

# **BUSINESS PAPER**

## **ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL**



Tess Yeomans  
Love Where you Live Photo Comp Junior Winner 2024

**Council Chambers | Walgett Shire Council**  
**77 Fox Street, Walgett**

**On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 at 9.00am**

**Notice is hereby given**, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993, that an Ordinary Meeting of the Walgett Shire Council will be held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday 23 July 2024 commencing at 9.00 am to consider the following business:

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**Megan Dixon**  
General Manager

## 1. MEETING OPEN

## 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

In the spirit of reconciliation Walgett Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country in Walgett Shire and their connections to land, water and community. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

## 3. DECLARATION OF WEBCASTING

I inform all those in attendance at this meeting, that the meeting is being webcast and that those in attendance should refrain from making any defamatory statements concerning any person, Councillor or employee, and refrain from discussing those matters subject to Closed Council proceedings as indicated in clause 14.1 of the code of meeting practice.

It is requested that Councillors within the duration of the Meeting, limit discussions to only the business on the agenda and what is permissible under our Code of Meeting Practice. As stated in the Governance Rules, other than an official Council recording, no video or audio recording of proceedings of Council Meetings will be permitted without specific approval by resolution of the relevant Council Meeting.

## 4. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS PRESENT

### OUR COUNCILLORS

Mayor Jasen Ramien  
Deputy Mayor Colin Hundy  
Councillor Sue Currey  
Councillor Greg Rummary  
Councillor Michael Cooke  
Councillor Daniel Walford  
Councillor Ian Woodcock OAM  
Councillor Jane Keir OAM  
Councillor Alf Seaton

### STAFF

General Manager  
Director Infrastructure and Compliance  
Financial Officer  
Minute Taker

Megan Dixon  
Kazi Mahmud Chief  
Ernest Mhande  
Sherisse Fensom

## 5. APOLOGIES

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### RECOMMENDATION:

That the apologies from \_\_\_\_\_ be accepted.

Moved

Seconded

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## 6. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

### Ethical Decision Making and Conflicts of Interest

*A guiding checklist for Councillors, officers and community committees*

#### Oath or Affirmation of Office

Councillors are reminded of the Oath or Affirmation taken of office, made under section 233A of the Local Government Act 1993 when elected.

#### Ethical decision making

- Is the decision or conduct legal?
- Is it consistent with Government policy, Council's objectives and Code of Conduct?
- What will the outcome be for you, your colleagues, the Council, anyone else?
- Does it raise a conflict of interest?
- Do you stand to gain personally at public expense?
- Can the decision be justified in terms of public interest?
- Would it withstand public scrutiny

#### Conflict of interest

A conflict of interest is a clash between private interest and public duty. The test for conflict of interest:

- Is it likely I could be influenced by personal interest in carrying out my public duty?
- Would a fair and reasonable person believe I could be so influenced?
- Conflict of interest is closely tied to the layperson's definition of 'corruption' – using public office for private gain.
- Important to consider public perceptions of whether you have a conflict of interest.

#### There are two types of conflict:

**Pecuniary** – regulated by the Local Government Act 1993 and Office of Local Government. A person with a pecuniary interest should at least disclose and not vote, but it would also in these cases be appropriate to leave the chamber.

**Non-pecuniary** – regulated by Codes of Conduct and policy. ICAC, Ombudsman, Office of Local Government (advice only). If declaring a Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest, a person with a non-pecuniary interest can choose to either disclose and vote, disclose, and not vote or leave the Chamber.

#### *Local Government Act 1993 and Model Code of Conduct*

For more detailed definitions refer to the Local Government Act 1993, Chapter 14 Honesty and Disclosure of Interest and adopted Code of Conduct.

#### Identifying problems

- 1) Do I have private interests affected by a matter I am officially involved in?
- 2) Is my official role one of influence or perceived influence over the matter?
- 3) Do my private interests' conflict with my official role?

#### Disclosure of pecuniary interests / non-pecuniary interests

Under the provisions of Section 440AAA(3) of the Local Government Act 1993 (pecuniary interests) and the Model Code of Conduct it is necessary for you to disclose the nature of the interest when making a disclosure of a pecuniary interest or a non-pecuniary conflict of interest at a meeting.

**A Declaration form should be completed and handed to the General Manager** as soon as practicable once the interest is identified. Declarations are made at Item 4 of the Agenda: Declarations of Interest - Pecuniary, Non-Pecuniary and Political Donation Disclosures, and prior to each Item being discussed.

*Councillors must state their reasons in declaring any type of interest.*

COUNCILLOR	ITEM NUMBER	PECUNIARY/NON-PECUNIARY	REASON FOR THE DECLARATION

## 7. PUBLIC FORUM

The Council may hold a public forum prior to each Ordinary Meeting of the Council for the purpose of hearing oral submissions from members of the public on items of business to be considered at the meeting (listed on the Agenda).

Public forums are to be chaired by the Mayor or their nominee.

A person may apply to speak on no more than 1 item of business on the agenda of the Council Meeting.

No more than two (2) speakers are to be permitted to speak 'for' or 'against' each item of business on the agenda for the council meeting.

Each speaker will be allowed three (3) minutes to address the council. This time is to be strictly enforced by the chairperson.

Approved speakers at the public forum are to register with the council any written, visual or audio material to be presented in support of their address to the council at the public forum, and to identify any equipment needs no more than one (1) day before the public forum. The general manager or their delegate may refuse to allow such material to be presented.

For further information about the conduct of public forums, refer to [Walgett Shire Council Code of Meeting Practice](#), item 4: Public Forums.

Speaker	Topic

## **8. ADOPTION AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

### **8.1 MINUTES ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 JUNE 2024**

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#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the minutes from the Ordinary meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024 having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of this meeting.

**Moved**

**Seconded**

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#### **Attachments**

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held 25 June 2024

# MEETING MINUTES

## ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL



Rowena Cracker Night 2022– David Glazebrook

**Council Chambers | Walgett Shire Council**  
**77 Fox Street, Walgett**

**Held Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 9.00am**



*The Deputy Mayor declared the meeting open at 9.05am*

**PRESENT**

Deputy Mayor Colin Hundy  
Councillor Jane Keir  
Councillor Daniel Walford  
Councillor Greg Rummery  
Councillor Michael Cooke  
Councillor Ian Woodcock  
Councillor Alf Seaton

Megan Dixon (General Manager)  
Kazi Mahmud (Director Infrastructure and Compliance)  
Sharon Smith (Minute Secretary)

**ABSENT**

Mayor Jasen Ramien  
Councillor Sue Currey

Public Attendance: 0

*The Deputy Mayor acknowledged the traditional owners of the lands within the Walgett Shire and acknowledged the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who now reside within this Shire.*

**07/2024/01 LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**RESOLVED on MOTION** by Councillor Cooke; Seconded by Councillor Walford; That Council grant the leave of absences for Mayor Jasen Ramien and Councillor Currey for 25 June 2024 Ordinary Business Meeting.

**DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY/NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Councillor Jane Keir	12.2.3	Pecuniary	Family Business
Councillor Michael Cooke	12.1.1	Non Pecuniary	Board Member of LRMA

**6. Public Forum**

The Council reports having met with the following persons during Public Forum:  
NIL

**07/2024/02 ADOPTION AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor RUMMERY; Seconded by Councillor SEATON that the minutes from the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> May 2024 having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of this meeting.

**07/2024/03 ADOPTION AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LOCAL AREA TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 5 JUNE 2024**

**RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor KEIR; Seconded by Councillor RUMREY That the minutes from the Local Area Traffic Committee Meeting held on the 5 June 2024 having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of this meeting.

**06/2024/04 ADOPTION AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION OF NSW HELD 10 MAY 2024**

**RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor RUMMERY; Seconded by Councillor SEATON That the minutes from the Country Mayors Association of NSW held 10 May 2024 having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of this meeting.



**07/2024/05 MAYORAL MONTHLY REPORT**

**RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor KEIR; Seconded by Councillor COOKE That the Mayoral Report for June 2024 be received and noted.

**07/2024/06 CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS**

**RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor KEIR; Seconded by Councillor RUMMERY That Correspondence Barwon Group CWA Secretary be received and noted.

**07/2024/07 MATTERS IN PROGRESS**

**RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor SEATON; Seconded by Councillor WOODCOCK That the Matters in Progress up until June 2024 be received and noted.

**07/2024/08 IMPORTANT DATES – UPCOMING MEETING AND EVENTS**

**RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor RUMMERY; Seconded by Councillor SEATON That Council receive and note the list of upcoming meetings and events

**07/2024/09 CIRCULARS RECEIVED FROM NSW OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor KEIR; Seconded by Councillor COOKE That the information contained in the following Department circular 24-06 to 24-09 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet, be received and noted.

**07/2024/10 CASH AND INVESTMENT FOR MAY 2024**

**RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor RUMMERY; Seconded by Councillor WALFORD That the Investment report be received and noted.

**07/2024/11 OUTSTANDING RATES AND CHARGES AS AT 31 MAY 2024**

**RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor KEIR; Seconded by Councillor SEATON The May 2024 Outstanding Rates & Charges Report be received and noted.

**07/2024/12 DICK COLLESS SCHOLARSHIP**

**RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor KEIR; Seconded by Councillor RUMMERY That Council adopt the following recommendations for the award of the 2024 scholarships in equal parts to the following:

Beatrice Thwaites	Bachelor of Environmental Sciences	\$1428
Erin Tym	Certificate III in Electrotechnology	\$1428
Georgia Hiscox	Bachelor of Education (K-6)	\$1428
Jack Witts	Certificate III Engineering and Fabrication	\$1428
Billy Witts	Certificate III Engineering and Fabrication	\$1428
Nicholas Tedim	Bachelor of Paramedicine	\$1428
Clancy Barry	Certificate IV in Vet Nursing	\$1428
<u>The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED</u>		

**MOTION****ALCOHOL FREE ZONES IN THE WALGETT SHIRE**

**RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor WOODCOCK; Seconded by Councillor COOKE That the Council adopt the Alcohol-Free Zones in the Walgett Shire Local Government Area in the locations of Walgett, Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri for a four-year period, effective 1 July 2024.

**AMENDMENT****07/2024/13 ALCOHOL FREE ZONES IN THE WALGETT SHIRE**

**MOTION MOVED** by Councillor COOKE; Seconded by Councillor SEATON That the Council adopt the Alcohol-Free Zones in the Walgett Shire Local Government Area in the locations of Walgett, Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri noting that the Cemeteries be excluded from the Alcohol Free Zoning for a four-year period, effective 1 August 2024.

A **DIVISION** was called by Councillor Hundy

**For**

Councillor Woodcock  
Councillor Cooke  
Councillor Seaton  
Councillor Walford

**Against**

Councillor Keir  
Councillor Rummery

The amendment upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED 4/2

**07/2024/14 DRAFT CEMETERY POLICY AND MODIFICATION OF NEWLY PROPOSED NON-DENOMINATIONAL BEAM SECTION**

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor KEIR; Seconded by Councillor WOODCOCK  
That Council adopt the attached Draft Cemetery Policy and Newly Proposed Non-Denominational Beam Section with minor amendments based on public exhibition submissions.

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

**07/2024/15 LIGHTNING RIDGE SCULPTURE ACQUISITION "STANLEY"**

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WOODCOCK; Seconded by Councillor WALFORD  
That Council approve and take ownership of the Western Lands Lease for the sculpture "Stanley" from the Lightning Ridge Tourism Association.

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

**07/2024/16 COUNCIL PROJECTS UPDATE JUNE 2024**

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WOODCOCK; Seconded by Councillor COOKE  
That the Council projects list be received and noted.

**07/2024/17 COUNCILLOR FEES, LOCAL GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL**

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor SEATON; Seconded by Councillor COOKE  
That Council apply a 3.75% increase to Mayoral and Councillor fees, effective 1 July 2024.

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

**07/2024/18 CROWN LAND MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR COMMUNITY LAND WITHIN WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL**

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WOODCOCK; Seconded by Councillor KEIR That Council advertise the draft Crown Land Plan of Management inviting written public submissions and comments up until 4.00 pm Friday 26 July 2024.

**07/2024/19 MATTERS GENERALLY FOR BRIEF MENTION OR INFORMATION FROM ACTING MANAGER COMPLIANCE**

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; Seconded by Councillor COOKE That the Council receive and note this report.

**07/2024/20 DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS MAY 2024**

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor KEIR; Seconded by Councillor RUMMERY  
That Council receive and note this report

*At 10.23 am Councillor Keir declared a pecuniary interest and exited the Council Chamber.*

**07/2024/21 WORKS UPDATE**

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; Seconded by Councillor WOODCOCK  
That Council receive and acknowledge the report.

*At 10.26am Councillor Keir returned to the meeting.*

**07/2024/22 INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT PROGRESS REPORT**

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WALFORD; Seconded by Councillor RUMMERY  
That Council receive and note the Infrastructure Services monthly works services report for May

2024.

**07/2024/23 ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT PROGRESS REPORT**

**RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor WOOD; Seconded by Councillor RUMMERY  
That Council receive and note the Engineering Department Progress Report for May 2024.

**07/2024/24 MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION**

**RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor KEIR; Seconded by Councillor COOKE at 10.37am  
That the public be excluded from the meeting pursuant to Sections 10A (1) (a) (b) & (2) (a) (b) & (c) the Local Government Act 1993 on the basis that the items deal with:

- 1) A council, or a committee of the council of which all the members are councillors, may close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises--
  - a) the discussion of any of the matters listed in subclause (2), or
  - b) the receipt or discussion of any of the information so listed.
- 2) The matters and information are the following--
  - a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors),
  - b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer,
  - c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business,

*Deputy Mayor Hundy declared a short break commencing at 10.37am*

*Council reconvened at 11.03am*

**07/2024/25 REGIONAL PROCUREMENT TENDER PROPOSAL**

**RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor WOODCOCK; Seconded by Councillor RUMMERY

That Council Acknowledge the report and endorse the following tenders for use,

1) That the following tenderers representing best value: Go Traffic Pty Ltd, Golding Lane Pty Ltd t/a GoldLane Traffic Management, Lack Group, Traffic Pty Ltd, Aristocrat Australia Pty Ltd t/a National Traffic Australia, Northwest Traffic Management Pty Ltd, Platinum Traffic Services Pty Ltd, Workcontrol Operations Pty Ltd be awarded this contract as the panel source suppliers to Walgett Shire Council for the period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2025, and

2) That Tyres4U Pty Limited t/a Tyres4U be awarded this contract as the single source supplier to Walgett Shire Council for the period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2025, and

3) That the following tenderers representing best value: Downer EDI Works Pty Ltd and Fulton Hogan Industries Pty Ltd be awarded this contract as the panel source suppliers to Walgett Shire Council for the period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2025, and

4) That the following tenderers representing best value: ACT Linemarking Pty Ltd, Central West Linemarking Pty Ltd t/a Central West Linemarking, Capital Lines & Signs Pty Ltd, Complete Linemarking Services Pty Ltd, OZ Linemarking NSW Pty Ltd, Stelcorp Pty Ltd t/a Total Linemarking Resources, Jenalad Pty Ltd t/a Whiteline Road Services be awarded this contract as the panel source suppliers to Walgett Shire Council for the period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2025, and

5) That a provision be allowed for a 12-month extension based on satisfactory supplier performance, which may take these contracts through to 31 December 2026.

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

**07/2024/26 MINERAL LEASE RATES WRITE OFF**

**RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor WOODCOCK; Seconded by Councillor COOKE

That rates levied on expired Mineral Leases as per attachment totalling \$64,415.72 be written off.

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

**07/2024/27 WALGETT TOWNSHIP HEAVY VEHICLE BYPASS****RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor KEIR; Seconded by Councillor RUMMERY

That Council allocate a budget \$250,000 from Council's annual allocation on roads infrastructure out of revenue funded stream, for the investigation and development of design for a heavy vehicle bypass of the Walgett Township

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

**07/2024/28 WALGETT SWIMMING POOL REDEVELOPMENT****RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor KEIR; Seconded by Councillor RUMMERY

1. That the information in the report be noted.
2. That Council nominate 3 Councillors to participate in the project reference group for the project – these Councillors being Councillor Keir, Councillor Rummery & Councillor WALFORD

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

**07/2024/29 RETURN TO OPEN SESSION****RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor KEIR; Seconded by Councillor RUMMERY

That Council return to open session at 11.34am.

**07/2024/30 ADOPTION OF CLOSED SESSION REPORTS****RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor WOODCOCK; Seconded by Councillor RUMMERY That Council adopt the recommendations of the Closed Committee Reports as follows:

- 15.1.1 Regional Procurement Tender Proposal
- 15.1.2 Mineral Lease Rates Write Off
- 15.1.3 Walgett Township Heavy Vehicle Bypass
- 15.1.4 Walgett Swimming Pool Redevelopment

**CLOSE OF MEETING 11.35am**

The minutes of this meeting are scheduled to be confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on 23 July 2024.

## 8.2 MINUTES EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 3 JULY 2024

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### RECOMMENDATION:

That the minutes from the Extraordinary meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of this meeting.

Moved

Seconded

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### Attachments:

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held 3 July 2024



MINUTES  
COUNCIL  
EXTRAORDINARY  
MEETING

**Wednesday 3 July 2024**

Megan Dixon  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

**MEETING OPEN**

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9:09 AM

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Mayor acknowledged the traditional owners of the lands within the Walgett Shire and acknowledged the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who now reside within the Shire.

**INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS PRESENT****COUNCILLORS:**

Mayor Jasen Ramien  
Deputy Mayor Colin Hundy  
Councillor Greg Rummery  
Councillor Michael Cooke  
Councillor Ian Woodcock  
Councillor Sue Currey  
Councillor Alf Seaton  
Councillor Daniel Walford

**STAFF:**

Megan Dixon (General Manager)  
Ernest Mhande (CFO)  
Seema Dutt (Finance Manager)  
John Van Gaalen (Finance Advisor - Previously Finance Manager)  
Kazi Mahmud (Director Infrastructure and Compliance)  
Sherisse Fensom (Executive Officer) Minute Secretary)

**08/2024/01 APOLOGIES**

**RESOLVED on MOTION** by Councillor **RUMMERY**; Seconded by Councillor **CURREY** That Council grant the leave of absences for Councillor KEIR for Wednesday 3 July 2024 Extraordinary Council Meeting.

**DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY/NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Councillor	Item Number	Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary	Reason
Ramien	11.1.1	Pecuniary	Family-owned business submitted a contract pricing proposal for that job.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Pauline Kearl – Discussion on Item 9.1.1 - speaking on her submission on the budget

**08/2024/02**

**MOTION RAISED** by Councillor **HUNDY**; Second by Councillor **COOKE**; that a 4<sup>th</sup> quarterly budget to be presented to Council by October each year.

**ALL IN FAVOUR – MOTION CARRIED**

**08/2024/03 2024/25 ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN AND BUDGET**

**RESOLVED on MOTION** by Councillor **HUNDY**; Seconded by Councillor **COOKE**;

1. That Council having considered submissions from the community, up until 25 June 2024 adopts: a. the 2024/25 Operational Plan and budget b. the 2024/25 fees and charges, with the Council reserving the right to vary fees and charges of a commercial or legislative nature as circumstances may require and c. that Council endorses the long-term financial plan, as presented.



2. That Council formally thank those people and organisations that made submissions on the documents and advise them of the decisions of Council with regard to issues raised.

**An amendment was moved as follows:**

**RESOLVED on MOTION** by Councillor **RUMMERY**; Seconded by Councillor **CURREY**;

3. Staff to bring a detailed report to Council on the JS&JL Dowling Brown Water fees and charges.

The amendment being PUT to the MEETING was declared **CARRIED**

**08/2024/04 MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR 2024/2025**

**RESOLVED on MOTION** by Councillor **HUNDY**; Seconded by Councillor **COOKE**;

1. That Council adopt option B of the proposed rates structure of 2024/2025
2. That Council adopt all the recommended charges for water, sewer and waste

**CARRIED**

**08/2024/05 MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION**

**RESOLVED on MOTION** by Councillor **HUNDY** Seconded by Councillor **RUMMERY** at 10.34 am

That the public be excluded from the meeting pursuant to Sections 10A (1) (a) (b) & (2) (c) the Local Government Act 1993 on the basis that the items deal with:

1. A council, or a committee of the council of which all the members are councillors, may close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises--
  - a. the discussion of any of the matters listed in subclause (2), or
  - b. the receipt or discussion of any of the information so listed.
2. The matters and information are the following--
  - c. information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

**08/2024/06 CRYON ROAD UPGRADE PROJECT: SELECTION OF CONTRACTOR**

**RESOLVED on MOTION** by Councillor **RUMMERY**; Seconded by Councillor **COOKE**; that Council decline all tenders and return the funding to the funder.

All in favour

The Amendment then became the Motion and on being put to the Vote was declared carried.

**07/2024/07 RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

**RESOLVED on MOTION** by Councillor **RUMMERY** Seconded by Councillor **COOKE**

That Council return to open session at 11.05 am

**07/2024/07 ADOPTION OF CLOSED SESSION REPORTS**

**RESOLVED on MOTION** by Councillor **RUMMERY** Seconded by Councillor **COOKE**

That Council adopt the recommendations of the Closed Committee Reports.

*Mayor Ramien returned to the meeting at 11:07am and resumed the chair.*

***With no further business the meeting was closed by Mayor Ramien at 11:08 am***

*Minutes to be confirmed at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 23 July 2024*

.....  
**CHAIRPERSON**

.....  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

## **9. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE/DELEGATES**

There are no reports of committees or delegates submitted for this meeting.

## **10. MAYORAL MINUTE**

Nil at time of writing.

## 11. MAYORAL MONTHLY REPORT JULY 2024

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** Office of Mayor  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Jasen Ramien  
**FILE NUMBER:** 24/9/0154  
**PURPOSE:** For Noting

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### RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Mayoral report for July 2024.

**Moved**

**Seconded**

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#### Summary:

This report provides Council with information regarding the activities of the Mayor over the month of July.

#### **27<sup>th</sup> June 2024 – Meeting with Minister for Lands and Property and Minister for Sport, The Hon Steve Kamper, MP - Walgett Pool Funding Announcement**

This was a great day for Walgett as we welcomed Minister Steve Kamper to announce a substantial \$250,000 funding for the Walgett Memorial Swimming Pool.

With these funds, we can now initiate the design and planning phases for a new pool. This is truly great news for Walgett and I would like to acknowledge the NSW Government and Minister Kamper for their support and contributions to this important community asset. I would also like to thank the Walgett community for championing for their pool.



Mayor Ramien, Roy Butler MP, Minister Kamper, Megan Dixon GM

#### **Preliminary Discussions re Crown Lands**

Following the public announcement regarding the pool funding, the General Manager and I met with the Minister, Roy Butler Member for Barwon and their teams to flag issues regarding the interactions between Crown Lands and Mining Exploration and Geosciences and Council, and the unrealistic expectations made of Council for place management, including roads development and maintenance. The Minister agreed that he would support the brokering of a meeting between the three organisations to resolve management issues and responsibilities.

#### **8<sup>th</sup> July 2024 – NAIDOC Opening Ceremony**

I attended the 2024 NAIDOC Day celebrations in Walgett, themed "Blak, Loud and Proud," which is an unapologetic celebration of Indigenous identity, empowering us to stand tall in our heritage and assert our place in the modern world.

The event saw a strong turnout and enthusiastic support from our community, highlighting the unity and pride we share. It was inspiring to witness the vibrant expressions of art, music, and dance, as well as the powerful stories and speeches that reinforced the importance of our traditions and history. This celebration not only honoured the past but also invigorated our commitment to a future where Indigenous voices are heard and respected.



#### **11<sup>th</sup> July 2024 – Meeting with Minister for Regional Transport and Roads the Hon Jenny Aitchison, MP**

On the 11 July 2024, with the General Manager and Manager of Roads Infrastructure, I met with the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads in Collarenebri. The Minister was undertaking a regional road tour.

During the visit, the Minister announced a new bus service for Collarenebri that will provide a connection between Collarenebri and Moree and Collarenebri and Walgett.

Council used the opportunity to show the Minister the new Artesian Springs development at Collarenebri, which we expect will trigger additional traffic between Collarenebri and Narrabri, Moree and Walgett and Lightning Ridge. We then took the Minister on the Gundabloui Road to show her the remaining unsealed section and then showed her the start of the unsealed section of road from Collarenebri and Lightning Ridge.

We also discussed with the Minister the following matters:

- the Come By Chance Road, and that we were still waiting for a resolution from Restart NSW regarding a funding variation (note, we received correspondence from the Restart team, the day after the Minister's visit);
  - Roads funding generally;
  - The decision by Council to not proceed with the Cryon Road project and return funding.
- On this matter the Minister indicated that she was prepared to support an application for a time extension on the funding, if Council was prepared to deliver the project using our own resources and local contractors.**

During the visit, the General Manager also discussed with Acting Regional Director West, Community & Place, Regional and Outer Metropolitan, Transport for NSW, the planning application that is under assessment for GrainPro at Burren Junction. The Regional Director agreed to the importance of the

project and to assist Council in expediting Transport for NSW response to the applicant regarding their concerns with the development application.



**18<sup>th</sup> July 2024 – CAG in Bourke**

Further information will be tabled at the meeting.

**Upcoming:**

**26<sup>th</sup> July 2024 – Border Regional Organisation of Councils, being hosted by Walgett Shire Council, in Walgett.**

**Attachment :** Media Release NSW Government comes to the Walgett Pool Party





# NSW Government comes to the Walgett pool party

[nsw.gov.au/media-releases/nsw-government-comes-to-walgett-pool-party](https://nsw.gov.au/media-releases/nsw-government-comes-to-walgett-pool-party) Printed: 28 June 2024

Published: 28 June 2024

Released by: Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, Minister for Sport

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The starter's gun has been fired on the redevelopment of Walgett Memorial Swimming Pool after the NSW Government announced it would provide \$250,000 towards planning and design work for a new facility.

Minister for Sport Steve Kamper announced the funding when he met with Walgett Shire Council General Manager Megan Dixon, Mayor Councillor Jasen Ramien and local pool users today.

The funding will be used to conduct a needs analysis, site assessment, options development, feasibility, business and funding plan as well as detailed design and planning approvals.

Walgett Memorial Swimming Pool, which was built in the 1960's, is reaching the end of its life cycle and has been identified by Council as in need of redevelopment.

At the completion of these works, Walgett Shire Council will be in the position to seek additional funding for the redevelopment of the pool under its Outback Aquatic Revamp project.

## **Minister for Sport Steve Kamper said:**

"Swimming pools in regional NSW are like an oasis that bring communities together.

"Walgett Memorial Pool is a great example of this and the groups that use the pool for fun, fitness and water safety, including Walgett Swimming Club, Walgett Learn to Swim and Walgett Water Safety can testify to the sense of community it creates.

"The NSW Government is excited to contribute to the Walgett Olympic Pool Outback Aquatic Revamp project and look forward to the future plans for the facility."

## **Member for Barwon, Roy Butler said:**

"The announcement of the \$250,000 for Walgett Memorial Swimming Pool is an acknowledgement by the NSW government of the importance of pools in regional communities."

"More than just infrastructure, pools provide an environment that helps to build cohesive and social networks. They also offer the added benefits of fitness, safety, and relief from very high summer

temperatures. The community of Walgett and I welcome this news."

**Walgett Shire Council's Mayor Jasen Ramien said:**

"A massive thank you to the NSW Government and Minister Kamper for recognising the importance of the Walgett Pool to our community.

"With summer temperatures reaching up to the high 40s, the pool is essential for keeping everyone cool and safe.

"We are excited to begin the first steps in ensuring that Walgett residents and visitors have a space that not only offers relief from the heat, but promotes fitness, water safety and a sense of community."

**President of the Walgett Amateur Swim Club, Kate Murray said:**

"This news is welcomed by the Walgett Area Swimming Club and the entire community of Walgett.

"The Walgett Swimming Pool brings together our whole community over an entire 6 months of the year. It is the beating heart over the warmer months, providing a welcome space for fun, laughter and connection.

"Importantly, it also provides the opportunity for the ongoing training of survival and swimming techniques for the children of our region, which is so essential in the country we live in."



## 12. CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS

### 12.1 FAR NORTH WEST JOINT ORGANISATION REGIONAL DROUGHT RESILIENCE PLAN

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** General Manager  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Executive Officer  
**FILE NUMBER:** 24/9/0162  
**PURPOSE:** For Decision

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#### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council adopted the Far North West Joint Organisation Regional Drought Resilience Plan.**

**Moved**

**Seconded**

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#### Summary

The Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program involves the Bourke, Brewarrina, Cobar, and Walgett Shire Councils. This program is designed to help local governments and their communities better prepare for, respond to, endure, thrive during, and recover from drought conditions.

#### Background

The Far Northwest Joint Organisation (FNWJO), representing the Bourke, Cobar, and Walgett Shire Councils, successfully applied to develop a Regional Drought Resilience Plan on behalf of seven councils: Bogan, Bourke, Brewarrina, Cobar, Coonamble, Walgett, and Warren Shires.

The Regional Drought Resilience Plan (RDR Plan) focuses on the Functional Economic Region of the Bourke, Brewarrina, Cobar, and Walgett Shires, collectively known as the Far Northwest Region. The Plan was co-designed with these councils and their communities.

#### Current Position

The Far Northwest RDR Plan has been developed in accordance with the guidelines set within the NSW Government Regional Drought Resilience Program. Through co-design, knowledge sharing, and strategic action, with key stakeholders and the voices and experiences of the region's people,

#### Relevant Reference Documents/Polices

Attachment 1 – Far North West Region Drought Resilience Plan

#### Stakeholders

Walgett Shire Council  
Far North West Joint Organisation  
Brewarrina Shire Council  
Bourke Shire Council  
Cobar Shire Council  
Community Members across these Local Government Areas  
Local Organisations and Businesses across these Local Government Areas

#### Conclusion

The Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program is a proactive initiative that brings together seven councils to create a comprehensive strategy for drought resilience. Through collaborative efforts, the plan leverages past experiences and community engagement to develop tailored solutions that address the unique needs of the Far Northwest Region.

#### Attachments

Attachment 1 – Far North West Region Drought Resilience Plan

## 12.2 MINISTERIAL STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS ORDER

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** General Manager  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Executive Officer  
**FILE NUMBER:** 24/9/0163  
**PURPOSE:** For Noting

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### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council receive and note the Ministerial Statement of Expectations Order**

**Moved**

**Seconded**

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### Summary

This report outlines the NSW Government's immediate actions to fulfill its commitment under the National Housing Accord, which aims to build 377,000 new homes by June 2029. The program emphasises the critical role of local governments in housing development, addresses current challenges, and introduces measures to improve development application (DA) timeframes.

### Background

The Hon Paul Scully MP, Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, has issued an updated Ministerial Statement of Expectations to improve council performance in development assessment, planning proposals, and strategic planning. Over the past two years, average council DA timeframes have increased by 37 percent, contributing to delays in housing completions and costing the NSW economy significantly.

### Current Position

Local governments assess approximately 85 percent of housing development applications in NSW. The recent increase in DA timeframes necessitates immediate action to meet housing targets. The updated Statement of Expectations sets out clear performance metrics and introduces initiatives to support councils in achieving these targets. The NSW Government is also developing a program to support councils in achieving local housing targets and reducing average DA timeframes.

### Relevant Reference Documents/Policies

Ministerial Statement of Expectations Order

### Stakeholders

NSW Government  
NSW Councils  
Department of Planning, Housing, and Infrastructure  
Community members and organisations  
Housing developers and industry professionals

### Conclusion

The updated Ministerial Statement of Expectations and associated support programs are critical steps towards addressing the housing crisis in NSW. By enhancing the efficiency of the development assessment process and supporting local councils, the NSW Government aims to significantly reduce DA timeframes and meet the National Housing Accord commitments. Collaboration across all levels of government and stakeholders is essential to achieve these goals and deliver more housing for communities.

### Attachment

Ministerial Statement of Expectations Order

**The Hon Paul Scully MP**

Minister for Planning and Public Spaces



Ref: IRF24/1443

**Mayor**  
**Walgett Shire Council**  
**77 Fox Street**  
**Walgett NSW 2832**

Dear Mayor

As you are aware, the NSW Government is taking immediate action to meet our commitment under the National Housing Accord to build 377,000 new well-located homes by June 2029 to help address the housing crisis.

Local government are a critical enabler of housing, assessing about 85 per cent of housing development applications (DA) in NSW. However, over the past two years, average council DA timeframes have increased by 37 per cent, from 83 in FY21/22 to 114 days in FY23/24, which is contributing to the delays in housing completions and costing the NSW economy at least \$89 million each year.

In line with the beginning of the National Housing Accord, and our shared commitment to addressing the housing crisis, I am providing an updated Ministerial Statement of Expectations Order [planning.nsw.gov.au/statement-of-expectations-order](https://planning.nsw.gov.au/statement-of-expectations-order).

This new Statement of Expectations sets out expectations for council performance in the areas of development assessment, planning proposals and strategic planning. The performance of councils in meeting this Statement of Expectations will be monitored and reported publicly, as will the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure's timeframes for approval of planning proposals and state significant development.

Addressing the housing crisis is a shared responsibility, and all levels of government must do more.

The Government is also developing a program to support councils achieve local housing targets, reduce average DA timeframes and deliver more homes. We have started this through initiatives funding cadetships for planners in councils and opening a new TAFE course for para-planning. We've completed substantial work on the NSW Planning Portal and are introducing artificial intelligence to support further efficiencies in the local DA process and timely decision-making.

The attached document outlines the key performance metrics within the Statement of Expectations and the associated infrastructure grant funding program. Additional initiatives to support councils achieve faster assessments will be announced in the coming months to help local and State government deliver approvals and particularly homes more effectively.

With these measures, I am confident that councils in NSW can achieve a significant reduction in average DA timeframes and meet our Housing Accord commitments.

I appreciate your leadership and support for this critical work in the spirit of shared responsibility that underpins the National Housing Accord and I look forward to working with you and all councils across New South Wales to deliver more housing for our communities.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Paul Scully". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Paul Scully MP**

Minister for Planning and Public Spaces

03/07/2024

## Attachment A

This Attachment provides an overview of the initial programs the NSW Government is proposing to support councils in determining more housing-related planning matters during the period of the National Housing Accord. More details of these programs and initiatives will be released in the coming months.

### Updated Statement of Ministerial Expectations

- The Ministerial Statement of Expectations establishes the planning-related expectations of the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces in terms of planning assessment performance. The updated Statement includes the expectation for councils to:
  - lodge DAs as soon as practical and within an average of:
    - 14 days from submission, from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025
    - 7 days from submission, from 1 July 2025 onwards
  - determine DAs as soon as practical and whichever is the lesser of council's previous financial year average, or an average of:
    - 115 days from lodgement, from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025
    - 105 days from lodgement, from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026
    - 95 days from lodgement, from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027
    - 85 days from lodgement, from 1 July 2027 onwards
  - assess Regionally Significant DAs and refer them to the relevant planning panel for determination as soon as practical and within an average of 250 days from lodgement.

### Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure Performance

- To assist with delivering major housing projects, the Department will be required to determine State Significant DAs for infill affordable housing and housing in transport-oriented development precincts within an average of 275 days from lodgement.
- As per the LEP Making Guidelines (August 2023) the Department must collaborate with councils to finalise planning proposals in 140 business days for basic proposals, 225 business days for standard proposals, 300 business days for complex proposals, and 380 business days for principal proposals.

### Resourcing and financial incentives

- The Department will establish a new \$200 million grant program that provides milestone payments to councils based on their performance in meeting the Statement of Expectations. These grants will be for use in improving critical local infrastructure.

- The Department has made \$5.6 million worth of funding for grants to councils to integrate AI and other digital solutions into the development assessment process.
- The Department is working with industry, local government and the private sector to support a skilled planning workforce through the Strong Start mentoring program as well as a new TAFE pathway into the planning profession.

**12.3 CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL CONTRIBUTIONS**

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** General Manager  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Executive Officer  
**FILE NUMBER:** 24/9/0164  
**PURPOSE:** For Noting

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council receive and note the correspondence regarding contributions from the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council**

**Moved****Seconded**

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**Summary**

This report advises that the annual Constituent Council Contribution to the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council (CMCC) for 2024/2025 will be \$123,371 being a 4.70% increase on the previous year's contribution in accordance with IPART Rate Peg of 4.70% for 2024/2025.

**Background**

The annual contribution is levied upon all CMCC constituent member Council's and is applied to the operations of CMCC as detailed in the Long-term Financial Plan

**Relevant Reference Documents/Policies**

Biosecurity Act 2015

Local Government Act 1993

**Stakeholders**

Walgett Shire Council

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

**Conclusion**

Tax invoices for the contributions will be issued in December 2024.

**Attachment**

CMCC Constituent Council Contribution Correspondence



## Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

55 Fox Street  
PO Box 664  
WALGETT NSW 2832



cmcc@cmcc.nsw.gov.au  
ABN: 89 539 779 958

13 June 2024

Ms Megan Dixon  
General Manager  
Walgett Shire Council  
77 Fox Street  
WALGETT NSW 2832

Dear Megan,

**Re: CMCC Constituent Council Contributions**

Council wishes to advise the annual Constituent Council contribution for 2024/25 will be \$123,371 being a 4.70% increase on the previous years contribution in accordance with IPART Rate Peg of 4.70% for 2024/25.

Tax invoices for constituent council contributions for 2024-2025 will be issued in December 2024.

Should you require any further information or wish to discuss this matter please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned on 0448 050 563.

Kind Regards



Michael Urquhart  
General Manager  
Castlereagh Macquarie County Council  
Email: [murquhart@cmcc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:murquhart@cmcc.nsw.gov.au)

## 13. ADVOCACIES

### 13.1 NETWASTE

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** General Manager  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Executive Officer  
**FILE NUMBER:** 24/9/0165  
**PURPOSE:** For Noting

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#### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council receive and note the submission from NetWaste**

**Moved**

**Seconded**

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#### Summary

NetWaste has reached out to 25 NetWaste Councils against the proposed extension of the NSW EPA waste levy to include their regions. The attached document emphasises the detrimental impacts of the levy on waste management and community wellbeing, and presents recommendations for alternative approaches to achieve waste management and circular economy goals.

#### Background

NetWaste is a collective of 25 councils in NSW, working together to improve waste management and promote sustainable practices. In November 2023, during initial consultations with the EPA, NetWaste Councils collectively expressed their strong opposition to the extension of the NSW EPA waste levy to their regions. The councils highlighted the potential negative consequences of such a move, including increased costs, illegal dumping, and minimal impact on resource recovery.

#### Current Position

NetWaste firmly oppose the introduction of the NSW EPA waste levy to their active regions. They argue that the levy would merely serve as a cost-shifting exercise by the NSW Government, leading to increased living costs, community resentment, and ineffective waste management outcomes. The councils stress that the levy has failed to meet landfill diversion targets and has not promoted sufficient investment in recycling infrastructure.

#### Relevant Reference Documents/Policies

Local Government Act 1993

#### Stakeholders

NetWaste Councils including Walgett Shire  
NSW Government  
Ratepayers

#### Conclusion

Walgett Shire Council supports the lobby against the waste levy extension and advocates for more effective and sustainable waste management solutions.

#### Attachment

NetWaste Review of NSW Waste Issues Paper – Submission from NetWaste and Member Councils

## 14. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

### 14.1 GENERAL MANAGER

#### 14.1.1 MATTERS IN PROGRESS

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** General Manager  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Executive Officer  
**FILE NUMBER:** 12/14-03  
**PURPOSE:** For Noting

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#### RECOMMENDATION

**That the Matters in Progress up until July 2024 be received and noted.**

**Moved**

**Seconded**

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#### Summary

This schedule outlines the current status of actions taken regarding matters discussed at previous Council meetings.

#### Background

Attached is the Matters in Progress report, formerly known as the Resolution Register, which tracks the progress of all resolutions requiring action that are still pending. The only exception is the inclusion of items completed since the last meeting.

#### Current Position

Actions taken or in progress are noted for each motion. The register has expanded over time as some issues cannot be resolved quickly, especially when other government agencies are involved or when Council's in-house resources are limited. In these circumstances, the register serves as a tool for tracking pending matters.

Councillors are encouraged to raise any queries with the General Manager before the meeting to streamline the meeting process and resolve minor issues more efficiently.

#### Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Matters in Progress/ Resolution Register.

#### Governance Issues:

Standard procedure dictates that Council resolutions should be implemented as soon as practicable.

#### Stakeholders:

Walgett Shire Council

#### Conclusion:

It is recommended that the Matters in Progress report be received and noted. Any queries should be directed to the General Manager before the meeting to facilitate smoother proceedings.

#### Link to Attachment:

[Action Resolution Register - until July 2023.docx](#)  
[Matters in Progress July 2023 onwards.doc](#)

## MATTERS IN PROGRESS

SUBJECT	RESOLUTION NO. & DATE	RESOLUTION	WHOM	ACTION
Lightning Ridge Opal Centre	08/2023/5 31/7/23	That as the contract for construction of the Australian Opal Centre has been signed that Council agree to funding agreement being amended to reflect the remaining milestone (Milestone 4) being tied to lodgment of the private certifier's Certificate of Occupancy).	GM	Construction has started. Project monitoring. Councillors received a briefing and report on 28 May 2024. Councillors attended a site visit on 29 May 2024. Variation agreed at May meeting and being reviewed and prepared for signing. Variation signed.
Lightning Ridge Swimming Pool Complex	08C/2023/2 31/7/23	1. The Council lodge a submission based on this report with the Department of Lands at Dubbo and confirm the Department of Lands Council's desire to meet with the Lands Department and Reserve Trust Managers in Lightning Ridge prior to the Agreement with the Lightning Ridge Olympic Pool Association expiring in 2026. 2. A further report be brought to Council regarding the status of Lightning Ridge Swimming Pool Complex.	GM	Acting GM H Percy has written to the Department of Lands. Lands have verbally advised GM that they are satisfied with the management by current Management. Report will be provided to Council, 2025.
Report to Provide Update on Lightning Ridge Bore Line Project	10/2023/15	That Council 1. Canvassing to the minister for funding in relation to Lightning Ridge Bore No 1 pipeline replacement project as a first option, or 2. In the event that, a grant fund is not forthcoming, Council considers a low interest loan as second option, or 3. Council considers funding the project from water reserve as a third option. 10/2023/15a An Amendment was moved by Councillor Cooke and Councillor Seaton that the Council call for Tenders for the Lightning Ridge Bore Line Project.	GM DES	In Progress. Funding for the bore line is being supported by the Member for Barwon. An application for funding was lodged to National Water Grid Fund 5/12/23 (unsuccessful) The Mayor and GM have made representation to the NSW Minister for Water, the leader of the NSW Nationals and the Member for Parkes.

				<p>The NSW Minister for Water was receptive; however, we are still waiting for confirmation.</p> <p><u>With regard to the amendment</u>, Council would be in breach of procurement regulations, if it called a tender now.</p> <p><b>The procurement regulations require that Councils must have an Intention to Proceed: Councils must not invite or submit tenders without a firm intention and capacity to proceed with a contract, including having funds available.</b></p> <p>To call for and award a tender without funding source being resolved risks the Council being issued intervention orders by the Minister for Local Government. This may include administration, performance improvement or loss of financial control.</p> <p>Council has been invited and has <u>submitted</u> an application for funding to the National Water Grid Fund, with the support of the NSW Government. Application submitted 20 June to the State Government. The State Government will submit the bid on 30 June 2024.</p>
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Lightning Ridge Water Fund	10/2023/22 26/9/23	Notice of Motion: That a full report of all funds relating to the Lightning Ridge water fund be brought to the Council at its next meeting including historical information relating to the transfer of funds across the respective towns.	DES	Report provided to Council 27/2/2024  See Resolution 05/2024/05
Grawin Playground – Request to MEG not to regrant mineral claim over the playground	13/2023/5 12/12/23	The council is advised to write to the Mining, Exploration, and Geoscience (MEG) department, urging them to refrain from regranting the mineral claim that currently encompasses the Grawin Playground and Miners Road.	GM	Open. Request submitted to MEG by the GM.
Cumborah Cemetery Memorial Wall	13/2023/8 12/12/23	1. The Council resolve to move up to \$15,000 from the Walgett Cemetery fund to the project to enable the construction of the Cumborah Memorial Wall 2. The community be advised that the funds have been formally allocated to enable completion of the project.	GM	Underway. Community have been advised verbally. The scope for work is being prepared.
Draft Cemetery Policy	13/2023/20 12/12/23	Walgett Shire Council resolved to have the modification of the newly proposed Non-Denomination Beam Section and Council's amended Draft Cemetery Policy placed on exhibition for a period of 28 days to the General public.	DES	Matter closed
Headstone in the Presbyterian Lawn Section	11C/2023/4 26/10/23	A further report be provided to the Council on the review of the cemetery policy.	DES	Policy put on display for consultation. Report provided to Council June 2024. Matter closed.
New Walgett Shire Council Animal Facility	13C/2023/02 12/12/23	1. That Council decline to accept the tenders 2. The General Manager <a href="#">review</a> and provide a further report to Council on the alternative options (of either a reduced facility or a staged approach to the development).	GM	Tenders declined. Review of scope underway.
Roads to Home Asbestos Waste	13C/2023/4 12/12/23	Walgett Shire Council undertake the necessary actions to achieve approval from the EPA to receive asbestos waste generated by the Roads to Home project.	DES	Underway. DA to take waste is being prepared.

Independent Review of the Small-Scale Opal Mines Titles Statutory Framework	03/2024/04 27.2.24	That Council note the information contained in this report. That Council allocate \$12,000 ex GST from general rates and revenue to produce a report on the economic impact of opal mining on the Walgett Shire That the General Manager prepare a submission on behalf of Council into the Review of Small-Scale Opal Mining Titles Statutory Framework	GM	Matter closed. Report prepared and circulated to Councillors for comment. Submission made.
Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program	03/2024/19	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That Council considers funding or partly funding the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program from 2024/25 onwards</li> <li>2. Council considers funding commitment on an annual basis with reviews and support information presented to Council prior to commitment/agreement each year</li> <li>3. Council allocate costs for Dolly Parton Imagination Library 2024/2025 from the annual State Library – Local Priority Grant.</li> <li>4. That Council invite Leo Kirkman from Unite Way to work with Council towards finding additional funding avenues for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program</li> </ol>	<u>DICS</u>	Matter pending adoption of 2024/25 budgets. Matter closed.
Mining Cavities in Fred Reece Way	03/2024/24 27.2.24	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Closure of Fred Reece Way and Lorne Road to all traffic</li> <li>2. The installation of concrete chicanes to calm traffic in the area to exclude heavy vehicles completely.</li> <li>3. Redirection of access to the airport for fuel trucks and garbage service vehicles via Stony Creek Road and the gravel road adjacent to the airport.</li> <li>4. Upgrade of three intersections to accommodate articulated vehicles on the proposed alternative route.</li> <li>5. Making representation to the Mines Department and Crown Lands Department emphasizing responsibility requirement to address this historic issue and seek financial support for rectification works.</li> </ol>		Matter underway. Road closure implemented, under the authority of NSW Police. Chicanes and signage installed. Redirection in place. First meeting has been held between MEG and Crown Lands, with MEG agreeing to pay for Geotech report required to <u>access</u> the risk of the cavities. Report <u>provided</u> , stating that risk exists.



				Next step is to meet and discuss report with MEG and <u>Crown Lands</u>
Impending Expiry of Alcohol-Free Zones	03/2024/27 27.2.24	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Note the letter dated 17 February 2015 from the Superintendent of Castlereagh Local Area Command requesting that the existing Alcohol-Free Zones at Walgett, Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri be maintained for a four-year period.</li> <li>2. Undertake consultation regarding establishing alcohol free zones in Walgett, Collarenebri and Lightning Ridge for four years, over the same areas as the existing zones. This will include publicising and circulating a proposal document, as well as inviting public submissions, via: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Advertising within the Walgett Spectator and Lightning Ridge News.</li> <li>(b) Advertising on the Walgett Shire Council web site.</li> <li>(c) Circulation of the proposal document via mail to the officer in charge of the Walgett, Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri police stations.</li> <li>(d) Circulation of the proposal document via mail to the NSW Anti-Discrimination Board.</li> <li>(e) Circulation of the proposal document via mail to any known organisation representing an identifiable Aboriginal or ethnic group within the local area</li> <li>(f) Circulation of the proposal document via mail to all liquor licenses within or adjoining the proposed alcohol-free zones.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Upon consultation received, concerning the alcohol-free zone reintroduction, a report shall be</li> </ol>		Public consultation concluded. Final report to June 2024 meeting of Council. Matter closed.

		submitted to the council with respect to the community consultation advertising outcome.		
Grawin/Sheepyards Bin Bank – Waste Strategy	03/2024/28 27.2.24	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reserve the idea of the Bin Bank Strategy for Grawin/Sheepyards area until a suitable site solution can be obtained.</li> <li>2. That council staff carry out further research into finding a suitable location for implementing the Bin Bank system.</li> </ol>		Matter pending, allocation of staff resource to attend to the matter.
New Waste Depot Perimeter Fences – Grawin/Sheepyards	03/2024/29 27.2.24	Council resolves to the matter of Council funding covering the costs for the perimeter security fences located at Grawin and Sheepyards Waste Depots, that to have the money to be allocated out in July 2024 - 2024/2025 financial year budget to carry out the construction of the security fences.		Matter pending preparation of 2024/25 budgets.
Development Application for Subdivision 39 Gem Street Lightning Ridge	03/2024/32 27.2.24	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That Council will endorse the submission of the planning proposal of supporting documentation to the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure to seek a Gateway Determination.</li> <li>2. That Council, submit the Planning Proposal for rezoning of land at 39 Gem Street Lightning Ridge as outlined in the submission from Craig Barnes provided in the attachment to the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure for a Gateway determination.</li> <li>3. That Council endorse Council Staff to submit minor changes to Councils Local Environment Plan 2013 in conjunction with the above submission.</li> <li>4. Subject to the receipt of Gateway determination from the Department of Planning Housing and</li> </ol>		Matter underway.

		Infrastructure proceed with the planning proposal and consultation with the government agencies in accordance Schedule 1, Division 1, Clause 4 of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 and any directions of the Gateway Determination.		
Water Usage Charges for Assessment 22434	3C/2024/36 27.2.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accept the proposed reduction of \$923.94 in the water usage account according to legislation provisions.</li> <li>Consider the preparation of a report to Council regarding potential reduction in water access charges for stock and domestic use, highlighting policy consistency and financial implications.</li> </ul>		Resolution communicated to customer. Budget matter pending preparation of 2024/25 budgets. Report provided for consideration, July 2024.
Come-By- Chance Road Rescoping	3C/2024/37 27.2.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council notes changes to the scope of works are required on the Come by Chance Project and approves <a href="#">entering into</a> negotiation with</li> <li>The funders to change the scope of works and</li> <li>the Contractor to review and confirm revised length of road to be upgraded.</li> </ul>		Underway.
Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Contribution	3C/2024/39 27.2.24	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The annual contribution to the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council be received and noted for payment.</li> <li>work to implement a detailed service level agreement for weeds management that improves accountability for noxious weed services.</li> </ol>		Underway.
Lightning Ridge Opal Queen	04/2024/13 26.3.24	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not approve the sponsorship of the Opal Queen Ball for \$5,000 for the period 2022/2023 financial year as this has already been written off.</li> <li>Approves the sponsorship of the Opal Queen Ball for \$5,000 for the period 2023/2024 financial year, contingent upon the receipt of the organisation's most recent audited financial statements.</li> <li>Approves the sponsorship of the Opal Queen Ball for \$5,000 for the period 2024/2025 financial year contingent upon the receipt of the organisation's most recent audited financial statements.</li> </ol>		Underway. Have requested audited financial statements from the organisation. Statements have been provided. Matter closed.

		4. The sponsorship agreement with the Opal and Gem Festivals be reviewed annually to ensure transparency and appropriate allocation of funds.		
Everyone Can Play Park, Lightning Ridge	04/2024/21 26.3.24	1. Decline the tender submission. 2. Seek full funding to implement the project, when a suitable funding stream becomes available.		Tender declined and funder advised. Watching brief activated for funding opportunities.
Lightning Ridge Water Fund	05/2024/05	That a forensic Audit be undertaken on the Lightning Ridge Water Fund from the beginning of 2016.		A brief has been drafted, with a further report to Council on the scope, process and timelines to be considered in May 2024. Updated report provided to Council July 2024.
Aerodrome Development	06/2024/5a 28.5.24	1. Note the information in this report 2. Seek quotes for the development of an aerodrome masterplan and provide a further report to Council in June		Matter not yet progressed, due to <u>workload</u> ; short resources. Report will be provided to Council once quotations obtained.
Collarenebri Aboriginal Scarred Trees	06/2024/08 28.5.24	1. Support the return of removed Scar Trees to the Aboriginal People of Collarenebri and the surrounding area  2. Acknowledge that the key decisions around this are matters for these people.  3. Resolves that the Council will support the process of design and building of the keeping areas and other infrastructure utilising external funding.  4. Resolves to help in any reasonable way the process of bringing these trees back to their proper country and to the Custodianship of the local Aboriginal People		Response communicated. Matter closed.
Fish Passage – Reconnecting the Northern Basin	06/2024/11 28.5.24	1. That the information in this report be noted.  2. That Council write to the Hon. Rose Jackson MLC, Minister Water, Minister for Housing,		Ongoing.

		<p>Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health , Minister for Youth and Minister for North Coast, expressing its disappointment as to what it views as inadequate consultation in respect of the Weir Project and further request a review of proposals for the removal of weirs along the Barwon Darling river system and the installation of fishways that result in reductions in the height of current weirs within the river system.</p> <p>3. That Council take the necessary action to assist the NSW Water Group promote a consultation meeting in respect of the two affected weirs in Walgett during either June 2024 with a view to <u>maximising</u> representation at the meeting by those who are impacted by the project.</p>		
Draft Annual Operating Plan, Revenue Policy, Fees and Charges and Budget	06/2024/17 28.5.24	<p>That Council advertise the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft 2024/25 Operational Plan</li> <li>• Draft 2024/25 Revenue Policy</li> <li>• Draft 2024/25 Fees and Charges and</li> <li>• Draft 2024/25 Estimates</li> </ul> <p>Inviting written public submissions and comments up until 4.00 pm Tuesday 25 June 2024.</p>		Matter closed. Documents adopted July 2024.
Waste Management & Landfill	06/2024/30 28.5.24	<p>1. That the information in this report be noted.</p> <p>2. That Council undertakes a review of landfill and waste management services and that a report with recommendations for operating waste services be tabled with Council before February 2025</p> <p>3. That Council authorise the General Manager to require an extension to the Initial Contract Period for the for the <i>Site Management Services for the Lightning Ridge Waste Facility</i> and <i>Site Management Services for the Walgett Waste Facility</i> with GG, DA and A Lane a period of between 3 months and 2 years after 30 June 2024 but at the same time request that the</p>		Matter underway. New contract being prepared and negotiated.

		contractor agrees to vary the Conditions of Contract to enable an option for a further 5 years of the Initial Contract Term by agreement after the extension period finishes.		
Lightning Ridge Sculpture Acquisition "Stanley"	07/2024/15 25.06.2024	That Council approve and take ownership of the Western Lands Lease for the sculpture "Stanley" from the Lightning Ridge Tourism Association.		Preparing for acquisition process
Crown Land Management Plans for Community Land within Walgett Shire	07/2024/18 25.06.2024	That Council advertise the draft Crown Land Plan of Management inviting written public submissions and comments up until 4.00 pm Friday 26 July 2024.		Awaiting response from Ministers Office before public exhibition.

**14.1.2 IMPORTANT DATES – UPCOMING MEETING AND EVENTS**

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** General Manager  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Executive Officer  
**FILE NUMBER:** 12/14-03  
**PURPOSE:** For Information

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council receives and notes the list of upcoming meetings and events**

**Moved**

**Seconded**

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**Summary**

A list of upcoming meetings and events is provided for Councillors to avoid any scheduling conflicts.

**Background**

This report helps Councillors and senior management to organise their calendar and distribute their workload effectively in light of upcoming commitments. It prevents instances where Councillors may miss meetings or remain unaware of their schedules. Additionally, external organisations have been asked to forward meeting notices and minutes directly to the Council's representatives. Upon receiving notifications, meeting dates will be included in the strategic tasks, events, and meetings calendar, with the respective representative(s) clearly identified.

**Current Position**

Councillors are requested to raise any queries prior to the meetings listed.

**Governance Issues**

Good governance relies on effective communication and forward planning. Councillors are requested to inform the General Manager's Executive Assistant of any upcoming community or Councillor functions to avoid scheduling conflicts.

**Stakeholders**

Councillors  
Walgett Shire Council staff

**Conclusion**

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

**Attachments**

Upcoming meetings and events schedule.



**IMPORTANT DATES – UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

DATE	MEETING/FUNCTION	LOCATION	Attendees
23 July 2024	Council Meeting	Walgett Chambers	Councillors, GM and Executive Staff
29 July to 4 August 2024	Local Government Week	Diggers Rest Corner, Lightning Ridge	Councillors, GM and Staff
1 August 2024	Local Area Traffic Committee	Walgett Chambers	Councillors, GM and Elected Members
14 August 2024	Close of nominations for NSW Local Government Elections	NSW Local Government Elections	For noting
14 August 2024	Local Emergency Management Committee	Walgett Chambers	GM and Executive Staff
16 August 2024	Caretaker period commences	NSW	For Noting
27 August 2024	Council Meeting	Walgett Chambers	Councillors, GM and Executive Staff to attend
28 August 2024	State Library Visit	Walgett and Lightning Ridge Libraries	Councillors, GM and Staff
14 September 2024	Election Day	NSW Local Government Elections	
3 October 2024	Local Area Traffic Committee	Walgett Chambers	Councillors, GM and Elected Members
1 October 2024	1 <sup>st</sup> Council Meeting to swear in Councillors, elect a Mayor and nominate committee representatives	Walgett Chambers	Councillors, GM and Executive Staff to attend <b>(subject to the election being declared 30/9/2024)</b>
22 October 2024	Council Meeting	Walgett Chambers	Councillors, GM and Executive Staff to attend
11 November 2024	Remembrance Day	Various Towns	Mayor, GM and Councillors
17 – 19 November 2024	LGNSW Annual Conference	Tamworth	Mayor, GM and Councillors
26 November 2024	Council Meeting	Walgett Chambers	Councillors, GM and Executive Staff to attend
6 December 2024	Local Area Traffic Committee	Walgett Chambers	Councillors, GM and Elected Members
17 December 2024	Council Meeting	Walgett Chambers	Councillors, GM and Executive Staff to attend

**14.1.3 CIRCULARS RECEIVED FROM NSW OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** General Manager  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Executive Officer  
**FILE NUMBER:** 12/14-03  
**PURPOSE:** For Noting

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the information contained in the following circular GC-153 2024-25 Financial Assistance Grants from the Office of Local Government, Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure be received and noted.**

**Moved****Seconded**

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**Summary**

Copies of circulars received from the Local Government Office Department of Premier and Cabinet are attached for Councillors information.

**Background:**

The following Circular will provide information regarding changes to Financial Assistance Grants

GC-153 - 2024-25 Financial Assistance Grants

**Governance Issues:**

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

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council

**Financial Implications:**

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

**Conclusion:**

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

**Attachments:**

Circular

## Circular to Councils

Subject/title	2024-25 Financial Assistance Grants (FA Grants) – advance payment
Circular Details	GC153 / 28 June 2024 / A902652
Previous Circular	GC152 / 28 June 2023 / A864741
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / Finance Managers
Contact	Helen Pearce / 02 4428 4131 / <a href="mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au">olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</a>
Action required	Information

### What's new or changing?

The Commonwealth Government has announced the advance payment of the preliminary 2024-25 FA Grants will represent approximately 85% of the amount councils are entitled to.

Further adjustments to the remaining payments will take into account:

- the determination by the Commonwealth Treasurer of the final adjustments for 2023-24
- the Local Government Grants Commission's (the Commission) final recommendations for 2024-25.

The Commission will advise councils of the recommendations when they have been finalised after the Commonwealth advises the amount of the final adjustments.

### What will this mean for council?

- The advance payment amount, as set out in the attached schedule, will be paid to councils without delay.
- A media release advising of the Commonwealth's decision to make an advance payment is attached.
- The balance of the grants will be paid in quarterly instalments during 2024 25.

- The first quarterly instalment is expected to be paid to councils in mid-August 2024, with subsequent instalments in November 2024, February 2025, and May 2025.
- All councils will be advised by letter of individual estimated entitlements for the 2024-25 FA Grants.

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### Key points

- The grants are paid under the provisions of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* (Cth).
- The total amount of the annual FA Grants, and whether and when an advance payment is made, is determined by the Federal Government.
- Over the past 6 years, the FA Grants program has been transitioning to a revised funding model which provides an upper limit of +5% and lower limit 0% on an individual council's general purpose component when compared year on year.
- No council has been receiving a lower general purpose grant than the previous year during transition.
- The NSW Grants Commission has been working in consultation with local councils on a strategy to restore the former upper and lower limits.
- The Commission has resolved to commence restoration of the former upper and lower limits in 2025-26, which is anticipated to be within a range of +6 to -4%.
- The FA Grants will remain in transition with a 0% lower limit in 2024-25.

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### Where to go for further information

- Updates about the transition and general information are available on the Office of Local Government Website:  
<https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/commissions-and-tribunals/grants-commission>
- Please contact Helen Pearce, Executive Officer, if you require any further information.



Helen Pearce  
Executive Officer, Local Government Grants Commission

ADVANCE PAYMENT OF THE 2024-25 INDICATIVE PRELIMINARY LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

85% of Estimate for 2024-25 from LGGC				
State	Council Name	GP	LR	Total
NSW	Albury City Council	5,149,124	1,656,985	6,806,109
NSW	Armidale Regional Council	4,813,583	2,577,346	7,390,929
NSW	Bailina Shire Council	3,477,118	1,640,016	5,117,134
NSW	Bairanald Shire Council	3,647,775	1,474,753	5,122,528
NSW	Bathurst Regional Council	4,609,204	2,242,671	6,851,875
NSW	Bayside Council	3,964,880	1,298,588	5,263,468
NSW	Bega Valley Shire Council	5,716,132	2,311,141	8,027,273
NSW	Bellingen Shire Council	3,398,969	1,069,854	4,468,823
NSW	Berrigan Shire Council	3,950,505	1,512,668	5,463,173
NSW	Blacktown City Council	12,424,938	4,147,951	16,572,889
NSW	Bland Shire Council	5,506,360	3,356,164	8,862,524
NSW	Blayney Shire Council	2,181,137	963,627	3,144,764
NSW	Blue Mountains City Council	7,668,561	1,468,077	9,136,638
NSW	Bogan Shire Council	3,585,658	1,611,764	5,197,422
NSW	Bourke Shire Council	5,430,426	2,143,351	7,573,777
NSW	Brewarrina Shire Council	4,220,665	1,455,789	5,676,454
NSW	Broken Hill Council of the City of	5,380,102	591,448	5,971,550
NSW	Burwood Council	961,102	306,492	1,267,594
NSW	Byron Shire Council	2,332,594	1,366,446	3,699,040
NSW	Cabonne Shire Council	3,396,016	2,294,476	5,690,492
NSW	Camden Council of the City of	2,921,025	1,976,050	4,897,075
NSW	Campbelltown City Council	7,617,475	2,067,187	9,684,662
NSW	Canada Bay Council City of	1,980,089	675,481	2,655,570
NSW	Canterbury-Bankstown Council	8,229,965	2,848,760	11,078,725
NSW	Carathool Shire Council	4,662,275	2,614,777	7,277,052
NSW	Central Coast Council (NSW)	21,970,122	4,853,996	26,824,118
NSW	Central Darling Shire Council	5,355,986	1,777,809	7,133,795
NSW	Cessnock City Council	5,715,791	2,075,874	7,791,665
NSW	Clarence Valley Council	7,973,135	3,787,674	11,760,809
NSW	Cobar Shire Council	4,985,407	1,914,487	6,899,894
NSW	Coffs Harbour City Council	5,455,885	2,526,024	7,981,909
NSW	Coolamon Shire Council	2,915,355	1,438,463	4,353,818
NSW	Coonamble Shire Council	3,415,943	1,825,164	5,241,107
NSW	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council	4,246,467	1,744,912	5,991,379
NSW	Cowra Shire Council	3,772,995	1,619,837	5,392,832
NSW	Cumberland Council	5,926,826	1,960,030	7,886,856
NSW	Dubbo Regional Council	8,369,689	3,828,580	12,198,269
NSW	Dungog Shire Council	2,047,318	1,029,243	3,076,561
NSW	Edward River Council	4,614,746	1,687,685	6,302,431
NSW	Eurobodalla Shire Council	5,789,166	1,886,406	7,675,572
NSW	Fairfield City Council	6,869,973	1,850,191	8,720,164
NSW	Federation Council	5,127,110	2,499,439	7,626,549
NSW	Forbes Shire Council	4,123,356	2,154,336	6,277,692
NSW	Georges River Council	3,424,579	1,211,876	4,636,455
NSW	Gilgandra Council	3,183,852	1,490,127	4,673,979
NSW	Glen Innes Severn Council	3,369,323	1,529,284	4,898,607
NSW	Goulburn Mulwaree Council	3,819,970	2,009,941	5,829,911
NSW	Greater Hume Shire Council	3,826,771	2,343,244	6,170,015
NSW	Griffith City Council	4,611,358	1,807,501	6,418,859
NSW	Gunnedah Shire Council	3,513,656	1,796,085	5,309,741
NSW	Gwydir Shire Council	3,503,727	2,425,702	5,929,429
NSW	Hawkesbury City Council	2,508,670	1,862,987	4,371,657
NSW	Hay Shire Council	2,982,026	900,051	3,882,077
NSW	Hills Shire Council The	4,505,974	2,378,773	6,884,747
NSW	Hilltops Council	5,953,067	3,123,557	9,076,624

NSW	Hornsby Shire Council	3,338,395	1,547,894	4,886,289
NSW	Hunter's Hill Council	373,115	133,485	506,600
NSW	Inner West Council	4,080,542	1,427,969	5,508,511
NSW	Inverell Shire Council	4,631,572	2,471,455	7,103,027
NSW	Junee Shire Council	2,308,988	1,021,897	3,330,885
NSW	Kempsey Shire Council	4,838,037	2,115,840	6,953,877
NSW	Kiama Municipal Council	1,393,122	636,219	2,029,341
NSW	Ku-Ring-Gai Council	2,751,411	1,228,428	3,979,839
NSW	Kyogle Council	3,439,884	1,778,707	5,218,591
NSW	Lachlan Council	6,879,136	3,770,579	10,649,715
NSW	Lake Macquarie City Council	13,880,027	3,165,011	17,045,038
NSW	Lane Cove Municipal Council	950,050	316,294	1,266,344
NSW	Leeton Shire Council	4,023,586	1,164,141	5,187,727
NSW	Lismore City Council	4,674,153	2,172,505	6,846,658
NSW	Lithgow Council City of	4,015,563	1,394,275	5,409,838
NSW	Liverpool City Council	6,033,782	2,666,914	8,700,696
NSW	Liverpool Plains Shire Council	2,913,186	1,528,166	4,441,352
NSW	Lockhart Shire Council	2,695,981	1,502,666	4,198,647
NSW	Lord Howe Island Board	294,937	0	294,937
NSW	Maitland City Council	5,799,226	1,608,635	7,407,861
NSW	Mid-Coast Council	13,224,357	6,053,657	19,278,014
NSW	Mid-Western Regional Council	4,776,604	2,749,685	7,526,289
NSW	Moree Plains Shire Council	5,756,623	3,212,259	8,968,882
NSW	Mosman Municipal Council	768,612	249,087	1,017,699
NSW	Murray River Council	6,135,087	3,287,656	9,422,743
NSW	Murrumbidgee Council	3,541,244	1,818,900	5,360,144
NSW	Muswellbrook Shire Council	3,065,459	1,006,102	4,071,561
NSW	Nambucca Valley Council	3,260,185	1,384,067	4,644,252
NSW	Narrabri Shire Council	5,573,569	2,611,633	8,185,202
NSW	Narrandera Shire Council	3,795,843	1,762,508	5,558,351
NSW	Narromine Shire Council	3,460,272	1,610,148	5,070,420
NSW	Newcastle City Council	10,664,134	2,008,437	12,672,571
NSW	North Sydney Council	1,560,367	512,642	2,073,009
NSW	Northern Beaches Council	5,805,202	2,372,924	8,178,126
NSW	Oberon Council	2,177,465	1,075,304	3,252,769
NSW	Orange City Council	3,865,043	1,336,220	5,201,263
NSW	Parkes Shire Council	4,883,575	2,377,062	7,260,637
NSW	Parramatta Council City of	6,783,527	2,188,076	8,971,603
NSW	Penrith City Council	7,879,831	2,845,682	10,725,513
NSW	Port Macquarie Hastings Council	6,550,863	3,366,450	9,917,313
NSW	Port Stephens Council	5,604,826	1,390,028	6,994,854
NSW	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council	3,797,244	2,873,956	6,671,200
NSW	Randwick City Council	3,104,071	983,730	4,087,801
NSW	Richmond Valley Council	4,016,725	1,750,502	5,767,227
NSW	Ryde Council of the City of	2,940,634	1,049,682	3,990,316
NSW	Shellharbour Council of the City of	4,416,724	1,144,088	5,560,812
NSW	Shoalhaven City Council	9,188,996	3,937,601	13,126,597
NSW	Silverton Village Committee Incorporated	37,187	0	37,187
NSW	Singleton Council	2,849,182	1,521,917	4,371,099
NSW	Snowy Monaro Regional Council	7,451,509	3,091,974	10,543,483
NSW	Snowy Valleys Council	4,989,495	1,548,306	6,537,801
NSW	Strathfield Municipal Council	1,106,312	331,140	1,437,452
NSW	Sutherland Shire Council	5,092,503	2,218,257	7,310,760
NSW	Sydney Council of the City of	5,007,068	1,419,454	6,426,522
NSW	Tamworth Regional Council	6,654,458	4,786,756	11,441,214
NSW	Temora Shire Council	2,814,358	1,458,677	4,273,035
NSW	Tenterfield Shire Council	3,871,998	1,852,440	5,724,438
NSW	Tibooburra Village Committee Incorporated	83,503	0	83,503





NSW	Tweed Shire Council	8,048,321	3,222,258	11,270,579
NSW	Upper Hunter Shire Council	3,678,157	2,173,678	5,851,835
NSW	Upper Lachlan Shire Council	3,383,686	2,233,331	5,617,017
NSW	Uralla Shire Council	1,989,811	1,037,641	3,027,452
NSW	Wagga Wagga City Council	7,274,470	3,672,567	10,947,037
NSW	Walcha Council	1,953,974	1,050,229	3,004,203
NSW	Walgett Shire Council	5,479,577	2,176,431	7,656,008
NSW	Warren Shire Council	2,390,379	1,157,649	3,548,028
NSW	Warrumbungle Shire Council	5,421,216	2,733,739	8,154,955
NSW	Waverley Council	1,547,366	463,857	2,011,223
NSW	Weddin Shire Council	2,246,449	1,129,493	3,375,942
NSW	Wentworth Shire Council	4,677,475	1,950,693	6,628,168
NSW	Willoughby City Council	1,687,339	628,318	2,315,657
NSW	Wingecarribee Shire Council	3,365,694	2,162,703	5,528,397
NSW	Wollondilly Shire Council	2,471,491	1,557,951	4,029,442
NSW	Wollongong City Council	16,658,757	2,714,840	19,373,597
NSW	Woolahra Council of the City of	1,184,348	448,665	1,633,013
NSW	Yass Valley Council	2,059,591	1,562,076	3,621,667
NSW Total	Total is a formula	602,491,370	247,925,346	850,416,716

NSW Total	Total copy paste Value only check	\$602,491,370.00 \$0.00	\$247,925,346.00 \$0.00	\$850,416,716.00 \$0.00
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**14.1.4 COUNCIL PROJECTS UPDATE JULY 2024**

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** General Manager  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Executive Officer  
**FILE NUMBER:** 24/9/0153  
**PURPOSE:** For Noting

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council receive and note the monthly projects report for June 2024**

**Moved**

**Seconded**

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**Summary:**

Council has successfully secured grant funding for several projects, many of which are now either completed or approaching completion. This report aims to provide an update on the current status of these projects, detailing their progress, achievements, and any remaining tasks to be addressed.

**Background:**

Council has faced significant challenges, including high staff turnover, the impacts of COVID-19, natural disasters, increased project costs, and difficulties in securing local contractors. These issues have created a backlog of projects, many of which are now overdue or nearing their funding deadlines.

Grant-funded projects are at risk due to strict timelines and strict scope requirements that feed into funding guidelines.

Revenue-funded projects were not formally approved by the Council and lacked proper project planning, including clear funding allocation, detailed scope definition, risk assessments, and future maintenance plans. These projects have been moved to a "wish list" on the attached projects page, awaiting community consultation to ensure they align with community wants and needs before being project planned and formally adopted by the Council.

**Highlights****Walgett Cemetery Upgrade 2**

This project was initiated in 2018 as part of the Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 2. It faced significant delays due to an initial design proposal that resulted in high costs, contractor issues, staff turnover, and the impact of COVID-19. The project includes a toilet block, a pathway with a garden featuring irrigation, plants, and mulch.

Some elements from the initial project report were removed. While bins would have added an aesthetic element, using wheelie bins allows our staff to move them to locations where funerals are being held. The removal of seating was due to budget constraints, but the pathway includes several seating niches.



**Lightning Ridge Fencing at Spider Brown Oval**

The fencing project at Lightning Ridge Sporting Field was initiated in 2021. Initially, a white picket fence was installed on the multi-purpose side of the oval. However, the project was never completed, leaving half the budget and an unfinished fence line. There has been a community demand for a high, secure fence to enclose the drain that runs alongside the oval. This has recently been addressed with a 6-foot palisade fence, chosen for its aesthetics, durability, and security.

However, the project experienced an additional expenditure of \$10,000. This was due to the inclusion of gates that allow the Council's maintenance team to access the drain area on both sides with machinery. The additional funds required were sourced from the oval maintenance budget.



**Extension and Refurbishment of Collarenebri Showground and Racecourse**

This project has also faced significant delays. Despite initial quotes exceeding \$600,000 against a project budget of \$77,000, the Council was able to find a contractor who could do the work with the assistance of Council staff to keep it within budget. This project is now in the final stages of completion and with the exception of painting works, the amenities portion is expected to be done in the first half of August 2024.

**Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:**

Local Government Act 1993  
Funding Deeds

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council  
Walgett Shire Ratepayers  
NSW Government

**Conclusion:**

That Council receive and note the monthly projects report for July 2024

**Attachment:**

Council Project Spreadsheet



Grant Name	SOURCE	Total Amount Allocated	Total Grant	Council contribution	Project Status	End Date	Notes
Carinda Sporting Facilities Water & Drainage Improvements	DSP-LSP	\$122,000	\$122,000	\$0	On Hold		Needs to be reviewed
LRCI 3 - Rowena Hall Refurbishment	LRCI	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$0	Variation	31.6.2024	Awaiting Variation to move to fencing
Hall Improvements - Rowena	DSP-LSP	\$96,500	\$96,500	\$0	On Hold		Needs to be reviewed
SCCF 4 - Fencing Lightning Ridge Sporting Ovals	SCCF4	\$84,153	\$84,153	\$0	Completed	7.6.2026	Completed
SCCF 4 - Enhancing Gray Park Walgett	SCCF4	\$72,822	\$72,822	\$0	In Progress	7.6.2026	Furniture Installation in Progress
SCCF 4 - Extension and refurbishment of Collarenebri Showground & Racecourse	SCCF4	\$77,168	\$77,168	\$0	In Progress	7.6.2026	In progress, nearing completion
SCCF 4 - Norman Tracker Walford Walkway Walgett	SCCF4	\$95,661	\$95,661	\$0	On Hold	7.6.2026	Awaiting staff resources
SCCF 5 - Fencing of Collarenebri Sports Field	SCCF5	\$138,000	\$138,000	\$0	In Progress	7.6.2026	Awaiting seating installation
SCCF 5 - Collarenebri Main Street Beautification Project	SCCF5	\$205,000	\$205,000	\$0	In Progress	7.6.2026	In design stage with engineering dept.
SCCF 5 - Footpath/Cycleway, Kerb & Guttering in Onyx Street Lightning Ridge	SCCF5	\$228,000	\$228,000	\$0	On hold	7.6.2026	Awaiting completion of priority projects
SCCF 5 - Walgett Skate Park Precinct	SCCF5	\$169,000	\$169,000	\$0	In Progress	7.6.2026	Design Complete, DA & Tender initiating
SCCF 5 - Lightning Ridge Footpath Cycleway Pandora Street Lightning Ridge	SCCF5	\$181,322	\$181,322	\$0	On Hold	7.6.2026	Awaiting completion of priority projects
Crown Lands - Plans of Management	Grant	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	In Progress	30.6.2024	Nearing Completion
Collarenebri New Bore Baths	MDBA	\$920,124	\$920,124	\$0	In Progress	30.3.2024	Awaiting Final touches and handover
Upgrade of Collarenebri Primitive Camping Grounds	Grant	\$274,950	\$274,950		On Hold		Awaiting completion of priority projects
Collarenebri Grandstand	MDBA	\$488,000	\$488,000		On Hold	11.9.2023	Seeking legal advice
Conversion of Netball Courts to a Multi-Sport Complex	Grant	\$1,500,000	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	In Progress	30.6.2025	Design stage nearing completion
Bin Banks	Revenue	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	On Hold		New location required
Animal Pound	Revenue	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$0	On Hold		Quotes came in over budget
Stronger Country Communities - Cemetery Walgett - Stage 2	SCCF2	\$329,701	\$329,701	\$0	Completed	31.5.2024	Completed
Walgett Rural Residential Strategy	Grant	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$0	On Hold		Needs to be reviewed due to costs
Flood Mitigation Works at Rowena Village	Grant	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0	On hold		Issues with landholder and design elements
Waste Less Recycle More - Walgett Recycling Aggregation Centre	Grant	\$190,300	\$137,500	\$52,800	On hold		Awaitng new compliance officer
Waste Less Recycle More - LR Landfill Consolidation	Grant	\$299,500	\$200,000	\$99,500	On hold		Awaitng new compliance officer
Waste Less Recycle More - Walgett Landfill Environmental Improvements	Grant	\$172,208	\$123,920	\$48,288	On hold		Awaitng new compliance officer
Cumborah Cemetery Columbarium	Revenue	\$15,000	\$0	\$15,000	In Progress		Being scoped and designed
Carinda Sportsground Fencing	LRCI4	TBD	\$0	\$0	On Hold		Community Consultation & Cost Scope
LR Pipeline	Multiple	TBD	\$0	\$0	In Progress		
Walgett Memorial Pool Redevelopment	Grant	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$0	In Progress		
<b>PROJECT WISH LIST &amp; FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS</b>		<b>Potential Costs</b>					
Collarenebri Multipurpose Hall		\$3-6million					
Everyone Can Play Park		TBD					
Walgett River Platform & Walking Tracks		\$50,000					
Town & Villages Refurbishment Program		\$50,000					
Lightning Ridge - Bird Hide		\$100,000					
Walgett Beautification		\$80,000					
Swimming Pool - Collarenebri Entrance Renewal		\$75,000					
Walgett Swimming Pool - Entrance Refurbishment		\$30,000					
Walgett Swimming Pool - Fencing Upgrades		\$150,000					
Cumborah - Tennis Courts		TBD					
Walgett Ovals 2 & 3 - Lighting		\$130,000					
Burren Junction Oval - Watering & Lighting		\$20,000					
Lightning Ridge Lions and Gem Parks Shelters		\$15,000					
Lightning Ridge - Spider Brown Oval - Amenities		TBD					
Burren Junction - Cemetery		TBD					
Walgett Depot Upgrade		\$175,000					

**14.1.5 HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT**

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** General Manager  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Human Resources Manager  
**FILE NUMBER:** 24/9/0159  
**PURPOSE:** For Noting

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**RECOMMENDATION**

- 1. That the information in the report be noted**
- 2. That Council approve the closure of Council services on the 14<sup>th</sup> August to enable all staff to participate in a staff development day and the community be advised of the closures.**

**Moved****Seconded**

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**Summary:**

A usual practice of most Council's is to conduct an all staff development day, annually. The day is an important day to share success, learn from each other, refresh training and for staff to contribute to ideas that will result in the improvement in both the organisation and in the delivery of services to our community.

The date of the all staff development day is proposed for **14 August 2024**.

**Background:**

Best practice organisational development often includes an all staff development day which is opportunity for all staff to come together as a team, learn from each other, refresh training and to think about Council as a multi-faceted community organisation.

This year, we are combining a development day with an end of financial / planning year get-together to look back at what we've achieved and to look ahead at what's waiting for us in 2024/25.

A key component of the day will be refresher training on work health and safety, aimed at enhancing safety outcomes across the organisation. It is also a chance for us to work better as a team and reflect on how we can serve the community more effectively.

The development day will impact service delivery across the Shire, with all fulltime and permanent staff required to attend the session. However, the Lightning Ridge office, Collarenebri post office, and the visitor information centre in Lightning Ridge will remain open, staffed by casual employees. Kerbside waste collection will also continue as usual.

We understand this may cause some inconvenience, but a well-informed and connected staff helps us serve the community more effectively. All services will resume as normal on Thursday, August 15, 2024.

**HR Projects - Cadetship**

Council has secured funding to hire an Aboriginal Environmental Health Officer for a six-year term, during which the cadet will complete their studies at Western Sydney University.

The Council has received an exemption to advertise position as identified received – ADA Act 1977 Section 126.

The position description is being designed with support of the funder and will go live in the first week in August 2024 to align with Careers on Country Expo 1 August 2024.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

WSC Workforce development plan



**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Staff

Walgett Community

**Financial Implications:**

The all staff development day is funded through Council's training budget.

**Conclusion:**

It is recommended that Council approve the closure of Council services on the 14<sup>th</sup> of August to enable an all staff development day.

**14.1.6 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TEAM REPORT**

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** General Manager  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Manager Community Development  
**FILE NUMBER:** 24/9/0160  
**PURPOSE:** For Information

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the report for Community Development from May to June 2024 be received.**

**Moved**

**Seconded**

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**Summary:**

The past period has been challenging to say the least with staff movements, changes and reporting lines differing from previous processes. Regardless of the number of staff, the ability of staff or resources and supports at hand we have a commitment to deliver quality, accessible and relevant services to our communities, targeting gaps and needs and aligning these programs with the Annual Operational Plan of Walgett Shire Council.

During the reporting period Council's community services and development teams targeted community engagement, building community-based initiatives, community consultation, cultural development and recognition, Aboriginal and Cultural affairs, facilitating and supporting collaborative events targeting youth & early childhood initiatives. Recent changes within the staff organizational structure have yet to be finalized and staff covering positions are to be congratulated for their efforts.

Our department within the organisation will now be reporting monthly as advised by the general Manager.

**Background:**

This report summarises project progress and outcomes of our community, youth development, library teams working to increase community capacity during the reporting period, May- June 2024

**Current Position:**

During the reporting period Council's community development team incorporating, Youth Services, Libraries services, Aboriginal affairs, Seniors, multi-cultural affairs, disabilities and capacity building of all residents has aligned programs, initiatives and opportunities with *Council's Annual Operating Plan 24/24 & Community Strategic Plan 2017-2027*.

Much of the reporting period has been focused on the planning and partnership building, working towards delivery of NAIDOC week programs across communities, July school holiday activities and planning for larger scale events to be delivered in August.

**COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING & PROGRAMS****Partnerships and programs:**

Partnerships with services on all levels continue to strengthen as does the quality of programs to community.

During this reporting period our teams have facilitated and supported the following:

- Series of successful planning meetings across all three larger communities for NAIDOC 2024
- Planning for school holiday programs across all communities complete.
- Acquittal completed to funding bodies for 2024 National Youth Week Programs
- Supported GROW events across communities (Guiding Rural Outback Wellbeing)
- Library groups continue delivering well attended programs and skill enhancement
- Sustained community governance and support through Walgett / Lightning Ridge Interagency committees. (WSC staff /Chairperson of Walgett Interagency Group)
- Continued implementation of School 2 Work Program

- Delivered daily Youth Centre activities in the three larger communities.

**Youth Week 2024:**

The program delivered by youth and community teams for National Youth Week (NYW) has been acquitted with funding bodies and reports submitted. The 2024 program recorded over 2,500 participants attending 32 different programs and initiatives spread across the Walgett Shire.

Youth and young people are encouraged to have input into decisions that affect them, creating opportunities that aligns with Council's *Annual Operating Plan 24/25 & Community Strategic Plan 2017-2027*.

**"Keep the Fire Burning! - NAIDOC Week 2024**

The theme "Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud & Proud" symbolizes the enduring strength and vitality of First Nations culture. Fire serves as a powerful symbol of connection: to Country, to each other, and to the rich tapestry of traditions that define Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Council community development staff have completed many planning meetings with three main NAIDOC working groups across Walgett, Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri in a bid to engage all community members in opportunities and celebrations.

NAIDOC Week 2024 is currently being delivered across the Shire with communities celebrating and acknowledging NAIDOC. A full report will be presented to the next Council meeting of outcomes, engagement and highlights.

**LIBRARIES- SERVICES, CONNECTION & PROMOTION****Walgett:****Patrons and usage**

Our Libraries in both Lightning Ridge and Walgett along with deposit stations in Burren Junction and Collarenebri continue to assist social cohesion and cross-cultural understanding through enhancing positive social interaction. We have had a significant increase in memberships and are important central hubs for people in the local community. (current members 1,378). Free Wi-Fi available at both of our branches. We provide free 24/7 access to our eResources including eBooks, eMagazines via an internet connection.

New members for the reporting period totalled (38) boosted by (79) members re-registering giving a total of 746 current members. During reporting period 1,728 items were borrowed from the library and 90 computer bookings were placed.

**Preschool literacy**

Bulk borrowing to all preschools takes place each term as this helps build children's early literacy skills that help them go on to read successfully later in childhood. Each term picture books are delivered to the three preschools in Walgett that are relevant to their current learning topics.

**Dolly Patrons Imagination Library**

United Way Australia is a non-profit organisation and licence holder of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, working to ensure every Australian child has access to books in their homes and the chance to reach their full potential. Each month a new book is posted to the child free of charge until the child starts school. To be eligible the child must have been born after 1 January 2022.

To date Walgett Shire Council working with Early Childhood health services have 181 babies enrolled in this program across the Shire.

**Library Programs and social inclusiveness.**

Tuesday mornings Council host the knitting/coffee club, with 13 members engaged in the program. During the school holidays the knitting ladies have been teaching children to knit which has been a very popular local program.

Thursdays we have our local painting group use the library space for art activities.

Fridays we host a babies and toddlers rhyme time playgroup. Which has been very popular with the Mums and bubs enjoying books, music and craft with a cuppa.

Technology awareness continues being promoted through our e-platforms to Library members helping them download eBooks, eMovies, eMagazines and eAudio on their own devices.

This month we enjoyed an author talk by Jacqueline Gaul who was promoting her new book *The Overcoming* a story of resilience and love after loss. The talk was well attended by 15 people who all enjoyed morning tea together afterwards.

Next month we will welcome author Nicole Alexander for a promotion of her new book and a writers workshop.

**Deposit Stations**

Both deposit stations at Mason's Collarenebri and The Post Office Burren Junction continue to thrive and locals appreciate their collections of books, audio books and DVD's that are renewed every eight weeks. We have continued weeding books from the library and delivering them to Burren Junction Bore Baths and our libraries as free books and swapping stations for locals and visiting tourists.

**Book Club**

Book club members continue to grow with 15 members that meet every second Wednesday of the month to discuss the book of the month and enjoy morning tea. Book clubs are a great way to expand your literacy horizons and make new friends with common interests in your community.

This quarter we have enjoyed reading and discussing these titles.

- Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens by Shankari Chandran
- The Lobotomist's Wife by Samantha Greene Woodruff
- Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus
- Stone Town by Margaret Hickey
- Take my Hand by Dolan Perkins-Valdez

**Homebound**

The library provides a free book on wheels delivery service to housebound members of the local community who are physically unable to visit the library. Walgett Library Services will be hosting end of year gatherings for groups on the below dates.

**Lightning Ridge Library:****Patrons and usage**

Lightning Ridge services continue to be driven by community needs and feedback. Available are free programs and resources ranging from early childhood, community interest, education, literacy, and recreational programs that cover a multitude of interests and topics suitable for everyone within our local community.

New members for the reporting period totalled (38) plus (79) members re-registering giving a total of 632 members.

During this reporting period 1430 items were borrowed from the library and 135 computer bookings were placed. Continuous liaison with the NSW State Library with (ILL) Inter Library Loans allows us to source a large range of Multicultural and HSC literature which is available for our members to loan.

**Preschool literacy**

Books and Babies is an ongoing program targeting ages 0 – 5 years, held Tuesday mornings from 10am – 11am. Using stories, songs, rhymes, dancing and music which provides tools and resources to nurture your child's love of reading.

**New resources**

Recent additions at the Ridge Library space include outdoor furnishings and facility upgrades. These on-going improvements meet with community needs and creates an improved space for residents and visitors alike to recreate and maximize their time at our local Library. The grants provided by NSW State Library assist with these additions.

**School Holiday & After School Programs**

Sustained engagement of youth and young people utilizing the services and resources. This program is offered Wednesday and Thursday afternoons and continues to be popular during this particular reporting period we have had over 100 youth and young people attending this program.

**Book Club**

Currently have 15 members involved in the Book club who meet every Friday from 10am – 12pm discussing various books and subjects and enjoying morning tea together.

**Upcoming events and Programs:**

Local Government Week 29<sup>th</sup> July- 4<sup>th</sup> August – Lightning Ridge  
Careers on Country Expo August 1<sup>st</sup> – Walgett

**Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:**

Walgett Shire Council Community Strategic Plan 2017 – 2027  
Walgett Shire Council Aboriginal Community Development and Reconciliation Plan  
Walgett Shire Disability and Inclusion Plan 2017-2021  
Walgett Shire Youth Development Youth Strategy 2009 – 2014  
Walgett Shire Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2016-2020  
Australian National Quality Framework.

**Governance issues:**

The development of programs and activities are conducted with a whole of Shire focus to enhance access and equity for Shire residents.

**Environmental issues:**

There are no identified environmental issues in relation to this report.

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire community members  
organisations and agencies with an interest in the social outcomes of people residing, working in, and visiting, the Walgett Shire.

**Financial Implications:**

Activities conducted within applicable budgets.

**Alternative Solutions/Options:**

Not applicable

**Conclusion:**

The Community Development team have progressed projects and programs this quarter in accordance with the Walgett Shire Council Community Strategic Plan 2017 – 2027 , Walgett Shire Council Aboriginal Community Development and Reconciliation Plan 2020 – 2025, Walgett Shire Council Disability and Inclusion Plan 2017-2021, Walgett Shire Community Safety & Crime Prevention Plan 2016-2020, Youth Development Youth Strategy 2009 – 2014

**14.1.7 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT JUNE 2024**

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** General Manager  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Manager Economic Development and Visitor Economy  
**FILE NUMBER:** 24/9/0149  
**PURPOSE:** For Noting

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council receive and note the Economic Development Report for June 2024**

**Moved**

**Seconded**

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**Summary**

Over a ten-day initial period, the Economic Development and Visitor Economy function has begun a range of onboarding and planning activities working towards analysis and understanding Local Economic drivers and the visitor economy.

Incorporating initiatives with-in the core functions of the role, the research, analysis, and development stage of the process underpins long term strategy development due for completion in November 2024.

Consultation and discovery or listening to the communities of Walgett Shire Local Government Area will be a key consideration in the development of the Economic Development Strategy.

**Background**

A new position identified under Councils restructure, The Manager - Economic Development and Visitor Economy function is one of 4 primary functionalities of the People, Planning and Liveability Directorate.

The Manager of Economic Development and Visitor Economy is responsible for:

- Economic Development Planning
- Destination Planning
- Product Development
- Small Business Support
- Activation – Business and Visitor and Event support
- Activation - Tourism Marketing and promotion
- Grant Funding – Special Events and projects.

The position is a new position identified under Councils restructure, and as its core function is charged with utilising macro and micro economic drivers, to support and facilitate, investment, innovation, and commercialisation with-in the communities of the Walgett Shire Council and Council wide to increase the size of the economy, and to increase circulation with-in the economy.

**Current Position**

In the commencement period of the Manager of Economic Development and Visitor Economy, a high-level strategic process has been commenced to provide a foundational understanding of the Walgett Shire Communities, their unique cultures, and assets to develop a long-term strategy.

Multiple initiatives have commenced to enable Strategic development including;

- Stakeholder Mapping
- Asset Mapping
- Business and Operator Mapping
- High Priority Issue Identification
- Business Unit Analysis
- Economic Analysis
- Data Set requirements

The research phase being undertaken by the Manager of Economic Development and Visitor Economy is the first stage of developing a comprehensive draft strategy to be presented in December 2024.

The process of developing a draft Strategy for Economic Development and Visitor Economy will enter a phase of community discovery and consultation in September 2024, which will utilise public discovery workshops, surveys, and questionnaires to inform the strategy.

Public consultation is planned to gain opinion and feedback to develop a draft strategy for Economic Development and Visitor Economy.

It is anticipated that the discovery and consultation processes will provide evidence to Council to determine public interest in reforming Committees for both Economic Development and Visitor Economy that were commenced in 2017, but became inactive, due to low engagement.

A 6-month plan incorporating onboarding, research, analysis and planning is detailed below:

	Task	Completion
<b>Economic Development</b>		
Ec Dev Strategy Development	Develop Project Plan for Strategy	July 2024
	Develop Consultation Plan	August 2024
	Undertake desktop / data research / gap analysis	September 2024
	Undertake Consultation	October 2024
	Develop Draft Strategy	November 2024
	Adopt Draft Strategy for formal public consultation	December 2024
	Adopt Final Strategy	February 2025
Business Register	Develop Local Business Register	July 2024
Local Purchasing	Delivery local businesses on vendor panel	September 2024
	Deliver workshops local business vendor panel	September 2024
<b>Visitor Services</b>		
VIC Operations	Develop business improvements plan for VIC's	July 2024
	Report Walgett VIC operations	November 2024
	Undertake Audit of Existing Visitor Assets and Systems	August 2024
	Data gathering / market research current users, current platforms etc.	October 2024
	Comms and marketing plan for live, work and play.	October 2024
<b>Asset Management</b>		
Colli Bore Baths	Develop Risk management plan	July 2024
Signage	Undertake review of visitor signage, develop signage strategy	August 2024
Assets Generally	Undertake asset Audit of Council owned tourism assets	July 2024
	Produce an opportunity report on Council owned tourism assets	October 2024



Onboarding		
System familiarization	Learn new systems	June 2024
	Meet Stakeholders (build Contacts List)	Ongoing
	Review and develop budget for Ec dev and Visitor Services	July 2024
	Establish relationships Government agencies	Ongoing

### Relevant Reference Documents/Policies

Local Government Act 1993

### Stakeholders

Walgett Shire Council

Directorates and functions of Walgett Shire Council

Lightening Ridge and Walgett Visitor Information Centre Staff and Volunteers

Local Businesses and Tourism Operators

Aboriginal Associations and unincorporated groups

Community Associations and unincorporated groups

NIAA

Regional Development NSW

Destination Country and Outback NSW

Regional Development Australia Orana

Far Northwest Joint Organisation

### Conclusion

The communities of the Walgett Shire are a rich and colourful mix of personalities and community driven groups heavily invested in their communities, interests, and businesses, which form unique cultures, both willing and able to grow.

The ability to harness individual and community passion, infrastructure, business, and natural resources to build Walgett Shires economy is foremost in the process of developing a long-term strategy for Walgett Shire's Economic Development.

A six-month program of research, analysis, planning and consultation is being undertaken to develop a draft Economic Development Strategy for release in December 2024.

**14.2 CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER****14.2.1 MACQUARIE BANK CASH MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT****RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** Chief Financial Officer**REPORT AUTHOR:** Chief Financial Officer**FILE NUMBER:** 24/9/0157**PURPOSE:** For Decision**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council resolves to remove of old signatories, add appointment of new signatories, approve new signatories' roles and approve signing instructions for the management of Macquarie Bank Cash Management Account 968481408 and Macquarie Bank Cash Management Accelerator Account 940356066: and approve of signing instructions being any 2 signatories to authorise transfers and payments on both Macquarie Bank Cash Management Accounts.

*Removal of Old Signatories*

	<i>Signatory Role</i>
1. Michael Urquhart	General Manager
2. Anthony Hughes	Director of Corporate Services
3. Raju Ranij	Director of Engineering/Technical Services
4. Hafiz Malik	Director of Corporate Services

*Additional Signatories*

	<i>Signatory Role</i>
1. Megan Dixon	General Manager
2. Kazi Mahmud	Director of Infrastructure and Compliance
3. Ernest Mhande	Chief Financial Officer
4. Seema Dutt	Finance Manager

**MOVED****SECONDED****Summary**

This report identifies the need and requirements for removal of old signatories, add appointment of new signatories, approve new signatories and signing instructions to existing Walgett Shire Council – 2 X Macquarie Bank on-call Cash Management Accounts to authorize the management of these accounts.

**Background**

Due of the high staff turnover at the Walgett Shire Council, there is currently only one existing signatory on both Macquarie Bank Cash Management Accounts, namely the Macquarie CMA Account and the Macquarie Accelerator Account. To add further signatories and remove signatories, the Macquarie Bank requires 2 existing signatories to authorise the management of the accounts, of which the Council does not currently have.

**Current Position**

Council does not have 2 signatories on the 2 Macquarie Bank Cash Management Accounts. The Macquarie Bank will require a Council meeting minute resolution to add new signatories and remove signatories for both accounts.

Please see below information on Council's 2 Macquarie Cash Management Accounts. Furthermore, due to a single existing signatory on both accounts, it is in the Council's interest to assign a further number of signatures and remove signatories, approve signatory roles and approve signing instructions with any 2 signatories to authorise transfers and make payments, as outlined below.

**Macquarie Bank Cash Management Account**

Account number 968481408

Balance as at 28/06/2024 \$1,048,038.45

**Macquarie Bank Cash Management Accelerator Account**

Account number 940356066

Balance as at 28/06/2024 \$1,670,938.11

***Removal of Old Signatories***

Michael Urquhart

Anthony Hughes

Raju Ranij

Hafiz Malik

***Signatory Roles***

General Manager

Director of Corporate Services

Director of Engineering/Technical Services

Director of Corporate Services

***Additional Signatories***

Megan Dixon

Kazi Mahmud

Ernest Mhande

Seema Dutt

***Signatory Roles***

General Manager

Director of Infrastructure and Compliance

Chief Financial Officer

Finance Manager

***Signing Instructions for both Macquarie Bank Cash Management accounts, as above.***

Any 2 to authorise transfer and make payments.

The investments are compliant with the Local Government Act (NSW), the associated Regulations and Ministerial Order and Council's Investment Policy.

As at 28 June 2024, these 2 Macquarie Bank Cash Management Accounts held a total of \$2,718,976.56 with financial institutions in Australia.

**Relevant Reference Documents/Policies**

Local Government Act (NSW), 1993

Local Government (General) Regulation

2021 Ministerial Investment Order 5<sup>th</sup>

January 2016

Investment Policy (Revised and adopted in October 2023)

**Financial Implications**

As per report

**Stakeholders**

Walgett Shire Council

Residents of Walgett Shire Council

Financial Institutions

**Conclusion**

Due to a single existing signatory on both Macquarie Bank Cash Management Accounts, it is in the council's interest to assign further number of signatories and remove old signatories, approve signatory roles and approve signing instructions.

**14.2.2 JUNE INVESTMENT REPORT UP TO 30 JUNE 2024**

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** Chief Financial Officer  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Chief Financial Officer  
**FILE NUMBER:** 24/9/0161  
**PURPOSE:** For Noting

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Investment Report to 30 June 2024 be received and noted.**

**MOVED****SECONDED****Summary**

This report provides a summary and analysis of Council's cash and investments for the period ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

**Financial Markets Overview**

In the deposit market (June 2024), the average deposit rates offered by the major banks at the short-end (up to 12 months) rose between 8-11bp following the higher-than-expected monthly inflation figure. In the medium-longer term (2-5 years), the average bids from the major banks remained relatively flat, reflective of the market still factoring rate cuts in future years. With a global economic downturn and interest rate cuts still being priced over the next 18-24 months, therefore we expect higher interest rates to remain within the next 2 years. WSC portfolio is regularly reviewed to maximise investment performance and minimise risk.

**Asset Allocation**

As of 30 June 2024, the majority of the WSC portfolio is directed to fixed rate term deposits (~54%). The remainder of the portfolio is held in various cash accounts with CBA and Macquarie (~46%).



Comparisons are regularly made between existing investments and other available products that meet Council policy guidelines. A comparison of Council's investment portfolio results is also made monthly to that of other NSW Councils and Walgett Shire's results from the portfolio continue to better than average.

The investments are compliant with the Relevant Reference Documents and Policies listed in this report.

**Maturities Report**

WSC portfolio has about 86% of the total investment portfolio maturing within 12 months, which is well above the minimum 10% limit required across 0-3 month and 3-12-month term. In the coming months, WSC increase investments in attractive 1-2-year term period.

Compliant	Horizon	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Min. Limit (%)	Max. Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	0 - 3 months	\$31,410,470	74.06%	10%	100%	\$11,000,000
✓	3 - 12 months	\$5,000,000	11.79%	10%	100%	\$37,410,470
✓	1 - 2 years	\$3,000,000	7.07%	0%	70%	\$26,687,329
✓	2 - 5 years	\$3,000,000	7.07%	0%	50%	\$18,205,235
✓	5 - 10 years	\$0	0.00%	0%	25%	\$10,602,617
		<b>\$42,410,470</b>	<b>100%</b>			

**Counterparty Risk**

As at the end of June, Council did not have an overweight position to any single ADI. Overall, the portfolio is well diversified across the entire credit spectrum.

Compliant	Issuer	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Max. Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	Commonwealth Bank	AA-	\$16,691,493	39.36%	50%	\$4,513,742
✓	NAB	AA-	\$7,000,000	16.51%	50%	\$14,205,235
✓	Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000	2.36%	50%	\$20,205,235
✓	Macquarie Bank	A+	\$2,718,977	6.41%	40%	\$14,245,211
✓	Suncorp	A+	\$1,000,000	2.36%	40%	\$15,964,188
✓	ING Direct	A	\$3,000,000	7.07%	40%	\$13,964,188
✓	BOQ	A-	\$4,000,000	9.43%	40%	\$12,964,188
✓	AMP Bank	BBB+	\$4,000,000	9.43%	30%	\$8,723,141
✓	BankVIC	BBB+	\$1,000,000	2.36%	30%	\$11,723,141
✓	Judo Bank	BBB	\$1,000,000	2.36%	30%	\$11,723,141
✓	MyState Bank	BBB	\$1,000,000	2.36%	30%	\$11,723,141
			<b>\$42,410,470</b>	<b>100%</b>		

**Current Position:**

Council at month end held a total of \$42,410,470 in on-call bank accounts and interest-bearing term deposits with financial institutions in Australia. The investments are compliant with the Local Government Act (NSW), the associated Regulations and Ministerial Order and Council's Investment Policy.

Council's detailed investment portfolio and compliance information is shown in Attachment 1 to this report. This information is represented graphically as well as digitally and shows Council's compliance to the investment policy for all key performance indicators in the policy.

**Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:**

Local Government Act (NSW) 1993

Local Government (General) Regulation 2021

Ministerial Investment Order 5<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Investment Policy (Revised and adopted in October 2023)

**Conclusion:**

As at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024, Walgett Shire Council's cash and invested funds totalled \$42,410,470 increasing the portfolio by \$5,948,933 from the previous month of \$36,461,537

**Attachment:**

Attachment 3 - Walgett Shire Council's Portfolio reports from Arlo Advisory (previously known as Imperium Markets).

## 14.3 DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMPLIANCE

### 14.3.1 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES PROGRESS REPORT

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** Director of Infrastructure and Compliance  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Acting Roads Manager  
**FILE NUMBER:** 24/9/0151  
**PURPOSE:** For Noting

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Infrastructure Services Report for June 2024

**MOVED**

**SECONDED**

#### Summary

The purpose of this report is to update Council with regards to the Infrastructure Services progress works up to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024

#### Background:

The revised budget of the Infrastructure Services Department for Capital & Maintenance Works, Quarry Management, Fleet Management, Water & Sewerage works, Parks & Garden and Engineering Administration for 2023/2024 is \$58,983,859

The breakdown of the budget is as follows:

Items	Revised Budget	Expenditure up to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	%
Infrastructure Services including RMCC Works	\$52,735,898	\$23,944.924	45%
Water - Maintenance	\$3,541,003	\$1,612,349	45%
Water - Capital	\$1,271,903	\$343,559	27%
Sewer - Maintenance	\$1,035,055	\$505,893	49%
Sewer - Capital	\$400,000	\$6074	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$58,983,859</b>	<b>\$26,412,799</b>	<b>45%</b>

#### Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

2023/24 Operational Plan and Budget

#### Stakeholders:

Walgett Shire Council  
 Walgett Community

#### Financial Implications:

None

#### Alternative Solutions/Options:

None

#### Conclusion:

Council will continue to monitor the work progress of all the activities to ensure the works are completed within the guidelines and project estimates.

**14.3.2 MAJOR PROJECTS REPORT JUNE 2024**

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** Director of Infrastructure and Compliance  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Acting Roads Manager  
**FILE NUMBER:** 24/9/0154  
**PURPOSE:** For Noting

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council receive and note the Major Projects Report for June 2024**

**MOVED****SECONDED**

---

**Summary**

This report provides the Council with the current status of major projects within the shire as of the 30 June 2024.

**Come by Chance Road Reconstruction and seal** – No physical works in the June period. The Project is currently on hold pending outcome of scope variation requests that have been submitted to our two funding bodies.

The variation request with the federal funding body (HVSPP) have been approved, reducing the length of the road to be constructed with the current available funds to 30km, with additional grant funding to be sought to complete the remaining 24km.

Infrastructure NSW, (the co-funder) are still reviewing information provided to them, which included a revised cost benefit analysis for the Project. We need confirmation from both funding bodies that variations are accepted for physical works to commence.

**Burranbaa Road Reconstruction and reseal** – The road is complete. There is spray seal and linemarking outstanding for a 1km section where the Contractor removed and replaced a portion of defective gravel. Inclement weather has delayed the completion of these finishing works.

**Cryon Road** – Five tender submissions were received for this Project. The submissions were reviewed, and an evaluation/ recommendation completed.

At an Extraordinary Meeting in July, Council considered a report from staff and resolved not to proceed with this Project and return grant funding monies.

The council has received \$600,000 of grant monies to date and has spent approximately \$100,000 on consultant reporting, design development and procurement. The costs to date will now need to be covered from Council's revenue stream.

**Hollywood Bridge** – Spray seal works to the road either side of the new bridge was completed.

**Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:**

Project Funding Deeds  
Project Contracts

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council  
Walgett Shire Ratepayers  
Visitors / Tourists  
NSW Government

**Financial Implications**

\$100,000 (Exact TBC) of costs to date on Cryon road will need to be borne by the Councils revenue.

**Attachments:** Major Project Report

**Come by Chance  
@ 30th June, 2024**

% of Project	Task	Units	Contract Quantity	% Complete	Quantity Complete	Off site activi	0	CH 2000	CH 4000	CH 6000	CH 8000	CH 10000	CH 12000	CH 14000	CH 16000	CH 18000	CH 20000	CH 22000	CH 24000	CH 26000	CH 28000	CH 30000	CH 32000	CH 34000	CH 36000	CH 38000	CH 40000	CH 42000	CH 44000	CH 46000	CH 48000	CH 50000	CH 52000	CH 54000	CH 54491	
2.5%	Road Furniture - Sign Posts	item	10,000	0.0%	-																															
2.5%	Road Furniture - Guide Posts	item	408	0.0%	-																															
20.0%	Sealing	M <sup>2</sup>	435,312	0.0%	-																															
10.0%	Placement of Gravel	tonne	220,000	0.0%	-																															
20.0%	Stabilisation	M <sup>2</sup>	494,100	0.0%	-																															
10.0%	Placement of Bulk fill Cut	M <sup>3</sup>	27,847	38.8%	10,800		0	900	900	900	900	900	900	900	900	900	900	900	900																	
10.0%	Placement of Bulk fill Fill	M <sup>3</sup>	33,662	35.6%	12,000		0	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000																	
1.0%	Proof roll and removal of Unsuitable	M <sup>2</sup>	787,500	38.7%	304,800		0	25400	25400	25400	25400	25400	25400	25400	25400	25400	25400	25400	25400																	
4.0%	Installation of Culverts and pipes	EA	54	11.1%	6			1	1	1	1	1	1																							
4.0%	Clearing of Vegetation	M <sup>2</sup>	1,089,820	100.0%	1,089,820			40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	40000	9820
12.5%	Transport Gravel to Stockpiles	tonne	220,000	21.1%	46,361			5000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000	1361																		
3.5%	Winning of Gravel	tonne	220,000	21.1%	46,361	46361																														

100.0%

Project status                      15.65%

46,361t of gravel has been won and hauled to 7 stockpiles along the road alignment.

Physical works onsite are currently on hold pending the outcome of scope variation requests that have been submitted to our two funding bodies. Positive progress has been made with the federal funding body (HVSPP) that may allow the completion of the full length of the Project inclusive of the proposed scope changes - This involves seeking additional federal funds. Discussions are ongoing with INSW to confirm their acceptance of our proposed way forward.



Burrnbaa Road  
@ 30th June, 2024

% of Project	Task	Units	Contract Quantity	% Complete	Quantity Complete	8600	9000	9400	9800	10200	10600	11000	11400	11800	12200	12600	13000	13400	13800	14200	14600	15000	15400	15800	16200	16600	17000	17400	17800	18200
2.5%	Road Furniture - Sign Posts	item	6	100.0%	6																									6
2.5%	Road Furniture - Guide Posts	item	408	100.0%	408	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	24
10.0%	Linemarking	m	9,600	80.0%	7680	384	384	384	384	384	384	384	384	384	384	384	384	384						384	384	384	384	384	384	384
20.0%	Sealing	M²	76,800	79.2%	60800		3200	3200	3200	3200	3200	3200	3200	3200	3200	3200	3200	3200						3200	3200	3200	3200	3200	3200	3200
20.0%	Placement of Gravel	m³	20,108	100.0%	20108	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	804.32	
20.0%	Stabilisation	M³	21,610	100.0%	21610	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	864.4	
10.0%	Placement of Bulk fill Cut	M³	27,847	100.0%	26680		1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	1160	
5.0%	Proof roll and removal of Unsuitable	M²	377,200	100.0%	377190	7921	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	15842	7921	
5.0%	Installation of Culverts and pipes	EA	35	100.0%	33				33																					
5.0%	Clearing of Vegetation	M²	377,200	100.0%	377200	6200	15900	15900	14000	15900	15900	15900	15900	15900	14000	15900	15900	15900	15900	15900	14000	15900	15900	15900	15900	15900	15900	15900	11000	

100.0%

Project status 93.83%

PROGRESS

Seal and linemarking outstanding for 1km section of defective gravel that was removed and replaced.

# Cryon Road

## @ 30th June, 2024

% of Project	Task	Units	Contracty Quantity	% Complete	Quantity Complete	01-Feb-23	01-Mar-23	01-Apr-23	01-May-23	01-Jun-23	01-Jul-23	01-Aug-23	01-Sep-23	01-Oct-23	01-Nov-23	01-Dec-23	01-Jan-24	01-Feb-24	01-Mar-24	01-Apr-24	01-May-24	01-Jun-24	01-Jul-24	01-Aug-24	01-Sep-24	01-Oct-24	01-Nov-24	01-Dec-24
	Preliminary																											
1.0%	Geometric Design	ITEM	1.00	100%	1.000					0.7							0											
1.0%	Geotechnical	ITEM	1.00	100%	1.000					0.7							0											
1.0%	Environmental Factors Review	ITEM	1.00	100%	1.000					1.0																		
1.0%	Procurement	ITEM	1.00	75%	0.750															0.25	0.50							
	Construction																											
12.0%	Preliminary Items	ITEM	1.00	0%	0																							
4.0%	Drainage Works	Pipeline	10.00	0%	0																							
11.0%	Bulk Earthworks (Cut to Fill)	M3	6,515.00	0%	0																							
12.0%	Stabilisation of Subgrade	M2	62,000.00	0%	0																							
17.0%	Gravel win, load, haul, place	M3	16,809.00	0%	0																							
12.0%	Stabilisation of Gravel	M2	55,800.00	0%	0																							
25.0%	10mm-14mm Spray Seal	M2	49,600.00	0%	0																							
1.0%	Road Furtniture - Posts, Guardrail	ITEM	1.00	0%	0																							
2.0%	Finishing - Driveways, Linemarking	ITEM	1.00	0%	0																							

PROJECT STATUS

3.75%

PROJECT DISCARDED

**14.3.3 GUNDABLOUI ROAD APPLICATION FOR FUNDING**

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** Director of Infrastructure and Compliance  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Acting Roads Manager and Project Officer  
**FILE NUMBER:** 24/9/0153  
**PURPOSE:** For Decision

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**RECOMMENDATION**

- 1) That Council endorse the funding application for Gundabloui Road Seal Extension through Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program.
- 2) That Council endorse the planning and execution of the project if approved by the funding body.
- 3) That Council endorse the use of the 24/25 & 25/26 Block Grant Funding as the 20% co contribution needed for the funding( FY24/25 \$800,000.00 FY25/26 \$450,000.00)

**MOVED****SECONDED**

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**Summary**

Commencing from 1st July, the Australian Government is launching a new funding program aimed at enhancing investment to support the development of safer and more productive roads across Australia. This initiative underscores the government's commitment to addressing critical road infrastructure needs nationwide.

The funding program is designed as a competitive, application-based funding scheme open to all state and territory governments and Local Government Authorities (LGAs). Projects submitted must align with at least one of the program's focus areas, which are closely tied to priority areas in road infrastructure. These focus areas include:

- Road safety
- Productivity
- Bridge renewal
- Road resilience
- Road sustainability
- Heavy vehicle rest area

All projects submitted under the program require a 20% funding co-contribution. This co-contribution can be sourced from LGAs, state and territory governments, other Australian Government programs, and/or private funding sources. Applicants must clearly detail all funding sources contributing to their project cost in the application form. In the application submission, evidence of secured funding co-contributions must be provided.

**Funding Contribution Limits**

- For projects located in regional and remote areas, the program will contribute up to 80% of the total project cost.
- The maximum funding contribution per project is capped at \$5 million.

**Background**

The Gundabloui Rd has a section of 15 kilometres that remains unsealed. Sealing this section of Gundabloui Road is crucial for enhancing community connectivity and regional road infrastructure. It will significantly contribute to closing the gap of unsealed regional roads, providing safer and more reliable transportation routes for commuters, freight, and commodities. The road serves as a vital link between regional centres, facilitates state connections, and offers alternative transportation routes.

The proposed project aligns with all the requirements of the Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program (SLRIP) guidelines:

- **Direct Addressing of Focus Area:** The project directly addresses the need for improved road infrastructure.
- **Construction on Existing Road:** It involves extending the seal on an existing road.

- **Public Road:** Gundabloui Road is a public road used by the community.
- **Whole and Complete Project:** The project is self-contained and does not rely on other works.
- **Road Safety:** Sealing the road enhances safety for all users.
- **Productivity:** Improved road conditions enhance productivity for freight and commuters.
- **Road Resilience:** A sealed surface increases the road's resilience to weather and traffic conditions.
- **Road Sustainability:** The project supports sustainable development by improving the longevity and usability of the road infrastructure.

The Roads Infrastructure Function of Walgett Shire Council proposes to extend the seal on Gundabloui Road, starting from the Collarenebri end of the existing unsealed section. This project aims to construct approximately 10 kilometres of 9-meter-wide sealed road with a 250mm thick stabilized pavement.

The total project cost is estimated at \$6,250,000.00, with \$5,000,000.00 to be funded by the Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program (SLRIP). The remaining \$1,250,000.00 will be sourced from the Block Grant allocation over two financial years, \$800,000.00 FY 24/25 and \$450,000.00 FY 25/26.

Upon approval of funding allocation from the Australian Government's new funding program, the Roads Infrastructure function of Walgett Council will commence planning for the Gundabloui Road seal extension project.

### Project Phases

1. **Design Phase:** A contracted design team will be engaged to develop detailed plans and specifications for the project scope.
2. **Project Management and Construction:** The project will be executed by Walgett Shire Council's construction crew, ensuring local expertise and oversight throughout construction.

The Infrastructure Department is committed to delivering the Gundabloui Road seal extension project efficiently and effectively. With a structured approach to planning, design, and construction, we aim to maximise the benefits to the community and stakeholders of Walgett Council.

### Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Operation Plan 24/25 CSP 5.1.1 & 5.2.3  
Delivery plan 24/25

### Stakeholders:

Walgett Community  
Walgett Shire Council  
Australian Government

### Financial Implications:

Block Grants 24/25 & Block Grants 25/26

### Alternative Solutions/Options:

- Allocate different Roads for application and investigation
- Do not apply for the funding
- Reduce the scope

### Conclusion:

The Roads Infrastructure function seeks approval to proceed with the proposed project to extend the seal on Gundabloui Road. This initiative not only meets the criteria set out by SLRIP but also aligns with the strategic goals of Walgett Shire Council to improve regional road infrastructure. We anticipate positive community and stakeholder benefits from this essential infrastructure enhancement.

**14.3.4 INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS UPDATE JUNE 2024**

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** Director of Infrastructure and Compliance  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Acting Roads Manager and Project Officer  
**FILE NUMBER:** 24/9/0151  
**PURPOSE:** For Decision

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council receive and note the Infrastructure Works Update Report for June 2024**

**MOVED****SECONDED**

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**Summary:**

This report summarises the Capital and Maintenance works conducted for the month of June 2024

**Background:**

For Councillor information purposes, the following is advised:

**Capital Works****RR 329 Merrywinebone Road DRFA reconstruction**

The works on this site are being conducted by a crew made up of local contractors and a site supervisor working for council. The works on Merrywinebone are progressing well, the crews have been hindered by wet weather during June but are still progressing through the approved scope.

The total square metres completed for the month of June is 6,000m<sup>2</sup>. There is an extra crew starting at the Gwydir Hwy end of Merrywinebone at the beginning of July to help get the program completed and the road back to a good standard. Crews are concentrating on areas between the Gwydir Hwy and Camerons Lane as this area requires the most attention to bring the road up to a reasonable standard.

Current Expenditure for this project is \$1,919,311.75.

**RR 457 Gundabloui Road DRFA Reconstruction**

The works on this site are being conducted by a mixture of local contractors and supervised by a council supervisor. The works have been hindered a lot by wet weather during June. The crew have completed 10,000m<sup>2</sup> and have completed this DRFA program for this road. This crew is moving to maintenance grading for a few weeks until the Gingie Road program is finalised.

The current expenditure for this project is \$75,413.46.

**Hollywood Bridge Approaches**

These works are being completed by Council crews. The works are progressing well on this project, during June crews were hindered by wet weather a little but have managed to complete pavement works and sealing, the only task left to complete on this project is some signage.

Current expenditure for this project is \$131,550.86.

**Maintenance Works****Seal Patching Works/ Reseals**

During June patching works on Regional and Local roads were ramped up to help catch up on the back log of defects on Regional, Local and Urban roads.

Two extra contract wet hire trucks were hired and have been deployed to regional roads and urban streets preparing resealing areas. The extra trucks were here to help until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024, but their tenure has been extended.

There are currently areas being scoped up on regional roads for resealing to help expend the Block Grant Funding. These works were programmed to start mid-June but because of the recent wet and cold weather they have been postponed until Mid-September 2024.

#### Maintenance Grading

Maintenance grading works were hindered a lot during June due to wet weather and the colder months with the roads taking longer to dry out. These works were completed by Council crews and contractors. The following roads were graded during June 2024:

Road No	Road Name	Kms Completed	Completed by
SR 16	Mercadool Road	40kms	WSC
SR 33	Teranyan Road	14kms	WSC
SR 31	Gungalman Road	10kms	WSC
SR 81	Mac Masman Road	10kms	WSC
SR115	Aberfoyle Road	10kms	WSC
SR111	Narran Lake Road	15kms	Contractor
SR101	Wilby Wilby Road	28kms	Contractor
SR 70	Lone Pine Road	10kms	Contractor
SR 45	Borehead Road	7kms	Contractor
RR457	Gundabloui Road	15kms	Contractor
SR 61	Cambo Road	21kms	Contractor
SR127	Boora Road	10kms	Contractor
RR7716	Come By Chance Road	50kms	Contractor
SR12	Millie Road	9kms	Contractor
SR13	Woodvale Road	8kms	Contractor
	<b>Total</b>	<b>257kms</b>	

*The budget for maintenance grading is as follows:*

Road Category	Budget	Current Expenditure
Local Road Unsealed	\$652,681.00	\$634,564.61
Regional Unsealed	\$209,096.00	\$97,233.23
Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund (RERRF)	\$11,157,453.18	\$4,748,951.63
Totals	\$861,777.00	\$5,480,749.47

The expenditure for these budgets is council assets and contractors combined and both assets play an important role in maintaining council assets on a fulltime and contract basis.

**Signage & Slashing Works**

This crew is currently working on sign defects around the Shire on Local and Regional Roads. Slashing works are currently on hold around the Shire at present due to the slow growth of grass and the wet weather. Operational teams will monitor the slashing requirements over the next few weeks and adjust resources as required.

**Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:**

2023/24 Approved Council Budget

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council  
Walgett Shire Community  
Funding Bodies

**Conclusion:**

The works and program will be updated monthly to keep the council informed on the progress of each project and ensure alignment with the approved budgets.

**14.3.5 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION APPROVALS JUNE 2024**

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** Director of Infrastructure and Compliance  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Acting Manager of Compliance  
**FILE NUMBER:** 24/9/0153  
**PURPOSE:** For Noting

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council receive and note the report for Development Application Approvals June 2024.**

**MOVED****SECONDED**

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**Summary**

This report is to advise the June 2024 development approvals for the information of Council and to ensure compliance with Section 4.59 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* and Section 124 of the associated Regulation.

**Background**

To ensure the validity of a development consent in any legal proceedings, all development consents and complying development certificates are to be notified to the public within 3 months of the date of consent.

The only exception is any development that may have Court proceedings commenced before the expiration of 3 months from the date on which the public notice was given.

**Current Position**

To ensure compliance with Section 4.59 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* and Section 124 of the associated Regulation, Council publishes a notice each month on/in Council's website, E-Bulletin and Facebook Page in relation to development approvals for the previous month.

For Councillor Information purposes, the following developments have been lodged and are currently waiting a determination. **Please note, this is only current as at 1 June–30 June**

**Stakeholders**

Walgett Shire Council  
Developer  
Residents of Walgett Shire Council

**Conclusion**

That Council receive the below information.

**Attachments**

Development Applications



Appl. No	Address	Title	Development	Status
DA2008/12:4	Mining, Lightning Ridge	Lot -1 DP 1103508 - WLL14607	MODIFICATION Rotating inlet cowls replaced with fixed cowls and rearranged in position. Entry Oculus Moved towards the North (nom. 2m). Entry Walkway Reconfigured and moved towards the north Accessible Carparking 2 carpark accessible parking spaces relocated. Fire Stairs Fire stairs St-02 and St-03 have been removed Fire Booster Relocated	Approved
CC/2024/7	2 Pandora Street LIGHTNING RIDGE NSW 2834	Lot 1 Section 25 DP 758612	The proposal is for the demolition and redevelopment of a preschool building and site, being Lot 1 Section 25 DP 758612, Parish of Wallangulla, in the R1 General Residential Zone. The proposed development is for the expanded and continued use of the site as a preschool. The Lightning Ridge area expects a steady increase in children's numbers for upcoming years. The redevelopment will enable a better working environment for teachers and children.	Assessment awaiting on further details
DA2023/48	39 Gem Street Lightning Ridge	Lot 2 DP 1271292	Allotment consolidation subdivision	Response from NSW DPIE recommending exercise of re-zoning to occur as to be incorporated with the amendment to Council's Local Environment Plan 2013
DA2023/51	25 Slacksmith Street Burren Junction	Lots 10,11 DP 1067218 & Lot 11 DP 721416 & Lot 1 DP 1090146	Graincorp 370,000 tonne storage bunkers, along with weighing and sample facilities and road network	Awaiting response from Transport NSW concerning vehicle movement from main highway and rail crossing area.
DA2024/9	257 Willis Road Collarenebri	Lot 11137 DP 762442	Two lot subdivision	Assessment
CC2024/8	35 Pitt Street Walgett	Lot 2 DP 126961	New metal covered walkway	Approved
CC2024/6	28 Warrena Street Walgett	Lots A & D DP 392928	Multi-unit Cabins and Associated buildings incl. Mobile Food Van	On Hold awaiting suitable documentation
CC2024/10	1667 Binghi Road Carinda	Lot 7 DP 751584	Aircraft Hangar	Assessment awaiting further information
DA2024/11	1590 Glen Eden Road Burren Junction	Lot 1 DP 752247	Two lot subdivision	Approved
AA2024/2	6 Onyx Street Lightning Ridge	Lots 521 & 522 DP 703618	Caravan Park & Camping Ground Licence	Approved

Appl. No	Address	Title	Development	Status
AA2024/6	44 Harlequinn Street Lightning Ridge	Lot 100 DP 1210040	Caravan Park & Camping Ground Licence	Approved
AA2024/11	23 Wilson Street Collarenebri	Lot 1 DP 103448	Side Track Caf'e Street Dining	Approved
DA2024/12	Lot 68 Rose Street Collarenebri	Lot 68 DP 722945	Re-sited dwelling and animal Boarding and training	Cancelled
PCA2024/1	37 Morilla Street Lightning Ridge	Lot 153 DP720085	New Fuel Tank	Approved
DA2024/10	Lot 1 DP 819858 Castlereagh Highway WALGETT	Lot 1 DP 819858	Grain Corp new workers lunchroom	Awaiting details
DA2024/14	2859 Gungahman Road Carinda	Lots 5 & 6 DP 754202	Two Lots subdivision	Approved
PCA2024/3	2 Pandora Street Lightning Ridge	Lot 1 Section 25 DP 758612	Pre-school	Awaiting further details
AA2024/12	126 Belarra Road Rowena	Lot 1 DP 819394	New waste water Management System	Issued
AA2024/13	Lot 1 DP 819858 Castlereagh Highway Walgett	Lot 1 DP 819858	Manufactured lunchroom building	Awaiting details of building
AA2024/14	47 Fantasia Street Lightning Ridge	Lot 25 DP 837866	Manufactured homes detached dual occupancy	Neighbour notification
AA2024/15	70 Morilla Street Lightning Ridge	Lot 9 DP 758612	Gem workshop	cancelled
CC2024/11 CFT-560805	25-29 Morilla Street Lightning Ridge	Lot 2529 DP 1282859	Second Stage of Lightning Ridge Bowling Club Renovations improvements	Awaiting further information
PCA2024/4	25-29 Morilla Street Lightning Ridge	Lot 2529 DP 1282859	Lightning Ridge Bowling Club Renovations	Awaiting further information
DA2024/15	47 Fantasia Street Lightning Ridge	Lot25 DP 837866	Detached Dual Occupancy	Neighbour Notification
DA2024/16	70 Morilla Street Lightning Ridge	Lot 9 DP 758612	Gem Workshop	Cancelled
DA2024/17	982 Gundabloui Road Collarenebri	Lot 6232 DP 769084	New Manufactured Home	On hold awaiting further details



# **AGENDA FOR CLOSED COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY 23 JULY 2024**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** pursuant to clause 7 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice that the Closed Council Meeting of Walgett Shire Council will be held at Walgett Shire Council Chambers on Tuesday 23 July 2024 to discuss the items listed in the Agenda.

Megan Dixon  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

## 15. MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

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Time: .....

That the public be excluded from the meeting pursuant to Sections 10A of the Local Government Act 1993 on the basis that the items deal with:

(1) A council, or a committee of the council of which all the members are councillors, may close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises--

- (a) the discussion of any of the matters listed in subclause (2), or
- (b) the receipt or discussion of any of the information so listed.

(2) The matters and information are the following—

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors),
- (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer,
- (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business,
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed--
  - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
  - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
  - (iii) reveal a trade secret,

(3) A council, or a committee of the council of which all the members are councillors, may also close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises a motion to close another part of the meeting to the public.

(4) A council, or a committee of a council, may allow members of the public to make representations to or at a meeting, before any part of the meeting is closed to the public, as to whether that part of the meeting should be closed.

**MOVED:**

**SECONDED:**

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## **16. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS/CLOSED COUNCIL MEETING**

### **GENERAL MANAGER**

- 16.1.1 RFT 24/004 PROVISION OF PLANT HIRE**
- 16.1.2 LIGHTNING RIDGE WATER FUND FORENSIC AUDIT**
- 16.1.3 WATER PRICE VARIATION FOR ACCOUNT 22434**
- 16.1.4 GENERAL MANAGER PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL**

Pages 86 - 120 are omitted as they are closed meeting reports

## 17. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

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### Recommendation

That Council return to open session.

Moved:

Seconded:

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## 18. ADOPTION OF CLOSED SESSION REPORTS

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### Recommendation

That Council adopt the recommendations of the closed session reports.

Moved:

Seconded:

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## 19. CLOSE OF MEETING

Time: .....