved: Clr Colless Seconded: Clr Keir</p> | Governance | Follow up Submission to be made | General Manager | |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/16 | <p>1. That the matters listed by the General Manager for brief mention or information be received and noted.</p> <p>Moved: Clr Murray Seconded: Clr Greenaway</p> | Governance | Appropriate Items being followed up | General Manager | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/17 | <p>1. Authorise the Mayor and General Manager to sign and affix the Council seal to two copies of the Variation of Funding Agreement for the Strong Colli project.</p> <p>Moved: Clr Greenaway Seconded: Clr Colless</p> | Community Services | Revised agreement to be signed and forwarded | General Manager | |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/18 | <p>1. That the Community Development and Tourism quarterly report (April- June 2011) be received and noted.</p> <p>Moved: Clr Keir Seconded: Clr Martinez</p> | Community Services | Relevant items to be followed up | General Manager | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/19 | <p>1. That the quarterly report on Youth Development and Services for the period April 2011 – June 2011 be received and noted.</p> <p>Moved: Clr Greenaway Seconded: Clr Walford</p> | Community Services | Relevant items to be followed up | General Manager | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/20 | <p>1. That Council adopt the 2011 Publication Guide to comply with statutory requirements under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009.</p> <p>Moved: Clr Martinez Seconded: Clr Keir</p> | Corporate Services | Completed, placed on Council's website | Director Corporate Services | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/21 | <p>1. That the cash on hand and investment report as at 30 June 2011 be received.</p> <p>Moved: Clr Murray Seconded: Clr Greenaway</p> | Finance | No Action Required | Director Corporate Services | 26/07/2011 |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

| Date of Meeting | Resolution Number | Resolution | Department | Action Taken | Management Officer | Date Completed |
|-----------------|-------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/22 | 1. Council resolve to extend the deadline for which the discount is applied for early payment of rates in the 2011/2012 year from the 29th August 2011 to the 31 August 2011.
Moved: Clr Martinez Seconded: Clr Walford | Finance | No Action Required | Director Corporate Services | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/23 | 1. That Council note the Quarterly Review report to 30 June 2011 and all it's identified variations.
Moved: Clr Martinez Seconded Clr Murray | Finance | No Action Required | Director Corporate Services | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/24 | 1. Council note the Draft restricted cash report, and adopt the following variations to the 2011/2012 budget:
Moved: Clr Murray Seconded Greenaway | Finance | No Action Required | Director Corporate Services | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/25 | 1. Note the report on Development and Complying Development Certificate applications dealt with by Council staff under delegated authority during June 2011.
Moved: Clr Greenaway Seconded: Clr Keir | Planning & Regulatory Services | No Action Required | Director Planning & Regulatory Services | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/26 | 1. Note and endorse the recommendations in the letter dated 23 June 2011 from Council's Heritage Advisor, Ray Christisson of High Ground Consulting to remove various items from the draft heritage schedule for the Walgett Local Environmental Plan.
Moved: Clr Murray Seconded: Clr Keir | Planning & Regulatory Services | Affected land owners notified via letter of 2.8.2011 that their properties no longer being considered for Heritage Listing | Director Planning & Regulatory Services | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/27 | 1. Note the letter dated 1 June 2011 from the Lightning Ridge Miners' Association requesting that Walgett Shire Council provide a letter of support that the processing tanks be retained and not rehabilitated after processing operations cease on Mining Purposes Leases 70 and 243.

2. Write to the Lightning Ridge Miners' Association and state that it supports processing tanks located on Mining Purposes Leases 70 and 243 not being rehabilitated after processing operations cease. This support is provided on the basis that they are a significant component of the cultural, social and land use history of the region which Council believes will have significant future value for the community as a tourism feature.
Moved: Clr Martinez Seconded: Clr Colless | Planning & Regulatory Services | Response letter sent 28.7.2011 to LRMA | Director Planning & Regulatory Services | 26/07/2011 |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

| Date of Meeting | Resolution Number | Resolution | Department | Action Taken | Management Officer | Date Completed |
|-----------------|-------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/28 | <p>1. Note the final report of Walgett Shire LGA Aboriginal Heritage Study, dated May 2011 as prepared by Australian Museum Business Services.</p> <p>2. Endorse the land use planning related recommendations made by Australian Museum Business Services in sections 6.1.1, 6.1.2, 6.1.3, 6.1.4 and 6.1.5 of the Walgett Shire LGA Aboriginal Heritage Study, dated May 2011.</p> <p>3. Request the General Manager to provide recommendations for Council's consideration regarding the requests made by the aboriginal community within section 6.2 of the Walgett Shire LGA Aboriginal Heritage Study, dated May 2011.
Moved: Clr Walford Seconded: Clr Martinez</p> | Planning & Regulatory Services | General Manager to provide report on non-land use planning requests by the Aboriginal Community arising from heritage Study. | Director Planning & Regulatory Services | |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/29 | <p>1. That the report by the Director of Planning & Regulatory Services on matters for brief mention, or information only, be received and noted.
Moved: Clr Greenaway Seconded: Clr Murray</p> | Planning & Regulatory Services | No Action required | Director Planning & Regulatory Services | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/30 | <p>1. That the matters listed by the Director Urban Infrastructure Services for brief mention or information only be received and noted.
Moved: Clr Murray Seconded: Clr Colless</p> | Urban Infrastructure Services | No Action Required | Director Urban Infrastructure Services | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | | The Director Urban Infrastructure Services will provide a report to the next Council meeting on the Carinda Water Supply | Urban Infrastructure Services | Report being presented to the August Council meeting | Director Urban Infrastructure Services | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/31 | <p>1. That Council approve the renewal of membership with the IPWEA.
Moved: Clr Greenaway Seconded: Clr Colless</p> | Engineering Services | An amount of \$2,321.00 (inclusive of GST) paid 4 August 2011 | Director Engineering Services | 26/07/2011 |
| 26 July 2011 | 7/2011/32 | <p>1. That Council receive and note the regular Monthly Road & Bridge Report
Moved: Clr Murray Seconded: Clr Greenaway</p> | Engineering Services | No Action Required | Director Engineering Services | 26/07/2011 |

3. CIRCULARS RECEIVED FROM THE NSW LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SHIRES ASSOCIATION OF NSW – AUGUST 2011

REPORTING SECTION: Executive - Governance
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 10/615

Summary:

Copies of weekly circulars received from the Local Government and Shires Association since 26 July 2011 Council meeting have been distributed to Councillors.

Background:

The following items in each circular have been flagged by the General Manager as requiring particular attention of councillors:

Issue 28

Item 5 – Destination 2036 Online Survey
Item 9 – Local Government Week Awards Dinner
Item 13 – Inquiry into Economic & Social Development in Central Western NSW
Item 16 – Carbon Tax – Impacts on Local Government

Issue 29

Item 10 – NSW Environmental Trust Restoration and Rehabilitation Fund
Item 22 - Australian Government Stormwater Harvesting Program – Third Competitive Grants Round
Item 24 – NRMA Road Safety Grants

Issue 30

Item 5 – 2011 Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference
Item 11 – QLD Floods Inquiry Interim Report released
Item 14 – Revisiting Change Management and Coaching skills for Council leaders in Dubbo
Item 16 – National Local Government Human Resources Conference
Item 23 – ALGA Roads to Recovery Campaign

Issue 31 -

Item 8 – Legislative Council Inquiry – Coal Seam Gas
Item 10 – Grants now open to make NSW more fish-friendly
Item 11 – \$1.3 million to implement NSW Councils Roadside Vegetation Management Plans
Item 12 – Enhancing Local government Service Delivery

Current Position:

Councillors need to peruse these circulars and raise any matters of interest with the General Manager prior to the Meeting.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Nil

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

Governance issues:

Councillors are requested to review weekly Circulars and read abreast of Local Government issues occurring at Industry level.

Environmental issues:

Nil

Stakeholders:

Councillors
Walgett Shire Council staff

Financial Implications:

Nil

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Not Applicable

Conclusion:

Councillors need to consider the contents of the various circulars and determine what action, if any, needs to be taken.

Circulars received from the NSW Local Government and Shires Association of NSW – August 2011

Recommendation:

That:

1. The information contained in the weekly circulars from the NSW Local Government and Shires Association be received and noted.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Nil

4. CIRCULARS RECEIVED FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET – AUGUST 2011

REPORTING SECTION: Executive - Governance
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 10/616

Summary:

Copies of circulars received 11-16 to 11-18 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet are attached for Councillors information.

Background:

The General Manager has flagged the following circular as requiring the particular attention of councillors:

- Circular to Councils 11-16 Local Government Destination 2036 Update
 1. *Arrangements have been made for the Deputy Mayor and General Manager to attend this seminar*
- Circular to Councils 11-17 Goods and Services Tax (GST) Exemption for certain Government taxes, fees and Charges (Division 81 of the GST Act)
- Circular to Councils 11-18 Annual Reporting, State of the Environment Reporting and End-of-term reporting requirements of Councils

All circulars have been emailed to Councillors prior to Council meeting.

Current Position

Considerable has been generated in respect of this workshop and speculation raised of the need to reduce the number of metropolitan councils from 40 down to 10.

Relevant Reference Documents:

Nil

Governance Issues:

All circulars have Governance implications. Where necessary the subject of particular circulars will be raised in following reports.

Copies of the briefing papers/discussion papers have been forwarded to all Councillors under separate cover. Councillors need to consider what the long term impacts may be on Local Government generally and Walgett Shire in particular.

Environmental issues:

Nil

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

Stakeholders:

Councillors
Walgett Shire Council staff

Financial Implications:

Obviously some circulars will have a financial impact and where this is the case, councillors particular attention will be drawn to them.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Nil

Conclusion:

Council will need to comply with the various requirements set out in the circulars.

Circular received from the Division of Local Government – August 2011

Recommendation:

1. That the information contained in the Departmental circulars 11-16 to 11-18 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

- Circular to Councils 11-16 Local Government Destination 2036 Update
- Circular to Councils 11-17 Goods and Services Tax (GST) Exemption for certain Government taxes, fees and Charges (Division 81 of the GST Act)
- Circular to Councils 11-18 Annual Reporting, State of the Environment Reporting and End-of-term reporting requirements of Councils



Circular No. 11-16
Date 29 July 2011
Doc ID. A251860

Contact Mark Hely
02 4428 4176
mark.hely@dlg.nsw.gov.au

LOCAL GOVERNMENT - DESTINATION 2036: UPDATE

Planning for the *Local Government - Destination 2036* workshop, which will be held in Dubbo on 17-18 August 2011, is now well advanced.

I am pleased that the leaders of NSW local government clearly recognise the importance of this event and have responded accordingly. To date, over 340 delegates have accepted my invitation to participate, with representatives from all but one council to be in attendance.

Attendance by the Minister for Local Government

I am also pleased to advise that the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Don Page MP, will be attending and participating in the full two day workshop, in addition to formally opening and closing the event.

Workshop Program

A copy of the draft Workshop Program is attached to this circular.

During the course of the two-day workshop, participants will be challenged to work together to:

- create a bold vision for local government
- identify the “roadmap” that will put us on a path to this vision
- develop a shared view on the right models for local government
- develop an action plan that focuses on priorities for the next 4 years.

The workshop will also create an opportunity for new relationships within and between Local and State Government to help deliver strong local government for the communities of NSW.

Learn more and have your say - *Destination 2036* webpage

A dedicated *Destination 2036* webpage has now been set up on the Division’s website (refer to “Quick Links” on the Home Page at www.dlg.nsw.gov.au or click [here](#)).

This webpage provides additional information on the purpose of *Destination 2036*, as well as a range of background and reference material including links to relevant research reports and forecasts.

I have asked mayors and general managers to consult with their colleagues/staff and to seek ideas, which they may be able to bring along to the forum.

Discussion Paper by the Independent Facilitator

Division of Local Government
5 O’Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209
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WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

2

Included on the *Destination 2036* webpage is a brief discussion paper which was produced by the independent workshop facilitator, Elton Consulting (to download a copy, click [here](#)).

This paper, “*Our Communities, Our Councils, Our Future*”, presents a snapshot of NSW communities and their councils and brings together key ideas from a range of work on local government in NSW and Australia done by a large number of organisations and individuals in recent years. It also poses a series of questions as a starting point for discussion before, during, and after the *Destination 2036* workshop.

Podcast from a Futurist

As indicated in the draft Workshop Program, internationally renowned Futurist, Professor Sohail Inayatullah, will be challenging participants at the workshop to move beyond the present and to try to imagine things over the next 25 years.

Included on the *Destination 2036* webpage is a podcast from Sohail, in which he introduces himself and provides a brief snapshot of the role of a Futurist and what people can expect at the workshop. I encourage you to take the opportunity to view the podcast ([here](#)) and to familiarise yourself with Sohail before the event.

Web forum

The Division will be adding a web forum to the *Destination 2036* webpage shortly. This forum will be an opportunity for all council staff, and other stakeholders, to have a say and express a view on what is needed to ensure local government’s long term sustainability.

A personal message to participants from the Chief Executive

To further encourage discussion and debate, I will be issuing a brief paper before the workshop to:

- set out my personal thoughts on why this event is so important;
- outline what will happen at the event, including some of the mechanics of the two days; and
- pose some questions that I believe need to be addressed by the sector at the event.

I will email this paper to all participants directly, as well as put it on the *Destination 2036* webpage.



Ross Woodward
Chief Executive, Local Government
A Division of the Department of Premier and Cabinet



Circular No. 11-17
Date 5 August 2011
Doc ID. A248253

Contact Finance Policy
02 4428 4100
dlg@dlg.nsw.gov.au

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST) EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN GOVERNMENT TAXES, FEES AND CHARGES (DIVISION 81 OF THE GST ACT)

This circular is to inform councils that the Commonwealth Government has replaced the 'Division 81 Determination listing' approach to exempting certain government taxes, fees and charges from GST with a new self assessment 'principles-based' approach to providing the exemptions.

The GST Act (ie, *A New Tax System (GST) Act 1999*) has been amended to replace the mechanism under Division 81 with specific legislative exemptions for ensuring Australian taxes and certain government fees and charges are not subject to the Goods and Services Tax (GST). The legislation also allows for the making of regulations to treat an Australian tax, or an Australian fee or charge, in a particular way.

The new arrangements apply from 1 July 2011. The current (and last) Division 81 Treasurer's Determination, which lists items that are exempt from GST, will be 'grandfathered' for one year until 30 June 2012. This gives councils an opportunity to review the GST status of items listed on the Determination against the new legislative mechanism.

The Division understands that the intention of the new legislation is to replace the Determination. Therefore, it is anticipated that most items in the Determination will remain GST exempt. However, councils should commence, if not already underway, a review of the GST status of items currently exempt under the previous 'Division 81 Determination' against their status under the new Division 81 self assessment principles.

The Determination can be accessed via the Commonwealth Treasury's website at: <http://www.treasury.gov.au/contentitem.asp?NavId=&ContentID=1463>.

Councils should use guidance material produced by the Australian Taxation Office to assist with the review. The guidance material is available on the Australian Taxation Office website at www.ato.gov.au.

The new Division 81 contains three broad categories that set out the taxes, fees and charges that qualify for exemption. These categories are:

- Australian taxes (section 81-5 of the GST Act)

Division of Local Government
5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209
E dlg@dlg.nsw.gov.au W www.dlg.nsw.gov.au ABN 99 567 863 195

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

2

- Fees or charges for the provision, retention, or amendment, under an Australian law, of a permission, exemption, authority or license (however described) (subsection 81-10(4) of the GST Act)
- Fees or charges paid to an Australian government agency for recording, copying, modifying, receiving, processing, searching for or allowing access to information (subsection 81-5(5) of the GST Act).

For example, as indicated by the associated explanatory memorandum to the Bill, Australian taxes include local government 'ordinary rates', therefore local government 'ordinary rates' are exempt from GST.

The Division of Local Government has been asked to collect information regarding items that have changed their GST taxable status as a result of the new arrangements, ie, items that have become either taxable or exempt under the new arrangements.

Councils are therefore asked to notify the Division of Local Government by **24 October 2011** of any such items. Councils can notify the Division by emailing finance@dlg.nsw.gov.au using the subject header '**GST - Division 81**'. This information will be forwarded to NSW Treasury.

If applicable, councils should include in their email a short description of the fee or charge, the change in GST status and the annual budgeted amount.

The Division of Local Government does not provide technical or legal advice on GST. Councils should consult the Australian Taxation Office, internal qualified officers, or external tax advisors for technical or legal advice when seeking further clarification.

NSW Treasury has also issued Circular TC11/11, which can be accessed via the NSW Treasury website at:

http://www.treasury.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0013/20164/nswtc11-11_dnd.pdf

regarding the amendments to GST legislation.



Ross Woodward
Chief Executive, Local Government
A Division of the Department of Premier and Cabinet



Circular No. 11-18
Date 8 August 2011
Doc ID. A252775

Contact: Nataša Mitic
02 4428 4174
natasa.mitic@dlg.nsw.gov.au

ANNUAL REPORTING, STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORTING AND END-OF-TERM REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF COUNCILS

This circular advises councils of current annual reporting and State of the Environment reporting requirements for the 2010-11 year.

The annual report is a key point of accountability between a council and its community. Councils are reminded that the main audience for this report is the community.

The *Local Government Amendment (Planning and Reporting) Act 2009* commenced on 1 October 2009. This means that for 2010/11, Group 1 councils will now report under the new Integrated Planning and Reporting requirements of the Act, and Group 2 and 3 councils will continue to report under the previous legislative arrangements.

Accordingly, this Circular is in two parts. The first part outlines requirements for Group 1 councils. The second part outlines requirements for Group 2 and 3 councils.

Group 1 Councils Annual Reporting Requirements

Group 1 councils' annual reporting requirements are set out in the current version of the *Local Government Act 1993* (section 428), the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* (Part 9, Division 7), and the *Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines*.

To refer to the Act, go to:

<http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/maintop/view/inforce/act+30+1993+cd+0+N>

To refer to the Regulation, go to:

<http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/maintop/view/inforce/subordleg+487+2005+cd+0+N>.

Councils may also wish to refer to the guidance provided in the *Integrated Planning and Reporting Manual*. A checklist is also available on the Division's website under the 'Integrated Planning and Reporting Self-Assessment Checklist' under the 'Ann Rpt' Tab – see:

<http://www.dlg.nsw.gov.au/dlg/dlghome/Documents/Information/IPR%20-%20Self-assessment%20checklist.xls>.

A council's annual report should outline the council's achievements in implementing the Delivery Program. Did council do what it said it would? If not, why not? In answering these questions, it is expected that the council will also refer to its achievements in relation to the Operational Plan – these are the principal activities undertaken in achieving the objectives of the Delivery Program.

The report must contain the council's audited financial statements and notes. Councils must also continue to prepare asset reports in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act, Regulation, NSW Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting, and the Australian Accounting Standards. Councils are encouraged to provide interpretive information wherever possible to ensure the community is able to easily understand the council's financial performance and position.

Councils are encouraged to present statutory requirements against relevant Delivery Program performance. Should the council wish to report on other aspects of services or programs provided to its community, it is encouraged to do so.

State of the Environment Reporting

A report on the State of the Environment is to be reported against the environmental objectives identified in the Delivery Program/Operational Plan as part of the council's annual report.

Councils can use previous State of the Environment Reports to enable trends to be monitored over time, but it is important that councils critically review their current environment reporting system to ensure that it is integrated and relevant to the council's long-term environmental objectives (as identified in the Community Strategic Plan), and enables informed environmental planning for the future.

Councils may wish to refer to further guidance on State of the Environment reporting in the Integrated Planning and Reporting Manual.

Group 2 and 3 Councils Annual Reporting Requirements

Councils' annual reporting requirements are set out in the historical version of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) (section 428) and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (the Regulation) (Part 9, Division 7).

To refer to the legislation, go to the historical version of the Act, at:
<http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/maintop/view/inforce/act+30+1993+cd+2009-07-06+N>

and the historical version of the Regulation at:

<http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/maintop/view/inforce/subordleg+487+2005+c+d+2010-01-08+N>.

The Principal Activities section of the annual report is intended as a measure of how well councils achieve the outcomes anticipated in their management plans. It should align closely with the Management Plan's key activities and measures. It must provide sufficient information and be presented in such a way that it is meaningful to the community.

The legislation requires that a copy of a council's full audited financial reports, including the general purpose financial reports (plus notes) and the special purpose financial reports (plus notes), form part of the annual report. These financial reports may be included in either the body of the annual report or as an appendix. Councils are encouraged to provide interpretive information wherever possible to ensure the community is able to easily understand the council's financial performance and position.

State of the Environment reporting

Group 2 and 3 councils are required to prepare a supplementary State of the Environment report for 2010-11 and submit this to the Division by 30 November 2011 (see section 428(2)(c) of the Act and clause 217(2) of the Regulation (historical version)). A checklist is also available on the 'Local Government Reform Program – Promoting Better Practice' page of the Division's website at www.dlg.nsw.gov.au.

The supplementary State of the Environment Report should be used as an opportunity to identify how the information currently being collected and reported may inform the council's future community strategic planning and reporting for environmental issues under the new planning and reporting requirements.

Publishing options – all councils

A number of councils have adopted the practice of providing a summary annual report to residents and ratepayers. While this format provides a useful overview of activities for the community, it does not replace the annual report.

The reported information must still be available to the public in a form that is clearly identifiable and accessible. There is no specific requirement for the information to be published in hard copy format as a single document. However, the full report should be available at council offices for those that do not have internet access. It must also be possible to readily provide a printed copy of the annual report, or sections of it, to a member of the public upon request.

Submitting reports – all councils

All councils are required to provide a copy of their Annual Report to the Minister for Local Government within five months of the end of the financial year (ie, by 30 November 2011). In practice, this means sending the report to the Chief Executive, Division of Local Government, Department of Premier and Cabinet.

It is preferable that councils make available an electronic copy of the Annual Report by publishing it on the council's website. Where this occurs, the council may formally advise the Minister by letter or email that the report has been published and specify the URL for the document. Emails may be sent to dlg@dlg.nsw.gov.au.

Group 2 and 3 councils are required to submit their supplementary State of the Environment Report in the same way as their annual report.

Councils are reminded that there are no specific provisions under the Act for granting extensions to individual councils for submitting reports after the due date.

End-of-term reporting

Councils are reminded that in 2012, following the ordinary election of councillors, councils' annual reports must include a report as to the council's achievements in implementing the Community Strategic Plan over the previous four years (or less, as councils transition to the new framework). This also means drawing upon achievements in the implementation of the four year Delivery Program.

Councils should start planning for this report early because they may need to obtain information from other organisations, including State Government agencies, to inform the end-of-term report. Further information on end-of-term reporting will be provided in due course.

State of the Environment Reporting

A comprehensive report on the State of the Environment is also required to be prepared and included as part of the end-of-term annual report. This means that the annual report will include a report on how the council has met the environmental objectives in the Community Strategic Plan. The report on the State of the Environment must include progress against relevant performance indicators for the environmental objectives of the Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program, report on and update trends for indicators, and identify all major environmental impacts.

Councils are strongly encouraged to develop their comprehensive State of the Environment report in partnership with other councils in their region and Catchment Management Authorities, as environmental monitoring and reporting is more useful when done at a regional and/or catchment scale.



Ross Woodward
Chief Executive, Local Government
A Division of the Department of Premier and Cabinet

5. **MONTHLY CALENDAR – AUGUST 2011**

REPORTING SECTION: Executive - Governance
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 10/22

Summary:

Monthly calendar of Council activities

Discussion (including issues and background):

It was resolved at the 28 September 2010 Ordinary meeting of Council to produce a monthly in-house calendar as a central focus point to allow Councillors and senior management staff to plan their activities and spread their work load having regard to upcoming commitments.

It also avoids situations where some Councillors missed meetings or are not aware of when they have been scheduled. In addition, outside organisations have been requested to send meeting notice and minutes direct to Council's various representatives. Where notification is received meeting dates will be listed on the strategic tasks, events and meetings calendar and the representative(s) names flagged.

Current Position:

The calendar for the months of August to October 2011 is attached. Councillors are requested to raise any queries prior to the meeting.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Nil

Governance issues:

Good governance centres in part on good communication and forward planning. Councillors are requested to advise the General Manager's Executive Assistant of any coming community or councillor function so as to avoid any clashes of commitments.

Environmental issues:

Not applicable

Stakeholders:

Councillors
Walgett Shire Council staff

Financial Implications:

Nil

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Not applicable

Conclusion:

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

Monthly Calendar – August 2011

Recommendation:

1. That Council receive and note the regular monthly calendar for the period August to October 2011.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Calendar for August to October 2011

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA



STRATEGIC TASKS, EVENTS AND MEETINGS CALENDAR

August 2011

| Date of Meeting | Time | What | Who | Business Paper due Date |
|-----------------|-------------------|---|--|-------------------------|
| Mon, 1 Aug | | Local Government Week | | |
| Tue, 2 Aug | | Local Government Week | | |
| Wed, 3 Aug | | Local Government Week
Local Government Awards Evening
Integrated Planning & Reporting Workshop | Mayor and MCS
GM | |
| Thu, 4 Aug | | Local Government Week
TBA – Tentative Date – Meeting Walgett, Narrabri & Warrumbungle Shires – Coonanababran – Mungindi Road Project | | |
| Fri, 5 Aug | | Local Government Week | | |
| Sat, 6 Aug | | Local Government Week
Walgett Festival | | |
| Sun, 7 Aug | | Local Government Week
Walgett Festival | | |
| Mon, 8 Aug | | Walgett Festival | | |
| Tue, 9 Aug | | Walgett Festival | | |
| Wed, 10 Aug | | Walgett Festival | | |
| Thu, 11 Aug | 3.30pm | Walgett Festival
HACC Meeting, Walgett Hospital, | Clr Keir | |
| Fri, 12 Aug | | Walgett Festival | | |
| Sat, 13 Aug | | | | |
| Sun, 14 Aug | | | | |
| Mon, 15 Aug | | | | |
| Tue, 16 Aug | | | | |
| Wed, 17 Aug | | LG Destination 2036 Workshop
Lightning Ridge Tourist Association Meeting | GM and Mayor | |
| Thu, 18 Aug | | LG Destination 2036 Workshop | GM and Mayor | |
| Fri, 19 Aug | | Healthy Workshop Funding Phase 3 Close
Pilliga - Mungindi Road Group Meeting, Narrabri | GM
GM, Mayor, Clr
Greenaway | 5 Seat |
| Sat, 20 Aug | | | | |
| Sun, 21 Aug | | | | |
| Mon, 22 Aug | | | | |
| Tue, 23 Aug | 10.00am | Council Meeting - Rowena | All Councillors and
Exec Staff | 12 Seat |
| Wed, 24 Aug | 5.30pm
10.30am | L/Ridge Community Working Party
Collarenebri Community Working Party
Workforce Planning Workshop, Sydney | Mayor, GM, MCS
Mayor, GM, MCS
GM and HR | |
| Thu, 25 Aug | | Workforce Planning Workshop, Sydney | GM and HR | |
| Fri, 26 Aug | | | | |
| Sat, 27 Aug | | | | |
| Sun, 28 Aug | | | | |
| Mon, 29 Aug | | TENTATIVE – PCYC Meeting | | |
| Tue, 30 Aug | 7.00pm | TENTATIVE – Carinda Community Forum – Strategic Plan
TENTATIVE – Caravan & Camping Event Inspection, BINGARA | Councillors, Exec Team
GM | |
| Wed, 31 Aug | 10.00am
7.00pm | Walgett Community Working Party
TENTATIVE Regional Library Meeting
TENTATIVE – Walgett Community Forum – Strategic Plan | Mayor, GM, MCS
GM, Clr Smith & Clr
Keir
Councillors, Exec
Team | |

Issued 23 August 2011

Page 1 of 3

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA



STRATEGIC TASKS, EVENTS AND MEETINGS CALENDAR

September 2011

| Date of Meeting | Time | What | Who | Business Paper due Date |
|-----------------|-------------------|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Thu, 1 Sep | 7.00pm | TENTATIVE – Rowena Community Forum – Strategic Plan | Councillors, Exec Team | |
| Fri, 2 Sep | | | | |
| Sat, 3 Sep | | | | |
| Sun, 4 Sep | | | | |
| Mon, 5 Sep | | | | |
| Tue, 6 Sep | 7.00pm | TENTATIVE – Lightning Ridge Community Forum – Strategic Plan | Councillors, Exec Team | |
| Wed, 7 Sep | 7.00pm
3.30pm | TENTATIVE – Grawin Community Forum – Strategic Plan
HACC Meeting, Walgett Hospital | Councillors, Exec Team
Clr Keir | |
| Thu, 8 Sep | 7.00pm | TENTATIVE – Burren Junction Community Forum – Strategic Plan | Councillors, Exec Team | |
| Fri, 9 Sep | | | | |
| Sat, 10 Sep | | | | |
| Sun, 11 Sep | | | | |
| Mon, 12 Sep | 7.00pm | TENTATIVE – Come By Chance Community Forum – Strategic Plan | Councillors, Exec Team | |
| Tue, 13 Sep | 7.00pm | TENTATIVE – Collarenebri Community Forum – Strategic Plan | Councillors, Exec Team | |
| Wed, 14 Sep | | | | |
| Thu, 15 Sep | | General Manager on leave
Local Traffic Committee Meeting | GM | |
| Fri, 16 Sep | | General Manager on leave | GM | |
| Sat, 17 Sep | | General Manager on leave | GM | |
| Sun, 18 Sep | | General Manager on leave | GM | |
| Mon, 19 Sep | | General Manager on leave | GM | |
| Tue, 20 Sep | | General Manager on leave | GM | |
| Wed, 21 Sep | | General Manager on leave | GM | |
| Thu, 22 Sep | 5.30pm
10.30am | L/Ridge Community Working Party
Collarenebri Community Working Party | Mayor, GM, MCS | |
| Fri, 23 Sep | | | | |
| Sat, 24 Sep | | | | |
| Sun, 25 Sep | | | | |
| Mon, 26 Sep | | | | |
| Tue, 27 Sep | 10.00am | Council Meeting – Carinda – Mayoral Election | All Councillors and Exec Staff | |
| Wed, 28 Sep | 10.00am | Walgett Community Working Party | Mayor, GM, MCS | |
| Thu, 29 Sep | | | | |
| Fri, 30 Sep | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA



STRATEGIC TASKS, EVENTS AND MEETINGS CALENDAR

October 2011

| Date of Meeting | Time | What | Who | Business Paper due Date |
|-----------------|-------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sat, 1 Oct | | | | |
| Sun, 2 Oct | | | | |
| Mon, 3 Oct | | | | |
| Tue, 4 Oct | | | | |
| Wed, 5 Oct | | | | |
| Thu, 6 Oct | | | | |
| Fri, 7 Oct | | | | |
| Sat, 8 Oct | | | | |
| Sun, 9 Oct | | | | |
| Mon, 10 Oct | | | | |
| Tue, 11 Oct | | | | |
| Wed, 12 Oct | | | | |
| Thu, 13 Oct | | | | |
| Fri, 14 Oct | | | | |
| Sat, 15 Oct | | | | |
| Sun, 16 Oct | | | | |
| Mon, 17 Oct | | | | |
| Tue, 18 Oct | | | | |
| Wed, 19 Oct | 5.30pm
10.30am | L/Ridge Community Working Party
Collarenebri Community Working Party | Mayor, GM, MCS | |
| Thu, 20 Oct | | | | |
| Fri, 21 Oct | | | | |
| Sat, 22 Oct | | | | |
| Sun, 23 Oct | | LG Association NSW annual Conference, Shoalhaven | | |
| Mon, 24 Oct | | LG Association NSW annual Conference, Shoalhaven | | |
| Tue, 25 Oct | 10.00am | Council Meeting
LG Association NSW annual Conference, Shoalhaven | All Councillors and
Exec Staff | |
| Wed, 26 Oct | 10.00am | Walgett Community Working Party
LG Association NSW annual Conference, Shoalhaven | Mayor, GM, MCS | |
| Thu, 27 Oct | | | | |
| Fri, 28 Oct | | | | |
| Sat, 29 Oct | | | | |
| Sun, 30 Oct | | | | |
| Mon, 31 Oct | | | | |

6. REAPPOINTMENT OF SES UNIT CONTROLLERS

REPORTING SECTION: Executive - Governance
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 09/1861

Summary:

This report recommends the re-appointment of Unit Controllers for the Lightning Ridge, Glengarry, Walgett, Carinda and Collarenebri State Emergency Services (SES).

Background:

The position of Unit Controllers are now due for renewal and Council is in receipt of correspondence from the State Emergency Region Controller seeking Council's endorsement of the following positions:-

Current Position:

The State Emergency Service have reviewed the candidates listed below as Unit Controllers for the State Emergency Services and are satisfied with their performances and are therefore recommending that they be appointed for a further two years.

Mr David Lane – Reappointment - Unit Controller Lightning Ridge State Emergency Service
Mr Dominic Warnock – Reappointment – Unit Controller Carinda State Emergency Service
Alice Thorn – Reappointment – Unit Controller Collarenebri State Emergency Service
Neil Adnum – Reappointment – Unit Controller Glengarry State Emergency Service
Mrs Julie Marshall – Reappointment – Unit Controller Walgett State Emergency Service

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Letters from State Emergency Service Region Controller dated 14 July 2011

Governance issues:

In accordance with the requirements of the State Emergency Services Act – Regulations Section 5, the appointment of all Controllers is to be formally reviewed by the Director General every odd numbered year with a common reappointment date being in August.

The successful operation of any SES unit is highly dependent of having effective and competent unit controllers.

Environmental issues:

Nil

Stakeholders:

Walgett Shire Council
State Emergency Services
Local Communities

Financial Implications:

SES Unit Controllers positions are voluntary

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Council has two other options available for selection of Unit Controllers.

1. Council can recommend another person of their choosing, or
2. Council can recommend advertising the position and nominees interviewed to select the most suitable applicant.

Conclusion:

The five local unit controllers have all been performing their function as unit controller in highly competent manner and the re-appointment of Unit Controllers for the Lightning Ridge, Glengarry, Walgett, Carinda and Collarenebri State Emergency Services (SES) is recommended. They should be formally thanked for their continued service.

Reappointment of SES Controllers

Recommendation:

That Council

1. Recommend the appointment of the following candidates to the position of Emergency Unit Controller for a period of two years, effective from 1 August 2011:

Mr David Lane – Reappointment - Unit Controller Lightning Ridge State Emergency Service
Mr Dominic Warnock – Reappointment – Unit Controller Carinda State Emergency Service
Alice Thorn – Reappointment – Unit Controller Collarenebri State Emergency Service
Neil Adnum – Reappointment – Unit Controller Glengarry State Emergency Service
Mrs Julie Marshall – Reappointment – Unit Controller Walgett State Emergency Service
2. Formally thanks the five unit controllers for their continued service
3. Investigate holding an annual function for the members of all five local SES units in conjunction with the annual volunteers day to express the communities appreciation for the ongoing voluntary efforts.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachment:

Letters received from David Monk regarding reappointments– SES Region Controller

RECEIVED 15 JUL 2011



Macquarie Division
160 Bultje Street,
Dubbo, NSW 2830
Phone: (02) 6882 2222
Fax: (02) 6884 2858

Email: admin@macquarie.ses.nsw.gov.au

14 July, 2011

General Manager
Walgett Shire Council
PO Box 31
Walgett NSW 2832

Dear Sir,

LIGHTNING RIDGE SES CONTROLLER REAPPOINTMENT – 2011

In accordance with the requirements of the SES Act – Regulations Section 5, the appointment of all Controllers is to be formally reviewed by the Commissioner every odd numbered year with a common reappointment date being in August.

As the position of Controller is a key appointment and has a major bearing on the capacity of the local SES to effectively and efficiently respond during emergencies, I would invite Council's input into the reappointment process and seek their recommendation.

Council's vary across the state on the method they chose for selection, but in general it falls into three categories:

1. Council can recommend the person currently serving in the position of Controller.
2. Council can recommend another person of their choosing;
3. Council can recommend advertising the position and nominees interviewed to select the most suitable applicant.

In either case, Council's response would be greatly appreciated to enable the finalisation of the reappointment process.

Should you require any clarification on the reappointment process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Monk'.

David Monk
Region Controller

www.ses.nsw.gov.au





Macquarie Division
160 Bultje Street,
Dubbo, NSW 2830
Phone: (02) 6882 2222
Fax: (02) 6884 2858
Email: admin@macquarie.ses.nsw.gov.au

14 July, 2011

RECEIVED 15 JUL 2011

General Manager
Walgett Shire Council
PO Box 31
Walgett NSW 2832

Dear Sir,

GLENGARRY SES CONTROLLER REAPPOINTMENT – 2011

In accordance with the requirements of the SES Act – Regulations Section 5, the appointment of all Controllers is to be formally reviewed by the Commissioner every odd numbered year with a common reappointment date being in August.

As the position of Controller is a key appointment and has a major bearing on the capacity of the local SES to effectively and efficiently respond during emergencies, I would invite Council's input into the reappointment process and seek their recommendation.

Council's vary across the state on the method they chose for selection, but in general it falls into three categories:

1. Council can recommend the person currently serving in the position of Controller.
2. Council can recommend another person of their choosing;
3. Council can recommend advertising the position and nominees interviewed to select the most suitable applicant.

In either case, Council's response would be greatly appreciated to enable the finalisation of the reappointment process.

Should you require any clarification on the reappointment process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

David Monk
Region Controller





Macquarie Division
160 Bultje Street,
Dubbo, NSW 2830
Phone: (02) 6882 2222
Fax: (02) 6884 2858

Email: admin@macquarie.ses.nsw.gov.au

14 July, 2011

RECEIVED 15 JUL 2011

General Manager
Walgett Shire Council
PO Box 31
Walgett NSW 2832

Dear Sir,

CARINDA SES CONTROLLER REAPPOINTMENT – 2011

In accordance with the requirements of the SES Act – Regulations Section 5, the appointment of all Controllers is to be formally reviewed by the Commissioner every odd numbered year with a common reappointment date being in August.

As the position of Controller is a key appointment and has a major bearing on the capacity of the local SES to effectively and efficiently respond during emergencies, I would invite Council's input into the reappointment process and seek their recommendation.

Council's vary across the state on the method they chose for selection, but in general it falls into three categories:

1. Council can recommend the person currently serving in the position of Controller.
2. Council can recommend another person of their choosing;
3. Council can recommend advertising the position and nominees interviewed to select the most suitable applicant.

In either case, Council's response would be greatly appreciated to enable the finalisation of the reappointment process.

Should you require any clarification on the reappointment process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

David Monk
Region Controller

www.ses.nsw.gov.au





Macquarie Division
160 Bultje Street,
Dubbo, NSW 2830
Phone: (02) 6882 2222
Fax: (02) 6884 2858
Email: admin@macquarie.ses.nsw.gov.au

14 July, 2011

RECEIVED 15 JUL 2011

General Manager
Walgett Shire Council
PO Box 31
Walgett NSW 2832

Dear Sir,

COLLARENEBRI SES CONTROLLER REAPPOINTMENT – 2011

In accordance with the requirements of the SES Act – Regulations Section 5, the appointment of all Controllers is to be formally reviewed by the Commissioner every odd numbered year with a common reappointment date being in August.

As the position of Controller is a key appointment and has a major bearing on the capacity of the local SES to effectively and efficiently respond during emergencies, I would invite Council's input into the reappointment process and seek their recommendation.

Council's vary across the state on the method they chose for selection, but in general it falls into three categories:

1. Council can recommend the person currently serving in the position of Controller.
2. Council can recommend another person of their choosing;
3. Council can recommend advertising the position and nominees interviewed to select the most suitable applicant.

In either case, Council's response would be greatly appreciated to enable the finalisation of the reappointment process.

Should you require any clarification on the reappointment process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

David Monk
Region Controller

www.ses.nsw.gov.au





Macquarie Division
160 Bultje Street,
Dubbo, NSW 2830
Phone: (02) 6882 2222
Fax: (02) 6884 2858
Email: admin@macquarie.ses.nsw.gov.au

14 July, 2011

RECEIVED 15 JUL 2011

General Manager
Walgett Shire Council
PO Box 31
Walgett NSW 2832

Dear Sir,

WALGETT SES CONTROLLER REAPPOINTMENT – 2011

In accordance with the requirements of the SES Act – Regulations Section 5, the appointment of all Controllers is to be formally reviewed by the Commissioner every odd numbered year with a common reappointment date being in August.

As the position of Controller is a key appointment and has a major bearing on the capacity of the local SES to effectively and efficiently respond during emergencies, I would invite Council's input into the reappointment process and seek their recommendation.

Council's vary across the state on the method they chose for selection, but in general it falls into three categories:

1. Council can recommend the person currently serving in the position of Controller.
2. Council can recommend another person of their choosing;
3. Council can recommend advertising the position and nominees interviewed to select the most suitable applicant.

In either case, Council's response would be greatly appreciated to enable the finalisation of the reappointment process.

Should you require any clarification on the reappointment process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Monk', is written over a faint, illegible stamp.

David Monk
Region Controller

www.ses.nsw.gov.au



7. DESTINATION 2036 WORKSHOP – 17/18 AUGUST 2011 - DUBBO

REPORTING SECTION: Executive - Governance
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 11/169

Summary:

To consider objectives and possible outcomes of the Destination 2036 Workshop being held in Dubbo on 17/18 August, 2011 by the Division of Local Government.

Background:

The Division of Local Government, Department of the Premier and Cabinet is conducting a two day workshop “Destination 2036” in Dubbo on 17/18 August, 2011. Mayors and General Managers from every Council in NSW have been invited to attend.

In our case the Deputy Mayor and General Manager will be attending.

The primary objective of the workshop is to

“produce a roadmap for an effective and sustainable local government sector through to the year 2036 (i.e. a 25 year horizon). Of particular emphasis is the requirement to develop a shared action plan for local government, with a strong focus on the next four years.”

Delegates have been requested to appreciate that as the leaders of local government they would be attending the workshop in a broader strategic capacity, rather than as representatives of individual councils.

Current Position:

Copies of a discussion paper prepared for the workshop, together with various departmental circulars received in the lead up to the workshop have been circulated under separate cover to all councillors.

One of the concerning developments in the lead up to the workshop has been the increased media comment and speculation of the need to reduce the number of metropolitan councils from 40 down to 10.

If a hidden agenda of the workshop is to put the amalgamation of local government back on the public agenda, it is highly unlikely that initiatives in this regard would be confined to metropolitan Councils.

A further report will be prepared following the workshops.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Destination 2036 Discussion Paper
Destination 2036 – Some Food for Thought – a personal message from Ross Woodward, CEO, Division of Local Government

Governance issues:

Nil

Environmental issues:

Nil

Stakeholders:

NSW State Government
NSW Councils
Local Government Industry generally

Financial Implications:

Accommodation cost for all delegates attending for the two days of the workshop are being met directly by the Division of Local Government

Legal Issues:

Nil

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Depending on the outcomes of the workshop, Council may need to reconsider its level of resource sharing with neighbouring councils.

Conclusion:

On the surface, the workshop is aimed at achieving greater effectiveness and sustainability for the local government future well into the future.

The litmus test will be the outcomes identified at the workshop and the subsequent media hype that follows. Council needs to be aware of the possible ramifications of any resultant change in NSW Government policy which may be generated by public perceptions arising from the workshop outcomes.

Destination 2036 Workshop – 17/18 August 2011 - Dubbo

Recommendation:

1. That the General Manager's Report be received and noted.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

The following documents have been circulated under separate cover:

- Destination 2036 – Some food for Thought
- Our Communities Council Future – Destination 2036 Discussion Paper
- Circular to Councils 11/16 – Local government – Destination 2036 – Update.

**7A. DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT ON DESTINATION 2036
WORKSHOP – 17/18 AUGUST 2011 - DUBBO**

REPORTING SECTION: Executive - Governance
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 11/169

Summary:

To the outcomes of the Destination 2036 Workshop held in Dubbo on 17/18 August, 2011 by the Division of Local Government.

Background:

This supplementary report has been prepared to comment briefly on the Division of Local Government, Department of the Premier and Cabinet two day workshop “Destination 2036” held in Dubbo on 17/18 August, 2011. Mayors and General Managers from every Council in NSW were invited to attend and with a very few exceptions it appeared that all NSW Councils were represented.

As previously advised, in our case we were represented by the Deputy Mayor and General Manager.

The primary objective of the workshop was identified in the pre-workshop publicity as being to:

“produce a roadmap for an effective and sustainable local government sector through to the year 2036 (i.e. a 25 year horizon). Of particular emphasis is the requirement to develop a shared action plan for local government, with a strong focus on the next four years.”

Delegates were requested to appreciate that, as the leaders of local government, they had been invited to attend the workshop in a broader strategic capacity, rather than as representatives of individual councils.

Current Position:

A copy of the NSW Local Government Minister’s communiqué, issued following the workshop is attached to this report.

As mentioned previously, one of the concerning developments in the lead up to the workshop was the increased media comment and speculation of the need to reduce the number of metropolitan councils from 40 down to 10.

Whilst the issue of the longer term “effectiveness and sustainability of the local government sector” was the expressed aim of the workshop, if a hidden agenda of the workshop was to also put the matter of council amalgamations (voluntary or otherwise) and other forms for the rationalisation of the local government industry back on the public agenda, this aim could not have been more successfully achieved.

As is outlined in the attached communiqué, with a fair degree of leading from the workshop facilitators, a “vision for the future” for the future of local government was produced.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

Again with a fair degree of leading, the workshop was also identified “models for local government for the future” and the elements that would combine to form those models including “governance, structure, functions, finances and capacity”.

A Implementation Steering Committee, consisting of the Chief Executive of the Division of Local Government (Chair), the Presidents of the Local Government and Shires Associations and the President of the LGMA, will now go away and produce a draft action plan by the end of September, 2011. This document will then go out for public comment and a final action plan will be wrapped up prior to December, 2011. Implementation will begin in 2012.

Obviously, it is highly unlikely that any of the initiatives arising out of the final action plan will be confined to only metropolitan or coastal councils.

Speaking at the workshop, the Minister for Western NSW Hon Kevin Humphries M. P., outlined a proposal to set up a new Commission to take responsibility for roads and infrastructure in the unincorporated area and to add to that area. Whilst the area in Central Darling Shire outside of towns including Wilcannia and White Cliffs was sighted as an example, it is not sure how far to the east this concept could be extended. The incentive for involvement in this approach would be the removal of the need for any form of rating. Council’s staff are currently attempting to obtain a copy of the Minister’s address.

Further reports will be prepared in the weeks ahead as the various initiatives arising from the workshop become available in greater detail.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Destination 2036 Discussion Paper
Destination 2036 – Some Food for Thought – a personal message from Ross Woodward, CEO, Division of Local Government.
Communique – Destination 2036 Workshop.

Governance issues:

Over my some forty odd years of involvement in local government administration, this is the fourth round of industry rationalisation I have been involved with. Speaking from previous experience, I believe that Council needs to make a decision very quickly as to whether its involvement the immediate future should be pro-active or otherwise.

To do nothing is not an option.

Environmental issues:

Nil

Stakeholders:

NSW State Government
NSW Councils
Local Government Industry generally
Local residents and ratepayers

Financial Implications:

It would be reasonable to assume that the costs of running the workshop, including accommodation and costs for all delegates attending, speakers and facilitators together with other logistical issues would have cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. Obviously the Division of Local Government would not have incurred costs of this magnitude without being sure that local government reform was genuinely on the new State Government's political agenda.

Legal Issues:

It is difficult to comment with regards future models of local government that may be relevant to Western NSW until further details are released. Suffice be to say that there is a commitment to changing the existing legislation to allow a variety of models to be considered for adoption in the years ahead.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

As a result of the directions local government should be considering identified during the workshop, if Council opts to take a pro-active approach it may need to reconsider its level of resource sharing with neighbouring councils.

Council needs to be mindful of the fact that previous history shows that some councils can become extremely predatory when they begin to feel threatened. Sometimes it is best to be on the front foot and avoid these sorts of confrontations by being open and upfront when initiating discussions.

Conclusion:

On the surface, the workshop was aimed at achieving greater effectiveness and sustainability for the local government industry well into the future.

The outcomes identified at the workshop indicate that Council needs to be aware of the direction of the new NSW Government's policy towards local government and urgently considering how it should approach the reform initiatives now clearly on the table.

Draft Supplementary Report on Destination 2036 Workshop – 17/18 August 2011 - Dubbo

Recommendation:

1. That the General Manager's Report be received and noted and Council consider whether or not it should be initiating discussions with senior representatives from neighbouring councils and, if so, which councils and on what basis.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

NSW Minister for Local Government's Destination 2036 Communique.



Communiqué – 18 August 2011 – Dubbo

Destination 2036 Workshop - Mapping the future for better local government

The leaders from NSW local government came together for an historic meeting in Dubbo on 17 and 18 August 2011 to begin the process of creating a strong and viable local government sector.

Over 350 representatives from every council in the State worked cooperatively and constructively over the two days to lay down a shared vision for the sector and develop a set of clear actions to achieve that vision.

Representatives at the Destination 2036 Workshop recognised the need to reshape the structure, governance and financing arrangements, functions and capacity of the sector to better enable councils to serve their communities in a challenging and rapidly changing environment.

The two-day workshop represented the first stage in a significant process of reform for the sector and a new era in State/Local Government relations. It sets the stage for the biggest reforms to local government in its history.

The Minister for Local Government, the Hon Don Page MP, the President of the Local Government Association, Councillor Keith Rhoades, the President of the Shires Association, Councillor Ray Donald, and the President of Local Government Managers Australia (NSW Branch) Mr Mark Ferguson, joined together at the end of the workshop to praise participants and to share their commitment to jointly pursuing this reform process.

Challenges for the future

Representatives at the workshop acknowledged that there will be a number of challenges in the short, medium and longer term that will impact on the capacity of councils to meet the needs of their communities. The key challenges identified and discussed at the workshop include:

- Demographic change
- Increasing community expectations
- Technological change
- Economic, financial and industry change
- Environmental change
- Social change

The Vision for NSW Local Government

During the course of the two day event a working draft of a future vision statement was developed for further consultation.

Vision 2036

Strong Communities through Partnerships

- *By 2036, all NSW communities will be healthy and prosperous – led and served by strong, effective and democratically elected local government*
- *Through leadership, local knowledge and partnerships with community, government and other sectors, we will plan our futures and deliver quality services and infrastructure*
- *We will be recognised, respected and responsible for:*
 - *Upholding the highest ethical standards*
 - *Sound financial management*
 - *Sensitive environmental stewardship*
 - *Meaningful community engagement, advocacy and leadership*
 - *Our adaptability, innovation and learning*
 - *Developing the full potential of our people*
 - *Responding to our diverse cultures and environments*
 - *Creating places that people value*

Achieving the vision – a roadmap for Local Government

There was broad consensus among representatives that change and reform is needed within the sector to meet changing community needs; this will be achieved through the pursuit of the following strategic initiatives (the “roadmap”).

- The development of a new vision for local government based on a working draft
- Continue to improve the relationship between state and local government, including a review of the intergovernmental agreement
- Commitment to review the legislative framework to ensure that local government can meet the needs and challenges facing communities in the future
- Commitment to clarify the key functions, roles and responsibilities of councils
- Recognition that a variety of operating models for local government are needed that can be applied in the differing circumstances of remote, regional, rural and Sydney basin councils, because one size does not fit all.
- The need to develop new funding models to ensure the financial viability of councils
- Strong endorsement to strengthen regional collaboration and resource sharing
- Commitment to improve the process by which voluntary boundary alterations can be accommodated
- Pilot programs with volunteer councils to test new models

Next steps

Steering Committee to oversee implementation of the Action Plan

Who

An Implementation Steering Committee (ISC), consisting of the Chief Executive of the Division of Local Government (Chair) the Presidents of the Local Government and Shires Associations and the President of the LGMA has been established to build on the work of the Destination 2036 workshop.

How

The ISC will meet on 2 September to consider the workshop outcomes. The ISC will refine the list of actions into a draft action plan that will be distributed around the end of September for consultation.

Feedback will be considered and incorporated into the final action plan by the end of the year so that implementation by the two tiers of government can commence in 2012.

8. RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF PRECINCT COMMITTEE – WALGETT AND GREATER SUPPORT FOR EXISTING COMMITTEES

REPORTING SECTION: Executive - Governance
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland –General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 09/1491

Summary:

To initiate action to re-establish a precinct committee in Walgett and to also encourage greater input from precinct committees generally.

Background:

Council has an existing structure of precinct for the larger towns and villages including Burren Junction, Carinda, Collarenebri, Lightning Ridge, Rowena and Walgett.

Current Position:

The precinct committees are functioning in all centres but Walgett, although it is believed that a greater degree of support from Council at an administrative level would enhance the role of these committees.

The Walgett Precinct Committee was operating under the auspices of the Walgett Ratepayers Association but that organisation has now gone into recess.

In view of the need to encourage greater community involvement in the Integrated Planning and Reporting process currently underway throughout the Shire, it is considered it would be appropriate to endeavour to re-establish a Walgett Precinct Committee to allow the community to have greater input into the development of the Community strategic Plan.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Developing a Precinct Structure guidelines

Governance issues:

The precinct system aims to achieve greater interaction between the general public, residents, council employees and elected representatives.

A precinct committee should provide a forum for an exchange of information and strengthening public involvement and participation in local government

Environmental issues:

Nil

Stakeholders:

Precinct committees
Councillors
Broader community
Council staff

Financial Implications:

Any cost involved in the proposed enhancement of the role of precinct committees would come from existing budget votes.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Do nothing
Delegate function to an existing Walgett committee

Legal Issues:

Precinct committees may be formed under Section 355 of the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) but Council needs to develop and review guidelines for these Committees.

Conclusion:

It would be appropriate for the General Manager to approach all precinct committees and offer a higher level of administrative support and to also initiate action to re-establish a precinct committee in Walgett

Re-establishment of Precinct Committee – Walgett and greater Support for Existing Committees

Recommendation:

1. That the General Manager to approach all precinct committees and offer a higher level of administrative support and to also initiate action to re-establish a precinct committee in Walgett

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Developing a Precinct Structure Guidelines

DEVELOPING A PRECINCT STRUCTURE

The first stage in the establishment of a precinct committee system is the adoption of objectives. Other councils had already drawn up aims and objectives for their model and these examples provided a base from which to start.

The following objectives and guidelines of a precinct system are relevant to Walgett Shire.

The precinct system should help to develop a better relationship between the physical and social aspects of planning and more specifically:

- Ensure that Council's decisions reflect both the present and future needs of the community.
- Develop a base from which residents can work against the feeling of powerlessness in public decision-making.
- Allow residents and interested parties to gain some understanding of the constraints that local government is forced to function within.
- Promote positive interaction between the general public, residents, council employees and the elected representatives.
- Provide increased opportunity for public involvement and participation in environmental planning and assessment.
- Strengthen the Council's recommendations in dealing with bodies outside the Council such as private organisations, Commonwealth and State governments.
- Aim to enhance the environmental amenity of the Shire.
- Provide a forum that deals realistically and openly with the conflict that arises from the development process.
- Provide a forum in which the potential anxiety of negotiating through bureaucratic and legal constraints can be alleviated.
- Allow for an information exchange, which provides residents, councillors and staff with a forum in which to come together.
- Help develop some practical skills and experience for participants in helping them deal with environmental change.
- Provide a structure that helps reduce the alienation of both individuals and the community as a whole from their surrounding environment.

Specific objectives of each precinct

The role of the precincts is to provide information on the physical, social and environmental characteristics of the area and assist council in the formulation and development of programs and policies that reflect residential, agricultural, mining and tourism needs. There is an ideal opportunity for such involvement during the development of the Shire's Local Environment Plan (LEP).

9. WALGETT MAIN STREET BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT PROGRESS

REPORTING SECTION: Executive -governance
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 09/1528

Summary:

To review progress with Council's Walgett Main Street Beautification Project

Background:

This issue was last reported to Council in December, 2010 when it was resolved:

| 394/10 | Walgett Main Street Beautification |
|--------------------|--|
| Resolution: | |
| 1. | That Walgett Shire Council resolves to progress the Main Street Beautification short term goals by: |
| | (b). Removing empty tree grilles with awnings over, grind out existing stumps and temporarily fill with a bound gravel surface or similar. |
| | (d). Engaging business and stakeholder co-operation with painting of shop facades, removal of bars and screens, removing existing base posts where awnings are currently incomplete. |
| Moved: | Clr Colless |
| Seconded: | Clr Keir |
| CARRIED | |

| 395/10 | Walgett Main Street Beautification |
|--------------------|--|
| Resolution: | |
| 1. | That further investigation on costing for the outstanding items (a) and (c) in the original recommendation be brought back to the February 2011 Council Meeting as well as the results of the Traffic study conducted. |
| Moved: | Clr Greenaway |
| Seconded: | Clr Keir |
| CARRIED | |

Council will recall that following a community consultation conducted by GMU Design, Urban Consultants in August, 2009 at a total cost of \$33,983.55 the Walgett Main Street Beautification Plan was produced and placed on public display.

Community feedback identified two main issues:

1. Objections to moving the monument
2. Objections to the proposal to close Wee Waa Street between Fox and Pitt Streets to allow development of a pedestrian plaza.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

As a result, Council resolved not to move the monument and to conduct a Traffic Study to determine the feasibility of the Wee Waa Street proposal.

Subsequently, RoadNet Pty Ltd was engaged to conduct the Traffic Study at a cost of \$20,460.00 and a draft report produced noting issues with regards the one way traffic option and turning circles in the GMU proposal. GMU was the requested to provide a revised sketch, taking into consideration RoadNet's comments.

A copy of Roadnet's Report and the revised sketch from GMU design have been circulated to Councillors under separate cover

Current Position:

The way forward with regards the change in traffic movements in Wee Waa Street is best expressed by the conclusion in the RoadNet Report:

"The Draft Masterplan for the beautification of the Walgett town centre has many good aspects in the creation of passive open space and enhancement of the Wee Waa Street precinct by using wide road reserve to create a meeting place. The widened footpath area provides the opportunity for al fresco dining and a formal area for residents to gather. Take away food shops and a bottle shop are also located adjacent to the proposed meeting area.

However, the Draft Masterplan raises issues in relation to traffic management and traffic impacts. These include difficulty of servicing for the Post Office and Bottle Shop by large vehicles. Access to these would be compromised by the narrow road width proposed. Delivery trucks use Wee Waa Street and require a significant width for manoeuvring.

There would also be a loss of parking in Wee Waa Street and reduced through traffic movement and therefore loss of passing trade. The existing restaurant and café appear to be quite successful because they have good parking along their frontages. The parking is relatively secure with the Police Station being located across the road. The question arises as to whether these shops would remain successful if the convenient and secure parking were to be removed as proposed in the Draft Masterplan.

In addition, the reduction in parking and creation of a wider footpath area as a meeting place has the potential to encourage undesirable loitering at night, especially with the Bottle Shop located adjacent. It would be remiss not to mention the perception of most of those interviewed in Wee Waa Street during the consultation process that the creation of unsupervised open space will exacerbate antisocial behaviour, especially if the police Station is relocated.

It is therefore considered the proposed one-way system in Wee Waa Street be reviewed and consideration be given to retaining two-way flow.

It is also concluded that to achieve the objectives of the Draft Masterplan, such as increasing pedestrian and landscaping space, large trucks passing through town would need to be removed from Fox Street and Wee Waa Street.

The recommended route for large trucks to bypass the town centre is to divert these onto Peel Street. This will require widening and signposting works as described in the main body of the report. Two schools are located along the heavy vehicle route. Site inspections reveal that the school frontages are off other side roads and that little school traffic or pedestrians use Peel Street. The promotion of Peel Street as a truck route would have little impact on safety for the schools. Associated improvements to the intersections along this route would improve safety, particularly where current give-way signs are minimal and obscured and linemarking is faded.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

Council's decision to retain the war memorial in the centre of the Wee Waa and Fox Street intersection impacts on the feasibility of the Draft Masterplan. This limits the options for traffic management at the site.

A roundabout is the most appropriate form of traffic control for the intersection. If trucks can be detoured from Fox Street the roundabout could be 'tightened up'. This would allow kerb blisters to be provided on each corner and extend for some distance into each street to create additional open space and landscaping opportunities.

Other options considered include give-way sign control with an elevated town square (as proposed in the Draft Masterplan) and the option of traffic signals. The option of creating a town square with raised platform through the intersection with give-way signs in Wee Waa Street is possible, however the plan has safety implications because the memorial would obstruct turning paths and sight lines. It may be possible to install traffic signals and retain the memorial at the site but this could not be justified on traffic volume grounds, nor would traffic signals suit the general amenity of a small town such as Walgett.

Options for alternate urban design, incorporating a roundabout intersection of Wee Waa and Fox Streets are given in the main body of the report for consideration by Council. These options focus on addressing traffic issues arising in the Draft Masterplan whilst still aiming to achieve its objectives."

Accordingly, it is proposed that Council take no further action to change traffic flows in Wee Waa Street or establish a Pedestrian Plaza.

Previous public consultation sessions have been run by consultants engaged for this purpose. It is believed that a further public meeting should be held with the major stakeholders identified during earlier consultation sessions including:

- Local Businesses
- Walgett Local Aboriginal Land Council
- Murdi Pakki

as well as the broader community. This can be done either in-house on its own or as part of the next round of the Community Strategy Plan preparation process, with the latter approach being preferred.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

- RoadNet Traffic Study (April 2011)
- GMU revised sketches (April 2011)

Governance issues:

Previously, some staff had considered this matter to be an operational matter. However, I believe that as there are strategic issues involved, concerning the earlier proposal for closure of Wee Waa Street and the construction of a plaza, that the matter should be reviewed and determined at a Council level.

Environmental issues:

An redesign of road furniture such as planter beds may have impacts on other infrastructure including stormwater drainage and the like.

Stakeholders:

Walgett Shire Council
Walgett resident and ratepayers

Financial Implications:

Any work involved with removal of planter boxes etc. will need to come from existing budget votes or be done as part of RSD partnerships

Legal Issues:

Nil

Alternative Solutions/Options:

This project has been rather drawn out. Consultants' Reports have enabled extensive public consultation to be undertaken. The wishes of the community have been clearly expressed as part of that process leaving Council with two options, namely to hold a further public meeting to discuss and agree upon a revised approach with the alternative being to do nothing.

Conclusion:

The Main Street Beautification Project presents Council with the opportunity to address long standing issues surrounding the appearance of Walgett's main street. Approached in the right manner the implementation of this project will have a dramatic and lasting positive impact on Walgett and its residents.

Walgett Main Street Beautification Project Progress

Recommendation:

That Council

1. Not proceed with any proposal that impacts adversely on traffic flows or involves the establishment of a pedestrian plaza in Wee Waa Street
2. Hold further public consultations to determine the nature and extent of the Walgett Main Street Beautification Project with a view to undertaking agreed works at the earliest possible opportunity.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Copy of Final Report presented to Council by GMU (Under Separate Cover)

10. INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING LEGISLATION – PREPARATION OF COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

REPORTING SECTION: Executive - Governance
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 09/1565

Summary:

To review progress in the preparation of Council's Community Strategic Plan.

Background:

The Local Government Planning and Reporting Act 2009 enacted in October, 2009 requires all Councils in NSW to introduce Integrated Planning and Reporting by 1 July, 2012. Council had earlier been placed in Group 2 which required compliance by 1 July this year but following Council request in March this year has been moved into Group 3 and the need to now comply with the new legislation by 1 July next year.

Current Position:

Staff movements have slowed down the preparation of the various documents required as part of the integrated planning process and also the review of documentation already prepared to ensure that it meets the aims and objectives of the new legislation.

However, the delays encountered will have the positive effect of being able to avoid the pitfalls encountered by Councils further advanced in the process.

It is proposed to proceed with a further round of community consultations during late August/September using the draft plan already prepared as a discussion document to identify and refine the various issues that need to be addressed.

The programme for the next round of community forums is as follows:

| DAY | DATE | TIME | LOCATION |
|-----------|--------------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Tuesday | 30 August | 7.00pm | Carinda Town Hall |
| Wednesday | 31 August | 7.00pm | Walgett Council Chambers |
| Thursday | 1 September | 7.00pm | Rowena Town Hall |
| Tuesday | 6 September | 7.00pm | Lightning Ridge Bowling Club |
| Wednesday | 7 September | 7.00pm | Grawin Opal Miners Recreation Club |
| Thursday | 8 September | 7.00pm | Burren Junction RSL Club |
| Monday | 12 September | 7.00pm | Come By Chance Hall |
| Tuesday | 13 September | 7.00pm | Collarenebri Town Hall |

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

The Local Government Planning and Reporting Act 2009
 Local Government Planning a Sustainable Future Manual
 Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines
 Local Government Act 1993

Governance issues:

The need for Councillors and senior management staff to be involved and take ownership of the Integrated Planning and Reporting process can't be too strongly emphasised. These obligations are set out in the legislation.

Environmental issues:

The new legislation requires extensive consultation with regards a wide range of local and regional environmental issues. It is best that this is carried out over an extended period as this will allow appropriate community input and also achieve a reasonable level of community understanding and acceptance.

Stakeholders:

Walgett Shire Council
Shire resident and ratepayers
Various State and Federal government departments and agencies

Financial Implications:

Some Councillors have had the opportunity recently to participate in Asset Management and Long Term Financial Planning workshops and should have a greater appreciation of what is intended to be achieved by the new legislation.

The introduction of a ten year financial plan is a pivotal part of the new legislation which needs exhaustive planning and cross verification with other elements of the Community Strategic Plan.

As previously advised, in our case it is proposed to prepare a draft ten year plan based on an extension of our current three year financial horizon and then massage it to address the various longer term issues that are being identified as part of the public consultation process. It will be necessary to prioritise the various matters identified, particularly those which involve significant capital expenditure.

This approach is essential if Council is to properly address both ongoing recurrent costs and the issue of longer term intergenerational equity.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Two alternatives exist to approach the new legislative requirements. The first is to take a broad brush approach.

The second is to take the course opted for of aiming at compliance by 1 July, 2012 and providing sufficient staff and resources to achieve this aim. Part of this process will be to set up a small staff working party to oversight the implementation process.

Conclusion:

Council needs to ensure compliance with the new legislation by 1 July, 2012. To achieve this outcome, councillors and senior management staff will need to have the main documentation required in place by the end of December, 2011 to allow the necessary public consultation in the lead up to the introduction of the new plans etc by the required date.

Integrated Planning Reporting Legislation – Preparation of Community Strategic Plan

Recommendation:

1. That the General Manager's Report be received and noted and the action taken in arranging the next round of community forums be endorsed.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Nil

11. ESTABLISHMENT OF PLANT COMMITTEE

REPORTING SECTION: Executive - Governance
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 11/278

Summary:

To consider the establishment of a plant committee.

Background/Current Position:

The past practice with regards to purchase of plant items has been for Council to rely on the reports of the Divisional Directors concerned and Support Services Co-ordinator when preparing to call tenders and in the evaluation of actual tenders after they close.

A similar practice has been followed with regards to preparation of the plant replacement programme and the setting of plant hire rates.

Whilst this process has served Council well in the past with little or not adverse outcomes, it is believed that Council would be far better served by getting the elected representatives involved in the strategic planning phase of plant operations far earlier than is the case at present.

Recent experience has shown this to be the case.

This could be done by setting up a small plant committee comprising of say three councillors, which would be supported by senior management staff as necessary.

This would allow more detailed evaluation of Council's plant operations and future requirements from a strategic point of view at the initial stage of development of the plant replacement programme than is the case now when too often it appears that decisions could have been made without the benefit of input from Councillors with vast experience in the field.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Council's Plant Replacement Programme – 2011 V6
Current Plant Hire Rates

Governance issues:

Good governance involves sound planning particularly with regards the purchase of major assets. It requires that the acquisition process be open and transparent with all relevant issues being raised for consideration. Often in a Council forum, either open or in Committee, it is not possible to examine issues to the greater depth they require because of time or other considerations.

Being able to carry out such in-depth discussions and have the value of input from a number of people with extensive experience in the operation of heavy vehicles for example should not only allow a more comprehensive consideration of strategic requirements but also result in an enhanced outcome.

Environmental issues:

Nil

Stakeholders:

Councillors
Senior management staff
Local community

Financial Implications:

It is believed that Council's strategic operations would be better served by the establishment of a plant reserve funded by plant profits and used to source the cost of future plant acquisitions.

A review of Council's plant hire income and expenses at a committee level would served to allow greater transparency and accountability for this area of our operations and enhance future strategic planning.

A similar view of the cost of major repairs including insurance claims would also enhance accountability and transparency.

The establishment of a Plan Replacement reserve should also be investigated.

Legal Issues:

It is the preferred course of action that a plant committee be set up as a Section 355 (LGA) Committee with a constitution which clearly sets of the roles and functions of the committee which would have a primary role of examining relevant plant issues in-depth and reporting back to Council.

The membership of the committee could be determined annually in September each year in conjunction with the consideration of Council's various other delegates.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

The alternative is to continue with the present approach to plant operations.

Conclusion:

With the opportunities presented by recent staff changes, it is believed that the setting up of a plant committee would enhance substantially Council strategic planning opportunities in this area of activity.

Establishment of Plant Committee

Recommendation:

1. That Council establish a Plant Committee under Section 355 of the Local Government Act , 1993 with a membership of three elected representatives with the first Committee being appointed in September, 2011 and thereafter annually in September each year.
2. That the Committee make a recommendation with regards a constitution outlining its roles and functions at its first meeting.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Nil

12. ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITING FUNCTION

REPORTING SECTION: Executive - Governance
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 10/252

Summary:

To consider the establishment of an internal auditing function

Background:

A relatively new requirement of the Division of Local Government is that Council's make provision for an internal auditing function in addition to the existing external audit function.

Details of this requirement are set out in Circular 10-22 and Internal Audit Guidelines

Current Position:

The opportunity currently exists for Council to establish this internal audit function by way of a resource sharing initiative through OROC with five other local Councils, namely Coonamble, Gilgandra, Narromine, Warren and Warrumbungle Shire Councils.

These councils have already reached agreement in principle to this approach and at the OROC GMAC meeting on Friday 8 July, 2011 I sought approval for Walgett Shire to be included in the initiative.

A meeting has been arranged to further discuss the concept during the period representatives of the various councils are in Dubbo between 16/18 August 2011.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Circular 10-22
Internal Audit Guidelines

Governance issues:

The new requirements are aimed at improving the openness and transparency of councils. The internal audit requirements focus more on internal controls and management issues, whereas the external audit has the prime aim of being an independent, external review of a council's financial activities over a given period and at a particular point in time.

Environmental issues:

Stakeholders:

Council
Council staff
Residents and ratepayers

Financial Implications:

It is estimated that Council's involvement in providing an internal audit function on a joint basis would be in the order of \$30,000. This figure would be much higher were Council to opt to go it alone.

Legal Issues:

Council needs to comply with legislative requirements in this regard.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Council really has only two workable options in this regard. The first is to appoint an internal auditor in its own right. The second and much more cost effective option to make a joint appointment working in co-operation with other councils through a regional organisation such as OROC.

Conclusion:

The most cost effective option for introducing an internal audit function is through the joint appointment proposal currently being arranged through OROC.

Establishment of Internal Auditing Function

Recommendation:

1. That the General Manager's Report be received and noted.
2. That Council agree "in principle" to participate in the joint arrangement with Coonamble, Narromine, Warren, Gilgandra and Warrumbungle Shire Councils to establish an internal audit function to serve the six councils.
3. That Council provide for an additional vote of \$30,000 in the 2011/12 budget.
4. That the General Manager and, where appropriate, the Mayor, be authorised to continue negotiations with neighbouring Councils committing to 'in principle' support for the project.
5. That progress reports be presented to future meetings.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Draft Memorandum of Understanding and Management Guidelines

Draft Memorandum of Understanding and Management Guidelines

All five initial participating Councils have now confirmed their commitment to the proposal which, in brief, will involve:

- Joint appointment of an Internal Auditor to work across the five(5) Councils
- Appointment of common Independent Chair for each of the five (5) Audit and Risk Management Committees (A&RM) (may have to split into two depending on interest)
- Appointment of independent members to serve on all or any of the five (5) Audit and Risk Management (A&RM) Committees
- Each Council to formally appoint their Audit and Risk Management Committee (A&RM)
- Internal Auditor to work with each Council to develop and implement respective Strategic Audit Plans (see Key Accountabilities in Position Description)
- Sharing of best practice outcomes across the project
- Development of a Memorandum of Understanding and acceptance of same by all Councils.

To progress the matter Gilgandra Shire has drafted a MoU for consideration by all six (6) Councils which addresses issues such as management guidelines, formation of a management committee, sharing of costs and role of managing Council.

At this stage Gilgandra Shire has offered to be the managing Council.

From initial discussions with the respective General Managers, the draft MoU is acceptable but due to timing of meetings will probably not be accepted by all Councils until mid August and the table below has been based around this timing.

Although it is proposed to appoint an Internal Auditor Gilgandra is keen to explore how we could widen scope to include expressions of interest from 'Audit / Accounting' firms as an alternative. Interested firms could submit proposals to be assessed against applications for the position – this option will be further explored with the project Management Committee.

At the OROC General Manager's Advisory Committee on Friday 8 July, Walgett Shire indicated an interest in joining the project and relevant information has been forwarded to allow further consideration – this option was accepted by the other Councils in the project.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

Suggested timetable

| | Activity | Date |
|---|--|-----------------------|
| 1 | Confirm participation in project subject to acceptance of MOU in first instance | 08 July |
| 2 | Establish Management Committee for project – report to respective Councils in July if possible. | |
| 3 | Gain Council OK to MoU – the direction and cost sharing in particular – with final draft to Councils in August | Mid/late August |
| 4 | Management Committee to : | |
| a | Finalise MoU – after Council input and adopt | August |
| b | Review & agree Position Description including outcomes & inclusions in package / do we want Eol and proposals from suitable firms. | End August |
| c | Advertise position and/or Eol – by managing Council | Early/mid September |
| d | Review and agree 'draft charter' as <i>base for respective Council charters</i> & inclusion in Eol for independent members | End August |
| e | Each Council to adopt A&RM Charter & appoint representative to Committee at September meeting – this would tie in with all other Council decisions around Committees & Mayoral elections | September |
| f | Invite Eol for independent members – including chair | Mid September |
| g | Interview & appoint Auditor or accept any proposal from suitable firm. | End October |
| h | Consider applications from independent members and recommend appointment to Councils – respective Councils to appoint both Chair & Independent member | By Oct / Nov meetings |
| i | Position / Contractor & Committees in place | December |

13. LOADSHIFTING MACHINES

REPORTING SECTION: Executive – OH&S
AUTHOR: David Callander - Occupational Health and Safety Coordinator
FILE NUMBER: 09/1386

Summary:

The new work health and safety laws come into effect in NSW on 1 January 2012. The new laws are designed to harmonise work health and safety requirements across Australia, including licensing activities.

From 30 September 2011, operators in NSW no longer need a certificate of competency to operate Front End Loaders, Front End loader/ Backhoe, Front End Loader of the Skid steer type and Excavators.

Background:

Previously potential operators were required to maintain a log book showing a minimum of 50 hours of machine operation for each machine that a license was desired. The log book showed the employers details, the supervisors details, date, work performed and signed off by the supervisor or trainer. Multiple machines could be listed in the log book as long as it clearly showed which machine was being logged each time. When the operator was ready, an assessment would be requested and a WorkCover accredited trainer/assessor would check your log book, administer a driving test and usually a theory knowledge test. Providing all areas were deemed competent, the operator would then be issued a WorkCover approved license to operate.

Walgett Shire Council currently requires all operators of machinery that require one, to be licensed to operate. A data base of certificates and currency is kept by Human Resources. The OHS Coordinator is required to conduct spot checks on license and tickets to assist in maintaining currency. Any tickets/licenses found to be out of date or nearing renewal date are made known to Human Resources to allow for the organisation of refresher course. Staff with out of date tickets/licenses can still operate within the confines of the depots but not on worksites.

Current Position:

Even though WorkCover no longer require tickets to operate, employers must still ensure that the operators of machinery receive adequate information, instruction, training and supervision for each machine. In the event of an incident that WorkCover may be called upon to investigate, the investigator is still going to ask to see training records, plant safety checks, daily running sheets etc for compliance and safety. The only difference will be, not having to produce a ticket. More than likely the operator will be asked to produce a log book of operations, similar to truck drivers having to produce log books.

Training, as is suggested by WorkCover, can be formal or informal, or a combination of both. Formal training would involve completing a nationally recognised course delivered by a registered training organisation, such as TAFE, or by training at an industry training school.

Informal training includes on-the-job training delivered by a competent person taking into account the complexity of tasks to be performed, the operator's current competency level and experience on the machine.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

When determining an operator's competency, appropriate training or experience, there are some factors that can help make the task easier. For example,

- Did the operator hold a previous certificate of competency issued by a regulator such as WorkCover.
- Hold a statement of attainment or other nationally recognised qualification for the type of plant.
- Completed any training at an industry training school,
- Had any on-the-job experience (with signed off log book),
- Can they demonstrate (get on the machine and operate) competence.

Walgett Shire Council need to determine which way to proceed, formal or informal training. Formal training can be very expensive and limited as too when it is available. Previously Walgett Shire Council have engaged the services of TAFE. A trainer would travel to Walgett from Tamworth, bring his own machinery (plant), council would provide an area for training, previously at the showgrounds and TAFE would line up an Assessor. Staff would be taken for three weeks from their work area and would attend training, which consisted of theory and practical work, and assessment.

If Walgett were to proceed with informal training, it would be on a one-to-one basis with new operators. A plus for this style is that time in training should not interrupt work flows too much as the candidate can be learning on the job, thereby not only learning a skill, but also being productive whilst learning. The down side is that the experienced operator/trainer could possibly teach bad habits. An informal process would need to have some form of basic lesson plans and learning content to be assessed, written up into a Walgett specific training package.

News of the changes to licensing requirements has already filtered down through the staff and if Walgett Shire Council has not prepared itself prior to 1 September, the chances of an untrained operator climbing into a machine and possibly having an accident increase.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

www.workcover.nsw.gov.au
Workcover ph. 13 10 50
NSW roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) 13 22 13
rta.nsw.gov.au

Governance issues:

Maintaining an accurate and up-to-date data base will need to be continued, possibly up dated more often. Council possibly should also determine frequency of up dating or refresher training for currently qualified operators whose tickets now will expire 5 years after the issue date.

Environmental issues:

Areas where there will be little to no impact on the environment are obviously ideal. Previously training has been held on private property (Nolans on the Barwon) and more recently have been held at the showground complex.

Nolans would likely be no longer an option as the business has since been sold. The showground is ideal as it is not too far to travel to and if planned properly the trainees could be utilised to possibly perform cleanup work around the area, or maintenance work to the roads or track around the area whilst still undergoing training. A practical task with a planned outcome, helps everyone.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

Another area may be the stockpile site although discussions with Support Services Coordinator would be required to ascertain if there is enough work in that area. Obviously, on the job training would include the environmental restrictions already in place.

Stakeholders:

Walgett Shire Council
Walgett Shire Council employees
WorkCover NSW
RTA NSW
StateCover Pty Ltd
Statewide Pty Ltd

Financial Implications:

Dependant on which direction Council moves will determine costs.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Doing nothing will increase Council's risk and therefore insurance premiums. The new laws don't provide for many options.

Conclusion:

Council need to begin thinking about which direction works best for council.
The Pros for formal training include guaranteed quality training of staff, a certificate issued indicating competency, no downtime for council plant.
The Cons for formal training include cost, loss of staff for up to three weeks.
The Pros for informal training include less downtime or loss of staff, possible productivity outcomes depending on how, where training is provided.
The Cons for informal training include cost, decreased quality of training, plant being tied up if not doing on-the-job style training.

Load Shifting Machines

Recommendation:

1. Council begin considering and formulating a plan for the training of plant operators and maintenance of current plant operators tickets prior to the implementation of the new laws that come into effect 1 September 2011.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Nil

13A. REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION 2011/008

REPORTING SECTION: Executive – Governance
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: DA2011/008

Summary:

An application for a Review of a Development Determination has been received from Paul Carter for Development Application 2011/008. It is recommended that Council resolve to confirm the original determination.

Background:

On 9-5-2011 the Director of Planning & Regulatory Services issued Development Consent 2011/008 for a warehouse, loading bay and fencing on lot 16, DP 925614. That development consent including the following conditions which are required to be met prior to the issue of an occupation certificate:

Acc 319.

A new driveway is to be constructed at the Neilly St entrance/exit in accordance with Walgett Shire Council specification "WSC 271 Minor Concrete Works" (revision 1).

Reason: To provide appropriate access to and from the site.

Acc 320.

The developer is to meet the cost of and be responsible for the construction of vehicular entrances and exits in accordance with Council's requirements.

Reason: To provide appropriate access to the site.

The approved vehicle movement plan for the site is included as Attachment A, and an aerial photograph of the site prior to development is Attachment B.

Current Position:

On 22 August 2011 Paul Carter lodged an application for a Review of a Development Determination 2011/008 under section 82A of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979. His application documents request that development consent condition Acc 319 removed for various reasons as noted in his letter dated 22-8-2011 (Attachment C).

Contrary to information contained in the attached letter, advice from both Parkes and Moree Plains Shires indicates that they do have requirements for such crossovers to be bitumen sealed or concrete.

Indeed, the existing crossover for this premises off Wee Waa Street (which appears to have been constructed many years ago) is concrete.

It is relevant to note that recent commercial developments within Walgett Shire have also had similar conditions of development consent imposed on them (Attachment D).

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

Sub-section 82A(6) of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 provides that as a result of reviewing the development determination, Council can confirm or change the determination.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

- * Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979.
- * Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2000.
- * Local Government Act 1993.

Governance issues:

Council's charter:- Section 8 of the Local Government Act 1993 establishes Council's charter, which includes:

- * to exercise community leadership
- * to properly manage, develop, protect, restore, enhance and conserve the environment of the area for which it is responsible, in a manner that is consistent with and promotes the principles of ecologically sustainable development
- * to have regard to the long term and cumulative effects of its decisions
- * to engage in long-term strategic planning on behalf of the local community

Voting:- Section 375A of the Local Government Act 1993 requires a division to be called when a motion for a planning decision is put at a meeting of the Council, and the names of Councillors voting for and against the motion must be recorded.

Environmental issues:

An LEP is an important tool to facilitate particular land uses within appropriate settings, while restricting or prohibiting them in inappropriate settings.

Stakeholders:

Paul Carter, public, Walgett Shire Council, owners of similar developments recently approved by Walgett Shire Council.

Financial Implications:

None known or expected with regards Council's operations. The figure of \$15,000 being quoted by the applicant to provide the concrete crossover appears to be on the high side.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Revoke conditions Acc319 & 320:- If Council believes that development consent conditions Acc 319 and 320 are unreasonable, it can approve Paul Carter's application and issue a revised development consent which does not include either condition. Such a decision could have adverse impacts, including:

- * Allow dirt and mud to be trafficked from the site onto Neilly Street.
- * Creating a need for more frequent street sweeping to remove accumulated dirt and mud.
- * Establishing an expectation that Council will not require driveway upgrades for new or extended commercial developments.

Amend condition Acc319:- If Council believes that development consent conditions Acc 319 is unreasonable, it can issue a revised development consent which provides for a gravel driveway. The following amended condition of consent Acc 319 would be appropriate in those circumstances:

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

Acc 319.

A new driveway is to be constructed at the Neilly St entrance/exit using compacted gravel.

Reason: To provide appropriate access to and from the site.

Such a decision could have adverse impacts, including:

- * Allowing dirt to be trafficked from the site onto Neilly Street.
- * Creating a need for more frequent street sweeping to remove accumulated dirt.
- * Establishing an expectation that Council will accept gravel driveways for new or extended commercial developments.

Two other alternative solutions could be to either:

- * defer need for compliance with condition Acc 319 for a period of twelve months or
- * amend the condition to require the cross over to be bitumen sealed rather than finished in concrete.

Conclusion:

The basis for the request to ease Council's development conditions in this instance is centred on the fact that our requirements are higher than that required by other, similar sized and located councils coupled with a failure by the developers to make due provision in their estimated for the cost of the crossover.

Investigations have shown our requirements are similar to those being used by other councils and an oversight in allowing for the costs of the work involved is not believed to be a valid ground for acceding to the request.

Review of Development Determination 2011/008 – Paul Carter

Recommendation:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Confirm Development Determination 2011/008 in the name of Paul Carter for a warehouse, loading bay and fencing, made on 9 May 2011.

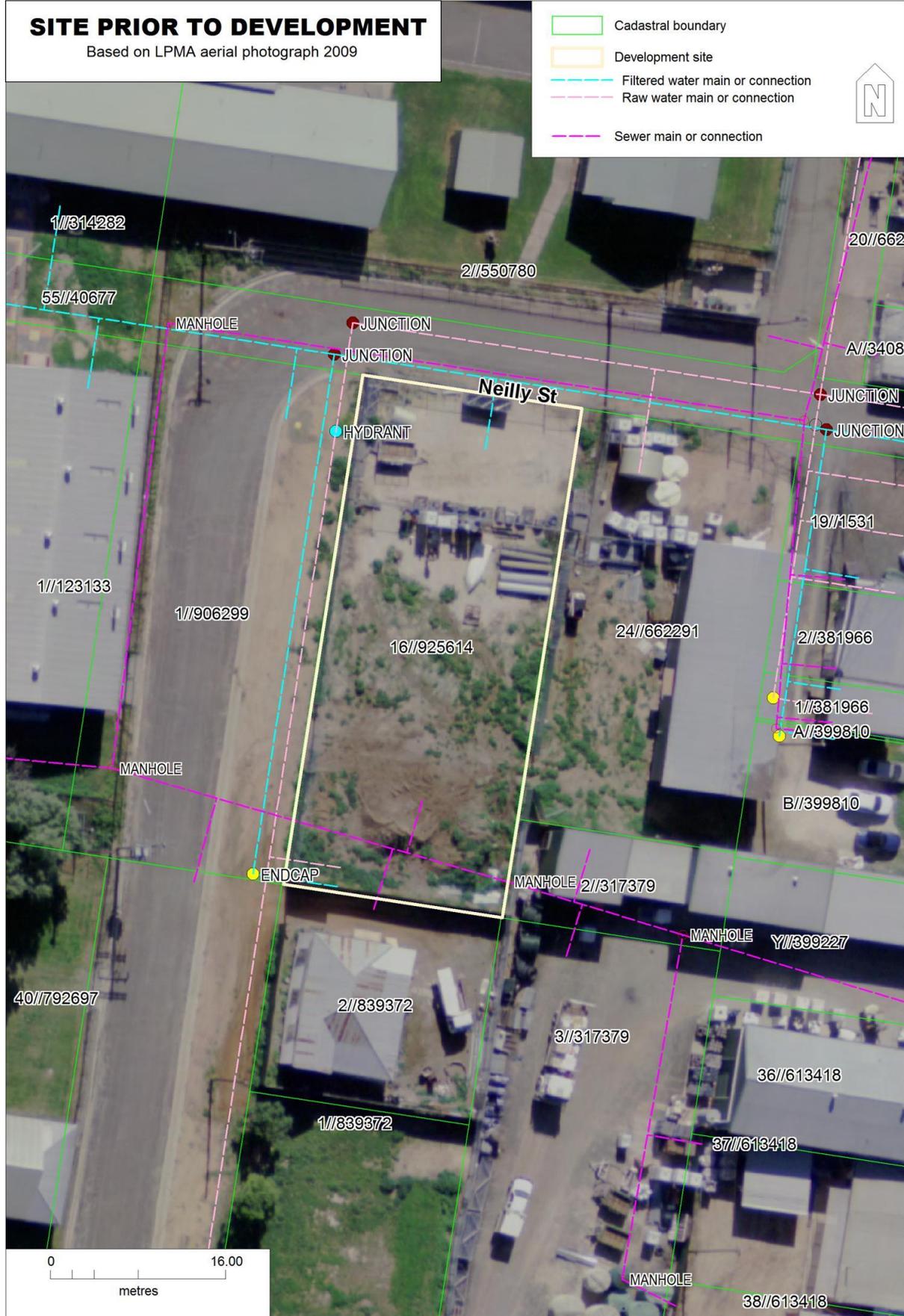
Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

- A – DEVELOPMENT CONSENT 2011/008 – VEHICLE MOVEMENT PLAN
- B – AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH OF SITE PRIOR TO DEVELOPMENT
- C – PAUL CARTER LETTER DATED 22-8-2011
- D – EXAMPLE DEVELOPMENT CONSENT CONDITIONS

B – SITE PRIOR TO DEVELOPMENT



C – PAUL CARTER LETTER DATED 22-8-2011



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PO Box 31,
Walgett, NSW 2832

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| TO: Don Ramsland | FROM: Paul Carter |
| | PAGES: 3 inclusive |
| TELEPHONE: 0428321465 | DATE: 22.08.2011 |
| SUBJECT: Amendment to DA application 2011/08 | |

Attention Don,

**RE: Amendment to DA 2011/08. Removal of condition ACC 319. WSC
271 Minor Concrete Works – Concrete crossover on to Neilly Street.**

Proconstruct have recently completed a development for Landmark located at 43 Neilly Street Walgett. This development involved the construction of a new storage warehouse to compliment Landmarks existing business.

This letter is in response to the request of Walgett Shire Council that a concrete crossover be completed as part of this development. Under condition ACC 319 in the development consent it states that *“a new driveway is to be constructed at the Neilly street entrance/exit in accordance with Walgett Shire Council specification WSC 271 Minor Concrete Works”*.

Our company has overlooked this DA condition and was unaware of the requirement for such a crossover; therefore no money has been allocated in our budget for such works.

The reason for this oversight and the request to have this condition removed is due to the following reasons;

- Proconstruct have recently completed a number of these same storage warehouses for Landmark in Nyngan, Parkes, Gatton, Blackall and Mungindi and at no time have been requested to install concrete crossovers. All crossovers in these areas consist of gravel hardstand.
- It is important to note that all other commercial/industrial developments in Walgett have gravel hardstand crossovers and due to this fact we feel that it is an unfair request to insist that a concrete crossover is completed as part of our project.
- The concrete crossover is a large area due to the width of the nature strip, it will come at a cost of \$15,000.00 to construct, and this is a large amount of money on such a small development.
- We request that Walgett Shire Council also take into consideration the amount of money spent on the existing Landmark Branch to make it more aesthetically pleasing for the town. The business now stands out in the main street of Walgett and certainly improves the streetscape.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

Proconstruct are prepared to look at a concrete crossover in the future if the current gravel hardstand causes any problem for the shire or in such time when the other businesses in the community install such concrete crossovers.

Please note that the current completed warehouse at 43 Neilly Street cannot be occupied until such time that this condition is addressed.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the work of Don Ramsland, Andrew Wilson, KC and Fred throughout this project and in no way does the above request reflect on their work to date.

Regards,

Paul Carter
Managing Director
PROCONSTRUCT

D – EXAMPLE DEVELOPMENT CONSENT CONDITIONS RELATING TO ACCESS

Development consent 2011/027 for dementia day care centre, Walgett Shire Council, Pandora St, Lightning Ridge:

Par 055.

A new driveway is to be constructed in accordance with the approved site plan and Walgett Shire Council specification "WSC 271 Minor Concrete Works" (revision 1).

Reason: To provide appropriate access to the site.

Development consent 2011/022 for office & carpark, Best Employment, Morilla St, Lightning Ridge:

Acc 155.

Any new driveway within the public road corridor is to be constructed in accordance with Walgett Shire Council specifications:

- WSC 271 Minor Concrete Works (revision 1).
- Standard Drawings – Domestic Driveways – S271-001 and S271-003 (revision 0).

Reason: To provide appropriate access to the site and facilitate maintenance of Council's water and sewer/effluent mains.

Development consent 2010/037 for upgrade of the Lightning Ridge Caravan Park, Land and Property Management Authority, Harlequin St, Lightning Ridge:

Acc 155.

A single entrance and exit driveway with a minimum width of 6 metres is to be constructed and maintained in accordance with the approved site plan and Walgett Shire Council specification "WSC 271 Minor Concrete Works" (revision 1).

Reason: To provide appropriate access to the site.

Development consent 2009/005 for supermarket, Michael Swain, Onyx St, Lightning Ridge:

Acc 015.

The developer is establish access to Morilla Street shall from the car park located on lot 79 DP43258 and access to Kaolin Street from the car park located on lot 3 DP 40628.. Construction materials and methods are to be to the satisfaction of Walgett Shire Council's Director of Urban Infrastructure.

Reason – To ensure that appropriate access is provided for delivery trucks and the cost of upgrading access is borne by the developer.

Acc 016.

The developer is to meet the cost of reconstruction of Kaolin Street adjoining lot 150 DP45069, lot 78 DP 43257 and lot 3 DP 40628 to enable access for heavy vehicle traffic delivering goods to the site. This will include providing kerbing, guttering and driveway crossovers for the development site. Construction materials and methods are to be to the satisfaction of Walgett Shire Council's Director of Urban Infrastructure.

Reason – To ensure that appropriate access is provided for delivery trucks and the cost of upgrading access is borne by the developer.

14. MATTERS GENERALLY FOR BRIEF MENTION OR INFORMATION ONLY FROM GENERAL MANAGER – AUGUST 2011

REPORTING SECTION: General Manager
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 09/1455

1. Quarterly Policy Matters Newsletter

Please find attached the Quarterly Policy Matters Newsletter outlining NSW Health policy directives, guidelines and information bulletins issued during the April to June 2011 quarter. The newsletter provides notice of NSW Health policy and procedure manuals updated during the quarter. (See Attachment)

2. Correspondence – Primitive Camping Grounds

Council received a letter regarding a tourist experience at the Walgett Primitive Camping Ground. It is interesting to see the travelling public support for this facility. (See attachment)

3. CSU Submission to establish a medical school in NSW

Details of a proposal to establish a seventh medical school in NSW. Action has been taken to suggest an overview of the proposal be presented at a future OROC meeting. (See Attachment)

4. ICAC Reports on Corruption risks in NSW Government Procurement

Council received reports from the Independent Commission against Corruption (ICAC) in relation to the Government Procurement in particularly Suppliers perceptions of corruption as well as their recommendations to Government. Copies of this report have been forwarded to Councils via email.

5. Commonwealth Government Funding available - closing 7th December, 2011

<http://www.environment.gov.au/water/programs/urban/stormwater-harvesting.html>

Stormwater harvesting and reuse projects
Third Competitive Grants Round

The Australian Government is calling for applications for funding to support eligible stormwater harvesting and reuse projects under the *National Urban Water and Desalination Plan: stormwater harvesting and reuse grants round*. Projects are sought that capture, treat and use stormwater to ease the pressure on drinking water supplies and deliver improved water quality to our urban waterways.

Objectives

The objective of this grants round is to provide support for urban stormwater harvesting and reuse projects, in cities and towns that contribute to:

- improving the security of water supplies in Australia, without adding to greenhouse gas emissions
- reducing the demand for potable water supplies
- helping to reduce the impact of urban runoff on the ecological condition of receiving waters by protecting or improving water quality and the hydrological regime (e.g. protecting low flows and reducing the impact of high flows).

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

Funding available for individual project

Project funding is capped at 50 per cent of eligible capital costs, with a minimum project size of \$2 million (eligible for funding of \$1 million). While there is no maximum project size, funding from the Australian Government is capped at \$20 million (GST exclusive) per project.

Project work must be completed by **30 June 2016**.

This is a competitive grants round and meeting eligibility criteria does not guarantee funding.

Timing

Applications are due by Wednesday, **7 December 2011** (5pm AEDT). Late applications may not be considered.

Who is eligible to apply?

State, territory and local government, public water utilities and private companies are eligible to apply.

What projects are eligible for funding?

This grant round will support stormwater harvesting and reuse projects that use urban stormwater to reduce demand on potable water supplies and deliver improved water quality to our urban waterway. Urban stormwater is defined as "rainwater that runs off urban impervious surfaces such as roofs, pavements, car parks and roads". Information on eligible projects can be found in the funding and implementation guidelines.

Projects under this round must include stormwater harvesting and reuse; however projects that have multiple benefits will be highly regarded (such as including a component to assist in the management of localised flooding).

Projects which are not eligible for funding can be found in Section 3 Project Requirements of the *Stormwater Harvesting and Reuse Projects Implementation and Funding Guidelines June 2011*.

<http://www.environment.gov.au/water/programs/urban/stormwater-harvesting.html>

Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from General Manager – August 2011

Recommendation:

1. That the matters listed by the General Manager for brief mention or information be received and noted.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

1. NSW Government Health - Quarterly Policy Matters Newsletter
2. Walgett Primitive Camping Ground Correspondence – letter dated 28 June 2011
3. Correspondence – Establishing a medical School in NSW - Letter dated 21 July

POLICY MATTERS

Volunteers

Engaging, Supporting and Managing Volunteers

Highlighted in this issue:

- Volunteers—Engaging, Supporting and Managing Volunteers 1
- Your Health Rights and Responsibilities 3
- Application for Policies—Newly Established NSW Health Agencies 4
- Rural Paediatric Emergency Clinical Guidelines 4
- Employee Assistance Programs: NSW Health Policy and Standards 4

The Department of Health issued [Volunteers - Engaging, Supporting and Managing Volunteers PD2011_033](#) on 3 June 2011.

The NSW Health Framework for Engaging, Supporting and Managing Volunteers intends to:

- Engender a culture of respect and dignity that is inclusive of volunteers and that recognises the generous efforts of volunteers on an ongoing basis
- Strengthen and guide volunteer management by building on NSW Health's long history of working with volunteers
- Ensure that people who want to volunteer in NSW health services can easily access information on volunteering opportunities
- Optimise the experience of volunteering for NSW Health volunteers, and optimise the value of volunteering within the NSW Health system
- Ensure that NSW Health's approach to volunteering aligns with State and Commonwealth priorities for inclusive social communities.

This Framework includes the following sections:

- Introduction, comprising NSW Health's vision for volunteering, principles for volunteering, scope of the policy and, roles and responsibilities of those involved
- NSW Health priorities for engaging, supporting and managing volunteers and what we will do to support the priorities.

The Framework outlines the responsibilities of NSW Health services and the NSW Department of Health in supporting volunteering within health services. Also outlined are the rights and responsibilities of volunteers working within the health service.

INSIDE:

- Policy Directives issued in the past 3 months 2
- Guidelines issued in the past 3 months 2
- Information Bulletins issued in the past 3 months 2
- Manuals amended 4/5
- Policy directives & guidelines under development 6



Volunteering is a fundamental building block of civil society. It brings to life the noblest aspirations of humankind in the pursuit of peace, freedom, opportunity, safety and justice for all people"

Universal Declaration on Volunteering 2001

POLICY MATTERS

Policy Directives issued in the past 3 months:

- PD2011_022 [Your Health Rights and Responsibilities](#) 20/04/2011
- PD2011_024 [Children and Infants - Acute Management of Head Injury](#) 04/05/2011
- PD2011_025 [Maternity - Tocolytic Agents for Threatened Preterm Labour Before 34 Weeks Gestation](#) 04/05/2011
- PD2011_026 [Organ Transplantation From Deceased Donors: Eligibility & Allocation Protocols](#) 04/05/2011
- PD2011_027 [EnableNSW - Assistive Technology for Communication, Mobility, Respiratory Function & Self-Care](#) 12/05/2011
- PD2011_028 [Clinical Trial Research Agreements for Use in NSW Public Health Organisations](#) 26/05/2011
- PD2011_029 [Falls - Prevention of Falls and Harm from Falls among Older People: 2011-2015](#) 30/05/2011
- PD2011_030 [Powered Air Purifying Respirator - CLD500](#) 01/06/2011
- PD2011_031 [Inter-facility Transfer Process for Adults Requiring Specialist Care](#) 01/06/2011
- PD2011_032 [Recruitment and Selection of Staff of the NSW Health Service](#) 02/06/2011
- PD2011_033 [Volunteers - Engaging, Supporting and Managing Volunteers](#) 03/06/2011
- PD2011_034 [Optometrists in the NSW Public Health System - Sessional Rates](#) 06/06/2011
- PD2011_035 [Newborn and Paediatric Emergency Transport Services \(NETS\) Charges](#) 08/06/2011
- PD2011_036 [Ambulance Service Charges](#) 08/06/2011
- PD2011_037 [Chest Pain Evaluation \(NSW Chest Pain Pathway\)](#) 09/06/2011
- PD2011_038 [Children and Infants - Recognition of a Sick Baby or Child in the Emergency Department](#) 10/06/2011
- PD2011_039 [Restructuring Policy and Procedures](#) 14/06/2011
- PD2011_040 [Employee Assistance Programs: NSW Health Policy and Standards](#) 20/06/2011
- PD2011_041 [Permanent Part-Time Employees - Methodology for Calculation of Entitlement - Public Holidays](#) 20/06/2011
- PD2011_042 [Breastfeeding in NSW: Promotion, Protection and Support](#) 21/06/2011
- PD2011_043 [Application for Policies - Newly Established NSW Health Agencies](#) 22/06/2011

Guidelines issued in the past 3 months:

- GL2011_005 [Organ Donation After Cardiac Death: NSW Guidelines](#) 14/04/2011
- GL2011_006 [Capital Projects - Economic Appraisal](#) 12/05/2011
- GL2011_007 [Costs of Care Standards 2009/10](#) 26/05/2011
- GL2011_008 [Prenatal Reporting Guidelines](#) 10/06/2011

Information Bulletins issued in the past 3 months:

- IB2011_018 [Amendments to the Building and Construction Industry Security of Payments Act 1999](#) 30/03/2011
(omitted from previous newsletter)
- IB2011_019 [Disability Access - Guidelines on the Implementation of Premises Standards](#) 04/05/2011
- IB2011_020 [Junior Medical Officer - Recruitment Campaign](#) 12/05/2011
- IB2011_021 [Hairdressers Employed in the NSW Health System](#) 12/05/2011
- IB2011_022 [Mental Health Clinical Documentation & Outcome Measures: Notification Availability of New Resource](#)
26/05/2011
- IB2011_023 [National Aboriginal & Islander Day Observance Committee \(NAIDOC\) Week 2011](#) 31/05/2011
- IB2011_024 [Clinical Nurse Consultants - Domains and Functions](#) 06/06/2011
- IB2011_025 [Health Services Act 1997 - Scale of Fees for Hospital and Other Services](#) 17/06/2011
- IB2011_026 [Brain Injury Rehabilitation Program - Schedule of Fees](#) 17/06/2011
- IB2011_027 [Lifetime Care & Support Scheme \(LTCS Scheme\) - Schedule of Fees](#) 17/06/2011
- IB2011_028 [Salary Increases for Operational Ambulance Officers and Operational Ambulance Managers](#) 22/06/2011

POLICY MATTERS

Your Health Rights and Responsibilities

The Department of Health issued [*Your Health Rights and Responsibilities PD2011_022*](#) on 20 April 2011.

In Australia everyone shares a fundamental right to basic health care. In 2008 Australian Health Ministers agreed to a national charter and the seven basic rights summarised in the Australian Charter of Healthcare Rights.

These rights contribute to the formation of partnerships between patients and public healthcare providers, and lead to the best outcomes. Recognising an individual's rights places a responsibility on others to respect those rights. Productive partnerships operate within a climate of mutual respect.

This policy outlines how these rights are achieved in New South Wales. NSW Public Health employees play a vital role in the process, as people seeking or receiving care are not always in the position to achieve their rights. Staff are encouraged to fully understand the contents of this policy and support patients in realising their rights wherever possible.

Access

The right to receive health care

Safety

The right to safe and high quality care

Respect

The right to be treated with respect, dignity and consideration

Communication

The right to be informed about services, treatment and options in a clear and open way

Participation

The right to be included in decisions and choices about health care

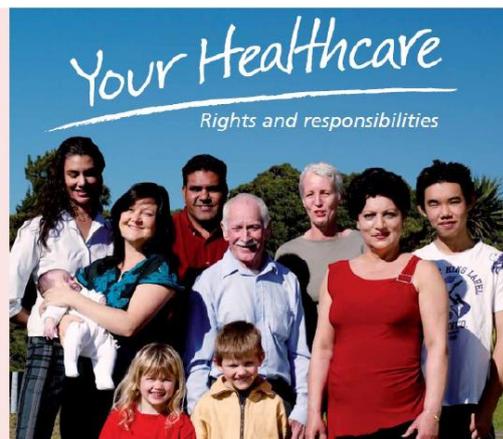
Privacy

The right to privacy and confidentiality regarding personal information

Comment

The right to comment on care and have concerns addressed

NSW Health is committed to ensuring that the health care you receive is safe, efficient, effective, and respects your rights as an individual.



POLICY MATTERS

Application for Policies—Newly Established NSW Health Agencies

The Department of Health issued [Application for Policies—Newly Established NSW Health Agencies PD2011_043](#) on 22 June 2011.

This policy document prescribes the applicability of policies previously issued by the Department of Health, former area health services and local health networks to the newly created local health districts and speciality network statutory health corporations.



Employee Assistance Programs: NSW Health Policy and Standards

The Department of Health issued [Employee Assistance Programs \(EAP\): NSW Health Policy and Standards PD2011_040](#) on 20 June 2011.

These procedures have been developed to assist agencies to comply with NSW Health policy on employee assistance programs (EAP) and to provide a resource for NSW Health agencies to continue to improve EAP appropriate to the agency and its staff members.

Rural Paediatric Emergency Clinical Guidelines

The Department of Health issued [Rural Paediatric Emergency Clinical Guidelines PD2011_047](#) on 11 July 2011.

The intention of these Clinical Guidelines is to facilitate the early and appropriate clinical management of children who present to emergency departments with acute and life threatening conditions, and to relieve pain and discomfort where Medical Officers are not immediately available. The Clinical Guidelines provide a clear standard of care for paediatric emergencies in an attempt to ensure good patient outcomes are achieved.

POLICY MATTERS

Manual Updates issued in the past 3 months:

From 1 February 2010 updates to Manuals are now processed by Legal & Corporate Governance as electronic amendments only. A register accompanies the electronic version of each manual for ease of reference to amendments. Hard copy amendments are no longer issued.

NSW Health agencies are now responsible for notifying and/or distributing policy documents and amendments to Manuals to facilities, managers and staff or individuals or organisations obliged to comply with relevant documents.

*Please note that printed copies of manuals or part thereof should not be relied upon as a current reference document. Users of Manuals should **ALWAYS** refer to electronic copies for the latest versions of Manuals.*

Refreshing your links to the policy and procedure manuals

Corporate Governance Unit wish to advise that links to some Department of Health Policy & Procedure Manuals have changed. A redirection has been applied by the Web Services Unit to ensure links to any Policy & Procedure Manual will deliver the required document.

We recommend that URLs are checked against the Policy & Procedures Manuals web page on the Department of Health internet <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/policies/manuals/index.asp> to ensure that the links bookmarked under an individual user's "Favourites" are updated to the latest URL.

Patient Matters Manual

http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/policies/manuals/patient_matters_pdf.asp

| Amendment number (date) | Documents inserted |
|---|--|
| Amendment 123(14/04/11) | GL2011_005 |
| Amendment 124(21/04/11) | PD2011_022
PD2011_023 |
| Amendment 125(05/05/11) | PD2011_024
PD2011_025
PD2011_026 |
| Amendment 126(12/05/11) | PD2011_027 |
| Amendment 127(02/06/11) | PD2011_029
PD2011_031 |
| Amendment 128(16/06/11) | PD2011_037
PD2011_038
GL2011_008 |
| Amendment 129(23/06/11) | PD2011_042 |

Health Records and Information Manual for Community Health Facilities

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/policies/manuals/healthrecords.asp>

| Amendment number (date) | Documents inserted |
|---|--------------------|
| Amendment 29 (16/06/11) | GL2011_008 |

POLICY MATTERS

Manual Updates issued in the past 3 months—cont:

Leave/Salaries Manual - Public Service

http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/policies/manuals/lvesals_pdf.asp

| Amendment number (date) | Documents inserted |
|--|--------------------|
| Amendment 24(16/06/11) | PD2011_039 |

Fees Procedures Manual for Public Health Organisations

http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/policies/manuals/fees_pdf.asp

| Amendment number (date) | Documents inserted |
|--|--|
| Amendment 56(21/04/11) | PD2011_022
PD2011_023 |
| Amendment 57(12/05/11) | PD2011_027 |
| Amendment 58(09/06/11) | PD2011_035
PD2011_036 |
| Amendment 59(23/06/11) | IB2011_025
IB2011_026
IB2011_027 |

POLICY MATTERS

Policy directives and guidelines under development

No information currently available.

POLICY ON THE WEB!
WWW.HEALTH.NSW.GOV.AU/POLICIES/

Suggestions on the Policy Distribution System are welcome

For information on the Policy Distribution System contact:

Michelle Stonehouse
A/Manager, Corporate Governance, Strategy
Ph: (02) 9391 9404

or email: cgrm@doh.health.nsw.gov.au

To THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL.

Congratulations on your initiative creating such a lovely stop over for travellers in Walgett. Initially we were passing through but the young lady at the Information Centre told us about the park and we stay the night. Four other caravans were here and two campers.

We ended up shopping in Walgett and spending far more time appreciating your town. Thank you. We will pass the message on to others.

Regards.

Judith & Bruce Dawson
23 Scene View Drive
Mt Matha 3934
Vic

28.6.2011

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

RECEIVED 25 JUL 2011

Associate Professor Anthony Brown
Associate Dean & Head of School
School of Rural Health

21 July 2011

Cr Ian Woodcock
Mayor
Walgett Shire Council
PO Box 31
WALGETT NSW 2832

Dear Cr Woodcock,

The CSU Submission to Establish a Medical School in NSW

Recently there has been a public appeal to the communities of Western NSW for support for a new medical school. In the Central Western Daily newspaper and also at public meetings CSU has asked for signatures to form a petition. There is a website and a Facebook page where people are able to register their support.

The School of Rural Health was established 10 years ago through an agreement between the University of Sydney and the Federal Government. We believe that the idea of establishing a seventh medical school in NSW is not as simple as it is being portrayed. Nor is the relationship between a rural medical school and the local availability of doctors straight forward.

We seek to put forward material that we believe will help individuals to see how complex the issue of rural medical education is and how the Federal Government is addressing it.

Thank you for your attention. We would be happy to discuss any of these issues with you or provide further information.

Yours sincerely,

Anthony M Brown

Attachment

School of Rural Health
Sydney Medical School
11 Moran Drive
Dubbo NSW 2830 Australia

T +61 2 6885 7977
F +61 2 6885 7979
E tony.brown@sydney.edu.au
sydney.edu.au

ABN 15 211 513 464
CRICOS 00026A



SCHOOL OF RURAL HEALTH

Medical Education in Rural NSW

- There are currently six medical schools in NSW and one in the ACT.
- All six of these have Rural Clinical Schools in NSW, are part of the Commonwealth's Rural Clinical Training and Support Scheme (RCTS) and all train medical students in rural locations. Across rural Australia there are 17 Rural Clinical Schools from 16 Universities in the RCTS scheme.
- Since 2004, ten medical schools have opened across Australia.
- In 2006, Australia had 1,335 medical graduates (not including international students), and this number is set to progress to 3,108 in 2014, as new medical schools come on line and increased numbers at established schools move through their programs.
- As a result the annual number of new medical graduates will rise to what has been described as a "tsunami" of medical graduates.
- This increasing number of medical students and new graduates is currently stressing teaching and training places in both urban and rural hospitals and general practices.
- The availability of teachers and tutors is limited. All medical schools in NSW are currently under pressure finding and supporting clinical teachers and resources.
- After graduation all medical graduates must do an internship. Intern places are limited and controlled by the state health system not by the universities.
- There are only a limited number of intern places available specifically in local hospitals (rural preferential internships). Additional interns may rotate from Sydney hospitals.
- In 2012, Dubbo Base Hospital is taking five rural preferential internships. There were 18 applications for the five places and four have been filled by School of Rural Health students. (There will be approximately another eight interns on rotation from a Sydney hospital).
- In 2012, Orange Base Hospital will have 14 rural preferential interns. They had 46 applications. Of the places, seven will be School of Rural Health students (four who studied in Orange and three who were Dubbo students).
- Before a doctor can practice independently they need to undergo postgraduate training in general practice or another specialty. This may take five or more years from graduation and rarely can it all be done in a rural location (ie doctors need to do some training in a city location).
- At present, medical specialty training programs (including general practice) have not yet expanded adequately to cope with the increasing numbers of medical graduates.

See also:

<http://www.crikey.com.au/2011/05/18/australia-needs-more-doctors-but-does-it-need-more-medical-schools/>

<http://www.medicaldeans.org.au/category/news-resources/media-releases>

http://nswmsc.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=section&layout=blog&id=5&Itemid=65

15. REVIEW OF TOURISM PLAN 2009-2011 AND BRANDING STRATEGY

REPORTING SECTION: Executive - Tourism
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 00/0000

Summary:

To initiate action to have the Tourism Plan 2009 – 2011 and Branding Strategy reviewed.

Background:

Council's current Tourism Strategy and Tourism Plan 2009-2011 was adopted in March 2009 and is now due for review.

Part of that process involved the subsequent preparation of a Branding/Marketing strategy by consultants "Busy Street" at a cost of \$28,000 and it would be timely to review that documentation as well.

Current Position:

Council has recently published a new Shire-wide Tourism Brochure which was prepared by The Outback Regional Tourism Organisation (ORTO) at a cost of \$12,500.

In conjunction with the Lightning Ridge Tourism Association (LRTA), and following consideration by a working party comprising representatives of the tourism sector from across the Shire, Council has also agreed to a two year billboard programme costing \$26,800 with some \$22,000 being allocated annually from Council's own budget.

Council was also approached recently by the LRTA with a view to coming to an arrangement to work more closely with Council and discussions in this regard are ongoing.

It is proposed to engage with members of the working party, set up to consider the current billboard programme, in carrying out the review of the current plan and branding/marketing strategies before putting a draft, revised plan out for public comment.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Walgett Shire Tourism Plan 2009-2011
Walgett Region Brand and Logo Guide (2010).

Governance issues:

Concern has been expressed in the past that there has been insufficient opportunity for both industry and public comment with regards tourism initiatives in the past and every opportunity will be taken to ensure that this type of comment can be avoided in the future.

Environmental issues:

Nil

Stakeholders:

Council
Tourism operators Shire wide
Residents and ratepayers

Financial Implications:

It is proposed that the proposed review be conducted using in-house staff resources and current budget allocations.

Legal Issues:

Some legal issues may arise as a result of Council's negotiations with the concept of closer co-operation with the LRTA but they will be brought to Council's attention if the need arises

Alternative Solutions/Options:

The review could be carried out using external consultants but this would necessitate deferring the review to 2012/2013 as no provision for the use of consultants to conduct the review was made in the current budget.

Conclusion:

It is timely to conduct a review of Council's tourism, branding and marketing strategies because of the importance of this developing industry to the future economic well being of the Shire. The intention to embrace as wide a range of existing industry stakeholders as possible together with the broader community, should result in Council being able to promote the industry with a much better focus into the future.

Review of Tourism Plan 2009-2011 and Branding Strategy

Recommendation:

1. That the action being taken to review Council's Tourism Plan 2009-2011 and Branding/Marketing Strategy be endorsed.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

The following documents have been circulated under separate cover:

- Walgett Shire Tourism Plan 2009-2011
- Walgett Region Brand and Logo Guide (2010).
- Walgett Branding Visuals

16. DEVELOPMENT OF VISITOR INFORMATION/ABORIGINAL CULTURAL CENTRE CONCEPT

REPORTING SECTION: Executive - Tourism
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 11/277

Summary:

To consider the development of a Visitor Information/Aboriginal Cultural Centre Concept

Background:

The issue of Council's involvement in a Visitor Information/Aboriginal Cultural Centre concept has been informally discussed at a Council level in recent months and also been the subject of approaches to various key stakeholders.

Current Position:

The concept favoured at this point in time is the renovation of the old Foundation Hall to co-house the Walgett Visitor Information Centre and an Aboriginal Cultural Centre. It is proposed to make a formal approach to both the Walgett Aboriginal Land Council and the Walgett Community Working Party later this month.

Draft correspondence which outlines the concept is attached to the report.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies

Walgett Shire Tourism Plan – 2009-2011

Governance issues:

It is proposed that a Memorandum of Understanding be developed between Council and other major stakeholders addressing various issues including ownership of the complex and a range of operational issues.

Environmental issues:

It is believed that an Aboriginal Cultural Centre would become a centre-point for promoting various environmental issues affecting Walgett Shire.

Stakeholders:

Council
Walgett Aboriginal Land Council
Walgett CWP
Residents and ratepayers
Local tourism operators

Financial Implications:

It is proposed to seek funding for the project through the Federal Governments Remote Service Delivery programme as well as other relevant State and Federal Government grant sources.

Relocation of the Walgett Visitor Information Centre would clear the way for essential extensions to the Walgett Library which have been put on hold because of other, higher funding priorities.

Legal Issues:

A range of issues would need to be addressed in the proposed Memorandum of Understanding which is to be developed with key stakeholders

Alternative Solutions/Options:

A range of options are available for redevelopment to provide the type of facilities identified. However, the proposal for the redevelopment of the old Foundation Hall is favoured as it has remained derelict and a local eyesore for many, many years.

Conclusion:

Council's involvement in promoting the development of a combined Visitor Information and Aboriginal Cultural Centre is a clear demonstration of positive strategic thinking aimed at "closing the gap" between sections of the local community and providing cornerstone for future economic development.

Development of Visitor Information/Aboriginal Cultural Centre Concept

Recommendation:

1. That Council receive and noted the General Manager's Report and endorse the action being taken to develop a combined Walgett Visitor Information and Aboriginal Cultural Centre concept.
2. That Council be kept advised of progress being made.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Draft correspondence with Walgett Aboriginal Lands Council and Walgett Community Working Party



Shire of Walgett

ABN 88 769 076 385

Reference: DR:JC:11/277
Your Reference:
Contact: Mr Don Ramsland

16 August 2011

M/s Anne Dennis
Chairperson
Walgett Local Aboriginal Land Council
87 Fox Street
WALGETT NSW 2832

Dear M/s Dennis,

I refer to our recent discussions and confirm that Council is interested in establishing a joint Aboriginal Cultural Centre/ Tourist Information Centre in Walgett as part of targeted employment and business development initiatives.

The premises we have in mind is the old Foundation Hall in Fox Street, Walgett which has been derelict for a number of years. This location ideally lends its self to this type of development and it is believed that your organisation has already investigated the feasibility of renovating the premises.

It is Council's belief that renovations in the order of a preliminary estimate of \$500,000 could result in a quite acceptable level accommodation being made available for such a joint partnership project.

Over the years a number of people and local groups have identified the need for some sort of local Aboriginal cultural centre and /or museum in Walgett, which could ideally be linked to passing tourist visitation.

Based on the adages "*Where there is a poverty of culture there is a culture of poverty*" and "*To know where you are going you must first know where you came fro*", this facility would provide a wealth of local cultural information – on art, local Dreamtime stories, local sacred sites and the well documented gamilaraay / yuwaalaraay language. The facility would display a complete history of Aboriginal life in the local area from the earliest findings at Cuddy Springs to the present times. Outlined below is a list of "*possible*" which Council hopes will be the basis for the concept;

1. **Tourism.** In 2004 Walgett Shire Council sponsored a Symposium on inland tourism. Almost all the speakers referred to the growing interest in Aboriginal life and culture. Dr. Bob Morgan made the point that over half the Walgett population is made up of descendants of the local Aboriginal Gamilaraay/Yuwaalaraay people yet there was little evidence of this to visitors or tourists.

There are a large number of tourists who drive straight through our town every day. Many of these would stop if there was an established cultural/visitor information centre with appropriate facilities. There are tourists who are keen to find out more about Aboriginal culture. There are local Aboriginal descendents who want to know more about their heritage.

All communication to be addressed to the: General Manager PO Box 31, Walgett NSW 2832
Telephone: (02) 6828 1399 Facsimile: (02) 6828 1608 Email: admin@walgett.nsw.gov.au

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

2. **Cuddy Springs.** The discoveries at Cuddy Springs linking the interaction between megafauna and Aborigines are of world wide significance. Life size replicas of those giant animals would be highlight of the centre and a main attraction for tourists. The discovery of seed grinding to make dough predates that of the Egyptians. The significance of the findings at Cuddy Springs cannot be underestimated.
3. **History.** The centre could tell the story of Aboriginal existence in this region from the earliest recordings to the present time. Apart from Cuddy Springs, the history of tribal life, language and customs is rich with recorded local dreamtime stories. There are the records of white settlement – the explorers, settlers, surveyors etc. There are many properties on which there were Aboriginal populations that are still in living memory today. The history surrounding the missions and mission life is important in understanding today's Walgett society. The Freedom Riders in the 1960's are a significant event in recent history.

It is believed there were Aboriginal artifacts taken from many local communities and held by Universities in the capital cities. These could be returned as long as there was a safe place for them to be stored and displayed.

4. **Language.** Language revival is vital in giving people 'identity'. We are fortunate indeed to have extensive resources on the Gamilaaraay/Yuwaalaraay language. It is the 'lote' at our Convent school and is taught at our Community College, Lightning Ridge Central, Goodooga and Collarenebri public schools. There are a number of professionally produced resources in the form of books, CD's and computer programs. These language records are vital in the understanding of the local culture and way of life.
5. **Genealogy.** As can be seen above, all of these events were significant to a large number of local tribes many of whose offspring are spread in areas away from their families and homeland. There is a real need for many of these people to find their roots and their identity. There could be facilities at this centre to cater for such needs.
6. **Art.** Aboriginal art is important in all Aboriginal communities. The centre, could provide a display of the best local art and could augment a fairer outlet for local artists who for too long, have been producing high quality products for too little reward. Art works could be displayed and sold at the centre with the possibility of developing a broader market in the tourist season.
7. **Riparian Display.** It may be possible through an affiliation with the government departments and agencies dealing with inland river systems to include a freshwater riparian display. This might include an aquarium displaying local native fish species and providing information on the importance of a healthy river and its immediate surrounds to the aquatic life.
8. **Education.** The centre could be seen as a centre of learning. Thus it could incorporate facilities for lectures/lessons for local and visiting schoolchildren, visiting lecturers etc. It could have a close association with each of the local Schools as well as other places of learning that have had previous relationships with the Walgett, eg: UNE, Sydney Uni, The Australian National Museum at Canberra etc.
9. **Location.** As indicated above , the preferred location for the centre is where the old BAC building is in Fox St, Walgett. Apparently the structure is still sound so it would be possible to incorporate it into any new development. This location is central, it is on the Castlereagh

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WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

Highway and there is plenty of space for expansion and tourist parking. However, there may be other suitable possible sites in the main business area.

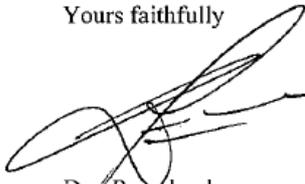
10. **Political Climate.** There has been a significant change in the Federal Government's direction which began with the Howard Government's intervention into the living conditions of Aboriginal communities in the NT in 2007 and has continued with the "sorry" announcement by then Prime Minister Kevin Rudd in 2008. Support of the proposed centre could be seen as a measure of this new level of commitment towards reconciliation by each of the Local, State and Federal Governments. In other words, politically the time is right.
11. **Benefits to Walgett.** The benefits available by such a development are many and varied and include:
 - The recognition for the Gamilaraay/Yuwaalaraay descendents of their history and culture – enhancing a sense of pride and place.
 - A first class centre of learning – a venture reflecting the "positive side" of the indigenous presence in Walgett.
 - A major tourist attraction with local, regional, state, national and international appeal – with resulting spin offs to the local economy.
12. **Employment.** A number of jobs would be created by this proposal. These would include professional, semi professional and casual employment.
 - There are a number of initiatives in the Walgett community set up to address the social problems that result from displacement and unemployment. These range from alcohol and drugs abuse to truancy, from teenage pregnancy to domestic violence and so on. All of which are helping making a difference. Indirectly, the above proposal would act as a catalyst to these initiatives creating an environment that facilitates meaning, growth, learning and healing.

Council believes that the first step in working towards achieving such a joint partnership is to draft up a Memorandum of Understanding with the key stakeholders.

With this in mind, senior Council representatives would like to meet with you in the near future to discuss the concept and how best to progress the matter.

To this end, should you have any queries or wish to arrange to meet please do not hesitate to contact me direct on (02) 6828 6116 during office hours.

Yours faithfully



Don Ramsland
General Manager

Cc: Chairperson
Walgett Community Working Party
PO Box 12
WALGETT NSW 2832

17. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PCYC FACILITY AT WALGETT

REPORTING SECTION: Executive – Community Services
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 11/277

Summary:

To advise of arrangements being made to submit an Expression of Interest for the development of a PCYC Facility at Walgett.

Background:

Expression of Interest in the development of seven PCYC facilities across NSW are currently being invited, and will close on 31 October 2011.

The State Government capital works proposal provides for two grants of \$2.5M and five grants of \$0.250M and details a range of issues to be addressed in any submission.

Current Position:

Council's senior representative have been working closely with police from the Castlereagh Local Area Command in developing and Expression of Interest for consideration and will shortly hold a meeting of all relevant local stakeholders in an attempt to further the concept and garner local support .

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

NSW Expression of Interest documentation

Governance issues:

The development of a PCYC facility at Walgett would have substantial benefits not only for the local community but also other parts of the Walgett Shire which could be service through outreaching arrangements.

Environmental issues:

Various local environmental issues including youth development, crimes issues and the like would be the focus of a local PCYC.

Stakeholders:

Council
Local police
Local youth
Residents and ratepayers generally

Financial Implications:

Funding for the concept development would be by way of Council staff resources and “in-kind” contributions.

Grant funds would have to be available for the concept to proceed as this level of expenditure is well beyond Council’s current capacity.

Legal Issues:

As the project concept is developed it will be necessary to develop a Memorandum of Understanding with key stakeholder setting out their various role and responsibilities should the project proceed.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

The main alternative would be the continuation and expansion of Council’s current youth facilities and programmes. However, Council is being expected to contribute more and more to these sorts of programmes at the expense of other core activities.

Conclusion:

The Expression of Interest process allows Council to develop the Walgett PCYC facility concept in conjunction with other agencies and stakeholders. As such, it represents a golden opportunity to gauge support for this type of facility before any firm capital commitment is required.

Expression of Interest for the Development of a PCYC Facility at Walgett

Recommendation:

1. That the General Manager’s Report be received and noted and the action being taken to develop an Expression of Interest for a PCYC facility in Walgett in conjunction with other agencies and stakeholders be endorsed.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

NSW Government - PCYC Expression of Interest Documentation

Expressions of Interest

**Establishment of
8 New PCYCs**

The NSW Government is committed to the youth development and crime prevention work of Police & Community Youth Clubs (PCYC).

Funding will be provided in financial years 2011-2012 to 2014-2015 to support the establishment of a new Club in up to eight (8) locations, including the allocation of 2 Police Officers and 1 Manager to each Club.

Expressions of Interest are invited from Councils who wish to establish a new PCYC in their local government area.

Information can be obtained by contacting Ms Rachel Hardy: by email rhardy@pcycnsw.org.au or by phone (02)9625 9111.

Expressions of Interest must be lodged with PCYC no later than 5.00pm on Monday 31st October 2011





Expression of Interest

Establishment of a New Police & Community Youth Club

The NSW Government is providing additional resources to PCYC NSW and the NSW Police Force Youth Command to support the expansion of PCYCs and work to prevent juvenile crime.

Funding will be made available to support the establishment of 8 new PCYCs between 2011 and 2015.

What the NSW Government is Providing

Each new PCYC will be provided two (2) Police Youth Case Managers and one (1) Club Manager, through the NSW Police Force Youth Command and PCYC respectively. These positions are funded by the NSW Government

Five allocations of \$250,000 and two allocations of \$2.5 million are now available to PCYC to assist in establishing 7 new facilities. In addition, the location of a new facility in south-western Sydney has already been identified and funding towards its construction will be made outside of this allocation process. The capital allocations will be provided by the NSW Government to assist with facility development or expansion, if deemed appropriate, in locations selected.

How Locations will be Selected

The selection criteria will include:

- The absolute number of young people in the community to be served
- The socio-economic status of the community or communities to be served
- Juvenile crime statistics for the area
- Extent of other youth services/programs available in the area or to be collocated or transferred to the facilities
- The facilities or funding to be contributed by the local Council
- The commitment of local community leaders to support a new Club
- Transport and accessibility of the proposed facilities

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

- The likely viability of the Club once operational

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

How a PCYC Operates

Each local Club represents a collaboration between the NSW Police Force, the community and PCYC to promote positive engagement for young people in sport and recreation activities, to offer youth development programs, and to support youth crime reduction and prevention programs.

The Manager in each Club is responsible for ensuring maximum use of the facilities by young people and the community generally. The Police Officers based at the Club engage individual young offenders in programs designed to stop further offending. They also participate in local hot spot interventions and support community policing initiatives in schools and the community. Volunteers are seen as crucial to the Club to provide activity support, to assist in Police programs, to fundraise, and to constitute the Club advisory committee.

Each facility must be able to provide a range of sporting, cultural and recreational activities to ensure viable Club operations and Police programming. In general, Club facilities will include a sports court, multi-purpose activity rooms, offices and activity space for Police programs, passive recreation space, and adequate amenities. PCYC will not operate a simple youth 'drop-in' centre.

PCYC's partnerships with Councils usually involve the long-term (20 year) lease of facilities at a peppercorn rate to ensure operational costs and resulting charges for participation are minimised. Such a lease normally involves Councils being responsible for the building and plant, with PCYC being responsible for operational maintenance. Documentation usually includes an interdependent lease and project agreement.

What Needs to be Included in Expressions of Interest

The following should be addressed and documented in any expression of interest:

1. Demographic details profiling the youth population to be served (including aspects of socio-economic disadvantage or special community needs)
2. Youth crime issues and data for the area
3. The proposed location and profile of facilities to be made available for the new Club
4. The nature and extent of any recurrent funding, subsidy or youth program support to be offered (or proposed for collocation)
5. The nature and extent of any capital contribution being sought
6. The extent to which the proposal is dependent on any future Commonwealth grants or contribution

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

7. The business viability and financial sustainability of the Club once operational (including potential activity profile, and evidence of existing and future strategies or plans for sport and recreation facility development in the local government area)
8. The proposed or preferred date between January 2012 and June 2015 by which facilities could be made operational and funds would need to be allocated
9. Evidence of formal endorsement of the Expression of Interest, of its resource commitments by a meeting of Council, and of a commitment to expedite implementation
10. Endorsement by the NSW Police Force Local Area Commander
11. Endorsements by local service organisations and community groups, and evidence of potential volunteers willing to serve as a Club advisory committee

The EOI Timetable & Process

A working party involving the CEO of PCYC, the CEO of the Ministry of Police, and an Assistant Commissioner of Police (representing the Commissioner of Police) will review Expressions of Interest and make recommendations to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services and Board of PCYC. Councils may be contacted after submitting their documentation to obtain further information, or to discuss their Expressions of Interest, at the discretion of the Working Party.

As funds are to be distributed in the financial years 2011/12 to 2014/15, consideration will be given to priority need and facility availability in determining when the 8 new clubs will be commissioned over that period.

Decisions as to the establishment of the new Clubs and the related capital allocations will be made jointly by the Minister for Police and Emergency Services and the Board of PCYC. These decisions will not be entered into, and will not be subject to appeal. Notwithstanding any initial selection, the NSW Government and PCYC reserve the right not to proceed with a project where at any time the viability of the Club arises or where timetable and resource commitments are not met by the relevant Council.

Expressions of Interest must be received by PCYC
no later than 5.00pm Monday 31st October 2011.

It is expected that final decisions will be jointly announced by the Minister for Police and Emergency Services and PCYC early in 2012.

Expressions of Interest may be delivered in hard documentation to the PCYC State Office at 1C Mimika Avenue Whalan, or in the form of a PDF by email to rhardy@pcycnsw.org.au. Where an Expression of Interest is delivered by email, it is the responsibility of the Council to confirm that it has been received in full and by the closing date and time.

18. CASH ON HAND & INVESTMENT REPORT

REPORTING SECTION: Corporate Services
AUTHOR: Shane Roberts – Senior Finance Officer
FILE NUMBER: 09/1460

Summary:

This report summarises the cash on hand and investments held by Walgett Shire Council as at 31 July 2011.

Background:

Walgett Shire Council operates one primary transaction account with the Commonwealth Bank and invests surplus funds to its operational requirements. The level of funds held in the account at any time reflects the outlook in terms of payments to be made in the short term.

Current Position:

As at 31 July 2011 the operational bank account's balance was \$1,173,369.57. The reconciliation of this balance is:

**Operational Account Bank Reconciliation
As at 31 July 2011**

| | \$ |
|---|---------------------|
| Opening Ledger Account Balance as at 1 July 2011 | 1,929,872.23 |
| Add: Receipts | 1,851,302.96 |
| Add: Recalled Investments | |
| Less: New Investments | |
| Less: Payments | (2,607,805.62) |
| Closing Ledger Balance as at 31 July 2011 | 1,173,369.57 |
|
 | |
| Balance as per Bank Statement as at 31 July 2011 | 1,197,750.11 |
| Add: Receipts not banked | 803.32 |
| Less: Payments not presented | (25,183.86) |
| Closing Balance of Bank Account | 1,173,369.57 |

No Term Deposits were recalled in July 2011.
 No new Term Deposits were made in July 2011.

As at 31 July 2011 Walgett Shire Council's investment register's balance was \$5,274,493.99. The balance as per the attached investment report comprised:

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Term Deposits | \$5,250,000.00 |
| Floating Rate Collateralized Debt Obligation (CDO) | \$ 24,493.99 |

The market values disclosed for the Floating Rate Collateralized Debt Obligation (CDO) are market values as at 31 October 2010 and were supplied by the ANZ Group.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

| | |
|----------------|--|
| 09/1772/0007 | July 2011 bank reconciliation ledger 11.5010 |
| 09/1460-02/008 | Investments Report to Council 2011-2012 |

Governance issues:

Nil

Environmental issues:

Nil

Stakeholders:

Walgett Shire Council
Residents of Walgett Shire Council

Financial Implications:

As per report

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Nil

Conclusion:

As at 31 July 2011 Walgett Shire Council's total available cash and invested funds were \$6,447,863.56 represented by:

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Working Account Balance | \$1,173,369.57 |
| Investments | \$5,274,493.99 |

Cash on Hand and Investment Report as at 31 July 2011

Recommendation:

1. That the cash on hand and investment report as at 31 July 2011 be received.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Investment Report

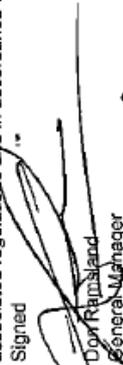
WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

| <u>Investment Institution</u> | <u>Type of Investment</u> | <u>Term (days)</u> | <u>Rate %</u> | <u>Ref</u> | <u>Reset Date</u> | <u>Maturity Date</u> | |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------|------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Term Deposits | | | | | | | |
| Suncorp | Term Deposit | 153 | 6.21 | 677/11 | | 10-Aug-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| Credit Union Australia | Term Deposit | 181 | 6.27 | 678/11 | | 07-Sep-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| Suncorp | Term Deposit | 168 | 6.15 | 684/11 | | 14-Sep-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| Bank of Queensland | Term Deposit | 154 | 6.10 | 686/11 | | 31-Aug-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| Bank of Queensland | Term Deposit | 182 | 6.20 | 688/11 | | 05-Oct-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| Credit Union Australia | Term Deposit | 98 | 5.94 | 693/11 | | 03-Aug-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| Bankwest | Term Deposit | 91 | 5.90 | 694/11 | | 03-Aug-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| Bankwest | Term Deposit | 91 | 6.00 | 695/11 | | 17-Aug-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| Credit Union Australia | Term Deposit | 91 | 6.09 | 696/11 | | 31-Aug-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| Suncorp | Term Deposit | 91 | 6.06 | 697/11 | | 31-Aug-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| Suncorp | Term Deposit | 91 | 6.11 | 698/11 | | 07-Sep-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| National Australia Bank | Term Deposit | 182 | 6.29 | 699/11 | | 14-Dec-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| National Australia Bank | Term Deposit | 91 | 5.90 | 700/11 | | 21-Sep-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| Credit Union Australia | Term Deposit | 91 | 6.00 | 701/11 | | 28-Sep-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| National Australia Bank | Term Deposit | 91 | 5.92 | 702/11 | | 28-Sep-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| Bank of Queensland | Term Deposit | 92 | 6.05 | 703/12 | | 06-Oct-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| Newcastle Permanent Building Society | Term Deposit | 90 | 5.98 | 704/12 | | 04-Oct-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| Bankwest | Term Deposit | 91 | 5.95 | 705/12 | | 12-Oct-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| Newcastle Permanent Building Society | Term Deposit | 91 | 5.90 | 706/12 | | 19-Oct-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| National Australia Bank | Term Deposit | 91 | 5.90 | 707/12 | | 26-Oct-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| Newcastle Permanent Building Society | Term Deposit | 91 | 6.00 | 708/12 | | 26-Oct-11 | \$250,000.00 |
| | | | | | | | <u>\$5,250,000.00</u> |
| Floating Rates Collateralized Debt Obligations (CDO) | | | | | | | |
| Zircon Finance Ltd | Floating Rate CDO | | 0.00 | | | 20-Sep-14 | \$0.00 |
| Morgan Stanley Aces SP | Floating Rate CDO | 91 | 6.950 | | 20-Sep-11 | 20-Jun-15 | \$3,032.81 |
| Hellum Capital Ltd | Floating Rate CDO | 92 | 6.7417 | | 23-Sep-11 | 23-Jun-14 | \$21,461.18 |
| | | | | | | | <u>\$24,493.99</u> |
| | | | | | | | <u>\$5,274,493.99</u> |

Investment Report as at 31 July 2011

I hereby certify that the investments shown herein have been invested in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, associated regulations and in accordance with Council's Policies and Procedures.

Signed


 Don Ramsland
 General Manager

Prepared and Reconciled by Shane Roberts
 Senior Finance Officer

19. COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE SCHEME DONATIONS – ROUND 1 2011/2012

REPORTING SECTION: Corporate Services
AUTHOR: Shane Roberts – Senior Finance Officer
FILE NUMBER: 11/209/0020

Summary:

This report identifies requests for financial assistance from Council through the Community Assistance Scheme 2011/2012 and under Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993

Background:

This is the first (of two) rounds of requests for financial assistance for the 2011/2012 financial year.

Current Position:

Applications have been received from community organisations for financial assistance under the Community Assistance Scheme. The scheme was advertised Shire wide, with applications closing 1 August 2011.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

WSC Procedures – AFM – Requests for Assistance
Section 356 Local Government Act 1993
Local Government (General) Regulation 2005
Walgett Shire Council Management Plan 2009 - 2014

Governance issues:

Applicants must be non-profit organisations and based in, or affiliated with, Walgett Shire. Donations are generally in the region of \$500-\$1000, and are limited to one donation per organisation per year, unless there are surplus funds in Round 2.

The Community Assistance Scheme objectives are to:

- Support charities and community projects, events and activities which occur within the Walgett Shire area, and are a benefit to the community;
- Foster or support new services, initiatives and resources within the Shire;
- Improve awareness and use of community services and resources within the Shire;
- Encourage increased participation in local community events within the Shire.

Environmental issues:

Nil

Stakeholders:

Walgett Shire Council
Various community organisations

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Financial Implications:

An amount of \$15,600.00 has been provided for in the 2011/2012 Budget in accordance with Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993. This is to be utilised between the two rounds of funding as well as a nominal amount to be utilised in the advertising of the scheme.

| Organisation | Project | Cost of Project/Activity | Amount Requested | Recommended Amount | Beneficiaries |
|---|---|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------|--|
| Collarenebri Jockey Club | Ambulance costs for Annual race meeting 17 September 2011 | \$43,000.00 | \$500.00 | \$500.00 | Collarenebri Community members and Race Enthusiasts |
| Lightning Ridge IBC | Improvement, upkeep and maintenance of the Gem Garden's and handicapped play equipment | \$24,443.96 | \$1,534.87 | \$1,000.00 | Lightning Ridge Community members and visitors |
| Goodooga-Lightning Ridge CWA | Annual Wool Day Fundraising Lunch | \$3,000.00 | \$1,000.00 | \$1,000.00 | Children with special needs and women and children in crises and youth |
| Anglicare - Northern Inland, Moree | Counselling Service to Lightning Ridge 2 days per month | \$11,270.00 | \$4,750.00 | \$500.00 | Lightning Ridge Community members |
| Cubbaroo Campdraft Club Inc | Replace High Gravity Fed Tank on Sports ground which supplies water to stock. Currently has 3 leaks causing safety hazard and uncertainty of water supply | \$1,800.00 | \$1,804.00 | \$900.00 | Burren Junction Community by continuing to attract visitors to spend locally |
| Burren Junction Pre-School | Purchase pop up marquee, folding tables, BBQ tools, extension cords and power boards for community events | \$1,370.00 | \$500.00 | \$500.00 | Burren Junction Community and Walgett Shire by running catering facilities |
| Collarenebri Rodeo Inc | Sponsor Junior Ride or Advertising sign for Rodeo | \$1,000.00 | \$500.00 | \$250.00 | Collarenebri Community by attracting visitors to spend locally |
| Barwon Aboriginal Corporation | Walgett Rugby League Knockouts 17/9/2011 | \$23,000.00 | \$2,000.00 | \$500.00 | Walgett Community members of all ages |
| Isolated Children's Parent's Association Walgett Branch | Contribution to guest speaker Murray Hartin at a dinner, to raise money to send delegates to a conference to relate Walgett issue | \$1,500.00 | \$500.00 | \$250.00 | Walgett Shire Youths and Parents |
| Yuwirri painters - Auspiced by Lightning Ridge Neighbourhood Centre | Produce an exhibition to celebrate work of local artists | \$1,000.00 | \$500.00 | \$250.00 | Local students in the older age group, 2 being disabled |

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--|
| Totals | \$13,588.87 | \$5,650.00 | |
| ANNUAL BUDGET | | \$15,600.00 | |
| Remaining if approved | | \$9,950.00 | |

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Nil

Conclusion:

If all Applications are approved there will be a total budget of \$9,950.00 remaining for Round 2 Funding Applications in January 2012.

Community Assistance Scheme Donations – Round 1 2011/2012

Recommendation:

1. That Council applies funds for financial assistance under section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993 for the first round of 2011/2012.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Nil

20. DEVELOPMENT AND COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE APPLICATIONS

REPORTING SECTION: Planning and Regulatory Services
AUTHOR: Matthew Goodwin – Director Planning and Regulatory Services
FILE NUMBER: 09/1367-02

Summary:

This report provides a summary of the Development and Complying Development Certificate applications recently processed by Council staff under delegated authority.

Background:

Most Development Applications (DA) lodged with Walgett Shire Council are assessed by Council's Town Planner and/or Director of Planning & Regulatory Services. If appropriate, they are then approved by the Director or General Manager under delegated authority. Only applications recommended for refusal, or where objections have been received from the public, are referred to Council for determination.

Complying Development Certificate (CDC) applications which are compliant with relevant building and development standards, are assessed and approved by Council's Senior Health and Building Surveyor, Andrew Wilson, a Building Professionals Board Accredited Certifier.

Current position:

The table following this report provides details of Development Applications (DA) and Complying Development Certificate (CDC) applications dealt with under delegated authority by the Director Planning and Regulatory Services during July 2011. Document type 20 represents Development Applications, while document type 24 represents Complying Development Certificates.

Relevant Reference Documents:

- * Respective DA and CDC files.
- * Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979.
- * Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000.
- * State Environmental Planning Policy (Building Sustainability Index: BASIX) 2004.
- * State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008.
- * State Environmental Planning Policy No 60—Exempt and Complying Development, etc.

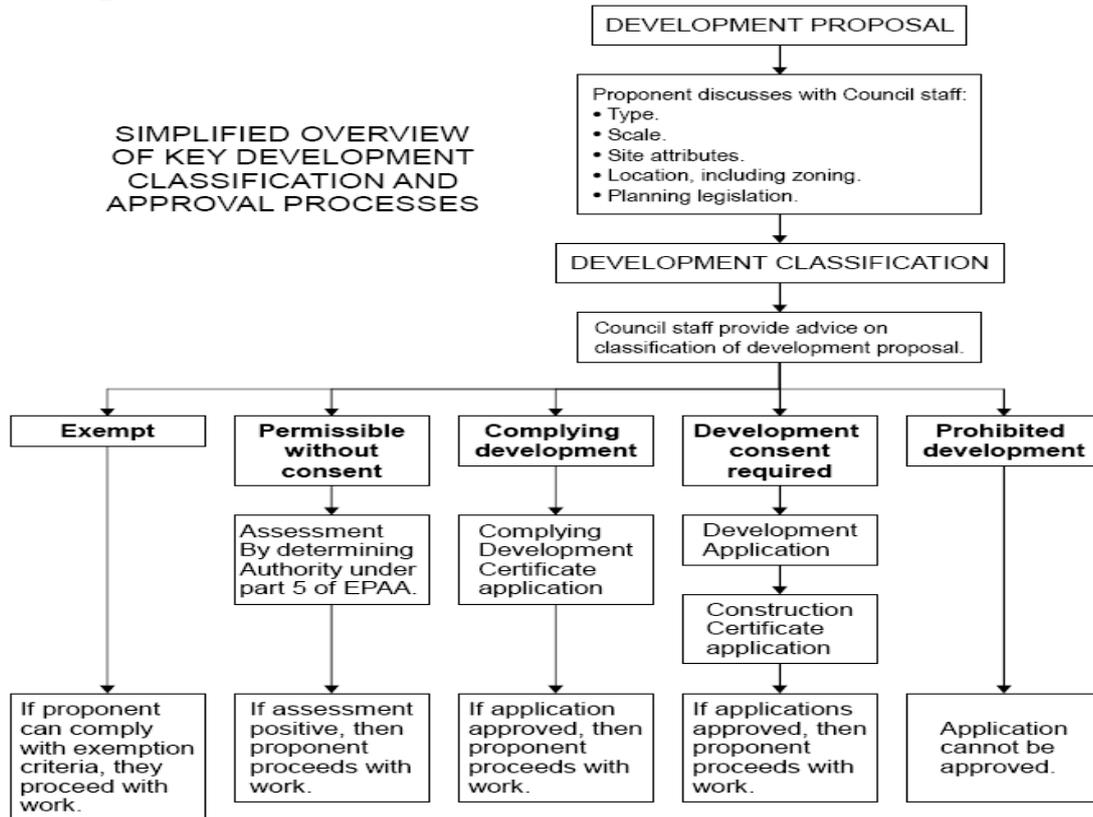
Governance issues:

DAs: DAs are assessed under against a series of "matters for consideration" specified under section 79C of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and any relevant statutory requirements (such as regulations, Interim Development Order No 1 – Shire of Walgett and State Environmental Planning Policies). Section 80A of the Act provides that Council may impose conditions of development consent. It is appropriate and normal practice to impose conditions that are related to the nature and scale of the development, as well as the environment in which it will occur.

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CDCs: Standards for complying development are defined by the relevant State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP). Sub-section 85A(7) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 provides that Council cannot refuse a CDC application which complies with the relevant development standards and regulatory requirements (eg plans and specifications demonstrate compliance with the Building Code of Australia). Conditions that apply to a CDC are specified by the SEPP under which the application is approved.

A simplified overview of development classification and approval processes are provided in the diagram below.



Environmental issues:

DAs: A Statement of Environmental Effects is required to be lodged with a DA that contains environmental information appropriate for the nature and scale of the development, as well as the setting in which it is proposed to occur. Under statutory requirements, some developments of a large scale and/or proposed for a sensitive area may require significant additional supporting environmental information.

CDCs: Complying development is restricted to certain types of land use, particular zones and may be excluded from environmentally sensitive areas, bush fire prone land, etc.

Stakeholders:

Public, applicants, Council, Department of Planning.

Financial implications:

Part of the costs incurred assessing and inspecting respective developments is recovered from application and inspection fees.

Alternative solutions/options:

Nil

Conclusion:

Development and Complying Development Certificate Applications

Recommendation:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note the report on Development and Complying Development Certificate applications dealt with by Council staff under delegated authority during July 2011.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments

ATTACHMENT A - Report - DAs & CDCs dealt with under delegated authority July 2011

21. DRAFT WALGETT LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2011

REPORTING SECTION: Planning & Regulatory Services
AUTHOR: Director Planning & Regulatory Services, Matthew Goodwin
FILE NUMBER: 09/1109

Summary:

Recently the draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2011 was submitted to the Department of Planning. It is recommended that Council resolve to note and endorse the submission of the plan.

Background:

At a meeting held on 3 May 2011, Walgett Shire Council resolved to:

1. Note the letter dated 16 March 2011 from the Regional Director, Western Region, of the Department of Planning which provides a preliminary section 64 submission response for the draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2011.
2. Delegate authority to the Mayor and General Manager to authorise changes to the draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2011 to address the issues raised in the letter dated 16 March 2011 from the Regional Director, Western Region, of the Department of Planning.
3. At the earliest opportunity, formally submit the draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP) to the Director General, Department of Planning and Infrastructure under section 64 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and request a certificate under section 65 of the Act to permit the public exhibition of the draft Local Environmental Plan.

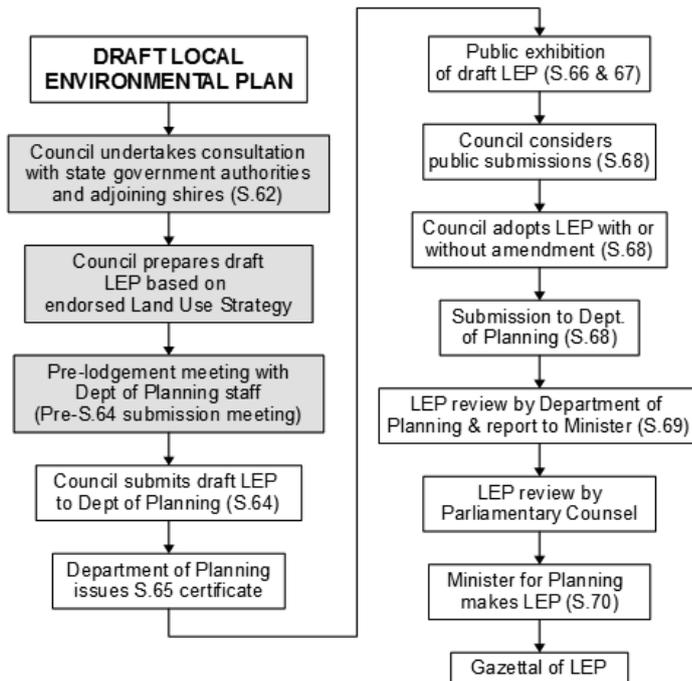
Current Position:

In a letter dated 21 July 2011 the General Manager of Walgett Shire Council responded to the Regional Director's letter dated 16 March 2011 (see Attachment A). This included:

- Submitting the draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Requesting a certificate under section 65 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to permit the public exhibition of the LEP.
- Identifying issues that needed to be resolved within the LEP.

The flow chart below provides a simplified overview of the LEP development process. Shaded steps have been completed.

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Although sections 64 and 65 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 have been repealed, the DOP has advised that they still apply to Walgett Shire's proposed LEP because it was in development prior to the introduction of the new 'gateway' provisions (Part 3, Division 4 of current Act). Sections 64 and 65 of the Act are reproduced below:

64 Submission of copy of draft local environmental plan to Department

When a draft local environmental plan has been prepared, the council shall submit a copy of the draft plan to the Director-General, together with a statement specifying the names of the public authorities, bodies and other persons the council has consulted with pursuant to section 62.

65 Certificate of Director-General

- (1) Where the Director-General receives a copy of a draft local environmental plan from a council under section 64, the Director-General may cause to be issued to the council a certificate certifying that the draft plan may be publicly exhibited in accordance with section 66.
- (1A) A certificate is not to be issued under this section unless the Director-General is satisfied that the draft local environmental plan has been prepared in accordance with any applicable standard instrument under section 33A. This subsection does not limit the grounds on which a certificate may be refused or the draft plan may be required to be amended under this section.

Note. Section 117 also empowers the Minister to give directions as to the principles to be observed in the preparation of, or the provisions to be included in, draft local environmental plans.
- (2) A certificate issued under this section may be granted subject to the condition that the draft local environmental plan be amended in the manner specified in the certificate before it is publicly exhibited in accordance with section 66.
- (3) Where a certificate is not issued under this section, the Director-General shall return the draft plan to the council, giving the reasons why the certificate was not issued, and directing the council to amend the draft plan in such a manner as to enable a certificate to be issued, or to take such other action as is appropriate.
- (4) The council shall comply with a direction given under subsection (3).

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Elements of LEP preparation are regulated by:

- * Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979.
- * Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2000.
- * Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006.
- * Local Government Act 1993.
- * Directions for LEP preparation issued by the Minister for Planning (Section 117 directions).

Other relevant documents include:

- * Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Strategy, prepared by Edge Land Planning, dated June 2010.
- * Numerous Department of Planning circulars and guidelines regarding LEP development.
- * Report on the Section 430 Investigation into Walgett Shire Council, by the Department of Local Government, dated 29 January 2004.

Governance issues:

Council's charter:- Section 8 of the Local Government Act 1993 establishes Council's charter, which includes:

- * to exercise community leadership
- * to properly manage, develop, protect, restore, enhance and conserve the environment of the area for which it is responsible, in a manner that is consistent with and promotes the principles of ecologically sustainable development
- * to have regard to the long term and cumulative effects of its decisions
- * to engage in long-term strategic planning on behalf of the local community
- * to exercise its functions in a manner that is consistent with and promotes social justice principles of equity, access, participation and rights

Section 430 investigation:- Substantial problems arise for Council and the public from a planning instrument (the Interim Development Order No 1 – Shire of Walgett 1968) that is outdated and inconsistent with the current planning legislation framework. It is also important to note that this deficiency was the subject of recommendation 29 within the Report on the Section 430 Investigation into Walgett Shire Council, by the Department of Local Government, dated 29 January 2004 (page 55). The recommendation was:

286 Recommendation 29: That council undertakes to develop a local environmental plan (LEP) as a matter of urgency. If existing staffing levels are insufficient to develop the LEP, council should utilise the services of an experienced consultant.

Voting:- Section 375A of the Local Government Act 1993 requires a division to be called when a motion for a planning decision is put at a meeting of the Council, and the names of Councillors voting for and against the motion must be recorded.

Environmental issues:

An LEP is an important tool to facilitate particular land uses within appropriate settings, while restricting or prohibiting them in inappropriate settings.

Stakeholders:

The public, Walgett Shire Council, Department of Planning, State government agencies.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

Financial Implications:

In 2004 Council committed \$140,000 (GST excluded) for the Walgett Shire land use strategy and Local Environmental Plan project. This budget was based on a \$70,000 grant from the Department of Planning's planning reform fund, matched dollar for dollar by Council.

At the 26 July 2011 meeting Walgett Shire Council resolved to carry forward a budget of \$40,000 for Local Environmental Plan and Development Control Plan development from 2010-2011 to 2011-2012. This amount is adequate to maintain the funding required from Council under the memorandum of understanding (MOU) for the planning reform fund grant.

In a letter dated 23-3-2011 the Department of Planning has extended the time for completion of the LEP project under the MOU until 31 October 2011.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Do nothing:- This would stall the development of a LEP.

Conclusion:

Draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2011

Recommendation:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note and endorse the letter dated 21 July 2011 from the General Manager of Walgett Shire Council to the Regional Director of the Department of Planning which:
 - (a) Submitted the draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP),
 - (b) Requested a certificate under section 65 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to permit the public exhibition of the LEP.
 - (c) Identified issues that needed to be resolved within the LEP.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

A – 21-7-2011 letter REGARDING Draft WALGETT LEP 2011

Attachment A – 21-7-2011 letter REGARDING Draft WALGETT LEP 2011



Shire of Walgett

ABN 88 769 076 385

Reference: MG, DR; 09/1109/0018

Your Reference: D07/00022, 10/24578

Contact: Matthew Goodwin

21 July 2011

The Regional Director
Western Region
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
P.O. Box 58
DUBBO NSW 2830

Dear Lois,

RE. SUBMISSION OF DRAFT WALGETT LEP 2011 UNDER SECTION 64

Thank you for your letter dated 16-3-2011 which provided the Department's preliminary section 64 response to the draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2011 submitted on 10 December 2010.

The letter was considered at a meeting held on 3 May 2011 where Walgett Shire Council resolved to:

1. Note the letter dated 16 March 2011 from the Regional Director, Western Region, of the Department of Planning which provides a preliminary section 64 submission response for the draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2011.
2. Delegate authority to the Mayor and General Manager to authorise changes to the draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2011 to address the issues raised in the letter dated 16 March 2011 from the Regional Director, Western Region, of the Department of Planning.
3. At the earliest opportunity, formally submit the draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP) to the Director General, Department of Planning and Infrastructure under section 64 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and request a certificate under section 65 of the Act to permit the public exhibition of the draft Local Environmental Plan.

The attached draft Walgett LEP and mapping has been prepared in accordance with the recommendations of the Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Strategy which was adopted by the Council at its meeting on 21 December 2010. The Director General of the Department of Planning & Infrastructure conditionally endorsed the strategy in a letter dated 18 May 2011.

This submission has been prepared in accordance with Planning Circular PS 09-011 titled *Certification of draft Standard Instrument Local Environmental Plans for Public Exhibition*.

Response to issues raised by Department of Planning and Infrastructure

Responses to the issues raised Department of Planning and Infrastructure in your letter dated 16 March 2011 are provided in Attachment A.

Issues raised by Council

Council has identified a series of additional LEP related issues that should either be noted by the Department, or addressed, as detailed in Attachment B.

Assessment of consistency with environmental planning instruments

An assessment of the consistency of the draft Walgett LEP with relevant environmental planning instruments is provided in Attachment C.

Assessment of consistency with section 117 directions

An assessment of the consistency of the draft Walgett LEP local planning directions issued under section 117 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 is provided in Attachment D.

Additional Local Provisions

Model Local Provisions published on the Department of Planning website have been used in the draft LEP where appropriate, including:

- Savings provision relating to development applications (clause 1.8A).
- Suspensions of covenants, agreements and instruments (clause 1.9A).
- Public utility infrastructure (clause 6.2).
- Development control plan (clause 6.3).
- Relationship between Part and remainder of Plan (clause 6.4).

The following additional local provisions have been added to the draft LEP:

- Erection of dwelling houses in rural and environmental zones (clause 4.2A).
- Erection of dwelling houses in certain residential zones (clause 4.2B).
- No strata or community title subdivisions in certain rural or environmental protection zones (clause 4.2C).
- Erection of Rural Worker's Dwelling on land zoned RU1 (clause 7.1).
- Flood planning (clause 7.2).
- Essential services (clause 7.3).
- Restriction on consent for particular sex services premises (clause 7.4).
- Airspace operations (clause 7.5).
- Development in areas subject to aircraft noise (clause 7.6).
- Tourist development in SP1 – Mining zone (clause 7.7 which is being developed by the Department).
- Dwellings in SP1 – Mining zone (clause 7.8 which is being developed by the Department).

Issues arising from additional local provisions

Issues arising from the current wording of some of the additional clauses that are not a Model Local Provision or draft model local provision are discussed below. Council requests that the Department amend the wording to address the respective issues.

4.2A Erection of dwellings in rural and environment zones

Currently sub-clause 4.2A(3) provides that rural dwellings can be erected on a lot which has the minimum size specified by the lot size map.

Most rural properties comprise several or more lots and generally it would be rare for a new dwelling proposal to involve a lot meeting the minimum lot size proposed under the draft LEP (400 hectares). The current wording of the clause will effectively force people to consolidate their rural holdings before they can lodge a Development Application.

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It is requested that sub-clause (3)(a) be amended to read as follows:

"A lot or lots that add up to be at least the minimum lot size specified for that lot by the Lot size Map"

4.2C Rural workers' dwellings

Subclause (3)(c) states that a rural workers dwelling has to be on the same lot as an existing lawfully erected dwelling house. Within Walgett Shire there are 282 properties with an area of more than 5,000 ha (see Fig. 8.7 in the Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Strategy). For logistic and security reasons, it may be necessary to construct a rural workers dwelling a significant distance away from the main dwelling house on a given property. The current wording of the clause would prohibit this.

It would be appropriate to either remove subclause (3)(c) or amend it so that it only applies to smaller holdings.

7.1 Flood planning:-

Sub-clause (2) states that the clause applies to *"land at or below the flood planning level"* which is defined as *"land affected by significant historical flood events plus 0.5 m freeboard"*.

It is expected that the imposition of a 0.5 m freeboard over and above significant historical flood events will effectively delineate about 85% of the Shire as *"flood prone"*, including areas not previously known to have been inundated. This will have potential impacts on landowners' ability to raise finance and insurance because technically the land will be flood prone.

Council requests that the Department review the wording of the clause with a view to minimising the potential for any unnecessary adverse impacts on affected land holders.

Consultation with Government Agencies

Section 62 consultation was undertaken via a letter dated 22 February 2008 which was sent to 33 government authorities and adjoining Councils as listed in Attachment E.

Copies of the submissions and responses received are included as pdf files on the enclosed CDR media. A summary of submitting and responding agencies is provided in the table below.

| AGENCY | TYPE |
|--|------------|
| Department of Environmental and Climate Change. | Submission |
| Department of Aboriginal Affairs. | Submission |
| Department of Lands. | Submission |
| Central West Catchment Management Authority. | Submission |
| Housing NSW. | Submission |
| Department of Primary Industries. | Submission |
| Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA. | Submission |
| Heritage Council (a unit within the Department of Planning). | Submission |
| Rural Fire Service. | Submission |
| Namoi Catchment Management Authority. | Submission |
| Roads and Traffic Authority. | Submission |
| Department of Water and Energy. | Submission |
| Narrabri Shire Council | Response |

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| AGENCY | TYPE |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Ministry of Transport | Response |
| Balonne Shire Council | Response |

Planning Circulars & Practice Notes, etc

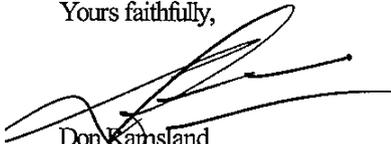
It is noted that LEP Practice Note PN 09-006 relating to tourism uses and the Standard LEP does not recommend that caravan parks be permitted in the Primary Production. Caravan Parks are considered to be appropriate in the Primary Production zone because it will give flexibility for the location of these.

Section 65 certificate

Council requests that the Department arrange for a certificate to be issued under section 65 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to enable the LEP to be publicly exhibited at the earliest opportunity.

Please direct any questions to Council's Director of Planning & Regulatory Services, Matthew Goodwin.

Yours faithfully,



Don Karnsland
General Manager

Enclosed CDR media with:

- Draft Walgett LEP 2011 instrument & land use matrix
- Draft Walgett LEP 2011 maps (70 pdf files) & source GIS data
- Section 62 submissions/responses (15)
- Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Strategy June 2011 (includes changes from point 5 of the Director General's letter dated 18/5/2011)
- Maps highlighting problems with wetland and biodiversity mapping (6 maps)

ATTACHMENT A – RESPONSE TO ISSUES RAISED BY DEPARTMENT

The numbered points below incorporate Council's response to the respective issues raised in the Department's letter dated 16-3-2011.

Matters relating to the instrument:

1. Request to amend draft LEP instrument in accordance with the track changed document returned to Council.

Response:- Requested amendments have been generally been made. Issues that require further consideration are identified below.

2. Adjust the relevant land use tables as per the model matrix provided as Attachment B.

Response:- Requested adjustments have been made. Issues that arise include:

- a) *SP1 Mining zone needs to be added to the matrix.*
- b) *The model matrix currently prohibits the following uses in the respective zones which Council believes should be permitted with consent:*
 - *RU1 Primary Production - Caravan parks.*
 - *RU1 Primary Production - Truck depots.*
 - *IN1 General Industrial – dwellings. Care taker accommodation is common on many existing lots proposed to be rezoned IN1. Council believes that it is desirable to allow similar uses to occur into the future where it is subsidiary to an industrial use.*
- c) *The model matrix currently permits with consent the following uses in the respective zones which Council believes should be prohibited:*
 - *R1 General Residential - Backpacker's accommodation.*
 - *R1 General Residential - Hotel or motel accommodation.*
 - *R1 General Residential - Pubs.*
 - *R1 General Residential - Landscaping material supplies.*

3. Address relevant state policies and section 117 directions with any inconsistencies being identified and justified prior to the section 64 submission.

Response:- See Attachments C and D.

With regard to direction 3.5 'Development near licensed aerodromes', Council wrote to the Civil Aviation Authority on 14 July 2011 seeking its comments on the relevance of draft clauses 7.4 and 7.5. The letter also inquired about the availability of map data to support the clauses.

4. Insert the natural resource management clauses identified in Attachment A.

Response:- Natural resource management clauses have been inserted.

5. Local clauses 7.7 and 7.8 relating to living and tourist development on the preserved opal fields (proposed SP1 Mining zone).

Response:- Council is awaiting advice from the Department on appropriate wording for these clauses.

6. Review zoning for the Aboriginal settlements of Namoi Gingie and Walli.

Response:- Council notes The Department's comment that the proposed zone R1 – General Residential for the Aboriginal settlements of Namoi, Gingie and Walli does not appear appropriate and that each of the settlements is located on a flood plain.

Council has contemplated alternative zoning, but ultimately believes that R1 – General Residential is the most appropriate given that:

- *The primary land use within each settlement area has been residential for more than 30 years, hence the proposed zoning reflects the existing primary land use.*
- *Council has received recent representations from ARUP on behalf of the NSW Aboriginal Lands Council and the Walgett Local Aboriginal Lands Council regarding proposals to*

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subdivide the Gingie and Namoi settlements. Their intention is to create separate title for each house to enable individuals and families to obtain a lease. They are also in discussions with Council about the possibility of Council taking over responsibility for infrastructure such as roads, water and sewerage on the settlements.

- *Other potential zones and their objectives are less appropriate.*

Given that residences are only located on parts of the lots involved, the proposed R1 zone should only be applied to areas with residences.

7. Schedule 1 – Additional permitted uses.

Response:- Council notes the Department's view that the use of Schedule 1 is not favoured and that the land uses identified should either be appropriately zoned or rely on existing use provisions.

Apart from aboriginal settlements of Namoi, Gingie and Walli, all the uses in Schedule 1 are either commercial or emergency service related and located within the proposed SP1 Mining zone. This matter has been addressed in some detail in the Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Strategy, especially sections 8.4.3, 8.4.4 and 8.4.5 (pp 195-203). Zoning or existing use provisions will not address the situation in an appropriate manner because:

- *Many of the businesses do not yet have development consent, hence have no existing use rights under the Act.*
- *The uses have typically been established for periods exceeding 20 years.*
- *In some cases the existing use is currently prohibited under the current environmental planning instrument.*
- *In correspondence with relevant business owners, Council has stated that it would be unlikely to issue development consent for any business located on a Mineral Claim. This statement was made on the basis that Council wants to encourage business owners to obtain an appropriate land title from the Land and Property Management Authority prior to seeking development consent.*

Note: It is Council's understanding that:

- *Funds specifically obtained by the Mineral Resources unit of the Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services (DTIRIS) from Mineral Claim holders for land acquisition have been diverted to other purposes.*
- *The State government has ceased the acquisition of land for addition to Crown Reserve 1024168.*
- *Businesses currently located on Mineral Claims are unlikely to be offered a more appropriate land title by the Crown Land unit of DTIRIS unless further land is added to Crown Reserve 1024168.*
- *Creating zones for each use within the surrounding SP1 zone, or enabling those uses throughout the SP1 zone, would create unnecessary additional land use conflict between proponents of opal mining and commercial uses.*
- *Council would like to publicly delineate all the established land uses that it accepts within the SP1 zone, while also using the LEP to prohibit new uses that are inappropriate in that context.*

8. Schedules 2 and 3 – exempt and complying development.

Response:- Council notes that the Department requires that exempt and complying development not be addressed via schedule 2 and 3 within the draft LEP. As suggested, a preliminary submission has been made to the Department for amendments to State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008 [Codes SEPP] to address issues arising in proposed SP1 – Mining zones.

On 21 July 2011 Council was verbally advised that the Department will be inviting Councils to make formal submissions for local variations and exclusions to the Codes SEPP within a month. Council expects to make a submission with a view to re-instating mining camps as a form of complying development now, as well as under the proposed SP1 – Mining zone.

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9. Schedule 5 – environmental heritage items.

Response:- Heritage item prefixes added as requested.

A search for State Heritage Items based in the Walgett local government area was undertaken using the Heritage Branch online database on 6 June 2011 at http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/07_subnav_04.cfm . That search indicated that there are no State Heritage Items within the Walgett Shire.

Matters relating to mapping:

10. Compliance with technical standards set out in the Department of Planning “Standard technical requirements for LEP maps”, dated March 2009, version 1.2.

Response:- Council staff have been using the technical standard as the basis for all LEP mapping.

11. Thoroughly check maps for extraneous labelling.

Response:- The extraneous label on sheet “LZN-014” has been amended. All maps have been checked for labelling prior to submission.

12. Natural resource management maps are to be included using information provided by agencies.

Response:- During May and June 2011 Council received revised geographic information system (GIS) data from the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH). Council has used the OEH data to prepare a ‘biodiversity map’ correlating with clause 7.10 and a ‘wetlands map’ for clause 7.11. No salinity map has been prepared because no relevant data has been provided.

Issues arising from the data supplied, hence the resulting biodiversity and wetland maps, include:

- a) Frequent significant errors and data gap, including:*
- o The inclusion of vegetation communities, unlikely to be represented within the Walgett LGA, including:*
 - Central west tussock grasslands.*
 - Derived grasslands, New England Tablelands.*
 - Giant Stinging Tree – Fig dry subtropical rainforest.*
 - Messmate – gum moist forests of the escarpment ranges, eastern New England Tablelands.*
 - Wet tussock grasslands of cold air drainage areas, New England Tablelands.*
 - o Areas mapped as native vegetation when they have been cleared and/or cropped. Although Council has used its GIS data to exclude obviously cleared or cropped areas from LEP biodiversity maps, it is likely that some cropped and cleared areas remain.*
 - o Inconsistent boundaries which over or under state the extent of a given feature, especially wetlands. This is especially obvious when comparing wetland mapping:*
 - Between the Western and Central Divisions. The mapping spuriously indicates that wetlands are more common in the Western Division.*
 - With aerial or satellite photography of flood events. There is limited correlation between the mapped wetlands and those areas that are actually inundated.*
 - o No groundwater data for the Western Division.*
- b) Inclusion of data that is of questionable relevance, including:*
- o Areas of “woodland” with very low tree densities (eg. 4.75 trees/10 Ha, 1.74 trees/10 Ha).*
 - o Grassland areas.*

Maps which provide examples of some of the above mentioned problems have been attached.

Ultimately it would be appropriate for the Department to either:

- Request the OEH to promptly review the data to address the various deficiencies, OR;*
- Direct Council to remove biodiversity and wetland mapping from the LEP given that continuing to wait for OEH to supply coherent data is likely to lead to significant delays.*

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13. Lot size maps are to be amended to depict minimum lot size for rural land as 400 Ha instead of 2000 Ha previously shown.

Response:- All lot size maps have been amended as per the Department's request.

14. Heritage items need to be labelled with appropriate identification prefix and number.

Response:- All heritage maps have been amended as per the Department's request.

15. Proposed zone SP1 – Opal Mining needs to be labelled as SP1 – Mining.

Response:- Proposed zone has now been labelled SP1 – Mining on affected map sheets (LZN-002, LZN-004, LZN-005, LZN-010, LZN-011 and LZN-012).

16. Proposed infrastructure and zone SP2 needs to be labelled correctly.

- a) Walgett and Lightning Ridge hospitals can be covered by zone R1 – General Residential rather than zone SP2.

Response:- Walgett map sheet LZN016 amended so zone SP2 Hospital incorporated into zone R1 general residential. Lightning Ridge map sheet LZN-011 amended so zone SP2 Hospital has been added to zone R1 General residential on this map sheet.

- b) Walgett, Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri airports should be labelled air transport facility.

Response:- Labelling for the Walgett, Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri airport has been amended to show "Air Transport Facility" instead of "Airport".

- c) Walgett and Lightning Ridge "sewage treatment plant" can be zoned RU1 – Primary Production.

Response:- Walgett and Lightning Ridge "sewage treatment plants" have been rezoned as RU1-Primary Production. Effluent pond at Collarenebri has also been changed to zone RU1, although this change wasn't requested.

- d) Proposed "waste disposal facilities" in the rural area should also be given the surrounding zone RU1 designation.

Response:- Waste disposal facilities in Collarenebri, Walgett, Carinda, Rowena and Burren Junction have had the zoning changed to RU1-Primary Production.

- e) Classified roads should be identified and labelled "SP2- Classified Road". Advice from the Roads and Traffic Authority should be sought in this regard.

Response:- Advice from RTA has been requested but no response has been received yet. It is important to also consider the following issues:

- *Significant parts of many roads likely to be classified are not located within any road reserve, especially within the Western Division. Recent contact from the Land and Property Management Authority suggests that work will commence shortly on addressing this situation in the Western Division.*
- *The cadastral geographic information system (GIS) data supplied by the Land and Property Management Authority is quite inaccurate in rural areas where minimal survey control has been applied to the data. As a result cadastral boundaries in the data are often 200 or 300m off their true location.*

- f) In relation to Clause 5.1, a Land Reservation Acquisition Map based on the land application map is required.

Response:- Initial map created based on the land application map, but the scale made it impossible to identify the affected parcels. Two new maps have been created which make identification of the affected land easier. The maps are LRA-011 at 1:10,000 scale and LRA-021 at 1:240,000 scale. Noo Porima from the Department indicated on 2-6-2011 that the larger scale maps could be used.

ATTACHMENT B – ISSUES ARISING FOR COUNCIL

Apart from issues raised previously, Council requests that the Department note or address the respective matters below.

Instrument issues:

1. Split zoning clause – A clause is required within the LEP which addresses zone boundaries that do not follow cadastral boundaries (ie. A lot straddles a zone boundary). This is required for:
 - SP1 Special Activities Mining zones.
 - R1 General Residential zones over the Namoi, Gingie and Walli settlements.
2. Amended heritage schedule & maps - Council's Heritage Advisor has recently revised the proposed schedule of local heritage items and has recommended that 29 items be removed. These changes have been included in the LEP heritage schedule and mapping. It is expected that Council will resolve to support the revised schedule at a Council meeting on 26 July 2011.
3. In the instrument table of contents, the reference to clause 2.7 'Demolition requires consent' has been changed from local to compulsory, as per the current standard instrument.
4. It is noted that there is a requirement to have the RU1 Primary Production and RU5 Village zones as 'closed' zones. That is, the land use tables are to be constructed so as to list all of the permitted uses and prohibit all other uses. This is not considered to be appropriate as the current IDO prohibits specific land uses and permits all others as permissible with consent. This is considered to be the most flexible way to apply zones to rural land and villages. It is considered that it will have the potential impact of prohibiting development that is considered to be appropriate because it does not fall under the permitted uses category.

Mapping issues:

5. Lot size maps – Recent additions and extensions to the National Park system have now been excluded from the LSZ layer and maps, as follows:
 - Narran Lake Nature Reserve (extension).
 - Ginghet Nature Reserve (addition).
 - Barwon Nature Reserve (addition).
 - Barwon State Conservation Area (addition).
6. Zoning maps – Recent additions and extensions to the National Park system have now been zoned E1 National Parks and Nature Reserves, as follows:
 - Narran Lake Nature Reserve (extension).
 - Ginghet Nature Reserve (addition).
 - Barwon Nature Reserve (addition).
 - Barwon State Conservation Area (addition).
7. Zoning/lot size maps – There is a Travelling Stock Route (TSR) which passes through part of the Narran Lake Nature Reserve (within lot 3137, DP 765342 and lot 3139, DP 765344). Council requests the Department's advice on appropriate zoning for the TSR, given that it appears to have a dual land use.

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ATTACHMENT C – Consistency with environmental planning instruments

The following is a list of the State Environmental Planning Policies along with a statement concerning the consistency of the draft LEP with those policies.

| Title of State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) | Consistent | Comment / Reason for Inconsistency |
|--|----------------|--|
| SEPP 1 – Development Standards | Not Applicable | This is no longer applicable to Standard Instrument draft LEPs |
| SEPP 4 Development Without Consent | Yes | The provisions of this SEPP have been included as clauses in the draft LEP |
| SEPP 6 Number of Stories in a Building | Not Applicable | The draft LEP adopts a 10m height limit and therefore does not refer to floors |
| SEPP No. 21 – Caravan Parks | Yes | The draft LEP does not place any restrictions on caravan parks. |
| SEPP No. 22 – Shops and Commercial Premises | Yes | |
| SEPP No. 30 – Intensive Agriculture | Yes | The draft LEP does not place any restrictions on the operation of intensive agricultural uses other than the requirement for development consent |
| SEPP No. 32 – Urban Consolidation | Yes | The Growth Management Strategy has addressed this. |
| SEPP No. 33 – Hazardous and Offensive Development | Yes | Offensive and Hazardous industries have been permitted with consent in the Primary Production and General Industrial zones |
| SEPP No. 36 – Manufactured Home Estates | Yes | |
| SEPP No. 44 – Koala Habitat | Yes | |
| SEPP No. 55 – Remediation of Land | Yes | |
| SEPP No. 60 – Exempt and Complying Development | Not Applicable | The provisions of the NSW Codes will apply to the Walgett Shire |
| SEPP No. 62 – Sustainable Aquaculture | No | The SEPP substantially governs the operation of the draft LEP as the provisions of the SEPP are additional to the provisions of the draft LEP. |
| SEPP No. 64 - Advertising and Signage | Yes | |
| SEPP No. 65 – Design Quality of Residential Flat Development | Yes | |
| SEPP Housing for Seniors and People with a Disability 2004 | Yes | |
| SEPP Building Sustainability Index BASIX 2004 | Yes | |
| SEPP Major Projects 2005 | Not Applicable | |

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| Title of State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) | Consistent | Comment / Reason for Inconsistency |
|--|------------|------------------------------------|
| SEPP Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries 2007 | Yes | |
| SEPP Temporary Structures 2007 | Yes | |
| SEPP Infrastructure 2007 | Yes | |
| SEPP Rural Lands 2008 | Yes | |
| SEPP Affordable Rental Housing 2009 | Yes | |

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ATTACHMENT D – Consistency with local planning directions

The following is a list of the State Environmental Planning Policies along with a statement concerning the consistency and any relevant comments.

The following Local Planning Directions issued pursuant to section 117 of the EP& A Act are relevant to the Walgett Shire.

| DIRECTION NAME | COMMENT/REASON FOR INCONSISTENCY |
|---|---|
| 1. EMPLOYMENT & RESOURCES | |
| 1.1 Business & Industrial Zones | <p>This matter has been addressed in the Growth Management Study and Strategy. Section 8.3.1 makes recommendations for Walgett and section 8.3.2 makes recommendations for Lightning Ridge.</p> <p>Specific business and industrial zoning has been proposed for Walgett and Lightning Ridge because these towns are regarded as strategic centres for residential and rural residential growth. Business and industrial uses are permitted in the Village Zones which cover other settlements.</p> <p>The draft LEP reflects the recommendations of the Growth Management Study & Strategy and is generally consistent with the direction.</p> |
| 1.2 Rural Zones | <p>This matter has been addressed in the Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Strategy. Section 8.5 makes recommendations for preserving rural land.</p> <p>Generally rural land is proposed to be conserved by placing it in the Primary Production zone as well as having a 400 ha minimum holding size for a dwelling house. The draft LEP reflects the recommendations of the Growth Management Study and Strategy.</p> |
| 1.3 Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries | <p>The draft LEP prohibits mining and extractive industries from the following zones:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RU3 Forestry • RU5 Village • R1 General Residential • R5 Large Lot Residential • B2 Local Centre • IN1 General Industrial • RE1 Public Recreation <p>They were prohibited in the Forestry zone because of the requirements for writing the zone is to list the permitted uses and prohibit all others. It is noted that the Uses authorised by the Forestry Act, 1916 have been permitted without consent.</p> <p>They have been prohibited in the other zones because these are urban zones and it is not considered appropriate to have mines and extractive industries within the boundaries of the towns and villages in the Shire.</p> <p>This matter has been addressed in the Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Strategy. Section 2.4.3 highlights the impact of mining on the Shire's economy. There are no proposals to limit the future of mining in the draft LEP on rural land and it is noted that SEPP Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries 2007 permits mining in the Primary Production zone.</p> |
| 1.4 Oyster Aquaculture | Not Applicable |

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| DIRECTION NAME | COMMENT/REASON FOR INCONSISTENCY |
|---|---|
| 1.5 Rural Lands | This matter has been addressed in the Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Strategy. Section 8.5 makes recommendations for preserving rural land and specifically addresses the provisions of the Rural SEPP. The draft LEP reflects the recommendations of the Growth Management Study and Strategy. |
| 2. ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE | |
| 2.1 Environment Protection Zones | <p>This matter has also been addressed in the Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Strategy. Section 8.9 makes recommendations for biodiversity conservation. The draft LEP reflects the recommendations of the Growth Management Strategy.</p> <p>Currently the draft LEP is generally consistent with the direction through the inclusion of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clause 7.10 Biodiversity, along with relevant mapping. • Clause 7.11 Wetlands, along with relevant mapping. <p>Clause 7.9 Salinity is included, but not supported by any mapping.</p> |
| 2.2 Coastal Protection | Not Applicable |
| 2.3 Heritage Conservation | <p>This matter has been addressed in part by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefly in the Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Strategy in section 7.3.10. • In the Report of the Community Based Heritage Study of Walgett Shire by Graham Hall, dated April 2008 which recommends that a number of items be listed as local heritage items in an LEP. • In the Walgett Shire Aboriginal Heritage Study by Australian Museum Business Services, dated May 2011. <p>The draft LEP reflects those recommendations within the above documents which can be addressed via the LEP, hence is generally consistent with the direction.</p> |
| 2.4 Recreation Vehicle Areas | Not Applicable |
| 3. HOUSING, INFRASTRUCTURE AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT | |
| 3.1 Residential Zones | <p>This matter has been addressed in the Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Strategy. Section 8.3.1 makes recommendations for Walgett and section 8.3.2 makes recommendations for Lightning Ridge. The draft LEP provides a minimum lot size for residential zones of 700m² in Walgett and Lightning Ridge, with 1,000m² for village zones.</p> <p>A range of residential densities has been provided for, as well as making the best use of infrastructure.</p> |
| 3.2 Caravan Parks and Manufactured Home Estates | Caravan Parks and Manufactured Home Estates have been made as permitted uses in the zones where dwelling houses have been permitted. |
| 3.3 Home Occupations | Home occupations are permitted without development consent in all zones that permit dwelling houses |
| 3.4 Integrating Land Use and Transport | Draft LEP is consistent with direction. |
| 3.5 Development Near Licensed Aerodromes | Council wrote to the Civil Aviation Authority on 14 July 2011 seeking its comments on the relevance of draft clauses 7.4 and 7.5. The letter also |

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| DIRECTION NAME | COMMENT/REASON FOR INCONSISTENCY |
|---|--|
| | inquired about the availability of map data to support the clauses.
That consultation may result in the Authority requesting Council to maintain or remove these clauses. Additional maps may also be required. |
| 4. HAZARD AND RISK | |
| 4.1 Acid Sulfate Soils | Not Applicable |
| 4.2 Mine Subsidence and Unstable Land | Draft LEP is consistent with direction. |
| 4.3 Flood Prone Land | This matter has been addressed in the Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Strategy. Section 8 makes recommendations for land affected by natural hazards which includes flood prone land. This has been taken into consideration when identifying land for future urban and rural residential development. The draft LEP includes a local provision for flood planning (clause 7.2). |
| 4.4 Planning for Bushfire Protection | This matter has been addressed in the Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Strategy. Section 8 makes recommendations for land affected by natural hazards which includes bushfire prone land. This has been taken into consideration when identifying land for future urban and rural residential development.

A revised bush fire prone land map was certified by the NSW Rural Fire Service on 10 June 2011. |
| 5. REGIONAL PLANNING | |
| 5.1 Implementation of Regional Strategies | Not Applicable |
| 5.2 Sydney Drinking Water Catchments | Not Applicable |
| 5.3 Farmland of State and Regional Significance on the NSW Far North Coast | Not Applicable |
| 5.4 Commercial and Retail Development along the Pacific Highway, North Coast | Not Applicable |
| 5.5 Development in the vicinity of Ellalong, Paxton and Millfield (Cessnock LGA) | Not Applicable |
| 5.6 Sydney to Canberra Corridor (Revoked 10 July 2008. See amended Direction 5.1) | Not Applicable |
| 5.7 Central Coast (Revoked 10 July 2008. See amended Direction 5.1) | Not Applicable |
| 5.8 Second Sydney Airport: Badgerys Creek | Not Applicable |

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| DIRECTION NAME | COMMENT/REASON FOR INCONSISTENCY |
|---|--|
| 6 LOCAL PLAN MAKING | |
| 6.1 Approval and Referral Requirements | The draft LEP does not have any provisions that require referral of development applications to other authorities, hence it is consistent with the direction. |
| 6.2 Reserving Land for Public Purposes | Land acquisition maps have been provided, which shows the following sites that are being acquired by Council under the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lightning Ridge bore baths site shown on map LRA-011 at 1:10,000 scale. • Burren Junction bore baths site shown on map LRA-021 at 1:240,000 scale. The draft LEP is consistent with the direction. |
| 6.3 Site Specific Provisions | Not Applicable |
| 7 METROPOLITAN PLANNING | |
| 7.1 Implementation of the Metropolitan Strategy | Not Applicable |

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ATTACHMENT E – Section 62 consultation

Walgett Shire Council undertook Section 62 consultation via a letter dated 22 February 2008 sent to 33 government authorities and adjoining Councils, as listed in the table below.

Table – Government authorities consulted under Section 62.

| Name | Title | Organisation Name | City |
|-------------------|--|---|---------------------------|
| Allen Young | Chief Executive Officer | Balonne Shire Council | St George, Qld |
| Lisa Roberts | General Manager | Border Rivers-Gwydir Catchment Management Authority | Inverell |
| | General Manager | Brewarrina Shire Council | Brewarrina |
| Tim Ferraro | General Manager | Central West Catchment Management Authority | Orange |
| Kevin Dyer | Aerodrome Inspector | Civil Aviation Safety Authority | Condell Park |
| John Griffiths | General Manager | Coonamble Shire Council | Coonamble |
| Mark Shervashidze | Director of Partnerships and Planning | Department of Community Services | Dubbo |
| Michael Kronk | School Education Director Warrumbungle | Department of Education and Training | Dubbo |
| Chris Marshall | Senior Programs Officer | Department of Environment and Climate Change | Bathurst |
| Mike Allen | Director General | Department of Housing | Ashfield BC |
| Jennifer Mason | Director General | Department of Juvenile Justice | Haymarket |
| Geoff Woods | Western Lands Commissioner | Department of Lands | Broken Hill |
| Lindsay Usher | Team Leader | Department of Planning | Dubbo |
| Cameron Ricketts | Team Leader - Land Use - Geoscientist | Department of Primary Industries | Hunter Region Mail Centre |
| Doug Richard | Agricultural Environment Officer | Department of Primary Industries | Gunnedah |
| Loftus Harris | Director General | Department of State and Regional Development | Sydney |
| Christie Jackson | Environment Review Co-Ordinator | Department of Water and Energy | Tamworth |
| Randall Hart | Regional Director, Barwon Region | Department of Water and Energy | Tamworth |
| David Ferrall | Senior Environmental Health Officer | Greater Western Area Health Service | Dubbo |
| Vince Sicari | Principle Heritage Officer | Heritage Office Department of Planning | Parramatta |
| Carolyn Dunn | Regional Transport Coordinator | Ministry of Transport | Dubbo |
| David Aber | General Manager | Moree Plains Shire Council | Moree |
| Bruce Brown | General Manager | Namoi Catchment Management Authority | Gunnedah |
| Max Kershaw | General Manager | Narrabri Shire Council | Narrabri |
| Jodie Broun | Director General | NSW Dept of Aboriginal Affairs | Surry Hills |

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| Name | Title | Organisation Name | City |
|-----------------|--|--|--------------|
| David Ward | Conservation Manager | NSW Fisheries | Tamworth |
| Debora Picone | Director General | NSW Health | North Sydney |
| David Simmons | Superintendant | NSW Police | Walgett |
| Lew Short | Manager, Development Control Services | NSW Rural Fire Service | Granville |
| Warwick Bratby | Manager Planning | NSW State Forests | Dubbo |
| Bob Wagg | Road Safety and Traffic Operations Manager | Roads and Traffic Authority | Parkes |
| Ashley Wielinga | General Manager | Warren Shire Council | Warren |
| Daryl Green | General Manager | Western Catchment Management Authority | Dubbo |

22. MATTERS FOR BRIEF MENTION, PLANNING & REGULATORY SERVICES

REPORTING SECTION: Planning & Regulatory Services
AUTHOR: Matthew Goodwin, Director Planning & Regulatory Services
FILE NUMBER: 10/434

This report provides notes on items for brief mention, or information only, on more significant matters arising in the Planning & Regulatory Services Division between 9 June 2011 and 11 July 2011.

a) DRAFT WALGETT LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2011

See separate detailed report on the LEP in this business paper.

b) URBAN ADDRESSING PROJECT

The installation of street number plates on buildings in Lightning Ridge by volunteers from the Lightning Ridge Men's Shed is nearly complete. An order for eighteen outstanding street/building numbers has been placed with the number supplier.

A review of street numbering in Walgett has commenced. Initial field work suggests that about 30% of buildings are not clearly identified, hence will require Council to supply street numbers. Discussions have been initiated with Best Employment about work experience participants installing the number plates.

When the project is completed, the updated addresses for all towns and villages will be loaded to Council's administrative database, Authority.

c) GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM (GPS) SURVEYING SOFTWARE

Recently Council's GIS Coordinator obtained updated software to complement the differential GPS hardware owned by Council. A project to differentially survey Council's water and effluent infrastructure in Collarenebri will commence later this year. This will provide council with sub-metre accurate mapping (compared to current mapping which is +/- 10m accuracy).

d) TOWN PLANNER POSITION

The Town Planner position remains vacant and will be re-advertised.

e) CONTRACT BUILDING CERTIFICATION & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Brian Vaughan, a consultant building certifier from Narrabri has provided some building certification and environmental health services during July.

Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from Director of Planning & Regulatory Services

Recommendation:

1. That the report by the Director of Planning & Regulatory Services on matters for brief mention, or information only, be received and noted.

Moved:

Seconded:

23. CARINDA WATER PRESSURE

REPORTING SECTION: Urban Infrastructure Services
AUTHOR: Prafulla K.C. – Utilities Engineer
FILE NUMBER: 11/276

Summary:

This report recommends that the Council notes and acknowledges the report submitted in regards to the low water pressure at Carinda.

Background:

The drinking water supply of Carinda residents comes from bore situated approximately 1.1 km from Carinda. The system consists of two elevated tanks, operational and emergency tank, a high lift pump and 100 mm AC and PVC water mains. Considering the distance to the village where the head pressure is not already enough, it is understandable that residents get not more than 18psi pressure in night times.

The village residents are used to low water pressure over the years. However, in early 2009, Council started receiving more complaints on how to improve water pressure around the village. As a result of this, improvements were scheduled in stages:

- Stage 1: Installation of water meters to regulate the water consumption as a requirement for Best Management Practice.
- Stage 2: Replacement of old AC pipes with new 100mm PVC pipes to minimize main breaks. Pipes on Colin and Oliver Streets were placed in high priority as majority of main breaks and complaints came from these streets.
- Stage 3: Booster pumps installation in lieu of constructing a new pump to increase the water pressure.

In 2009, Council started installing water meters around the shire including the village of Carinda. Council received complaints from residents regarding low water pressure due to meter installation. To deal with this low water pressure issue, as an interim measure Council uninstalled the water meters until the mains replacement and booster pumps were installed.

Due to the budgetary constraints, Oliver Street up-grades were put on hold but main pipes in Colin Street were replaced reducing water breaks to zero early this year. Council also installed two booster pumps to increase the water pressure.

Operating Philosophy of Booster pump and Frequency Inverter:

Depending on pressure required, Frequency Inverter can be adjusted to upper and lower set values to run the booster pump. For example, upper set value 22 psi and lower value 16 psi. When the pressure in the pipe is lower than the set value of 16 psi, the booster pump will turn on. Once the pressure exceeds the upper set value of 22 psi, pump will turn off.(i.e.: Open the tap- the pressure in the pipe falls, therefore the booster pump turns on. Shut the tap - the pump runs until the pressure in the pipe exceeds a set value).

Current Position:

Stages 1, 2 & 3 have been completed and Urban Water staff once again re-installed water meters. The pressure after adjusting the frequency inverter of the booster pumps, increased to 20psi at ease. However, the old mains on Oliver Street remains and to minimize further breaks to these mains, staff Council was trying to fine tune the frequency inverter to determine suitable water pressure that may work effectively. Fine tuning becomes too complicated and while water staff was conducting tests, Council received complaints about low water pressure once again.

Continuous series of water pressure tests were conducted where variables were set ranging from 17 to 22 psi. The local residents thanked the staff when the water pressure was tremendously improved. However, it was observed that booster pumps tend to work in long intervals that may not be advisable if kept unchecked.

Once again, fine tuning was re-commenced for two days starting on 4th & 5th of August 2011. The upper and lower water pressure limits were re-adjusted and as a result of this, the water pressure is set at 19 psi. Households were advised about the increase of pressure is still on trial stage. According to some householders, they can now use their showers with good pressure.

Reservoir Level & Head Loss:

Current water level on the water tank is set to 75%. Council is liaising with Rad-tel Systems Pty Ltd, provider of Council's Telemetry SCADA system, to increase the top water level to 95% and cut off level to 80%. This will aid to increase the existing head pressure. At present, head pressure is 38 ft/cm³ which equals to approximately 16 psi.

It is notable that due to the distance involved to carry water from bore head to Carinda and with bends, fittings and valves there is a significant head loss due to friction/turbulence when the fluid's moving.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Nil

Governance issues:

Nil

Environmental issues:

Nil

Stakeholders:

Walgett Shire Council
Carinda Rate Payers

Financial Implications:

Nil

Alternative Solutions/Options

Observe and monitor trial period of frequency inverter to determine and set a value to achieve adequate water pressure

Conclusion:

Carinda Water Pressure

Recommendation:

1. This report recommends that the Council notes and acknowledges the report submitted in regards to the low water pressure at Carinda.

Moved:

Seconded:

24. WATER UTILITIES SHARING GROUP SUBMISSION TO COMMONWEALTH PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION

REPORTING SECTION: Urban Infrastructure Services
AUTHOR: Siegfredo Coralde – Director Urban Infrastructure Services
FILE NUMBER: 09/1664

Summary:

This report recommends Council to note the Submission Paper forwarded by Cr. Katrina Humphries on behalf of the Water Utilities Sharing Group to the Commonwealth Productivity Commission.

Background:

On 09 May 2011, a joint meeting was held in Moree Shire Council to discuss specifically Chapter 13: Regional in Regional Areas (p. 369 – 431) of the Draft Report on Australia's Urban Water Sector: Commonwealth Government Productivity Commission. The Productivity Commission gave a deadline to make written submissions until 18 May 2011.

Current Position:

Cr. Katrina Humphries on behalf of the Water Utilities Sharing Group forwarded a joint response to the Productivity Commission on time.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

NSW Best Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) Pricing Schemes
Report of the Independent Inquiry into Secure and Sustainable Urban
Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG)
2009 COAG National Partnership Agreement on Remote Communities
Water Supply and Sewerage Services for Non-Metropolitan NSW
Memorandum of Understanding – Water Utilities Sharing Group
Infrastructure Australia – Urban Water Supply Strategies
Infrastructure Australia – Review of Regional Towns Water Quality and Security (AECOM
Consultants Report)
Committee for Economic Development of Australia (CADA) Two Year Project into Water Issues
and Options
Future Directions (April 2001) – National Water Commission: Urban Water in Australia
Draft Report (April 2001) – Commonwealth Government Productivity Commission: Australia's
Urban Water Sector

Governance issues:

Nil

Environmental issues:

Nil

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

Stakeholders:

Members of Water Utilities Sharing Group:

- Moree Plains Shire Council
- Walgett Shire Council
- Gwydir Shire Council

Financial Implications:

Nil

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Nil

Conclusion:

| Water Utilities Sharing Group Submission to Commonwealth Government
Productivity Commission |
|--|
|--|

Motion:

1. Council note the joint response to the Productivity Commission sent on behalf of the Water Utilities Sharing Group.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Water Utilities Sharing Group Joint Response to Public Inquiry of the Productivity Commission

12 May 2011

**Australia's Urban Water Sector
Public Inquiry of the Productivity Commission**

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Submission of: | Water Utilities Sharing Group
Gwydir Shire Council
Moree Plains Shire Council
Walgett Shire Council |
| Date: | 16 May 2011 |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

INTRODUCTION:

The Water Utilities Sharing Group (the "Group") is a resource sharing alliance that commits Gwydir Shire Council ("GSC"), Moree Plains Shire Council ("MPSC") and Walgett Shire Council ("WSC") to strive for the highest standards of delivery of water and sewerage services to their respective communities.

Enclosed is a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding executed by each member of the Group which, amongst other things, details the vision statement, objectives, membership and areas of resource collaboration of the Group.

This document comprises the response of the Group to the Productivity Commission inquiry into the case for microeconomic reform in Australia's urban water sector (the "Submission"). In particular, this Submission will address the Group's position in relation to the "*Draft recommendations, findings and information requests: Chapter 13 — Reform in regional areas*".

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS, FINDINGS AND INFORMATION REQUESTS: CHAPTER 13 — REFORM IN REGIONAL AREAS

INFORMATION REQUEST

Is the economic real rate of return an appropriate measure to assess full cost recovery? Are there any risks in using this measure, especially in considering whether utilities are properly providing for returns on capital invested to date, and on future capital expenditure? Is there merit in adopting a measure, or at least a benchmark, that reflects full economic cost?

All members of the Group provide water and sewer services to diversely-sized demand centres, often in geographically disparate areas. For example, MPSC provides these services to the largest centre in the Moree Plains Shire (being Moree) as well as a number of smaller surrounding villages of varying sizes (for example, Mungindi and Garah).

As the local utility provider in each Shire, each member Council has a commitment to provide all residents within its Shire with these essential services, which may or may not result in a positive economic real rate of return.

The Group disputes that a critical element of urban water reform is founded in all water and wastewater utilities achieving full cost recovery; for some water utilities this may be utterly unfeasible, as to do so may necessitate passing on exorbitant costs to end-users. The Group considers it inappropriate to effectively penalise those end-users to enable the water utility to operate on a commercially viable basis, particularly when the fundamental tenement of local government is to serve the needs of the whole community. While we strive for an economic return for the whole of the operation, various centres are heavily subsidised by the main centre and therefore, the returns associated with water and wastewater services cannot be considered in isolation.

DRAFT FINDING 13.1

In many areas of regional Australia, water utilities recover their costs and are financially sound.

However, a significant number of regional water utilities are earning negative or very low real rates of return. It is not clear that these utilities are achieving genuine cost recovery (that is, recovering all costs — including asset maintenance and renewal costs — over the capital cycle). This could have serious implications for water system infrastructure over the longer term, particularly if negative or low returns are sustained over a number of years.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

The Group acknowledges that it may be appropriate for regional water utilities to aim to achieve a positive rate of return for these services. It is felt that this approach will incentivise regional water utilities to strive for greater efficiencies and encourage forward planning for this sector in their respective areas.

Equally however, the Group believes it would be wholly inappropriate for a mandated rate of return to be applied to regional water utilities. Such utilities face challenging circumstances, including a declining rates base, geographic dispersion of their end-users and the need to service many small groups of end-users. Such circumstances diminish the economies of scale and commercial recovery rates enjoyed by many metropolitan water utilities.

In many cases, the Group considers that the prices passed onto end-users for these services do not, and cannot, reflect the actual cost of service provision.

INFORMATION REQUEST

Do local government financing policies, including restrictions on rate increases, directly or indirectly influence the price setting or investment behaviour of council owned utilities, and if so how?

The Group considers that local government financing policies do not influence the price setting or investment behaviour of their Councils. However, members of the Group acknowledge that the impact of price rises must always be balanced with the capacity of the community to bear such increases.

INFORMATION REQUEST

As with the major metropolitan utilities, the Commission is interested in views as to whether regional water corporations should be structured as Government Trading Enterprises or corporations under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cwlth). Further, what are the ways that community views could be reflected in the utilities' activities without undermining the principle of board appointment by merit?

For many reasons, the Group does not consider it appropriate for all regional water corporations to be structured as Government Trading Enterprises or corporations under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cwlth).

Such organisational structures (particularly incorporated companies) impose certain duties and obligations upon its officers and senior management, many of which align themselves with the pursuit of commercial benefits and profits for stakeholders which members of the Group find difficult to reconcile with the needs of end-users in their Shires. By way of example, for Council-operated water utilities in the Group's region, it is not an option to cease supply of water services to end-users simply because the returns do not justify the means.

Amongst the Group, there are differing approaches to revenue returns for these services – some have implemented rating strategies which effectively charge uniform rates for all end-users despite service delivery being more expensive to some groups of end-users. For other Councils, differential pricing has been adopted depending on the end-user's locality. Accordingly, a "one size fits all" approach cannot be applied to the Councils within the Group and it is anticipated that a case-by-case analysis of all regional Councils would produce similar disparities.

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION 13.1

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

There is a strong case for undertaking aggregation of small water and wastewater utilities in regional areas of New South Wales and Queensland. The precise approach — including identification of affected councils and the preferred grouping of councils — should be assessed and determined by relevant State Governments, in consultation with Local Governments and affected communities.

This process should consider the relative merits of alternative organisational structures, including:

- county council*
- regional water corporation*
- regional alliance (or regional organisation of councils).*

The Group recognises the value of aggregation of certain aspects of water and sewer services in regional areas and to this end, has independently formed the Group, which covers the Gwydir, Moree Plains and Walgett Shire Councils. As set out in the enclosed Memorandum of Understanding, the Group has been set up as a voluntary resource sharing alliance that commits its members to strive for the highest standards of delivery of water and sewerage services to their respective communities.

The Group was established at the instigation of its members, rather than as a result of higher government intervention. As a consequence, members have been primarily involved in establishing the purposes and objectives of the Group and determining the level of co-operation deemed appropriate for the region. The Group meets regularly to share information and experiences and in the future, it is likely that high-level strategic co-operation and management for the region will be sought by members.

However, the Group considers that full aggregation of members' water and sewerage assets is not feasible nor desirable for this region. Accordingly, each member has control and ownership of their assets (including in respect of maintenance and investment decisions) so that each member is free to pursue its own objectives and reinvest the fruits of those services in their own community.

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION 13.2

The New South Wales Government should provide a formal response to the recommendations of the Armstrong and Gellatly inquiry as a matter of priority.

The Queensland Government should commence a similar process, in consultation with Local Governments and communities, to consider the costs and benefits of different structural reform options for the urban water sector in regional Queensland (outside of south-east Queensland).

The Group considers that it would be appropriate for the NSW Government to formulate its position in relation to these findings and recommendations so that regional Councils can understand the NSW Government's intent regarding these matters.

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION 13.3

Jurisdictions should identify those regional utilities that are unable to provide safe and secure water and wastewater services for economic reasons. In doing so, the relative merits of alternative supply options (including moving to a system of self-supply) should be considered.

State and Territory Governments should subsidise the provision of water supply and wastewater services in regional areas where it is uneconomic for the utility to provide these services safely and efficiently. This funding should be granted via an explicit Community Service Obligation, and subject to periodic review.

The case for providing subsidy funding for capital works, financial incentives for reform and assistance for affected local councils should be determined by State and Territory Governments.

The Group acknowledges that there are challenges to providing safe and secure water and wastewater services to all parts of regional communities, particularly having regard to the economic cost of doing so. In fact, members of the Group face these very challenges in certain parts of their Shires and consider that they are not alone in these endeavours.

As this is a very real issue for members of the Group, there have been discussions regarding the merits of alternative supply options, for example, the provision of water tanks and filtration systems to smaller localities. Whilst this might be more economical on paper, members are not entirely comfortable that such an approach will ensure safe water supply as the responsibility of water standards is then delegated to the end-user.

The Group considers that low-interest loans advanced to communities facing water supply and wastewater service issues would be beneficial for those communities having the capacity to take responsibility for such services and the ability to service those loans. This ensures that ownership of the asset is always retained by the relevant community, which experience suggests results in a better outcome for those end-users.

However, the Group acknowledges that for certain communities within regional Australia (including some villages within members' Shires), this approach would be untenable. For these areas, State Governments should subsidise the provision of water supply and wastewater services where it is uneconomic for the local water utility to provide these services safely and efficiently.

Amongst the Group, there is agreement that the local water utility rather State Government is best placed to administer the provision of low-interest loans and allocation of subsidies. Knowledge of the potential alternative water supply options, future plans for the community and other local concerns and issues are entrenched within local water utilities. Accordingly, funding for loans and subsidies will be utilised most efficiently and effectively by such utilities. It is felt that this produces a more sustainable approach to water supply. In the experience of members of the Group, local decision-making regarding water supply tends to produce better and more sustainable outcomes, with those "on the ground" better positioned to allocate the funding.

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION 13.4

State and Territory Governments should undertake regular, public reviews of water and wastewater outcomes in Indigenous communities. Water and wastewater services should be assessed against the same metrics that are used to measure service quality in non-Indigenous communities.

It is agreed that water and wastewater outcomes in Indigenous communities need to be periodically reviewed. This ensures accountability so that the most effective and sustainable supply methods are being pursued.

However, the Group questions whether such services should be assessed against the same metrics used to measure service quality in non-Indigenous communities. Often, the issues associated with supply and management to indigenous communities are vastly different from those of non-Indigenous communities. By way of example, some of the challenges include staff/skills shortages, significant financial costs and the relationship between the Aboriginal community and the local utility.

Notwithstanding this, the Group recognises the importance of securing quality water services for such communities and believes that local water utilities have a stronger, more prevailing

social conscience to the provision of such services. Such a commitment is generally inconsistent with the commercial and profit-driven motives of a corporate entity.

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION 13.5

Compliance with the health critical elements of the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines should be mandatory, and implemented via legislation.

Utility performance against all elements of the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines should be publicly reviewed and reported on annually by State and Territory Governments. Sanctions should apply if water utilities do not comply with the mandatory elements of the guidelines, and directors or other accountable persons such as councillors should be personally liable for the risks associated with non compliance.

Utilities that do not comply with the non-health critical elements of the guidelines must develop and implement a risk management plan (approved by the relevant health department) that will move the utility toward full compliance with all elements of the guidelines.

The Group is very concerned with the suggested sanctions for non-compliance with mandatory elements of the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines and considers that attaching personal liability to directors and other accountable persons wholly unacceptable.

Whilst the Group acknowledges the importance of the mandatory elements of such Guidelines, there have been times that members of the Group have been unable to comply with such standards through no fault of the Council water service provider. A recent example of this involved the effects of the Queensland floods on water quality in the cross border river systems and therefore, water provision to certain members' communities.

All members of the Group share a genuine concern regarding the impact such sanctions would have on the ability of local utilities to provide water services to their communities. It is felt that such an approach would impose greater impediments to recruitment in this sector for regional councils – there are enough difficulties in attracting skilled professionals in regional areas, particularly for senior positions – without subjecting such individuals to personal liability.

In addition, the Group believes that this would have consequences upon the economic cost of service delivery. Such a regime would force local water utilities to be conservative in their approach to compliance with the mandatory Guidelines, which would be likely to significantly increase the cost of service provision. Further, members anticipate that accountable persons would be insistent on the water utility obtaining appropriate insurance coverage against such risk, which brings additional economic burden.

The Group believes that a preferable and workable approach to compliance with mandatory standards would be through the risk management plans of water utilities. These plans, through continuous improvement, are developed and refined over time.

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION 13.6

The Governments of Western Australia, South Australia and the Northern Territory should consider the costs and benefits of replacing the single, jurisdiction-wide public corporation model with a regional water corporation approach (horizontal disaggregation).

In undertaking this analysis, relevant State and Territory Governments should consider factors other than scale, including opportunities for yardstick competition, the proximity of utilities to the customers they serve, opportunities for more location-specific pricing arrangements and the effectiveness of water resource management and water system planning.

As this does not involve the NSW State Government, this recommendation is noted by the Group.

INFORMATION REQUEST

What are the likely sources of costs and benefits of undertaking structural reform of the urban water sectors in Western Australia, South Australia and the Northern Territory?

As this does not involve the urban water sector in NSW, this information request is noted.

DRAFT FINDING 13.3

There may be scale and scope benefits for water supply and wastewater services to be provided by a single utility in regional areas. This should be considered by jurisdictions as part of the reform process.

As noted throughout this Submission, the benefits which can potentially accrue by approaching certain aspects of water supply and wastewater services regionally have already been recognised by the Moree Plains, Walgett and Gwydir Shires through the formation of the Group.

Given the diverse challenges faced by members of the Group, many such services remain with local utilities but it is felt that the natural development of the Group will be to adopt a more regional basis to strategic and asset management issues. Presently, the Group is discussing how certain duplicative aspects of water services in the region may be more efficiently delivered collectively (which is likely to result in greater economies of scale) and steps are being taken as to the most appropriate way to investigate these matters.

Other local utilities in the region have also been invited to form part of the Group.

INFORMATION REQUEST

Is there a case for reintegrating water supply and wastewater services in regional areas where they are currently provided separately? In which regions? What are the principle costs and benefits of separate, as compared to integrated, water supply and wastewater service provision?

For the region represented by members of the Group, the value of integration of certain aspects of water supply and wastewater services has already been recognised. Members of the Group feel that the hybrid voluntary alliance formed in this region (hybrid in the sense that assets remain owned and controlled by local utilities but there is a common approach to higher level strategic issues) works effectively. This demonstrates that a “one size fits all” approach is unlikely to be practically achievable and workable; rather, aggregation must be viewed as a case-by-case exercise to have regard to the factors affecting water supply and wastewater services.

CONCLUSION:

The Water Utilities Sharing Group strongly affirms that the role of managing country towns’ water supply and sewerage should remain with Local Government in the States of New South Wales and Queensland.

The Group acknowledges that there may be some benefits to the community derived from Local Governments working together in voluntary alliances at a strategic level.

25. **MATTERS GENERALLY FOR BRIEF MENTION OR INFORMATION FROM DIRECTOR URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**

REPORTING SECTION: Urban Infrastructure Services

AUTHOR: Siegfredo Coralde – Director Urban Infrastructure Services

FILE NUMBER: 10/585

1. **Construction of Dementia Day Care Centre:** The construction of this facility began on 6 June 2011 and is due for completion in the last week of September 2011.

MAAS Construction Pty Ltd is the contractor completing the project with Ron Wright Associates and Council Engineer George Bechara overseeing progress as Project managers. To date no changes to projects critical path has occurred, this may be amended depending on future weather conditions.

2. **Construction of Cumborah Office:** Preliminary correspondences with LPMA have taken place.
3. **Construction of Fox-Warrena St Stormwater Drainage.** Design specifications for the construction of stormwater drainage across Fox street and Warrena Street, to alleviate ponding issue have been developed. Tender documents are currently being prepared.
4. **Walgett Bore bath Lights:** Upgrade to current lighting being investigated. Awaiting on Essential Energy to inform council on details of current night vision lighting agreement.
5. **Round 2 Regional Infrastructure Projects.** Seven out of nine projects are completed as at this report. The following projects are still outstanding:
 - Construction of MotorCross Track-Lightning Ridge. Site originally proposed is still inundated with flood water. New site has been proposed with Development Application and Environmental Effects report to be completed.
 - Come by Chance Hall Improvement. Contractor to begin works second week August, with estimated completion for last week in August month.
6. **Round 3 Regional Infrastructure Projects.** Three out of nine projects are completed as at this report. The following projects are still outstanding:
 - Fencing and Lighting at Skate Park - Walgett. Fencing works completed. Provision for adequate lighting is still under investigation, with specifications for flood light system being examined.
 - Supply and Installation of Shade Structure at Burren Junction Playground. Project specification has been developed with advertisement to be released Monday 15 August 2011.
 - Supply and Installation of Shelter Shed and Barbeque at Len Cram Park – Lightning Ridge. Installation to start early September 2011.
 - Apex Park (Walgett) Upgrade, Stage II. Project specification is currently under development.
 - Supply and Installation of Grandstand of No. 1 Oval – Walgett. Installation to commence once the Engineer's Drawings and Certificate are received from the manufacturer. Completion aimed for early September 2011.
 - Supply and Installation of Lighting at Collarenebri Skate Park. Application submitted to Essential Energy on Wednesday 15 June 2011 for installation of one night vision flood light.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

7. **Burren Junction 2nd Evaporation Pond**
Construction of the pond and earth levee is completed. Installation of culvert and piping works is expected to be completed third week of August depending on weather condition.
8. **Burren Junction 1st Evaporation Pond**
A minor levee bank breach was promptly remedied by Council staff and is now secured. Council staff to do further work around this pond once the grounds are dry enough.
9. **Lightning Ridge Hot Artesian Spa**
Council received complaints about slippery tiles and missing locks. These complaints have been addressed. Contractor has been engaged to treat the slippery tiles and new locks will be installed on showers.
10. **Walgett Levee Design**
Final Levee design is complete including cost estimates, REF, Stormwater Drainage. Tender document will be received at the end of August. Construction stages and time will depend on amount of grant received and Council's contribution. Council has applied for Levee Construction Grant 1:8 ratios.
11. **Water Meter Readings.**
A trial run reading of all installed meters in Walgett, Lightning Ridge, Carinda, Rowena and Collarenebri townships is completed. This is a quarterly reading exercise in order to build the water usage database which will be helpful in determining the reasonable water charging regime to households and businesses. Water educational program to commence soon.
12. **Bore Licence Application (Lightning Ridge)**
Old Water Access Licence issued under Water Act 1912 has been converted and issued under Water Management Act 200.Lot 433, DP 1076808 north of Pandora Street, next to the existing valve pit has been proposed as a potential site for new town artesian bore. However, Council is concerned about approximately 4ML water that needs to be discharge during drilling process. Negotiation is ongoing with LPMA to occupy the Land.
13. **Aboriginal Communities Water and Sewerage Program**

BHC Plumbing Contractors was engaged, for a period of 12 months (interim arrangement), to provide routine operation and maintenance services for the water and sewerage systems at the Aboriginal communities at Namoi, Gingie and Collarenebri (Walli) . This contract is due to expire on 18 October 2011.

Council has to discuss with NSW Office of Water regarding contractor's performance review and determine a direction either to extend the existing contract or cal for public tender. A meeting was scheduled on 17th August but due to bad health condition Fred Coralde and Prafulla K.C. had to reschedule the meeting.

Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from Director Urban Infrastructure Services

Recommendation:

1. That the matters listed by the Director Urban Infrastructure Services for brief mention or information only be received and noted.

Moved:

Seconded:

26. MONTHLY REPORT FROM DIRECTOR ENGINEERING SERVICES – AUGUST 2011

REPORTING SECTION: Engineering Services
AUTHOR: Raju Ranjit – Director Engineering Services
FILE NUMBER: 11/211

Summary:

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of progress and issues relating to Roads and Bridges in the period since the report was prepared in late July 2011.

Background:

RTA – Road Maintenance Council Contract

| Road No. | Road Name | Activities |
|----------|---|--|
| SH12 | Gwydir (Walgett - Collarenebri-Moree) | Routine patching works and routine inspections, signs, guideposts, litters and debris maintenance- On going |
| SH18 | Castlereagh (Coonamble-Walgett Lightning Ridge) | Routine patching works and routine inspections, signs, guideposts, litters and debris maintenance.- On going |
| SH29 | Kamilaroi (Narrabri-Walgett-Brewarrina) | Routine patching works and routine inspections, signs, guideposts, litters and debris maintenance.- On going |

Regional Roads

| Road No. | Road Name | Activities |
|----------|--|--|
| RR202 | Merri Merri (Carinda - Quambone) | Scheduled to be inspected. |
| RR329 | Merrywinebone (Collarenebri-Burren Junction) | Heavy patching work as well as the routine patching works and routine inspections, signs, guideposts maintenance. New Signs installed. |
| RR333 | Carinda (Carinda-Warren) | Routine patching works and routine inspections, signs, guideposts maintenance done. New Signs installed. |
| RR333 | Cumberdoon Way (Walgett-Carinda) | Flood damage heavy patching work as well as the routine patching works and routine inspections, signs, guideposts maintenance. |
| RR383 | Pilliga (Pilliga-Connamble) | Routine patching works done. |
| RR402 | Gingie (Walgett-Cumborah) | Routine patching works and routine inspections, signs, guideposts maintenance done. |
| RR402 | Llanillo (Cumborah-Lightning Ridge) | Routine patching works and routine inspections, signs, guideposts maintenance done. |
| RR426 | Bill O'Brien Way | Routine inspections done, |
| RR426 | Ridge Road | Maintenance Grading, Routine inspections, signs, guideposts maintenance done. (Completed 1 st August) |
| RR426 | Shermans Way | Routine inspections done, |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

| Road No. | Road Name | Activities |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| RR437 | Bangate (Lightning Ridge-Goodooga) | Scheduled to be inspected. |
| RR457 | Gundabloui (Collarenebri - Mungindi) | Flood damage heavy patching work as well as routine inspections, signs, guideposts maintenance. New Signs installed. |
| RR7516 | Billybingbone (Carinda-Warren) | Maintenance grading, Routine inspections, signs, guideposts maintenance done. (Completed 22 nd July) |
| RR7716 | Come By Chance | Reformation and Maintenance grading, routine inspections, signs, guideposts maintenance done. |

Shire Roads

| Road No. | Road Name | Activities | Comments |
|-----------------|--------------------|---|--|
| SR1 | Franxton Road | Maintenance grading work started. | Council Grader but currently not working |
| SR2 | Bellara Lane | Scheduled to be inspected (Routine inspection programme) | |
| SR3 | Clarkes Lane | Scheduled to be inspected. | |
| SR5 | Cryon Road | Maintenance grading going on. | Work in progress. |
| | | Thalaba Ck(Franxton Bridge) Bridge has 2 holes on the southern approach | Has been scheduled |
| | | SR5 Grawin Bridge-bad holes on the northern approach of the bridge-needs repairs and road hazard sign | Road hazard signs have been put up and scheduled for the maintenance work. |
| | | Grid 1 km from SH12 needs removing | Inspection and site meeting needs to be conducted |
| SR7 | Pampas Road | Maintenance Grading, Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | Grading Completed 3 rd August |
| SR12 | Millie Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR13 | Woodvale Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR14 | Baroona Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR15 | Pokataroo Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR16 | Mercadool Road | Routine Inspection and sign maintenance done. | |
| | | 42 kms from Walgett, there is part of tree stump in the northern wheel truck: | Scheduled for 15 th August 2011 |
| SR17 | Tareela Lane | Routine Inspection and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR19 | Springs Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR21 | Meadow Plains Road | Maintenance Grading, Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | Grading Completed 28 th July |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

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| SR24 | Marlbone Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR25 | Wombo Lane | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR26 | Hardies Lease Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR27 | Colrose Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR28 | Wingadee Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR30 | Nilma Road | Reformation Work Started. | Started 8 th August |
| SR31 | Gungalman Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR32 | Gilwarny Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR33 | Teranyan Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR34 | Bowra Lane | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR38 | Wanourie Creek Road | Scheduled to be inspected. | |
| SR40 | Ginghet Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR41 | Green and Branders Road | Maintenance grading done. | Grading Completed 28 th July |
| SR43 | Bushs Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR45 | Bore Head Road | Water over road. | |
| SR46 | Bonanza Road | Routine Inspection done. | |
| SR47 | Schmalkuche road | Inspection done. | |
| SR48 | Boorooma Creek Road | Routine Inspection done. | |
| SR51 | Millencowbah Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR52 | Willis Road | Maintenance Grading Going on. | Will be finished by 12 th August |
| | | Removal 3 Grids | inspection and meeting with property owner needs to be carried out |
| SR53 | Koomalah Road | Flood damage regarding and re-sheeting work done. | |
| SR55 | Burrnbaa Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR57 | Epping Road | Scheduled to be inspected. | |
| SR58 | Regans Road | Maintenance Grading Done. | Grading Completed 2 nd August |
| SR59 | Moomin Road | Routine inspection on progress . | |
| SR60 | Marra CreekRoad | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR61 | Cambo Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR64 | Wimbledon Road | Scheduled to be inspected. | |
| SR66 | Perrottets Lane | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

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| SR67 | Collarenebri Mission Raod | Routine inspection on progress . | |
| SR68 | Haines Hut Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR69 | Woolaroo Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR70 | Lone Pine Road | Scheduled to be inspected. | |
| SR71 | Rossmore Lane | Maintenance Grading done. | Completed 23 rd July |
| SR72 | Middle Route road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR73 | Miralwyn Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR74 | Lochlomond Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR75 | Gidginbilla Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR76 | Maroubra Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR77 | Nedgara Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR79 | Pagen Creek Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR81 | Mac Masman Road | Maintenance Grading Done. | Grading Completed 5 th August |
| SR82 | Proctors Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR83 | Drilldool Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR84 | Fred Reece Way | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR85 | Tungra Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR86 | Kia-Ora Raod | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR87 | Burren Bore Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR88 | Fabians Road | Flood damage regarding and re-sheeting work done. | |
| SR89 | Belaba Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR90 | Fairview Road | Flood damage works and maintenance grading done. | Completed 21 st July |
| SR91 | Three Mile Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR92 | Strathmore Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR94 | Ivanhoe Crossing | It is not a shire road anymore done. | |
| SR95 | Banarway Crossing Road | Maintenance Grading done. | |
| SR96 | Saleyards Road | Routine Inspections done. | |
| SR98 | Lorne Road | Scheduled to be inspected. | |
| SR101 | Wilby Wilby Road | Routine patching works and routine inspections, signs, guideposts maintenance done. | |
| SR102 | Angledool Road | Flood damage regarding and re-sheeting works done. | |
| SR103 | Bugilbone Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR110 | Kurrajong Road | Reformation Grading Going on. | Started 25 th July |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA

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| SR111 | Narran Lake Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR112 | Brewon Road | Scheduled to be inspected. | |
| SR113 | Binghi Road | Flood damage resheeting and reformation work done. | |
| SR114 | Bogewong road | Flood damage resheeting and reformation work done. | |
| SR115 | Aberfoyle Road | Flood damage resheeting and reformation work done. | |
| SR116 | Goangra Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR117 | Beanbri Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR118 | Yarraldool Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR119 | Hollywood lane | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR121 | Pian Creek Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR122 | Old Burren Road | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR123 | Rowena Road | Routine patching works and routine inspections, signs, guideposts maintenance. | Work in progress |
| | | SR123 at the junction of SR3 there is large road sign missing(for the last 2 years) | |
| SR124 | Dundee Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR125 | Glen Eden Road | Routine inspections and sign maintenance done. | |
| SR126 | Purtles Road | Routine inspection on progress | Grading will be started from 15 th August |
| | | One Grid removal | Inspection and site meeting with property owner needs to be carried out |
| SR127 | Boora Road | Scheduled to be inspected. | |
| SR128 | Camerons Lane | Flood damage works and maintenance grading done. | Completed on 19 th July |
| | | First causeway from SR123 needs re-gravelling | Done on July |
| SR129 | George Sands Way | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR131 | Oneils Road way | Routine inspection on progress | |
| SR5 and SR123 | At T-Intersection of SR5 and SR123 | Parts of old cement culvert-needs removing | Scheduled and Completing on 15 th August 2011 |

Current Position:

SR 45 and SR 101 are still under water. Most of the roads have been graded and programmed for another inspection.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

n/a

Governance issues:

n/a

Environmental issues:

Flood water

Stakeholders:

Council and Users

Financial Implications:

WSC Management plan 2011/2012

Alternative Solutions/Options:

n/a

Conclusion:

2011/2012 Maintenance programme has been placed and works are on progress accordingly.

Monthly Report from Director Engineering Services – August 2011

Recommendation:

1. That Council receive and note the regular monthly Road and Bridge report.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Nil

27. AUSLINK ROADS TO RECOVERY 2011-2012 PROJECTS

REPORTING SECTION: Engineering Services
AUTHOR: Raju Ranjit – Director Engineering Services
FILE NUMBER: 09/1119

Summary:

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of Aus Link Roads to Recovery Projects for 2011/2012. The department of Infrastructure and Transport has approved four projects of total amount \$ 957,000. This report recommends that Council agreed to proceed with the projects identified.

Background:

Council has funding allocation under the Roads to Recovery Program from 1st July 2009 to 30th June 2014. The total allocation is \$ 4,675,507 (\$ 935101 yearly).

Current Position:

2011/2012 funding has currently been allocated as follows:

| Project | Funds | Project Description | Proposed Completion Date |
|---|------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Pagan Creek Bridge located approximately 1.2 km from the Intersection of the Pagan Creek Road and Mercadool Road | \$150,000 | Replacement of the existing timber girder, joists and planks by pre cast concrete slab. | October 2011 subject to Funding |
| Mercadool Road (Rural Road) from start point 0 km to 3 km measured from the intersection of Castlereagh Highway and Mercadool Road | \$ 450,000 | Gravel re- sheeting in 3 km in length x 7 metres width | November 2011 subject to Funding |
| Come By Chance Road (Rural Road), from start point 21 km to 26 km measured from the intersection of Fox Street and Euroka Street. | \$227,000 | Reconstruction and gravel resheeting for approximately 5km in length x 7 metres width x 75 mm thick. | December 2011 subject to Funding |
| Pitt Street between Euroka Street and Neil Street in Walgett | \$130,000 | Reconstruction and seal of existing pavement approximately 370 metres in length x 8 metres width on both sides of the existing central section. | September 2011 subject to Funding |

Projects for 2012/2013 will be determined and submitted in February Council meeting for Council approval prior to submitting to the Department of Infrastructure and Transport.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Department of Infrastructure and Transport - approved work schedule

Governance Issues:

N/A

Environmental Issues:

N/A

Stakeholders:

Walgett Shire community members businesses and organisations with an interest in Walgett Shire Tourism.

Financial Implications:

2011/2012 Management Plan

Alternative Solution/Options

Nil

Conclusion:

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of Aus Link Roads to Recovery Projects for 2011/2012 and for Council to approve the allocation of funds to the specified projects.

Auslink Roads to Recovery 2011-2012 Projects

Recommendation:

1. That Walgett Shire Council endorse the Programme of Works proposed for 2011/2012 and note that the works will only proceed subject to the availability of funding.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Nil

Reports of Committees

Nil

Questions for the next Meeting

Confidential Reports/Closed Council meeting

Nil

Close of Meeting