



WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

AGENDA

21 AUGUST 2007

*Stephen McLean*  
*General Manager*



13 August 2007

Administrator  
Walgett Shire Council  
PO Box 31  
WALGETT NSW 2832

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Ordinary Meeting of Walgett Shire Council will be held in the **Collarenebri Town Hall on Tuesday, 21 August 2007, commencing at 10.00am.**

## **AGENDA**

### **PUBLIC FORUM PRESENTATIONS**

*(limited to five minute presentations, and must relate to items listed within the Business Paper, with two speakers, speaking for the item and two speakers, speaking against the item to be considered)*

### **WELCOME TO VISITORS**

***(recognising the original Aboriginal caretakers of the lands covered by the Shire)***

### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD 17 JULY 2007**

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<b>SECRETARY RESERVE TRUST, MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 1

**Subject:** Acceptance of Reserve Trust Minutes

**Author:** Kaye Stone – Secretary of the Reserve Trust

**File No:** 280/01/00/00

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**Summary:**

This report recommends that Council accepts all the recommendations of the reserve trust meetings held 21 August 2007.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Council as the appointed reserve trust manager has certain responsibilities in its role as manager they include;

- Develop and implement Plans of Management in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and *Crown Lands Act 1989*
- Making regulatory decisions eg; use of the reserve, hours of entry, fees and charges etc
- Adopting Codes of Conduct
- Financial record keeping
- Counter-signing of development application and grants
- Holding Reserve Trust meetings as required

Reserve Trust Management Meetings are held prior to the Council meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month. Members of the public are welcome to attend and can obtain an agenda on the relevant reserve by contacting Council.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Reserve Trust Minutes

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Reserve Trust Management Committees
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Lands

**Financial Implications:**

There may be costs associated with resolutions of the Reserve Trust meetings. These will be stated in the relevant Reserve Trust Minutes.

**Recommendations:**

- 1. That Council endorse the resolutions of the Reserve Trust meetings held 21 August 2007.**
- 2. That Council takes action to implement the resolutions of the Reserve Trusts.**

<b>ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 2

**Subject:** Local Government Awards Evening

**Author:** Vic Smith - Administrator

**File No:** 235/06/34/00

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**Summary:**

This report is provided for information regarding the recently held Local Government Week Awards Evening held in Sydney on Wednesday, 1 August 2007.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Walgett Shire Council was nominated for the Local Government Youth Week Awards. Council's Manager Corporate Services, Youth Development Officer and Administrator attended the function held in Sydney on Wednesday, 1 August 2007.

The evening was hosted by the City of Sydney, with the Master of Ceremonies for the evening being television celebrity Scott McGregor. The New South Wales Minister for Fair Trading, Youth, and Volunteering, Ms Linda Burney, the Leader of the Opposition, Barry O'Farrell, the Shadow Minister for Local Government, Chris Hartcher and the Lord Mayor of Sydney, Clover Moore, joined 250 Councillors, Council Staff, Industry Representatives and Sponsors at the Annual Local Government Awards.

There were twenty New South Wales councils recognised for outstanding contributions to their communities.

Walgett Shire Council was nominated in two categories for their outstanding Youth Week Activities and were announced as finalists for the Best Local Youth Week Program and Best Small Council Youth Week Program.

The staff of Walgett Shire Council that were involved in the planning and coordination of the 2007 Youth Week activities are to be commended for their dedication and commitment to providing events and activities across our Shire.

**Recommendations:**

- 1. That Council note the successful achievements of Walgett Shire Council at the 2007 Local Government Youth Week Awards evening.**
- 2. That Walgett Shire Council staff involved in the planning and coordination of the 2007 Youth Week Activities be commended on the outstanding achievements of the 2007 Youth Week Activities.**

<b>GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 3

**Subject:** State Emergency Service Unit Controller Appointments - 2007

**Author:** Stephen McLean – General Manager

**File No:** 165/02/07/00

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**Summary:**

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

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Council resolved in August 2005 to reappoint Unit Controllers for the Lightning Ridge, Glengarry, Walgett, Carinda and Collarenebri State Emergency Services for a period of two years.

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

Mr David Lane – Reappointment - Unit Controller Lightning Ridge State Emergency Service  
Mr Dominic Warnock – Reappointment – Unit Controller Carinda State Emergency Service  
Mrs Peggy Williams – Reappointment – Unit Controller Collarenebri State Emergency Service  
Mr Bryce Kelly – Appointment – Unit Controller Glengarry State Emergency Service  
Mrs Julie Marshall – Appointment – Unit Controller Walgett State Emergency Service

In accordance with the requirements of the State Emergency Services Act – Regulations Section 5, the appointment of all Controllers is to be formally reviewed by the Director General every odd numbered year with a common reappointment date being 1st August.

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

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Letters from State Emergency Service Region Controller dated 27 July 2007

**Stakeholders:**

- State Emergency Services



**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

**That Council recommend the appointment of the following candidates to the position of Emergency Unit Controller for a period of two years, effective from 1 August 2007:-**

<b>Mr David Lane –</b>	<b>Unit Controller Lightning Ridge State Emergency Service</b>
<b>Mr Dominic Warnock –</b>	<b>Unit Controller Carinda State Emergency Service</b>
<b>Mrs Peggy Williams –</b>	<b>Unit Controller Collarenebri State Emergency Service</b>
<b>Mr Bryce Kelly –</b>	<b>Unit Controller Glengarry State Emergency Service</b>
<b>Mrs Julie Marshall –</b>	<b>Unit Controller Walgett State Emergency Service</b>

<b>GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 4

**Subject:** New South Wales Gemstone Emblem – The Black Opal

**Author:** Stephen McLean – General Manager

**File No:** 006/05/03/44

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**Summary:**

This report recommends that Council forward a letter of support for the establishment of the Black Opal as the New South Wales State Gemstone Emblem.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Council has received a copy of a letter forwarded to The Honourable Morris Iemma, Premier of New South Wales by Mr Kevin Humphries MP, National Member for Barwon seeking support and cooperation in establishing the Black Opal as the New South Wales Gemstone Emblem.

The initiative to have the Black Opal recognised as the New South Wales Gemstone Emblem has been discussed for a number of years and there is a lot of support for the initiative to occur.

This initiative, if successful, would not only be significant for the opal and jewellery fraternity, but also have benefits for Walgett Shire, showcasing Lightning Ridge and the wider shire as a destination to visit.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Letter from Mr Kevin Humphries MP, National Member for Barwon

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Community and Opal Mining Industry

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

**That Council forward a letter of support for the proposal to establish the Black Opal as the New South Wales State Gemstone Emblem.**

<b>GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 5

**Subject:** Rural Fire Districts Agreement Zoning

**Author:** Stephen McLean – General Manager

**File No:** 145/11/07/00

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**Summary:**

Following the recent zoning of the Rural Fire Service's in Walgett, Warren and Coonamble Shires, the Rural Fire Districts Agreements can now be combined into a single agreement.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

The Rural Fire Service Zoning Agreement sets out the standards of service provided by the NSW Rural Fire Service and Local Councils to each other respectively for the term of the agreement. The recent zoning of Walgett, Warren and Coonamble Shires require a combined Zoning Agreement.

The agreement presented combines the elements of all the previous individual Service agreements and is required to be signed under seal by all the party Councils.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Rural Fire Zoning Agreement – North West Zone

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett, Warren and Coonamble Shire Councils
- Rural Fire Service NSW

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

**That the Rural Fire Zoning Agreement – North West Zone be signed under seal by the General Manager and Administrator.**

<b>GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 6

**Subject:** Collarenebri Jockey Club

**Author:** General Manager - Stephen McLean

**File No:** 180/08/00/00

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**Summary:**

Council has received a request from the Collarenebri Jockey Club for financial support of \$20,000.00 to match funds being sought in a grant from NSW Department of Sport and Recreation.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

The Collarenebri Jockey Club has performed the maintenance of the existing Grandstand and other facilities at the Collarenebri Showground and Racecourse Reserve, of which Council is the Trustee, by supplying both materials and labour since a major upgrade was completed in 1983.

The club has identified the need for new toilet block facilities to be provided at the site. The existing toilet blocks have been inspected and are inadequate and beyond reasonable repair. In order to keep the race track facilities at a suitable standard a new prefabricated facility is considered the best option available for the club.

In order to obtain these facilities the club is making an application to the Capital Assistance Program through the NSW Department of Sport and Recreation for a grant totalling \$46,000.00, of which \$20,000.00 is requested from Council \$20,000.00 is sought from Sport and Recreation and \$6,000.00 being provided in cash and volunteer labour by the Jockey Club.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Correspondence from Collarenebri Jockey Club.

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Collarenebri Jockey Club

**Financial Implications:**

The \$20,000.00 requested from Council is sought as matching funds and will be required if the grant is successful. Council has funds in its Manager Corporate Services Contingency Account that can be allocated to this project.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council allocate an amount of \$20,000.00 to the Collarenebri Jockey Club as its matching funds contribution in the event of a successful grant application with the NSW Department of Sport and Recreation for an upgrade of toilet facilities at the Collarenebri Showground and Racecourse Reserve.**

<b>GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 7

**Subject:** Occupational Health and Safety Committee Constitution

**Author:** Occupational Health and Safety Committee

**File No:** 145/04/11/00

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**Summary:**

This report recommends that Council adopt the revised Walgett Shire Council Occupational Health and Safety Committee Constitution.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Council's Occupational Health and Safety Committee have recently reviewed its Constitution and now seek Council's endorsement of the document.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Walgett Shire Council Occupational Health and Safety Committee Constitution (provided under separate cover)

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Walgett Shire Community

**Recommendation:**

**That Council receive and adopt the reviewed Walgett Shire Health and Safety Committee Constitution.**

<b>GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 8

**Subject:** Organisation Structure

**Author:** Bronwyn Newton – Coordinator Human Resources

**File No:** 004/06/02/47

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**Summary:**

This report recommends an amendment to Council's Organisational Structure to include the short term salary structure to include several short term salary structure changes.

Four additional positions are proposed to be incorporated on Council's Organisation Structure for a period of Three years (1 July 2007 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010). Positions are Plant Operator (Roller), 2 x Semi Skilled Worker and a Supervisor - Specialist Bitumen Repair.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

The Plant Operator (Roller) and the Semi Skilled Worker positions have been identified by Council and relevant Managers to commence undertaking and completing construction works and core maintenance works associated with the Auslink Program. Council has secured approximately \$7,700,00.00 in funding and is required to inject a further \$3,300,000.00 to expend a total of \$11,000,000.00 over three projects totalling approximately 90 Kilometres of sealing Regional Roads.

The position of Supervisor - Specialist Bitumen Repair has been identified by Council and relevant managers to achieve better supervisory support for Council's Pavement Maintenance crews and the Technical Officer (Maintenance). This employee will be responsible for the daily functions of the Pavement Maintenance Crews. They will be required to plan, instruct and carry out works associated with fundamental maintenance of the sealed road network. It is anticipated this will assist Council to better manage sealed roads within Council's control by ensuring proper maintenance procedures are carried out.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Organisation Structure
- Report - Proposed Short Term Changes to the Engineering Salary Structure
- Consultative Committee Minutes – 1 August 2007

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council staff

**Financial Implications:**

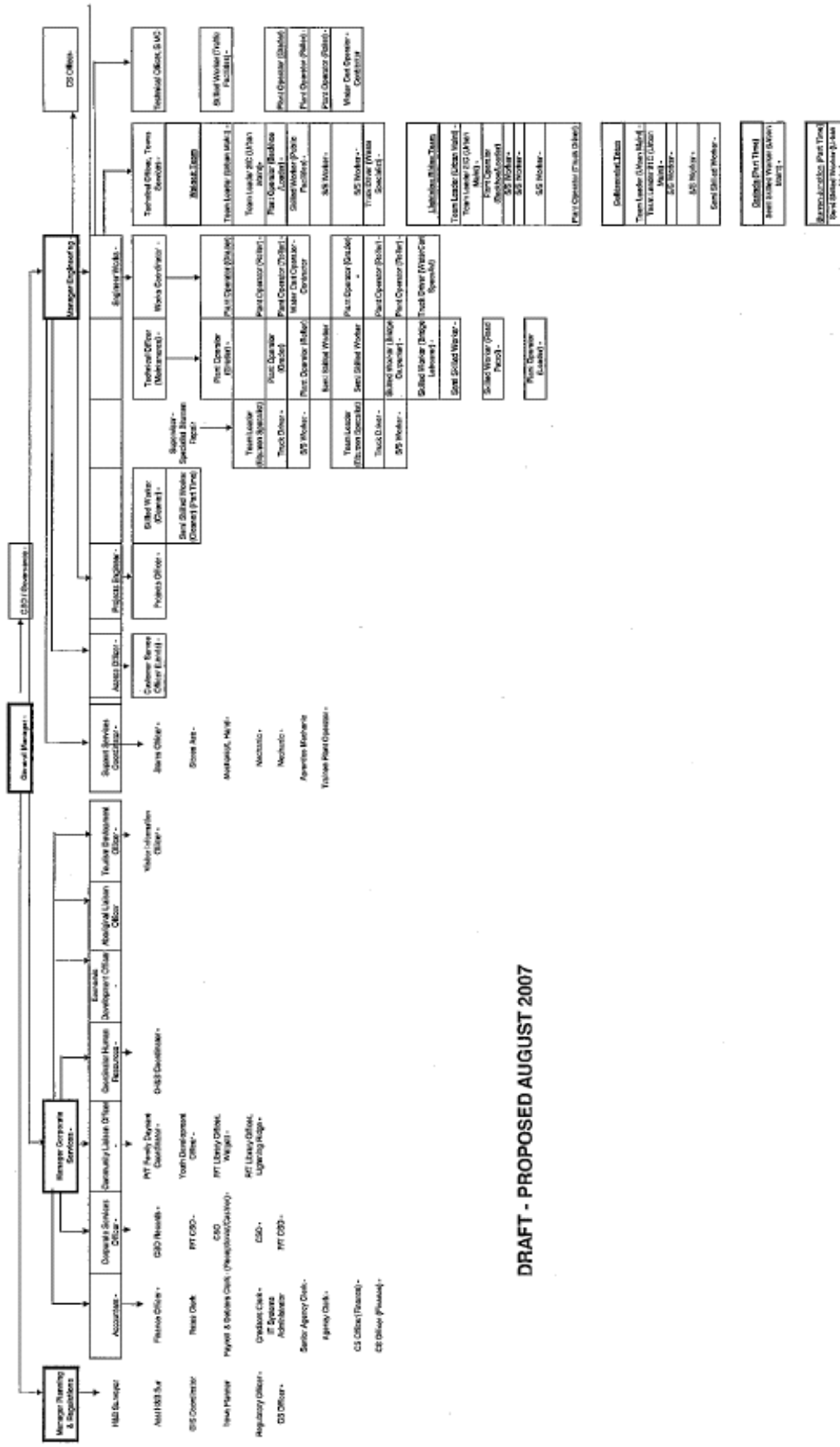
Council has successfully secured external funding to assist with the implementation of the Plant Operator (Roller) and Semi Skilled Worker positions within the Auslink Program.

Supervisor - Specialist Bitumen Repair position will be funded via Council's present SIMC Routine Maintenance and SIMC Ordered Work budget.

**Recommendations:**

1. **That Council endorse the additional positions of Plant Operator (Roller) and 2 x Semi Skilled Worker within the Engineering Department and include in Council's Organisational Structure.**
2. **That Council endorse the additional position of Supervisor - Specialist Bitumen Repair within the Engineering Department and include in Council's Organisational Structure.**
3. **That these positions be identified as temporary only and not to extend beyond 30 June 2010.**





**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

**FILE: 145/04/07**

The following are minutes of the Walgett Shire Council Consultative Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> August 2007 in the Walgett Council Chambers, commencing at 3.05pm.

**1. PRESENT**

Ian Taylor	Chairperson (LGEA Representative)
Janet Babic	Deputy Chairperson (Management Representative)
Bronwyn Newton	Secretary
Roy White	Management Representative
John Radman	Committee Member
Andrew Bostock	Committee Member (United Services Union)
Len Smyth	Committee Member (DEPA Representative)

Observer:	Terry Dray	United Services Union
Observer:	Robyn Davis	United Services Union

**2. APOLOGIES**

Stephen McLean	Management Representative
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**3. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Consultative Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> July 2007 were confirmed, with no amendments required.

**4. BUSINESS ARISING**

**Correspondence from United Services Union**

Mr Terry Dray advised the committee he had forwarded the following correspondence to Mrs Bronwyn Newton, Secretary:-

Gloucester City Council's – Drug & Alcohol Policy  
Dubbo City Council's – Higher Duties Policy

Mrs Bronwyn Newton, Secretary advised that the documents had been received.

**5. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**School to Work Program**

Coordinator Human Resources, Mrs Bronwyn Newton advised the committee these documents are to be used as a tool to appraise the students currently involved in the School to Work program to assess if they should be paid for their hours when working at Council.

The committee asked how many students were still involved in the program and are turning up. Coordinator Human Resources, Mrs Bronwyn Newton advised that Five (5) students commenced in the program and four (4) has been turning up each week.

The following amendment to the Position Description of School to Work Program was recommended by the committee:-

Responsibilities - Point 2

Spell out PPE – Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**It was recommended that the Consultative Committee endorse the Position Description of School to Work Program with the following amendment:-**

**Responsibilities - Point 2**

**Spell out PPE – Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

**Short Term Salary Structure Changes**

*Note: - Barry Maher, Engineer Works arrived at the meeting 3.30pm.*

Mr Barry Maher was invited to attend the Consultative Committee to discuss the proposed short term salary structure changes.

Mr Barry Maher gave the Committee an overview of the proposal and explained where extra staff members were required and why these staff members were needed.

Positions to be available for a 3 year term

Initially staff may be appointed on a casual basis or a Fixed Term Contract

Employment (Casual and/or Term contracts) is to be reviewed every Twelve (12) months

Renewal of term contracts and continuation of Casual employment will depend on budgetary constraints and satisfactory performance.

Casual employees may be sought through the local employment agencies. Fixed Term contract positions will be advertised.

Position descriptions for new positions to be forwarded to the Consultative Committee for endorsement.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**It was recommended that the Consultative Committee endorse the concept of the proposed Short Term Salary Structure Changes.**

**It was also recommended that the Consultative Committee endorse the proposed positions on to the Organisational Structure for a Three (3) year term.**

*Note: - Barry Maher, Engineer Works departed the meeting 3.42pm.*

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.43pm**

**Next Meeting of the Consultative Committee Meeting will be held on  
5<sup>th</sup> September 2007 at 3.00pm at the Council Chambers Meeting Room.**

I advise that in accordance with my delegated authority, the determinations of the Consultative Committee contained in this report are approved.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Mr Stephen McLean, General Manager

## **Proposed Short term changes to the Engineering Salary Structure**

**Date:** Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2007

Required changes to structure for the purposes of undertaking & completing construction works and core maintenance works within the shire until December 2010.

Auslink Program – 1<sup>st</sup> July 2007 until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

### **Overview**

In late 2006, application where submitted to the Federal Government for the purpose of attracting funding from the Auslink Programme which had total funds of \$27,000,000. Council secured \$2,100,000 from this funding towards a total project cost of \$3,000,000 toward the sealing of 25 kilometres of the Mungindi to Collarenebri Road. During the Federal Governments budget announcements in late May 2007, it was announced that a second round of funding amounting to \$250,000,000 would be released. Council was fortunate enough to secure \$5,600,000 from that round making a total of \$7,700,000. Council is required to inject a further \$3,300,000 to expend a total of \$11,000,000 over three projects totalling approx 90 kilometres of sealed Regional Roads.

The three projects will link Walgett and Carinda, Collarenebri and Burren Junction and start the Mungindi to Collarenebri Road, and to be undertaken in the following order:-

1. Monkey Scrub South RR 333 (10 Km's)
2. Mungindi to Collarenebri Little Weir South RR 459 (13 Km's)
3. Rowena to Burren Junction RR 329 (34 Km's)
4. Monkey Scrub North RR 333 (10 Km's)
5. Mungindi to Collarenebri Little Weir to Border RR 457 (12 Km's)
6. Walgett to Carinda RR 333 (10 Km's)

### **Work Method**

Council will complete the greater portion of earthworks with day labour. This will require a minimum of 3 construction crews made up in the following manner:-

**Crew 1.** – Grader, Smooth Drum Roller, Pad foot Roller, large water truck, twin cab 4X4, Fuel trailer, Caravan and Rubber Tyred Roller.  
3 Council Staff and 1 casual.

**Crew 2.** – Grader, Smooth Drum Roller, Pad Foot Roller, large water truck, twin cab 4X4, fuel trailer, caravan and extra unskilled labourer.  
3 Council Staff and 1 casual.

**Crew 3.** – Grader, 16G Contract Grader, 2 x Pad Foot Roller, large water truck, twin cab 4X4, fuel trailer and caravan, 2 x 11yd (9<sup>m3</sup>) open bowl scrapers.  
2 Council Staff and 1 casual.

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There is a possibility that a 4<sup>th</sup> water truck be required.

Although the bulk of extra requirements can be sourced through contractors presently listed with Council, there is a need for two staff to operate the two rollers listed in Crew 3. Presently, one has been organised from the Collarenebri work crew. There maybe the opportunity to swap operators from various locations to with Council Workforce such as the Carinda worker, presently working 20 hours over a 3 day week. This could be organised to allow 3 days of work on the project and 2 days / 1 day alternatively depending on RDO.

Crew 3 is planned to start on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2007 and will require one casual or contracted operator for the period ending June 30<sup>th</sup> 2010. A second operator will be required for a 26 week period beginning on or about 30<sup>th</sup> March 2008 as the Collarenebri staff member will be required for a footpath project in Collarenebri at that time.

There is also a requirement for an additional staff member in Crew 1 to operate the rubber tyred roller. This person would not be required until the last week of August or the first week of September 2007 and would be required until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010. I suggest that having another person on site to clean, fuel, peg and do other jobs as they arise will be beneficial for the functioning of the project as a whole and will be extremely worthwhile as there will be sick leave, annual leave and other human resource problems to contend with. Not having this extra person will be detrimental to the flow of work as scheduling is extremely tight. This person would be required from or about 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2007 until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

### Summary

#### Crew 1

- 1 extra staff member to man the rubber tyred roller to start 3<sup>rd</sup> September or thereabouts.

#### Crew 2

- 1 extra staff member to complete various tasks including pegging, cleaning, plant operation, fuelling and other various tasks to start 3<sup>rd</sup> September or thereabouts.

#### Crew 3.

- 2 extra staff members, one to start on or about 6<sup>th</sup> August and if possible, should come from Collarenebri. One extra staff member to take the place of the Council staff member during a 26 week period beginning on or about the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

**Core Maintenance 31<sup>st</sup> July 2007 until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010.**

### Overview

I am proposing that the arrangements for undertaking bituminous patching repairs be restructured in the short term. Since my arrival there has been a continuous need to

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undertake repairs to road edges resulting from the road problems associated with western area soils and constant heavy traffic.

I have put in place a second patching team and the resulting production, although high, has not kept up with demand to this stage. Associated plant and work practices have been renewed or modified. Both the trucks are old and continually require work, not through the fault of the crews but rather the rough roads and distances required for them to travel. It is budgeted to replace one truck, the smaller older one and keep the present larger Flocon unit to increase efficiencies. Our work method with heavy patching takes a greater percentage of this trucks time as hot primer sealing by companies such as Pioneer Road Surfaces, Sammi and Boral is very expensive and undependable.

The patching is a specialised area and extremely important to the fundamental maintenance of the road network in general. I am proposing that a commitment be made for a three year period to have staff in this area afforded the opportunity to focus on this to rein in the damage and then to control it by proper maintenance procedures. This can only be achieved by better supervisory support. At present, supervisors are pulled away from other core work in the maintenance area to attend to these two crews.

### **Work Method**

There is the opportunity to move a grade 9 supervisor into this position which would provide several solutions to problems which have arisen over time. There being no more expenditure on timber bridges, I would like to see Tony Fuller moved to this position. Tony has been with the patching crew for approximately six months and has managed to solve the greater number of problems with the Flocon truck to date. Tony has taken a keen interest in the work and both output and moral have improved under his and Glen Molloy's guidance.

The financing of this structure will come from Council's present budget, SIMC Routine Maintenance and SIMC Ordered Work.

I see the following structure as being the requirement;

#### **Supervising Technical Officer**

Glen Molloy

#### **Supervisor - Specialist Bitumen Repair - Grade 9**

Tony Fuller

#### **Truck 1**

Bruce Stewart – Truck Driver / Team Leader - Grade 6

Darren Long

Semi Permanent addition

#### **Truck 2**

Jeremy Watts – Truck Driver / Team Leader – Grade 6

Colin Copeland

Dean Lillyman

The work which this position will undertake consists of setting out determined works on Local Urban Roads, Regional Roads and State Roads, completing reports and OH&S requirements, supporting the crews where necessary, organising day to day activities issued by the supervisor, ordering materials and organising repair work to plant and other work for staff when required as well as completing other tasks issued by the supervisor. This position will be mobile and work independently from the two truck units and in so doing will require a utility, phone and light bar.

Summary

After a period of three years the whole structure would then have to be reassessed to ascertain the work requirements in construction and maintenance and that would include the SIMC work also.

The requirements would be;

- Light utility vehicle
- Telephone
- Light bar
- Semi skilled or unskilled worker for three years
- Appointment of one of the two present incumbents as ganger / supervisor for truck 1.

Barry Maher

Engineer Works



<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 9

**Subject:** Community Assistance Scheme Donations – 2007/2008 Budget

**Author:** John Burke – Finance Officer

**File No:** 180/08/00/00

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**Summary:**

This report identifies requests for financial assistance from Council through the Community Assistance Scheme 2007/2008 and under Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Applications have been received from community organisations, for financial assistance, under the Community Assistance Scheme, which were advertised Shire wide, with applications closing on 31 July 2007.

Applicants must be non-profit organisations and based in, or affiliated with, Walgett Shire.

As stated in the Community Assistance Application, all applications received must be for the charitable purposes for either: -

- The relief of poverty, or
- The advancement of Education or
- Any other purpose for which there is agreement by resolution of Council

Categories for Assistance include the following:-

- |                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| A. Sports Assistance -       | Grants up to maximum \$500  |
| B. Cultural Arts Assistance  | Grants up to maximum \$500  |
| C. General Assistance Scheme | Grants up to maximum \$1000 |

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Various community organisations

**Financial Implications:**

An amount of \$15,000.00 has been provided for in the 2007/2008 Budget in accordance with Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

## SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

### Recommendations:

That Council applies funds for financial assistance under Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993* for 2007/2008 as follows:-

<b>FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER SECTION 356 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993</b>
--

- A.    **Sports Assistance -                      Grants up to maximum \$500**
- B.    **Cultural Arts Assistance -                Grants up to maximum \$500**
- C.    **General Assistance Scheme -            Grants up to maximum \$1000**

ORGANISATION	DETAIL OF PROJECT / ACTIVITY	COST OF PROJECT / ACTIVITY	AMOUNT SOUGHT	CATEGORY AND AMOUNT RECOMMENDED
BAC Rugby League Walgett Inc C/- PO Box 887 DUBBO NSW 2830  Contact: Mark Deweerd	Participation of twenty five young men representing the Walgett Community in an Aboriginal Rugby League Carnival	\$15,000.00	\$6,000.00	<b>Category A</b>  <b>\$500.00</b>
Carinda Playgroup Colin Street CARINDA NSW 2831  Contact: Linda McLellan	Purchase of Equipment to encourage gross motor skill development in children at Carinda Playgroup	\$538.77	\$269.39	<b>Category C</b>  <b>\$270.00</b>
Melissa Ozoux, Gai Richardson, Coleen Edgar Cedar Street WALGETT NSW 2832  Contact: Melissa Ozoux	Three members of the one family have been selected from within Australia to re-enact the Battle of Beersheba in Turkey. This family are residents of Walgett Shire	\$21,000.00	\$1000.00	<b>Category C</b>  <b>Nil</b>

# SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

ORGANISATION	DETAIL OF PROJECT / ACTIVITY	COST OF PROJECT / ACTIVITY	AMOUNT SOUGHT	CATEGORY AND AMOUNT RECOMMENDED
Richard McKenzie 1 Euroka Street WALGETT NSW 2832  Contact: Richard McKenzie	Mr McKenzie a resident of Walgett has constructed a garden in the Euroka Street (East) entrance to Walgett at a cost to himself. This application would assist him with the purchase of shrubs for the garden.	\$150.00	\$150.00	<b>Category C</b>  <b>\$150.00</b>  <b>Purchased by Council for this purpose</b>
Walgett District Sporting Club Aboriginal Bowls Committee Montkeila Street WALGETT NSW 2832  Contact: Darryl Cooper	Local Aboriginal Bowls Carnival that forms part of Naidoc Week Activities and Celebrations. The event also coincides with the Ricky Walford Shield and Netball Carnival	\$3,000.00	\$500.00	<b>Category A</b>  <b>\$500.00</b>
Rowena Preschool Shaw Street ROWENA NSW 2387  Contact: Sally Coleman	Preschool and Playgroup playground facilities and shade cloth structure.	\$8,000.00	\$1,000.00	<b>Category C</b>  <b>\$500.00</b>
Lightning Ridge Arts and Crafts PO Box 448 LIGHTNING RIDGE NSW 2834  Contact: Christina Johansson	Lighting Ridge Arts and Crafts Council Annual Spring Exhibition / Competition – Celebrating the Arts and Crafts works by the artists s in the community shire wide	\$5,000.00	\$600.00	<b>Category B</b>  <b>\$500.00</b>

## SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

ORGANISATION	DETAIL OF PROJECT / ACTIVITY	COST OF PROJECT / ACTIVITY	AMOUNT SOUGHT	CATEGORY AND AMOUNT RECOMMENDED
<p>Yawarra Meamei Women's Group PO Box 1821 LIGHTNING RIDGE NSW 2834</p> <p>Contact: Joan Treweeke</p>	<p>To provide children the opportunity of learning and development while they are staying at the safe house with new equipment and educational toys.</p>	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	<p><b>Category C</b></p> <p><b>\$500.00</b></p>
<p>Rowena Branch of CWA "Woolondoon" ROWENA NSW 2387</p> <p>Contact: Myrna Harris</p>	<p>The Supper Room at the Rowena Hall presently has no air-conditioning and they have been fundraising to assist with the purchase of a split system reverse cycle inverter air conditioner to be installed at the Rowena Hall</p>	\$3,000.00	\$1,000.00	<p><b>Category C</b></p> <p><b>\$1,000.00</b></p>
<p>Glengarry / Grawin Rural Fire Brigade C/- PO Box 56 GRAWIN VIA WALGETT 2832</p> <p>Contact: Keven Cartlan</p>	<p>Upgrade existing tables and chairs for meetings and training to be held at the Glengarry / Grawin Rural Fire Brigade Station</p>	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	<p><b>Category C</b></p> <p><b>\$500.00</b></p>

## SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

ORGANISATION	DETAIL OF PROJECT / ACTIVITY	COST OF PROJECT / ACTIVITY	AMOUNT SOUGHT	CATEGORY AND AMOUNT RECOMMENDED
Lightning Ridge Golf Club Ltd PO Box 313 LIGHTNING RIDGE NSW 2834  Contact: Wolf Moosmueller	Replacement and / or planting of trees with irrigation system	\$5,000.00	\$1,000.00	<b>Category A</b>  <b>Nil</b>
Carinda P&C Association “Wonga” WALGETT NSW 2832  Contact: Mrs L Robinson	To replace a very old and illegible school sign that has rusted its foundation. The new sign will be placed for all visitors to see and be welcomed to our small rural school	\$900.00	\$450.00	<b>Category C</b>  <b>\$450.00</b>
Rowena Progress Association Cnr Shaw and Ibon Street ROWENA NSW 2387  Contact: Anna Sevil	½ Share in Insurance for use of Rowena Oval and general assistance for fundraising to assist with employment of a teacher	\$10,500.00	\$1,500.00	<b>Category C</b>  <b>\$500.00</b>
Rowena Oval Committee “Bunna Bunna” ROWENA NSW 2387	½ Share of Insurance for use of Rowena Oval	\$6,200.00	\$1,500.00	<b>Category C</b>  <b>\$500.00</b>

# SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

ORGANISATION	DETAIL OF PROJECT / ACTIVITY	COST OF PROJECT / ACTIVITY	AMOUNT SOUGHT	CATEGORY AND AMOUNT RECOMMENDED
Lightning Ridge Rural Fire Service PO Box 899 LIGHTNING RIDGE NSW 2834  Contact: Rebecca Kupfer	Fridge / Freezer for Rural Fire Service Station to have cold refreshments etc for fire fighters	\$949.00	\$949.00	<b>Category C</b>  <b>\$475.00</b>
Lightning Ridge Improvement Beautification Committee PO Box 781 LIGHTNING RIDGE NSW 2834  Contact: Margaret Mansfield	Security Fence – several groups who use the gardens for play groups 0-4 years have requested some play equipment within a security fence	\$3,000.00	\$1,000.00	<b>Category C</b>  <b>\$1,000.00</b>
Carinda District Race Club “Willewa North” CARINDA NSW 2831	Advertising through local media to assist in attracting people to the Carinda Races	\$1,200.00	\$500.00	<b>Category A</b>  <b>\$500.00</b>
Lightning Ridge Community Radio PO Box 1737 LIGHTNING RIDGE NSW 2834  Contact: Bevin Brown	To assist with costs for Birthday Celebrations and promote tourism in Walgett Shire by encouraging people to attend this activity	\$4,800.00	\$1,000.00	<b>Category C</b>  <b>\$250.00</b>

# SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

ORGANISATION	DETAIL OF PROJECT / ACTIVITY	COST OF PROJECT / ACTIVITY	AMOUNT SOUGHT	CATEGORY AND AMOUNT RECOMMENDED
Yawarra Meamei Women's Group PO Box 415 LIGHTNING RIDGE NSW 2834  Contact: Karin Thurston	Following the closure of the CTC in Lightning Ridge the Neighbourhood Centre has taken on the provision of some of the services. Funding will assist with the connection of the computers to the internet and a central printer.	\$2,052.00	\$1,000.00	<b>Category C</b>  <b>\$1,000.00</b>
Lightning Ridge Central School PO Box 294 LIGHTNING RIDGE NSW 2834  Contact: Rebecca Fenech	Employment of a Teachers Aide to complete speech therapy programs with identified students at Lightning Ridge Central School	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	<b>Category C</b>  <b>Nil</b>
Come-By-Chance Picnic Race Club Committee "Grandoon Park" COME-BY-CHANCE NSW 2832  Contact: Ken Waterford	Funds are requested to pay for Council Development Application, Construction Certificate, Purchase of a Septic Tank, Pump and Poly Pipe	\$50,000.00	\$2,448.00	<b>Category C</b>  <b>\$500.00</b>

**SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA**

<b>ORGANISATION</b>	<b>DETAIL OF PROJECT / ACTIVITY</b>	<b>COST OF PROJECT / ACTIVITY</b>	<b>AMOUNT SOUGHT</b>	<b>CATEGORY AND AMOUNT RECOMMENDED</b>
Collarenebri Jockey Club Inc “Jomara” COLLARENEBRI NSW 2833  Contact: Sue Behsman	Collarenebri Jockey Club hold a yearly race meeting that is organised by voluntary labour. Members and volunteers provide the repairs and maintenance to the grounds and surrounds. Proceeds from the race day remain the community with local organisations benefiting from the day.	\$40,000.00	\$500.00	<b>Category C</b>  <b>\$500.00</b>
Rowena Preschool Incorporated Shaw Street ROWENA NSW 2387  Contact: Christine McDonnell	Pump for water supply to kitchen and floor sanding.	\$3,160.00	\$1,000.00	<b>Category C</b>  <b>\$500.00</b>
Burren Junction Preschool PO Box 2 BURREN JUNCTION 2386  Contact: Kim Powell	Children’s lunchbox fridge and classroom water cooler	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	<b>Category C</b>  <b>\$500.00</b>
			<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$11,595.00</b>



<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 10

**Subject:** Walgett Visitor Information and Internet Centre and Walgett Library  
Operating Hours

**Author:** Alana Douglas – Tourism Development Officer

**File No:** 245/02/01/00

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**Summary:**

This report advises Council of the new opening hours for the Walgett Visitor Information Centre and Walgett Library.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

It was resolved by Council on 17 July 2007:

<b>190/07 – Walgett Visitor Information and Internet Centre Accreditation</b>
---

**RESOLUTION: -**

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that Council assess Aurora Visitor Information Centre Accreditation Criteria and review the Walgett Visitor Information Centre's Accreditation level from a Level 2 to a Level 3 accredited centre.

Carried.

As a result the Walgett Visitor Information & Internet Centre (Walgett VIC) will cease its Saturday operation effective from Saturday 4 August 2007. The Walgett VIC will now operate as a level 3 accredited Visitor Information Centre and will open from 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday only, excluding public holidays.

Due to safety concerns regarding staff operating alone in the Walgett Library and the limited number of users in the Library on Saturdays and Mondays, the Walgett Library has altered their operating hours to:

- 10am – 5pm Tuesday (closed between 1 -2 for lunch)
- 10am – 1pm on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday excluding public holidays.

These revised hours will be advertised in the local newspaper and on the local radio to ensure adequate coverage.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Resolution 190/07 – 17 July 2007 Council Meeting

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Visitor Information & Internet Centre
- Walgett Library
- Walgett Shire Council
- Visitors to Walgett Visitor Information Centre
- Users of Walgett Internet Centre
- Library Patrons

**Financial Implications:**

Walgett Visitor Information Centre Budget 07/08: \$122,439.00

Walgett Internet Centre Budget 07/08: \$19,735.00

**Recommendation:**

**That Council note the revised operating hours for the Walgett Visitor Information Centre and Walgett Library.**

<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 11

**Subject:** Statement of Business Ethics

**Author:** Emma Darcy –Manager Corporate Services

**File No:** 013/07/01/12

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**Summary:**

This report recommends that Council adopt the Walgett Shire Council Statement of Business Ethics

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Walgett Shire Council seeks to promote integrity, ethical conduct and accountability through our work practices and standards. The statement of Business Ethics provides guidelines to the business community when dealing with Council and our ethical standards and expectations that goods and service providers will comply with these standards when dealing with Council.

The Department of Local Government requires that Council has a Statement of Business Ethics to guide external parties (such as suppliers and contractors) on the standards that are required when dealing with council or acting on council's behalf. This statement must be supplied to all suppliers, contractors, constituents and business partners.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Department of Local Government Promoting Better Practice Program

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Suppliers, contractors, constituents and business partners of Walgett Shire Council

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

**That Council adopt the Walgett Shire Council Statement of Business Ethics as tabled.**

## STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS



**Walgett Shire Council** (Council) seeks to promote integrity, ethical conduct and accountability through our work practices and standards. We need to ensure that the services provided to our customers are provided in a manner consistent with sound business principles and in the most ethical and economically favourable way.

This demands interaction between Council, the business community and the wider community. The protection of public interest and the prevention of breaches of public trust are a primary concern.

This **Statement of Business Ethics** provides guidelines to the business community when dealing with Council. It outlines our ethical standards and our expectation that goods and service providers will comply with these standards when dealing with Council.

Councillors and staff are expected to maintain a high standard of integrity and ethical conduct, consistent with the positions of trust that they hold and Council expects no less from the service providers that undertake work on its behalf.

### Key Business Principles

- Value for money is the core of all business relationships.
- Council will assess factors including initial cost, long term costs, quality, reliability, timeliness when assessing value for money.
- Council will ensure that business relationships are honest and ethical when assessing value for money.
- All business dealings will be transparent unless there is a legitimate reason for not making information available to the public.

## STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS



### **Guidance Notes**

#### **Inducements, Gifts and Benefits**

Walgett Shire Council Councillors and staff are expected to decline gifts, benefits, travel or hospitality offered during the course of their employment. The only gifts allowable are those of a token or nominal value. If a gift is accepted it must be recorded in Walgett Shire Council Gift Register.

#### **Conflicts of Interest**

All Councillors and staff are required to disclose, in writing, any potential conflicts of interest. This obligation also extends to business partners, contractors and suppliers.

#### **Confidentiality**

All Walgett Shire Council information should be treated as confidential unless otherwise indicated.

#### **Communication**

All communication should be clear, concise and direct to minimise the risk of misunderstanding.

#### **Use of Council resources**

All Council equipment, resources and information should only be used for proper official business.

#### **Contractors**

All contractors employed by Walgett Shire Council are expected to comply with this statement of business ethics. They must be supplied with this statement prior to commencing work.

#### **Intellectual property rights**

In all business relationships, parties will respect each others intellectual property rights and will formally negotiate any access, licence or use of intellectual property.

#### **Information released to the media**

All contractors are expected to refrain from discussing Council information with the media unless otherwise authorised.

STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS



**Who to Contact**

If there are any questions regarding this statement or to provide information relating to this statement, please contact:

General Manager  
Walgett Shire Council  
PO Box 31  
Walgett NSW 2832  
Phone (02) 6828 1399  
Fax (02) 6828 1608  
Email: [www.walgett.nsw.gov.au](http://www.walgett.nsw.gov.au)

<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 12

**Subject:** Walgett Shire Council Debt Write Off Policy and Procedures

**Author:** Emma Darcy –Manager Corporate Services

**File No:** 004/12/01/62

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**Summary:**

This report recommends that Council adopt the Walgett Shire Council Debt Write off Policy and Procedures.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

The Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 enables Council to fix an amount to enable the General Manager to write off a debt under a specified amount, recommended as being \$1,000 if certain criteria are met.

Part 5, Division 3, Clause 131 states:

***Procedures for writing off rates and charges***

- (1) The council must, from time to time, by resolution, fix the amount of rates and charges above which any individual rate or charge may be written off only by resolution of the council.*
- (2) An amount of rates or charges of or below that amount can be written off either by resolution of the council or by order in writing of the council's general manager. In the absence of a resolution under subclause (1), rates and charges can be written off only by resolution of the council.*
- (3) A resolution or order writing off an amount of rates or charges must:  
(a) specify the name of the person whose debt is being written off, and  
(b) identify the account concerned, and  
(c) specify the amount written off,  
or must refer to a record kept by the council in which those particulars are recorded.*
- (4) An amount of rates or charges can be written off under this clause only:  
(a) if there is an error in the assessment, or  
(b) if the amount is not lawfully recoverable, or  
(c) as a result of a decision of a court, or  
(d) if the council or the general manager believes on reasonable grounds that an attempt to recover the amount would not be cost effective.*

## SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

- (5) *The fact that an amount of rates or charges is written off under this clause does not prevent the council concerned from taking legal proceedings to recover the amount.*
- (6) *The general manager must advise the council of rates and charges written off by written order of the general manager.*

Part 9, Division 5, Clause 213 states:

### ***Restrictions on writing off debts to a council***

- (1) *This clause does not apply to amounts owed to a council for rates or other charges for which the Act, or any other regulation in force under the Act, makes specific provision for writing off those amounts in specified circumstances.*
- (2) *A council must from time to time, by resolution, fix an amount above which debts to the council may be written off only by resolution of the council.*
- (3) *A debt of or below that amount can be written off either by resolution of the council or by order in writing of the council's general manager. In the absence of a resolution under subclause (2), the council's debts can be written off only by resolution of the council.*
- (4) *A resolution or order writing off a debt to a council must:*
  - (a) *specify the name of the person whose debt is being written off, and*
  - (b) *identify the account concerned, and*
  - (c) *specify the amount of the debt,**or must refer to a record kept by the council in which those particulars are recorded.*
- (5) *A debt can be written off under this clause only:*
  - (a) *if the debt is not lawfully recoverable, or*
  - (b) *as a result of a decision of a court, or*
  - (c) *if the council or the general manager believes on reasonable grounds that an attempt to recover the debt would not be cost effective.*
- (6) *The fact that a debt is written off under this clause does not prevent the council concerned from taking legal proceedings to recover the debt.*

### **Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Walgett Shire Council Policy 1.3 CM24.11.97
- Local Government Act 1993
- Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 Part 5, Division 3, Clause 131
- Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 Part 9, Division 5, Clause 213



**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Walgett Shire Council Rate Payers
- Walgett Shire Sundry Debtors

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Recommendations:**

1. That Council policy 1.3 (CM 24.11.97) be superseded by the Walgett Shire Council Debt Write Off Policy and Procedures as follows.

DRAFT



**WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL**

**DEBT WRITE OFF**

**POLICY AND PROCEDURES**



## **WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL DEBT WRITE OFF POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

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**WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL**  
**DEBT WRITE OFF POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

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Policy Number:

Responsibility:                      Manager Corporate Services

Adoption Date:

Review Date:                      July 2008

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**POLICY STATEMENT**

Walgett Shire Council is committed to openness and transparency in its financial management and sets out to provide fairness and consistency for Walgett Shire Rate Payers and Debtors.

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**POLICY OBJECTIVES**

- To ensure that Council complies with the New South Wales Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.
- To provide consistency, fairness, integrity and confidentiality for Walgett Shire Council Rate Payers & Debtors.
- To ensure that adjustments to general ledger are made in a timely and efficient manner.

## **POICIES AND PROCEDURES**

### **1. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY**

The General Manager has the authority to write off debts and charges below an amount by order in writing. This amount is set at \$1,000.00. Amounts above this figure can only be written off by resolution of Council.

### **2. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 Part 5, Division 3, Clause 131 states :

#### **131 Procedures for writing off rates and charges**

- (1) *The Council must, from time to time, by resolution, fix the amount of rates and charges above which any individual rate or charge may be written off only by resolution of the Council.*
- (2) *An amount of rates or charges of or below that amount can be written off either by resolution of the Council or by order in writing of the Council's general manager. In the absence of a resolution under subclause (1), rates and charges can be written off only by resolution of the Council.*
- (3) *A resolution or order writing off an amount of rates or charges must:*
  - (a) *specify the name of the person whose debt is being written off, and*
  - (b) *identify the account concerned, and*
  - (c) *specify the amount written off,**or must refer to a record kept by the Council in which those particulars are recorded.*
- (4) *An amount of rates or charges can be written off under this clause only:*
  - (a) *if there is an error in the assessment, or*
  - (b) *if the amount is not lawfully recoverable, or*
  - (c) *as a result of a decision of a court, or*
  - (d) *if the Council or the general manager believes on reasonable grounds that an attempt to recover the amount would not be cost effective.*
- (5) *The fact that an amount of rates or charges is written off under this clause does not prevent the Council concerned from taking legal proceedings to recover the amount.*
- (6) *The general manager must advise the Council of rates and charges written off by written order of the general manager.*

#### **132 Details of written off rates and charges to be included in annual report**

*The Council's annual report must include the amount of rates and charges written off during the year.*

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 Part 9, Division 5, Clause 213 states :

#### **213 Restrictions on writing off debts to a Council**

- (1) *This clause does not apply to amounts owed to a Council for rates or other charges for which the Act, or any other regulation in force under the Act, makes specific provision for writing off those amounts in specified circumstances.*
- (2) *A Council must from time to time, by resolution, fix an amount above which debts to the Council may be written off only by resolution of the Council.*

- (3) *A debt of or below that amount can be written off either by resolution of the council or by order in writing of the council's general manager. In the absence of a resolution under subclause (2), the council's debts can be written off only by resolution of the council.*
- (4) *A resolution or order writing off a debt to a council must:*
  - (a) *specify the name of the person whose debt is being written off, and*
  - (b) *identify the account concerned, and*
  - (c) *specify the amount of the debt,*  
*or must refer to a record kept by the council in which those particulars are recorded.*
- (5) *A debt can be written off under this clause only:*
  - (a) *if the debt is not lawfully recoverable, or*
  - (b) *as a result of a decision of a court, or*
  - (c) *if the council or the general manager believes on reasonable grounds that an attempt to recover the debt would not be cost effective.*
- (6) *The fact that a debt is written off under this clause does not prevent the council concerned from taking legal proceedings to recover the debt.*

### **3. PROCEDURES**

- 3.1 When an amount of rates and charges or a debt is required to be written off under Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 Part 5, Division 3, Clause 131(4) or Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 Part 9, Division 5, Clause 213 (5) a detailed report prepared by the responsible accounting officer is to be presented to the Manager Corporate Services for confirmation and review. This report must contain the following information:
  - (a) specify the name of the person whose debt is being written off, and
  - (b) identify the account concerned, and
  - (c) specify the amount of the debt,  
or must refer to a record kept by the council in which those particulars are recorded.
- 3.2 This review will involve identifying the debts under \$1,000 and those debts over \$1,000.00.
- 3.3 Any debts to be written off over \$1,000.00 must be written off by resolution of Council.
- 3.4 All debts to be written off under \$1,000.00 must be written off by order in writing by the General Manager.
- 3.5 Under no circumstances are debts to be split.
- 3.6 The relevant assessment and/or Debtor will be written off in the same month as the report is verified and signed by the General Manager.

<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 13

**Subject:** Department of Local Government – Promoting Better Practice Program

**Author:** Emma Darcy – Manager Corporate Services

**File No:** 315/01/03/00

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**Summary:**

Management has recently completed Promoting Better Practice Program – Self Assessment Checklist. This checklist enables Council's to identify requirements that need to be reviewed or developed.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

The Promoting Better Practice Program – Self Assessment Checklist is issued by the Department of Local Government and utilised by Investigations and Review Branch. The checklist enables council to identify areas where requirements are either met, need improvement or are non existent. The following areas need to be addressed:

**Governance**

- Human Resources Strategic Plan.
- Risk Management Plan.
- Fraud Control Policy.
- Business Continuity Plan.
- Internal Audit program.
- Privacy Management Plan.
- Records Management Policy.
- Complaints Handling Policy

***Planning and Regulatory***

- Local Environment Plan
- Development Control Plan
- Minimum requirements for application documents for DA's, CDC's and CC's on relevant application forms
- Informing all applicants about the opportunities for review under section 82A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and section 100 of Local Government Act 1993.
- Establish a system for reporting and investigating reports of non-compliance and unauthorised development.
- Informing the public on how to report suspected non-compliance and unauthorised development.
- Proactive monitoring of compliance with environmental requirements.
- A compliance program for swimming pools.
- Promoting awareness of Swimming Pools Act 1992.
- Review on site sewerage management.
- Companion Animals Management Plan.
- Procedures for nuisance animals.
- Entering dangerous dog data on the companion animals register.
- Reporting dog attacks to the DLG.

***Asset and Financial Management***

- Revaluation of assets.
- Plans of Management for all community land.

***Community and Consultation***

- Policy for community consultation.
- Memorandum of Understanding with Local Aboriginal Community.
- Communication Policy.
- Economic Development Plan

***Workforce Relations***

- Human Resource Strategic Plan.
- Succession Plan for key positions.
- Profile of Council's workforce
- Aboriginal Employment Strategy.
- Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan.
- Training Plan



**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Promoting Better Practice Program – Self Assessment Checklist

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Department of Local Government

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

**That Council receive and note the policies and plans required to be prepared to ensure that Council complies with Department of Local Government Promoting Better Practice – Self Assessment Checklist.**

<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 14

**Subject:** Cricket NSW - Indigenous Cricket Camp

**Author:** Emma Darcy –Manager Corporate Services

**File No:** 125/01/00/00

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**Summary:**

Council Management have recently been liaising with Cricket NSW to investigate the possibility of Cricket NSW holding a cricket camp to develop indigenous cricket in the area. A proposed program has been supplied to Cricket NSW who support the initiative.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Cricket NSW were contacted on 19 July 2007 regarding the possibility of staging an Indigenous Cricket Camp in Walgett. It was proposed that this camp be held for three days during the school holidays in October.

Walgett District Cricket Association is made up of 75% indigenous cricketers yet Walgett Junior Cricket Association only has small numbers and Cricket NSW believe that there is a great opportunity to develop indigenous cricket in the area. Cricket NSW have agreed to supply:

- Two coaches including meals, accommodation and travel.
- Equipment to run the program.
- A junior cricket kit.

Additional costs will be borne by Walgett Shire Council being staff wages to assist during the program. There will also be costs involved in providing transport and refreshments to the participants.

At this stage the camp will be offered to youth of a specific age bracket (yet to be confirmed). This type of camp has been scarce in the area and there may be a limit on the number of participants. This will be confirmed with Cricket NSW.

Cricket NSW has requested that Council be responsible for the public liability and as the camp will be an integral part of Council's Youth program, Council staff will advise our insurance brokers of the upcoming camp.

Both Council and Cricket NSW will also be seeking further assistance/funding from relevant departments and local community groups.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Emails dated 24 July 2007, 10 August 2007

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Walgett Shire Youth
- Cricket NSW

**Financial Implications:**

Cricket NSW have agreed to costs up to \$5,000. Council will contribute up to \$5,000 to provide staff, transport and refreshments for the camp. These costs are to be funded from Youth Services – Working Expenses.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council endorse a cricket camp to be held in the October 2007 school holidays in partnership with Cricket NSW.**

<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 15

**Subject:** Long Term Unsubsidised Employment Initiatives - CDEP

**Author:** Emma Darcy –Manager Corporate Services

**File No:** 235/05/05/00

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**Summary:**

Council management have recently liaised with staff from Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) and Griffith Skills Training on the possibility of Council agreeing to employ members of CDEP with the intention of long term unsubsidised employment.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Community Development Employment Projects are the Commonwealths largest Indigenous program. They began in 1977 at the request of several remote Communities as an alternative to receiving unemployment benefits ('the dole'). Participation in the CDEP scheme is voluntary.

The local CDEP is operational until the end of December 2007. Representatives from Walgett CDEP and Griffith Skills Training have approached Council to employ local people from the CDEP with the intention of long term unsubsidised employment.

There is \$4,000 funding available through the STEP program towards a wage subsidy with the possibility of another \$4,000 subsidy from BEST Employment, and \$1,000 mentoring subsidy available.

The ongoing costs of supervision will be analysed to ensure that the initiative is cost effective for all parties concerned including Council.

This initiative is being suggested to a number of local businesses and it is an initiative that Council should endorse to provide members of CDEP the opportunity to gain full time employment.

Council is required to employ staff as identified on the staff structure but employment on a casual basis for a period of thirty weeks is available with the opportunity to apply for long term employment through Councils recruitment process when full time positions become available.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

Nil

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Walgett CDEP

**Financial Implications:**

The cost of wages and on costs for employment plus any additional costs associated with supervision and mentoring.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council endorse the investigation of employing two (2) members of CDEP, with one (1) at Walgett and one (1) at Lightning Ridge on a casual basis for a period of six months with the opportunity for long term employment through Council's recruitment process.**

<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 16

**Subject:** Staff Training – Coordinator Human Resources

**Author:** Emma Darcy –Manager Corporate Services

**File No:** 295/01/09/00

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**Summary:**

This report recommends the attendance of Council's Coordinator Human Resources at the National Local Government Human Resources Conference. The conference is to be held in November 2007 at the Gold Coast, Queensland.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

With a number changes and challenging times for Local Government it is essential that Walgett Shire Council support and encourage relevant staff to keep abreast of current issues within the Local Government industry.

The 2007 National Local Government Human Resources Conference aims to assist Councils to address issues such as industrial reform, an ageing workforce, skill shortages, our image as an employer, and the pressures of continuous change all of which Walgett Shire Council is currently experiencing.

The registration fee for the conference is \$990.00. Accommodation and travel costs are additional.

It is considered that Council's Coordinator Human Resources would benefit greatly from attendance at this conference, which should prove to be a valuable training opportunity as well as the opportunity to network with people in similar positions. However, given the fact that the conference is interstate, Council approval to participate is being sought.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Conference Notification

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council

**Financial Implications:**

The total cost of attendance can be funded from Council's training budget. Despite the remoteness of the conference venue to Walgett, the overall cost will compare favourably with other conferences and training opportunities within NSW.

**Recommendation:**

**That approval be given for Council's Coordinator Human Resources, Bronwyn Newton, to attend the 2007 National Local Government Human Resources Conference, to be held at the Gold Coast, Queensland on 14 – 16 November 2007.**

<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 17

**Subject:** Social Plan 2007-2010

**Author:** Gai Richardson – Community Liaison Officer

**File No:** 100/33/01/00

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**Summary:**

This report recommends that Council adopt the Walgett Shire Social Plan 2007-2010.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Council resolved the following at its meeting held on 19 June 2007:-

<b>141/07 – Walgett Shire Council Social Plan 2007-2010</b>
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**RESOLUTION: -**

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator :-

- |  |
|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 That Council receive and note the draft copy of the Community Social Plan 2007-2010.</li><li>2. That the Walgett Shire Council Community Social Plan be placed on public display for 28 days ending 20 July, 2007.</li></ol> |
|--|

The Social Plan 2007-2010 was placed on public exhibition with submissions closing on 20 July 2007. Council received five submissions which have been considered when preparing the final plan for adoption.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Walgett Shire Council Social Plan (provided under separate cover)

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Walgett Shire Community

**Recommendation:**

**That council receive and adopt the Walgett Shire Social Plan 2007-2010.**



<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 18

**Subject:** Occupational Health and Safety Report of Inspections – July 2007

**Author:** David Callander – Occupational Health and Safety Coordinator

**File No:** 145/04/11/00

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**Summary:**

This report outlines workplace inspections performed during the month of July 2007 and includes actions and recommendations relevant to the work required to bring Walgett Shire Council to a level of compliance as is required under the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000 and the Occupational Health & Safety Regulations 2001.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

**Walgett Family Day Care Centre**

Council's Manager Corporate Services requested that a risk assessment be carried out on the Family Day Care Building.

An inspection of the building was conducted on Tuesday, 24 July 2007 by Council's Coordinator Occupational Health and Safety, accompanied by two members of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee.

The inspection was carried out purely as a workplace inspection for Walgett Shire staff, not with the view of children being present at the facility.

The general comments from the inspection report show:-

- More storage space is required to alleviate the problem of general untidiness due to toys and activities being stored on the floor,
- Evacuation and fire safety procedures need to be reviewed, updated,
- There is a vermin problem with evidence of mice and cockroaches having been in the kitchen area,
- The staff have had little or no training in evacuation procedures,
- The risk from fire is increased due to the build up in the guttering of leaves and tree debris,
- A number of windows in the building do not open to allow free passage of fresh air,
- There is only one 1kg powder fire extinguisher and 1 fire blanket for the entire building,

Testing and tagging of the facilities electrical equipment was carried out during the inspection with all appliances satisfying the relevant standards.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Inspection document

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council

**Occupational Health and Safety Committee**

The new committee held its first meeting and the following was achieved

- A chairperson and vice chairperson was elected,
- Dates and times of future meetings were set,
- The current Constitution of the Committee was reviewed and changes were recommended,
- A workplace inspection report was presented to the committee,
- General business covered various topics including future training, workplace inspections, ideas for increasing the committees profile (newsletter).

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Minutes of Occupational Health and Safety Committee
- Revised Constitution

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council

**Recommendations:**

1. That council receive and note the report of the Occupational Health and Safety Coordinator for the month of July 2007.
2. That recommendations from the Workplace Inspection carried out at the Walgett Shire Family Day Care Centre be implemented by the relevant Council Departments.
3. That Council receive and adopt the revised Occupational Health and Safety Committee Constitution.

<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 19

**Subject:** Crime Prevention Plan 2007-2010

**Author:** Gai Richardson – Community Liaison Officer

**File No:** 135/06/08/00

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**Summary:**

This report is presented to Council to advise that the Crime Prevention Plan 2007-2010 has been deferred pending further information from NSW Attorney Generals Department.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

A draft copy of the updated Walgett Crime Prevention Plan has been developed, but after information received from the N.S.W. Attorney General's Department, the Crime Prevention Committee have agreed that the updated plan will not be released until a template and further information about the development of Community Safety Precinct Committees is received from the N.S.W. Attorney General's Department and the Castlereagh Local Area Command Crime Manager. The new plan will then be developed, to fit within the proposed framework.

The original Walgett Crime Prevention Plan was developed in 2001 after a public meeting was called in Walgett due to ongoing anti-social behaviour and vandalism. The meeting was attended by representatives from government departments, business houses and community members. The Crime Prevention Committee was formed from this meeting with Council agreeing to provide the secretariat.

A draft Walgett Crime Prevention Plan 2007-2010 has recently been prepared. This plan has now been withheld after a recent meeting with Ms Barbara Frail from the N.S.W. Attorney General's Department, the Crime Manager LAC, Inspector John Ridley and members of the Crime Prevention Committee.

NSW Attorney General's Department advised that all councils will be requested to form a Community Safety Precinct Committee which will be similar to the Crime Prevention Committees but are to cover the whole local government area. NSW Attorney General's Department will provide a template for the plan. They also advised that new plans that have not been developed on the new template will not be accepted by the Attorney General's Department and advised the Walgett Crime Prevention Committee to wait until they received the template and then develop the new plan within it's guidelines.

Inspector Ridley advised he is still seeking information on the formation of the new Community Safety Precinct Committee for the N.S.W. Police and he will forward this information to Council and the Crime Prevention Committee once the information is available.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Walgett Crime Prevention Plan 2001

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- NSW Attorney General's Department
- Castlereagh Local Area Command
- Walgett Shire Community

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

**That Council note that the draft Walgett Crime Prevention Plan 2007-2010 has been deferred pending further information on a revised template from the NSW Attorney Generals Department.**

<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 20

**Subject:** Walgett Shire Tourism Signage

**Author:** Alana Douglas - Tourist Development Officer

**File No:** 245/02/01/00

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**Summary:**

This report recommends that Walgett Shire Council adopt the Walgett Shire Tourism Signage Audit.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Following the resolution from the June Council meeting the Walgett Shire Tourism Signage Audit was placed on public exhibition, closing on the 20<sup>th</sup> July 2007.

Council only received one submission which related to an amendment to kilometres.

The reviewed Walgett Shire Tourism Signage Audit is now attached for Council's endorsement.

The timeframe proposed for 07/08 is summarised as follows:

- Priority 1:  
Welcome Signs to all major town entrances to be completed by December 2007.
- Priority 2:  
Visitor Information Centre Signage to be completed by October 2007.
- Priority 3:  
Information Boards at major parks in each major town to be completed by March 2008.
- Priority 4:  
Bore Bath Direction & Interpretive Signage to be completed by April 2008.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Walgett Shire Tourism Signage Audit

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Traffic Committee
- Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA)
- Tourist Attraction Signposting Assessment Committee (TASAC)
- Motoring tourist and or visitor
- Walgett Shire Community
- Local Business Operators
- Walgett and District Tourist Association
- Lightning Ridge Tourist Association

**Financial Implications:**

**Budget:**

\$45 000 has been provided in the current budget for works described in this report

**Recommendations:**

1. That Council receive and note the Walgett Shire Tourism Signage Audit as attached.
2. That Council undertake priority 1-4 works as listed:

**Priority 1:**

Welcome Signs to all major town entrances to be completed by December 2007.

**Priority 2:**

Visitor Information Centre Signage to be completed by October 2007.

**Priority 3:**

Information Boards at major parks in each major town to be completed by March 2008.

**Priority 4:**

Bore Bath Direction & Interpretive Signage to be completed by April 2008.

## SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

Sign Type	Location	Action Recommended	Priority Rating
Interpretive Signage	Castlereagh Highway Rest Area between Walgett & Lightning Ridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History of Lightning Ridge</li> <li>Aboriginal Meaning</li> </ul>	Medium
	Lions Park Visitor Information Centre, Lightning Ridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Map</li> </ul>	Medium/High
	Lightning Ridge Information Centre, Lions Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Black Opal Information</li> <li>Statistics</li> <li>History</li> </ul>	Medium
	Lightning Ridge Bore Bath Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History of Bore Baths</li> <li>Uses</li> </ul>	High
	Alex Trevallion Park, Walgett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Map</li> </ul>	Medium/High
	Walgett Bore Baths Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History of Bore Baths</li> <li>Uses</li> </ul>	High
	Norman Tracker Walford Walkway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History</li> </ul>	Low/Medium
	Grey Park, Walgett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History of Old Gaol</li> <li>Photo</li> </ul>	Low/Medium
	Rest Area Castlereagh Highway, between Coonamble & Walgett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agricultural Information</li> <li>Indigenous Information</li> </ul>	Medium
	Rest Area Site 5kms West of Walgett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scar Trees meaning</li> <li>History</li> <li>Uses</li> </ul>	Low/Medium
	Wheat Silo Site, Walgett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use</li> <li>Statistics</li> </ul>	Low/Medium
	Alex Trevallion Park, Walgett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frederick Wolseley History</li> </ul>	Medium
	Lions Park, Collarenebri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Map</li> </ul>	Medium/High
	Aboriginal Cemetery, Collarenebri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History</li> <li>Meaning</li> </ul>	Medium
	Wheat Silo Site, Cryon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use</li> <li>Statistics</li> </ul>	Low/Medium
	Burren Junction Bore Bath Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History of Bore Baths</li> <li>Uses</li> </ul>	High
	Bore Bath, Burren Junction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Map</li> </ul>	Medium/High
	Wheat Silo, Burren Junction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use</li> <li>Statistics</li> </ul>	Low/Medium

## SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

Sign Type	Location	Action Recommended	Priority Rating
	New Carinda Historic Site, Carinda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History</li> </ul>	Low/Medium
	Race Course, Come By Chance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meaning of Name</li> <li>Old Wives Tale</li> </ul>	Low/Medium
	Railway Relics Site, Pokataroo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History of Railway Relics</li> <li>Photo</li> </ul>	Low/Medium
	One sign on each Highway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crops, earthworks</li> <li>Animals</li> <li>plants</li> </ul>	Low
<b>Welcome Signage</b>	T-Intersection Castlereagh Highway & Bill O'Brien Way, Lightning Ridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brick Entrance Sign either side of ramp</li> </ul>	High
	Entrance, Castlereagh Highway Walgett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Entrance Sign - silhouettes</li> </ul>	High
	Entrance, Castlereagh Highway Walgett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Entrance Sign - silhouettes</li> </ul>	High
	Entrance, Kamilaroi Highway, Walgett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Entrance Sign - silhouettes</li> </ul>	High
	Entrance, Kamilaroi Highway Walgett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Entrance Sign - silhouettes</li> </ul>	High
	Entrance, Kamilaroi Highway, Burren Junction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Entrance Sign</li> </ul>	High
	Entrance, Kamilaroi Highway, Burren Junction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Entrance Sign</li> </ul>	High
	Entrance, Carinda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Entrance Sign</li> </ul>	High
	Entrance, Carinda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Entrance Sign</li> </ul>	High
	Entrance, Rowena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Entrance Sign</li> </ul>	High
	Entrance, Rowena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Entrance Sign</li> </ul>	High
	Entrance, Pokataroo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Entrance Sign</li> </ul>	High
	Entrance, Pokataroo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Entrance Sign</li> </ul>	High
	Entrance, Grawin, Glengarry, Sheeppyard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Entrance Sign</li> </ul>	High
	Entrance, Grawin, Glengarry, Sheeppyard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Entrance Sign</li> </ul>	High
	All Shire Entry Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Welcome" by local Indigenous people</li> </ul>	High



# SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

Sign Type	Location	Action Recommended	Priority Rating
<b>Attraction Signage</b>	Apex Park, Walgett	• Apex Park Sign	Low
	Pearson Park, Walgett	• Pearson Park Sign	Low
	Ovals, Shire Wide	• Name of Oval On Site	Low
	Racecourse & Showground, Carinda	• Name of Racecourse On Site	Low
	New Carinda Historic Site, Carinda	• Replace sign	Low
<b>Tourist Route Marker</b>	Bill O'Brien Way, Lightning Ridge	• Green Car Door Tour Sign	Medium/High
	Bottom of 3 mile Road	• Yellow Car Door Tour Sign	Medium/High
	Corner Copi & Gem St	• Blue Car Door Tour Sign	Medium/High
	Ernie Sherman Way	• Red Car Door Tour Sign	Medium/High
<b>Direction Signage</b>	400m left side of Route turn-off, Bill O'Brien Way, Lightning Ridge	• 400m Green Car Door Tour	High
	400m right side of Route turn-off, Bill O'Brien Way, Lightning Ridge	• 400m Green Car Door Tour	High
	Corner Bill O'Brien Way & 3 Mile Road, Lightning Ridge	• 5 km to Start of Yellow Car Door Tour	High
	Corner Pandora & Opal St, Lightning Ridge	• 5km to Start of Red Car Door Tour	High
	Corner Morilla & Gem St, Lightning Ridge	• 2km ahead Blue Car Door Tour	High
	Walgett	• Pioneer Graves	Medium
	Walgett	• Tracker Walker Walford Walkway	Medium
	Collarenebri	• Aboriginal Cemetery	High
	Bill O'Brien Way, Lightning Ridge	• 3km from VIC	High
<b>Visitor Information Signs</b>	Castlereagh Highway, Walgett	• 3km from VIC	High
	Corner Euroka & Fox St, Walgett	• 100m from VIC	High
	Intersection Fox & Wee Waa St, Walgett	• 200m from VIC	High
	Collarenebri T-Intersection, Walgett	• Lightning Ridge VIC ARROW	High
	Collarenebri T-Intersection, Walgett	• Walgett VIC Arrow	High

## SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

Sign Type	Location	Action Recommended	Priority Rating
	Burren Junction T-Intersection, Walgett	• Walgett VIC Arrow	High
	T-Intersection Brewarrina Road, Walgett	• Walgett VIC Arrow	High
	All Shire Entry Points	• I sign beneath Shire Entry Signs	High
	On-Site Collarenebri Agency, Collarenebri	• Collarenebri Visitor Information Centre Sign - over head	High
	On-Site Collarenebri Agency, Collarenebri	• A Frame Open Sign	Medium/High
	On-Site Collarenebri Agency, Collarenebri	• Accredited Italic I Symbol	High
	On-site Walgett Visitor Information Centre, Walgett	• Accredited Italic I Symbol	High
	Beneath Welcome to Collarenebri Sign Gwydir Highway West of Collarenebri	• Accredited Italic I Symbol & Distance	High
	Beneath Welcome to Collarenebri Sign Gwydir Highway East of Collarenebri	• Accredited Italic I Symbol & Distance	High
<b>Service Signage</b>	Alex Trevallion Park, Walgett	• Public Toilets Symbol	Medium
	Alex Trevallion Park, Walgett	• Caravan Dump Point Symbol	Medium
	Alex Trevallion Park, Walgett	• Barbeque Symbol	Medium
	Alex Trevallion Park, Walgett	• Caravan Parking Symbol	Medium
	Grey Park, Walgett	• Public Toilets Symbol	Medium
	Grey Park, Walgett	• Barbeque Symbol	Medium
	Grey Park, Walgett	• Bus Stop Symbol	Medium
	Apex Park, Walgett	• Park Symbol	Low
	Apex Park, Walgett	• Public Toilets Symbol	Medium
	Pearson Park, Walgett	• Public Toilets Symbol	Low/Medium
	Pearson Park, Walgett	• Play Equipment Symbol	Low
	Walgett Visitor Information Centre	• Public Toilets Symbol	Medium/High
	Lyons Park, Lightning Ridge	• Public Toilets Symbol	Medium/High
	Lyons Park, Lightning Ridge	• Barbeque Symbol	Medium
	Lyons Park, Lightning Ridge	• Caravan Parking Symbol	Medium/High

## SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

Sign Type	Location	Action Recommended	Priority Rating
<b>Advance Service Signage</b>	Castlereagh Highway, Walgett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Toilets Symbol</li> </ul>	Medium
	Castlereagh Highway, Walgett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Caravan Dump Point Symbol</li> </ul>	Medium
	Castlereagh Highway, Walgett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Caravan Parking Symbol</li> </ul>	Medium
	Corner Euroka & Pitt St, Walgett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Toilets Symbol</li> </ul>	Medium
	Corner Euroka & Pitt St, Walgett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Caravan Parks Symbol</li> </ul>	Medium
<b>General Signage</b>	Entry Points, Walgett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Redesign wording on surveillance signs</li> </ul>	Medium/High

<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 21

**Subject:** Write off of Domestic Waste Management Charges from September 1997 to September 2001 for Assessment 3061

**Author:** Kristy Maher - Acting Rates Clerk

**File No:** Ass 3061

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**Summary:**

Assessment 3061 has asked that Walgett Shire Council write-off the Domestic Waste Management charges incurred annually during the period in which the preschool was not operating.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

After experiencing an extended period of financial difficulty, Assessment 3061 closed its doors in September 1997, re-opening in September of 2001. During the period of closure Assessment 3061 continued to accrue annual DWM charges which they are now asking council to write-off.

No correspondence was received by council prior to or during the period of closure to indicate that Assessment 3061 was closed or that domestic waste services should be suspended during this period.

Accrued DWM charges for the period of closure are as follows:

1997 (Sept 97 – June 98)	\$73.64
1998	\$304.00
1999	\$334.40
2000	\$368.00
2001 (July 01 – Sept 01)	<u>\$380.00</u>
Total	\$1460.13

In the available rates notices for this period there is no breakdown of availability charges versus service charges. Annual availability charges apply to any rateable package of land where Domestic Waste Management services are available, regardless of the use of the service. Service charges may be variant subject to use of the service.

Council DW Collection records for this period are not available to verify if bins were collected during this period.

The preschool was un-licensed at this time and the current staff and management committee state that there was no use of the building at any time during the closure period.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Local Government Act 1993
- Property File 3061

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council.
- Assessment 3061

**Financial Implications:**

An amount of \$1460.13 has been accrued in DWM charges which will be costed to bad debt expenses.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council write-off Domestic Waste Management charges of \$1460.13 on Assessment 3061 in accordance with Section 607 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and clause 131 of the Local Government Regulation 2005.**

<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 22

**Subject:** Domestic Waste Management Availability Over-Charge

**Author:** Myrene Lovegrove - Accountant

**File No:** 025/05/07/35

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**Summary:**

This report recommends that Council amends Assessment 280 by correcting an overcharge for the domestic waste management service fee in an amount of \$1,681.17.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

As part of Council's on-going rates review process and in response to a ratepayers recent enquiry an audit of the domestic waste management availability revealed an overcharge in both the 2006/07 and 2007/2008 rates years. The ratepayer had been charged for five (5) services when only two (2) bins were available for collection.

The overcharge in the 2006/2007 year was \$813.30 and in the 2007/2008 year \$862.05. An interest charge of \$5.82 was levied for the arrears interest. The total overcharge is \$1681.17.

The domestic waste charge can be written off under Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, Part 5, Division 3, Clause 131(4)(a) that states:

*"An amount of rates and charges can be written off under this clause ....  
(a) if there is an error in the assessment",*

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Local Government Act 1993
- Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Walgett Shire Ratepayers

**Financial Implications:**

Rates Debtors will be reduced by \$1681.17. This outstanding debt has been provided for in General Purpose Financial Accounts as a provision for doubtful debts.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council write-off \$1,681.17 from Assessment 280 to correct an overcharge of domestic waste management availability charge in accordance with Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, Part 5, Division 3, Clause 131(4)(a).**

<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 23

**Subject:** Lightning Ridge Tourist Association

**Author:** Emma Darcy –Manager Corporate Services

**File No:** 180/01/02/00

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**Summary:**

This report recommends that Council write off \$2,312.65 owed by Lightning Ridge Tourist Association for electricity accounts paid by Council on their behalf.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Prior to the adoption of the revised funding agreement with Lightning Ridge Visitor Information Centre on 12 December 2005, Council agreed *to support and fund the ongoing expenses for phone and power*. Two accounts were raised for the period from 23/6/04 until 8/5/05 totalling \$2,312.65. These accounts were raised on the assumption that the operating subsidy would cover water and electricity account. Following consultation with members of Lightning Ridge Tourist Association and the lack of clarification in the former MOU it is recommended that Council write off the outstanding debt.

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 Part 9, Division 5, Clause 213 states:

- (5) *A debt can be written off under this clause only:*
- (a) *If the debt is not lawfully recoverable, or*
  - (b) *As a result of a decision of a court, or*
  - (c) *If the council or the general manager believes on reasonable grounds that an attempt to recover the debt would not be cost effective.*
- (6) *The fact that a debt is written off under this clause does not prevent the council concerned from taking legal proceedings to recover the debt.*

This debt would be written off under section (5)(c).

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 Part 9, Division 5, Clause 213
- Memorandum of Understanding between Walgett Shire Council and Lightning Ridge Tourist Association.
- Accounts Receivable Transaction Listing for Debtor number 1395.14

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council



## **SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA**

- Lightning Ridge Tourist Association

### **Financial Implications:**

Write off Debtor of \$2,312.65.

### **Recommendation:**

**That Council write off the Debt owing to Walgett Shire Council from Lightning Ridge Tourist Association for \$2,312.65 as listed in *Walgett Shire Council Outstanding Debtors Listing*.**

<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 24

**Subject:** Sale of Land for Overdue Rates

**Author:** Kristy Maher - Acting Rates Clerk

**File No:** 025/05/01/77

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**Summary:**

This report recommends that Council write off the balance of rates of properties sold by private.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

The sale of land for unpaid rates under section 713 of the Local Government Act 1993 took place on the 5 May 2007 by public auction as a result of Council's resolution at the November 2006 meeting. In conjunction with this, seven properties were listed for sale by private treaty prior to auction.

<b>308/06 – Auction Sale of Land for Overdue Rates</b>
--

**RESOLUTION:**

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that:

- |  |
|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The land detailed in the following document be submitted for sale at public auction on Saturday, 5 May 2007 at 10.00 am in the Council Chambers, 77 Fox Street, Walgett.</li><li>2. The proposed sale be published in the Government Gazette and in a local newspaper.</li><li>3. Each person ascertained as having an interest in the land be notified of the Council's intention to sell the land under Section 713 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>.</li><li>4. The auction sale be conducted by a licensed auctioneer and should the lots be unsold at the auction that they be listed for sale by private treaty.</li><li>5. The reserve price for the lots is set at the valuation determined by a Registered Valuer.</li><li>6. Council authorises the execution of contracts and transfer documents under its Common Seal.</li></ol> |
|--|

The seven properties listed for sale, have total rates outstanding in the amount of \$39,309.63, as at 21 August 2007.

## **SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA**

### Result of the Sale:

All seven properties were sold by Private Treaty prior to the auction for a total of \$2,800.00

### Private Treaty:

Under Section 716(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, land that fails to sell at public auction may be sold by private treaty.

### How Purchase Money is Applied:

Under Section 718 of the Local Government Act 1993, *“Council must apply any purchase money received by it on the sale of land for unpaid rates and charges...in the following order:*

- a) *Firstly, the expenses of the Council incurred in connection with the sale;*
- b) *Secondly, any rate or charge in respect of the land due to the Council...”*

The expenses of the sale to date are as follows:

Solicitors fees	\$4892.80
Section 603 & Section 149 certificates	\$ 434.00
Outstanding legal fees (1997-2007)	\$4488.98
Commission	\$770.00

As this expenditure is in excess of the sale proceeds the costs have been applied to Operation Expenses – Revenue.

### Overall Result of Sale:

7.1% of the total outstanding debt was received via the sale.

### Write-Off of Outstanding Rates:

Section 719 of the Local Government Act states *“if the purchase money is insufficient to satisfy all rates and charges...b) the rates, charges and debts are taken to be fully satisfied.”*

### **Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Local Government Act 1993

### **Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council.
- Walgett Shire Ratepayers.

### **Financial Implications:**

Council will be affected by a write-off of \$39,309.63 in outstanding rates and charges. \$7,785.78 in outstanding sale costs is to be applied to Rate Collection/Recovery Costs.

**Recommendations:**

**That Council write-off the balance of outstanding rates in accordance with Section 719 of the *Local Government Act 1993* that the rates be taken as “fully satisfied”, being an amount of \$39,309.63.**

<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
--

**Item No:** 25

**Subject:** Sale of Land for Overdue Rates.

**Author:** Kristy Maher - Acting Rates Clerk

**File No:** 025/05/01/77

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**Summary:**

This report recommends that Council write off the balance of rates of properties sold under Section 713 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

The sale of land for unpaid rates under section 713 of the *Local Government Act 1993* took place on the 5 May 2007 by public auction as a result of Council's resolution at the November 2006 meeting.

Council had 10 properties listed for sale, with total rates outstanding as at 21<sup>st</sup> August of \$190,714.35.

**Result of the Sale:**

On the sale date 10 properties were sold for a total of \$116,450.00

**How Purchase Money is Applied:**

Under Section 718 of the Local Government Act 1993, "*the Council must apply any purchase money received by it on the sale of land for unpaid rates and charges...in the following order:*

- a) *Firstly, the expenses of the Council incurred in connection with the sale;*
- b) *Secondly, any rate or charge in respect of the land due to the Council..."*

The expenses of the sale to date are as follows:

Searches – Certificate of Title	\$602.00
Advertising	\$2339.00
Solicitors fees	\$6061.21
Section 603 & Section 149 certificates	\$1620.00
Outstanding legal fees (1997-2007)	\$1012.38
Commission	\$5822.50

## SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

### Overall Result of Sale:

62.5% of the total outstanding debt was received via the sale.

### Write-Off of Outstanding Rates:

Section 719 of the Local Government Act states *“if the purchase money is insufficient to satisfy all rates and charges...b) the rates, charges and debts are taken to be fully satisfied.”*

### **Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Local Government Act 1993

### **Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council.
- Walgett Shire Ratepayers.

### **Financial Implications:**

Council will be affected by a write-off of \$91,721.44 in outstanding rates and charges.

### **Recommendation:**

**That Council write-off the balance of outstanding rates in accordance with Section 719 of the *Local Government Act 1993* that the rates be taken as “fully satisfied”, being an amount of \$91, 721.44.**

**MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING  
21 AUGUST 2007**
**Item No:** 26

**Subject:** Report on Rates and Charges – 31 July 2007

**Author:** Kristy Maher - Acting Rates Clerk

**File No:** 180/09/00/00

**REPORT ON RATES AND CHARGES - 31 July 2007**

		<b>Jul-07</b>	<b>Jul-06</b>
Arrears as at 30 June		1,454,181.05	1,618,773.48
Legal Fees as at 30 June		71065.75	0.00
Adjusted Levy		6,341,789.99	6,166,535.54
Interest		8,403.72	8,231.46
Payments		(280,941.51)	(57,604.61)
Adjustments		(105,823.89)	(24,709.65)
Discount		(1,941.32)	(165.95)
Total Outstanding	\$	7,486,733.79	7,711,060.27

**COMPARISON WITH 2006/2007**

		<b>Jul-07</b>	<b>Jul-06</b>
Current		6,248,124.19	6,141,910.42
Arrears		891,603.93	1,206,100.59
Interest b/f from previous years		269,460.90	302,219.61
Current year interest		8,396.36	8,223.01
Legals		69,148.41	52,606.64
Total Outstanding	\$	7,486,733.79	7,711,060.27

**Total YTD Collected**

	<b>Jul-07</b>	<b>Jul-06</b>
Collected YTD % of Arrears and Levy	4%	1%
Collected YTD % of Levy	4%	1%

**Recommendation:**
**That the Report on Rates as at 31 July 2007 be received.**

<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 27

**Subject:** Monthly Management Report to 31 July 2007

**Author:** Myrene Lovegrove- Accountant

**File No:** 180/08/00/00

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**Summary:**

This report is prepared to report on the operational performance against adopted estimates for the period ending 31 July 2007.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

At the Walgett Shire Council Extraordinary Meeting 28 June 2007 the Budget and Management Plan 2007/2008 – 2011/2012 including the 2007/2008 Budget was adopted.

This report analyses the financial performance of Council for the period ending 31 July 2007 comparing actual expenditure and revenue against the budget. The Council's position at this time is within budgetary expectations with a surplus of \$5,631,408 compared to a budgeted surplus of \$9,683,749.

**General Budgetary Position**

This review analyses the financial performance of the Council for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> July 2007, comparing actual expenditure and revenue against the budget. Council's budgetary position for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> July 2007 is financially sound.

***Corporate Services***

- The full amount of rates revenue has been raised for this period
- Federal Assistance Grant – general component for 2007/08 has not been received.
- Council's insurance policies are fully paid for the 2007/2008 period.
- A BEST Employment Subsidy of \$7,273 was received.
- Legal income of \$4,590 was received as part of Councils ongoing debt recovery policy.



***Community Services***

- Overall expenditure is within budgetary constraints.
- Grants have been received from Department of Community Services and the Department of Family and Community Services for community development funds, vacation care, family day care operations and the youth development officer.

***Planning and Regulations***

- Annual contribution of \$75,411 to Castlereagh Macquarie County Council for noxious plant control was paid.

***Engineering Services***

- Expenditure is within budgetary constraints.
- Revenue for Roads and Bridges 2007/08 has not been received.

***Recreation and Community Assets***

- No variance to report

***Domestic Waste Management***

- The full amount of Domestic Waste charges has been raised.

***Water Services***

- The full amount of rates revenue has been raised this period.

***Sewer Services***

- The full amount of rates revenue has been raised this period.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Walgett Shire Council Budget and Management Plan 2007/2008 – 2011/2012

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Walgett Shire Rate Payers

**Financial Implications:**

Overall, the results of the monthly review indicate that the financial position of Council is satisfactory and continues to operate within budgetary constraints.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council note the Monthly Management Report and for the period ending 31 July 2007.**

# SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

	Original Budget	Actuals	% of Budget
<b><u>Corporate Services</u></b>			
<b>Income</b>			
River Towns	10,000	-	0.00%
Corporate Services	2,000	-	0.00%
Human Resources	9,500	7,273	76.56%
Tourism	17,000	1,694	9.96%
Agencies	55,000	4,609	8.38%
Economic Development	70,000	-	0.00%
Finance	48,000	65	0.14%
Rates General	3,866,453	3,849,014	99.55%
Untied Grants	2,390,219	-	0.00%
Capital utilisation	407,465	63,627	15.62%
Revenue	10,920	5,470	50.09%
Total Income	<u>6,886,557</u>	<u>3,931,752</u>	57.09%
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Members & Civic	526,286	37,428	7.11%
Executive	309,137	52,117	16.86%
River Towns	15,460	1,915	12.39%
Corporate Services	624,733	27,477	4.40%
Human Resources	450,738	32,254	7.16%
Tourism	331,556	26,941	8.13%
Executive Services	247,868	34,808	14.04%
Agencies	163,000	17,465	10.71%
Economic Development	206,553	-	0.00%
Risk Management	350,725	349,653	99.69%
Finance	272,821	33,479	12.27%
Capital Utilisation	7,289	-	0.00%
Information technology	339,428	6,451	1.90%
Creditors	48,863	5,787	11.84%
Revenue	283,551	37,814	13.34%
Payroll	53,238	8,313	15.61%
Indirect Labour Costs	-	130,668	-
Total Expenditure	<u>4,231,246</u>	<u>541,234</u>	12.79%
Operating Result	<u>2,655,311</u>	<u>3,390,518</u>	127.69%

## SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

### Community Services

#### **Income**

Community Services	44,190	9,571	21.66%
Youth Services	41,085	11,246	27.37%
Vacation Care	16,320	4,794	29.38%
Family Day Care	106,852	13,277	12.43%
Library Services	44,500	197	0.44%
Total Income	<u>252,947</u>	<u>39,085</u>	15.45%

#### **Expenditure**

Community Services	239,957	14,610	6.09%
Youth Services	125,980	11,065	8.78%
Vacation Care	16,854	9,337	55.40%
After School Care	69,495	9,953	14.32%
Family Day Care	115,952	10,099	8.71%
Library Services	225,980	6,671	2.95%
Total Expenditure	<u>794,218</u>	<u>61,735</u>	7.77%
Operating Result	<u>- 541,271</u>	<u>- 22,650</u>	4.18%

### Planning & Regulation

#### **Income**

Planning/Building	120,950	4,319	3.57%
Environmental Health	2,100	-	0.00%
Animal Control/Regulatory	3,200	205	6.41%
Total Income	<u>126,250</u>	<u>4,524</u>	3.58%

#### **Expenditure**

Pesticide Pit Remediation	10,000	-	0.00%
Environmental Health	4,700	105	2.23%
Noxious Plants	75,000	75,411	100.55%
Animal Control/Regulatory	128,526	7,441	5.79%
Manager Planning & Regulation	692,630	51,962	7.50%
Total Expenditure	<u>910,856</u>	<u>134,919</u>	14.81%
Operating Result	<u>- 784,606</u>	<u>- 130,395</u>	

### Emergency Services

#### **Income**

Fire Services	61,157	-	0.00%
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#### **Expenditure**

Fire Services	142,618	22,085	15.49%
SES	65,400	3,086	4.72%
Total Expenditure	<u>208,018</u>	<u>25,171</u>	12.10%
Operating Result	<u>- 146,861</u>	<u>- 25,171</u>	

## SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

### Engineering Administration

#### **Income**

Manager Engineering	73,000	2,027	2.78%
Public Halls	34,936	2,103	6.02%
Plant Operations	1,945,121	257,603	13.24%
Council Properties	380,625	7,952	2.09%
Council Reserves	33,400	5,266	15.77%
Total Income	<u>2,467,082</u>	<u>274,951</u>	11.14%

#### **Expenditure**

Manager Engineering	1,052,280	71,524	6.80%
Private Works	29,400	7,749	26.36%
Plant Running Expenses	1,049,161	95,828	9.13%
Properties Maintenance	275,499	40,781	14.80%
Motor Vehicles/Plant/Equipment	370,000	1,780	0.48%
Total Expenditure	<u>2,776,340</u>	<u>217,662</u>	7.84%
Operating Result	<u>- 309,258</u>	<u>57,289</u>	

### Roads & Bridges

#### **Revenue**

Roads & Bridges	13,710,000	1,378,509	10.05%
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#### **Expenditure**

Urban Roads	802,520	98,594	12.29%
Rural Roads	1,400,208	229,959	16.42%
Regional Roads	594,783	336,184	56.52%
Gravel Pit Restoration	50,000		0.00%
State Highways	1,278,385	343,625	26.88%
Total Expenditure	<u>4,125,896</u>	<u>1,008,362</u>	24.44%
Operating Result	<u>9,584,104</u>	<u>370,147</u>	

### Recreation & Community Assets

#### **Revenue**

Natural Disaster Mitigation program	330,000	-	0.00%
Aerodromes	20,000	1,339	6.70%
Cemeteries	21,000	114	0.54%
Total Income	<u>371,000</u>	<u>1,453</u>	

#### **Expenditure**

Recreation & Community Assets	1,489,955	220,925	14.83%
Depots Operations	239,617	35,556	14.84%
Total Expenditure	<u>1,729,572</u>	<u>256,481</u>	14.83%
Operating Result	<u>- 1,358,572</u>	<u>- 255,028</u>	

## SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

### Domestic Waste Management

#### **Revenue**

DWM	845,064	722,802	85.53%
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#### **Expenditure**

DWM	713,600	81,718	11.45%
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Operating Result	<u>131,464</u>	<u>641,084</u>	
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### Water Supplies

#### **Revenue**

Walgett Water	760,000	543,946	71.57%
Lightning Ridge Water	466,763	450,137	96.44%
Collarenebri Water	225,843	170,635	75.55%
Rowena Water	5,504	5,504	100.00%
Carinda Water	15,785	15,785	100.00%
Cumborah Water	311	311	100.00%
Total Income	<u>1,474,206</u>	<u>1,186,318</u>	80.47%

#### **Expenditure**

Walgett Water	503,291	50,684	10.07%
Lightning Ridge Water	249,458	52,859	21.19%
Collarenebri Water	246,013	21,909	8.91%
Rowena Water	21,681	1,579	7.28%
Carinda Water	30,610	765	2.50%
Village Water	16,000	138	0.86%
Total Expenditure	<u>1,067,053</u>	<u>127,934</u>	11.99%

Operating Result	<u>407,153</u>	<u>1,058,384</u>	
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### Sewerage Supplies

#### **Revenue**

Walgett Sewer	287,086	280,973	97.87%
Lightning Ridge Sewer	245,759	235,455	95.81%
Collarenebri Sewer	80,587	77,152	95.74%
Total Income	<u>613,432</u>	<u>593,580</u>	96.76%

#### **Expenditure**

Walgett Sewer	322,182	21,259	6.60%
Lightning Ridge Sewer	195,679	17,969	9.18%
Collarenebri Sewer	49,287	7,122	14.45%
Total Expenditure	<u>567,148</u>	<u>46,350</u>	8.17%

Operating Result	<u>46,284</u>	<u>547,230</u>	
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### Net Result

Total Income	26,807,695	8,132,974	30.34%
Total Expenditure	17,123,946	2,501,566	14.61%

<b>Net Result</b>	<b><u>\$ 9,683,749</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 5,631,408</u></b>	58.15%
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<b>MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 28

**Subject:** Investment Report as at 31 July 2007

**Author:** Amy Taylor – Customer Service Officer Finance

**File No:** 180/02/01/00

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**Summary:**

This report summarises the investments of Walgett Shire Council for the month of July 2007.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

The Investment summary as at 31 July 2007 is as follows:

## SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

### INVESTMENTS - CONSOLIDATED

Council investments have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 No 30, the regulations and council's investment policy

<u>Investment Institution</u>	<u>Type of Investment</u>	<u>Term (days)</u>	<u>Rate %</u>	<u>Ref</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>		
Comminvest (FIIG Securities)	Term Deposit	182	6.40	429/07	14-Aug-07	\$	500,000.00
Bankwest	Term Deposit	154	6.63	437/07	21-Aug-07	\$	300,000.00
Suncorp	Term Deposit	154	6.61	438/07	28-Aug-07	\$	500,000.00
National	Term Deposit	90	6.21	439/07	02-Apr-07	\$	300,000.00
National	Term Deposit	202	6.19	440/07	03-Apr-07	\$	500,000.00
Citibank	Term Deposit	209	6.37	441/07	10-Apr-07	\$	500,000.00
IMB Ltd	Term Deposit	182	6.75	442/07	16-Oct-07	\$	300,000.00
Local Govt Financial Services	Term Deposit	181	6.47	443/07	30-Oct-07	\$	500,000.00
Bank of Qld	Term Deposit	182	6.55	444/07	13-Nov-07	\$	500,000.00
Savings & Loans Credit Union	Term Deposit	126	6.54	445/07	25-Sep-07	\$	250,000.00
Bankwest	Term Deposit	134	6.49	446/07	10-Oct-07	\$	300,000.00
Bank of Qld	Term Deposit	168	6.50	447/07	20-Nov-07	\$	250,000.00
Bankwest	Term Deposit	172	6.68	448/07	27-Nov-07	\$	300,000.00
CBA	Term Deposit	91	7.50	449/07	17-Sep-07	\$	500,000.00
Royal Bank Canada	Term Deposit	91	7.70	450/07	17-Sep-07	\$	500,000.00
Citibank	Term Deposit	168	6.60	451/07	04-Dec-07	\$	500,000.00
Citibank	Term Deposit	168	6.60	452/07	11-Dec-07	\$	300,000.00
Savings & Loans Credit Union (FIIG Securities)	Term Deposit	168	6.70	453/08	18-Dec-07	\$	500,000.00
IMB Ltd	Term Deposit	182	6.68	454/08	08-Jan-08	\$	500,000.00
ACCU (FIIG Securities)	Term Deposit	182	6.76	455/08	15-Jan-08	\$	500,000.00
Bankwest	Term Deposit	182	6.65	456/08	22-Jan-08	\$	500,000.00
Grange Securities - Zircon Finance Limited	Term Deposit	92	7.71		20-Sep-07	\$	500,000.00
Grange Securities - Elders Rural Bank	Term Deposit	92	6.95		06-Sep-07	\$	500,000.00
Grange Securities - Adelaide Bank	Term Deposit	92	6.78		28-Sep-07	\$	500,000.00
Grange Securities - MAS6-7	Term Deposit	92	8.41		20-Sep-07	\$	250,000.00
Grange Securities - Helium	Term Deposit	92	7.71		24-Sep-07	\$	200,000.00
Grange Securitis- Magnolia	Term Deposit	92	7.51		09-Oct-07	\$	50,000.00
						<b>\$</b>	<b><u>10,800,000.00</u></b>

### Recommendation:

**That the Investment Report as at 31 July 2007 be received.**



## MANAGER PLANNING AND REGULATION'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007

**Item No:** 29

**Subject:** Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Draft Strategy

**Author:** Matthew Goodwin – Manager Planning and Regulation

**File No:** 315/01/02/00

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### Summary:

Walgett Shire Council recently placed the Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Draft Strategy on public exhibition until 30 September 2007. This report recommends Council note and endorse the public exhibition of the document.

### Comments (including issues and background):

The Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Draft Strategy has been in draft form for some time, awaiting endorsement by the Department of Planning prior to public release. At a meeting held on 20 April 2006 Council resolved as follows regarding the Study/Strategy document:

#### 84/06 – Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Draft Strategy

##### RESOLUTION:

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that:

1. The draft Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Draft Strategy is presently awaiting endorsement by the Department of Planning.

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##### MINUTES – APRIL 20 2006

2. To publicly exhibit for 28 days the document titled "Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Draft Strategy" dated March 2006 as prepared by Edge Land Planning, once it has been endorsed by the Department of Planning. This will include:
  - (a) Advertising its exhibition in the Walgett Spectator, The Black Opal Advocate and The Ridge News and inviting written submissions on the document.
  - (b) Issuing the document to Precinct committees and working parties to invite written submissions on the document.
3. At a subsequent Council meeting, consider all submissions made on the Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Draft Strategy.

Carried.

## **SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA**

After protracted discussions with a number of State Government agencies associated with the finalisation of the document, the Department of Planning endorsed its public release in a letter dated 10 July 2007.

The document has been advertised as being on public exhibition from 30 July 2007 to 30 September 2007. Hard copies are available for viewing at Council's Administration Building, the Lightning Ridge Library and Council's office in Collarenebri. The public has been informed of the document and its exhibition via:

- Walgett Shire Council's web site.
- Advertisements in Walgett Shire Council's column within the Walgett Spectator (8-8-2007) and the Lightning Ridge News (9-8-2007). The Black Opal Advocate is no longer being published.
- Letters dated 2 August 2007 which were sent to 176 different community groups, individuals and government agencies. These parties had either participated in prior public consultation sessions or had been identified as potentially having an interest in land use planning within the Shire.

The document is available to the public via the internet at the following address:

- <http://www.walgett.nsw.gov.au/planning/1119/1534.html>

Once the public consultation period has ended, all submissions received will be forwarded to the document's author, Edge Land Planning, to provide an opportunity for the refinement of any relevant advice to Council. The submissions will be considered by Council in conjunction with the recommendations contained in the Study/Draft Strategy document, prior to proceeding with the development of a draft Local Environmental Plan.

### **Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Council file 315-01-02-00 – Local Environmental Plan.
- Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Draft Strategy prepared by Edge Land Planning, dated July 2007.

### **Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council, public and State government.

### **Financial Implications:**

Nil.

### **Recommendation:**

**That Council resolve to note and endorse the public exhibition between 30 July 2007 to 30 September 2007 of the Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Draft Strategy document, as prepared by Edge Land Planning and dated July 2007.**

<b>MANAGER PLANNING AND REGULATION'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
---

**Item No:** 30

**Subject:** Namoi 2030 Project

**Author:** Matthew Goodwin – Manager Planning and Regulation

**File No:** 185/02/11/00

---

**Summary:**

Walgett Shire Council was recently invited to participate in the Namoi 2030 project. It is recommended that Council note and endorse the General Manager's commitment to participate.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Gunnedah Shire Council is the project manager for the Namoi 2030 Project, which is an economic resource analysis and strategy project encompassing the Namoi River Catchment. It is expected that the project will take 18 months and cost about \$213,000.

The stated intent is that the final strategy resulting from the project *"will support development of sound economic planning policy both at the local and regional level as well as provide a tool to justify approaches to other levels of government relative to supporting the economic development and well being of the region"*.

Current project participants and supporters include:

- Gunnedah Shire Council.
- Liverpool Plains Shire Council.
- Narrabri Shire Council.
- The Department of Planning.
- Tamworth Regional Council.
- Namoi Catchment Authority.

More recently Walgett Shire, along with Walcha and Warrumbungle Shires, has been invited to participate in the project on the following basis:

- No financial contribution towards project costs.
- Representation at consultation meetings that involve the Council area.
- Provision to have input into the project.
- That Council's relevant Geographic Information System (GIS) and land use data is made available for the project.
- Project direction and management will rest with the previously established Project Steering Committee.
- Access rights and ownership of the final Strategy.

## **SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA**

The objective of inviting the participation of Walgett, Walcha and Warrumbungle Shires is to ensure that the project proceeds on a whole of catchment basis.

A more detailed overview of the project is included in the letter dated 19 July 2007 from Gunnedah Shire Council. A copy of that letter follows this report.

In a letter dated 8 August 2007 the General Manager advised the General Manager Gunnedah Shire Council that Walgett Shire Council would participate. A copy of that letter is included.

### **Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Letter to Walgett Shire Council dated 19 July 2007 from the Manager Environment and Development, Gunnedah Shire Council.
- Letter from General Manager of Walgett Shire Council dated 8 August 2007 to Gunnedah Shire Council.

### **Stakeholders:**

- Councils in the Namoi River Catchment
- State Government

### **Financial Implications:**

Minor expenditure will be associated with the supply of GIS data and participation in consultation processes. This expenditure can be met from the existing budget.

### **Recommendation:**

1. **That Council resolve to note and endorse the letter dated 8 August 2007 sent by the General Manager of Walgett Shire Council which agreed to participate in the Namoi 2030 Project**
2. **That Council does not contribute to the direct costs of the project .**



Shire of  
**Gunnedah**  
Land of Opportunity

**Walgett Shire  
Council**  
RECD

2 AUG 2007

**FILE:** 185/02/11/00

**LETTER No:** 6410.

**REFER:** MPG

**COPY:** Records has  
copy of letter.  
Booklet etc; given to  
MPG. 2/8/07.

General Manager  
Walgett Shire Council  
PO Box 31  
WALGETT NSW 2832

Attention: Gerry Moran

19 July 2007

Dear Sir

**Namoi 2030 Project – Regional Resource Strategy**

I refer to recent discussions with your Mr Matt Goodwin relative to your Council's collaboration in progressing the above project.

The Namoi 2030 Regional Resource Strategy is an economic resource analysis and strategy project encompassing the Namoi Catchment.

The project is an initiative of the NSW Department of Planning, initially involving Liverpool Plains Shire Council, Narrabri Shire Council and Gunnedah Shire Council with Gunnedah Shire Council being the lead agency in terms of Project Management.

Gunnedah Shire Council appointed Parsons Brinkerhoff (Aust) Pty Ltd in January 2007 to undertake the initial project at a total cost of \$163,500 excluding GST. The project cost has been jointly funded by the NSW Government (Planning Reform Fund - \$120,000), Liverpool Plains Shire Council (\$14,355), Narrabri Shire Council (\$14,355) and Gunnedah Shire Council (\$14,355).

More recently, as a consequence of discussions at Namoi ROC, the opportunity to involve the Namoi Catchment Management Authority and Tamworth Regional Council in the project evolved.

The Namoi CMA established a similar project called "Scenario Planning for Sustainable Land use in the Namoi Catchment" that parallels with some of the work to be undertaken by Parsons Brinckerhoff (Aust) Pty Ltd. A Canberra based company *Delaney and Associates* was appointed by the Namoi CMA to undertake this work. By way of multi-lateral discussions, the two projects have now been aligned under the one banner with a joint purpose.

The project area now comprises the Gunnedah, Liverpool Plains, Narrabri, Walgett, Warrumbungles, Walcha and the Tamworth Local Government Areas contained within the catchment area managed by the Namoi Catchment Management Authority.

The Strategy will examine the wide variety of resources both natural and man made that are available within the Gunnedah, Liverpool Plains, Narrabri, Walgett, Warrumbungle, Walcha and Tamworth Local Government Areas (LGAs) that form the Namoi Catchment and provide scenario testing relative to the future economic management of these resources and what this means for the future of the catchment and the economic prosperity of its community. The strategy will enable the Councils in the catchment to make strategic decisions to promote community and economic growth and facilitate regional development, whilst implementing sound environmental management principles.

A Memorandum of Understanding was formed between Gunnedah Shire Council as the lead agency and the Department of Planning to ensure that the project was undertaken in accordance with the consultants brief and funds were expended in accordance with the objectives of the NSW State Government's Planning Reform Fund Program.

Gunnedah Shire Council  
63 Elgin Street, PO Box 63 GUNNEDAH NSW 2380  
Tel: (02) 6740 2100 Fax: (02) 6740 2119  
Email: [council@infoGUNnedah.com.au](mailto:council@infoGUNnedah.com.au)  
Web: [www.infoGUNnedah.com.au](http://www.infoGUNnedah.com.au)

In late March 2007, negotiations began with Namoi CMA to align its scenario planning project and the Namoi 2030 project. Discussions were also initiated with Tamworth Regional Council given its areas of significance on the economics of the catchment.

Over the past twelve months an outcome has been achieved on a collaborative basis that has resulted in the Namoi CMA committing up to \$50,000 towards the integration of the two projects and Tamworth Regional Council making a contribution of \$14,355.

A number of variations have been made to the existing contract, resulting in a varied project cost of \$213,000. The project is expected to take 18 months to complete.

As a consequence of the new integrated approach to the project the Project Steering Committee now consists of the following members:

NSW Department of Planning - Mr Lindsay Usher  
Namoi Catchment Management Authority - Ms Sheila Donaldson  
Gunnedah Shire Council - Mr Michael Silver  
Liverpool Plains Shire Council - Mr Bob Stewart  
Narrabri Shire Council - Mr Max Kershaw  
Tamworth Regional Council - Ms Alison McGaffin

As an integral member of the Namoi Catchment, your Council's involvement and support of the Namoi 2030 project is requested, under the following arrangements:

- No financial contribution
- Representation at consultation meetings that effects your LGA
- Making available GIS and land use data
- Provision to have input into the project
- Access rights and ownership of final Strategy.

The Walgett, Warrumbungle and Walcha Councils will have agency status in terms of the development of Strategy. However, the directing of the project will rest with the Project Steering Committee.

The contractual management of the Naomi 2030 project will remain with Gunnedah Shire Council under the guidance of Council's Strategic Planner, Ms Caitlin Cameron as Project Coordinator.

The Namoi CMA will be responsible for directing the scenario planning consultancy being undertaken by Delaney & Associates.

A Memorandum of Understanding exists between Gunnedah Shire Council and the Department of Planning to ensure the delivery of the Namoi 2030 project in accordance with the objectives of the Planning Reform Fund.

A draft Memorandum of Understanding has been developed between Gunnedah Shire Council, Namoi CMA and Tamworth Regional Council to ensure the collaborative delivery of both projects and confirm the involvement of Tamworth Regional Council. It will be signed off shortly.

An inception meeting to define the direction of the project was held in Sydney on 6 July 2007 at which the Project Steering Committee met with the two consultants, Parsons Brinckerhoff (Aust) Pty Ltd and Delaney & Associates. The meeting was fruitful and established the basis upon which both contracts can now move forward in a collaborative and integrated manner.

It was apparent that the extension to the Namoi 2030 project with a whole of catchment approach with additional resources would permit the preparation of a robust and extremely valuable economic resource strategy for the Namoi region. The final Strategy will support development of sound economic planning policy both at the local and regional level as well as provide a tool to justify approaches to other levels of government relative to supporting the economic development and well being of the region.

#### **Information Packages**

Three information packages have been compiled and are attached for your reference.

**Document One** contains:

1. The varied Parsons Brinckerhoff (Aust) Pty Ltd Proposal.
2. A revised timetable for the project.
3. Draft Namoi 2030 Community & Stakeholder Involvement Plan, prepared by Parsons Brinckerhoff.

**Document Two** contains:

1. Delaney & Associates Pty Ltd Consultancy Proposal for the "Scenario Planning for Sustainable Land use in the Namoi Catchment (NW NSW)".
2. Revised timeframe from Delaney & Associates Pty Ltd for the Scenario Planning Consultancy.

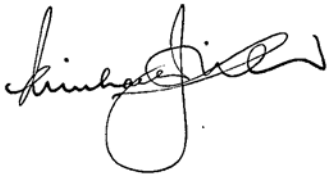
The key contacts for the project are Ms Caitlin Cameron, Strategic Planner, Gunnedah Shire Council on 02 67402122 or [caitlincameron@infogunnedah.com.au](mailto:caitlincameron@infogunnedah.com.au) and Parsons Brinckerhoff (Aust) Pty Ltd, Project Manager, Mr Sam Kernaghan on 02 9272 5100.

I would appreciate your written confirmation of the availability of your GIS and land use data for the project and any licencing considerations that may need to be addressed.

I trust the above advice together with the attachments adequately outlines the evolution of the revised scope for the project and the direction that has now been set for its implementation. Should you wish to discuss any aspects of the project or the contents of this correspondence, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Cameron or myself on 02 6740 2120.

I look forward to your advice in the near future and working together on this unique project for the well being of our communities and the economic sustainability of our region.

Yours faithfully



Michael J Silver  
MANAGER ENVIRONMENT & DEVELOPMENT

Contact: C Cameron 6740 2122



## Shire of Walgett

ABN 88 769 076 385

Reference: M.G.:S.M.: 180/02/11/00  
Your Reference:  
Contact: Matthew Goodwin

8 August 2007

General Manager  
Gunnedah Shire Council  
PO Box 63  
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

Attention: Michael J Silver

Dear Sir,

**RE: NAMOI 2030 PROJECT – REGIONAL RESOURCE STRATEGY**

Thankyou for your letter dated 19 July 2007 which invited Walgett Shire Council to participate in the Namoi 2030 Project, an economic resource analysis and strategy project encompassing the Namoi River Catchment.

Council is pleased to participate in the project on the basis outlined in your letter.

As per preliminary discussions today with your Project Coordinator, Caitlin Cameron, all relevant GIS data will be made available to the project consultants upon request.

Council's involvement will be coordinated by its Manager Planning and Regulation, Matthew Goodwin. He can be contacted by telephone on 6828 6120 or e-mail on [mgoodwin@walgett.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mgoodwin@walgett.nsw.gov.au)

Yours faithfully,

Stephen McLean  
General Manager

---

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



<b>MANAGER PLANNING AND REGULATION'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
---

**Item No:** 31

**Subject:** Western Lands Lease application 14916 – Knud Nexo

**Author:** Matthew Goodwin – Manager Planning and Regulation

**File No:** 180/09/19/00

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**Summary:**

The Department of Lands is seeking Council's comments on proposed Western Lands Lease 14916 for business purposes – engineering at Lightning Ridge. It is recommended that Council offer conditional support for the granting of a Western Lands Lease.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

In a letter dated 19 July 2007, the Department of Lands has sought Council's comments on Western Lands Lease application 14916 lodged by Knud Nexo. The proposed purpose is "*Business Purposes – Engineering*". A copy of the letter is reproduced below.

The area being sought is 1.62 hectares and is presently covered by Mining Purposes Lease 212.

Key issues requiring consideration in association with this proposal include:

1. A search of Council records suggests that the business does not have development consent and is effectively operating in breach of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.
2. Available information indicates that the business has been operating for about 30 years.
3. A search of Walgett Shire Council's records suggests that Council has taken no action in relation to the illegitimacy of the business.
4. By lodging an application for a Western Lands Lease with the Department of Lands, the business operator has made the first step towards legitimising the business.
5. By effectively turning a 'blind eye' to the business it can be readily argued that Walgett Shire Council, the Department of Lands and Department of Primary Industries have effectively sanctioned this business, despite any legislative breaches.

6. Supporting the granting of a Western Lands Lease will contribute to urbanisation of the opal fields. Such urbanisation, and the exaggeration of land use conflict, is highly undesirable as a fundamental principle of land use planning. However, Council's historic inaction makes extremely difficult to take an alternative position in this case.

7. The Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Draft Strategy is on public exhibition until 30 September 2007. The document has been developed in consultation with numerous State Government agencies and its release has been endorsed by the Department of Planning.

On page 162 of the Study/Draft Strategy document Council's planning consultant makes a recommendation that long established commercial businesses on the 'preserved' opal fields should be allowed to remain, regardless of whether or not they presently have development consent.

A recommendation is also made that new commercial uses should not be permitted on the 'preserved' opal fields in the future.

8. In the absence of appropriate development consent, regardless of the previous history of inaction, Council is obligated under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to stop any new businesses or significant changes in the scale, intensity of nature of existing businesses.
9. The site is located within a "1. Non-urban A" zone under the current relevant environmental planning instrument, the Interim Development Order No 1 – Shire of Walgett (IDO). The engineering workshop operated by Knud Nexo is permissible with development consent under the IDO (unlike some other long established commercial uses on 'preserved' opal fields which are prohibited in this zone).
10. Given that it is proposed to grant the lease in "perpetuity", the Department of Lands has suggested that it would be appropriate for the applicant to obtain development consent for the business prior to the granting of the lease. This suggestion was made in a context where Council staff indicated that Walgett Shire Council had previously supported land titles for business licences on the 'preserved' opal fields subject to development consent being obtained (when permissible).

**Department of Lands**

*Land Administration & Management  
Property & Spatial Information*



The General Manager  
Walgett Shire Council  
PO Box 31  
WALGETT NSW 2832

45 Wingewarra Street, Dubbo NSW 2830  
PO Box 1840, Dubbo NSW 2830  
Phone (02) 6883 3000  
Fax (02) 6883 3099  
www.lands.nsw.gov.au

19 July 2007

Our Ref: WLL14916

Dear Sir

The Department is currently considering an application by Knud Christian Nexo for the grant of a new Western Lands Lease for the purpose of "Business Purposes - Engineering" over his Mining Purpose Lease (MPL) No. 212 at Lightning Ridge as shown red edged on the attached diagrams.

The applicant has applied for an area of approximately 1.62 hectares which comprises his existing MPL.

Details of the proposal are as follows;

**Proposed Western Lands Lease 14916:**

**Applicant:** Knud Christian NEXO

**Land Description:** Part Lot 2 DP 1103508 & Part Lot 2 DP 1114407 as shown red edged on attached diagrams.

**Area:** 1.62ha (approx)

**Purpose:** "Business Purposes - Engineering"

**Term:** Perpetual

Please advise of any matters you wish to have considered in connection with this application. If a reply is not received within two (2) months of the date of this letter, your concurrence in the proposal will be assumed.

Yours faithfully

  
Maurice Cenzato  
Senior Land Administration Officer  
Sales and Leases  
for Regional Manager/Western Lands Commissioner  
Western Region, Crown Lands Division

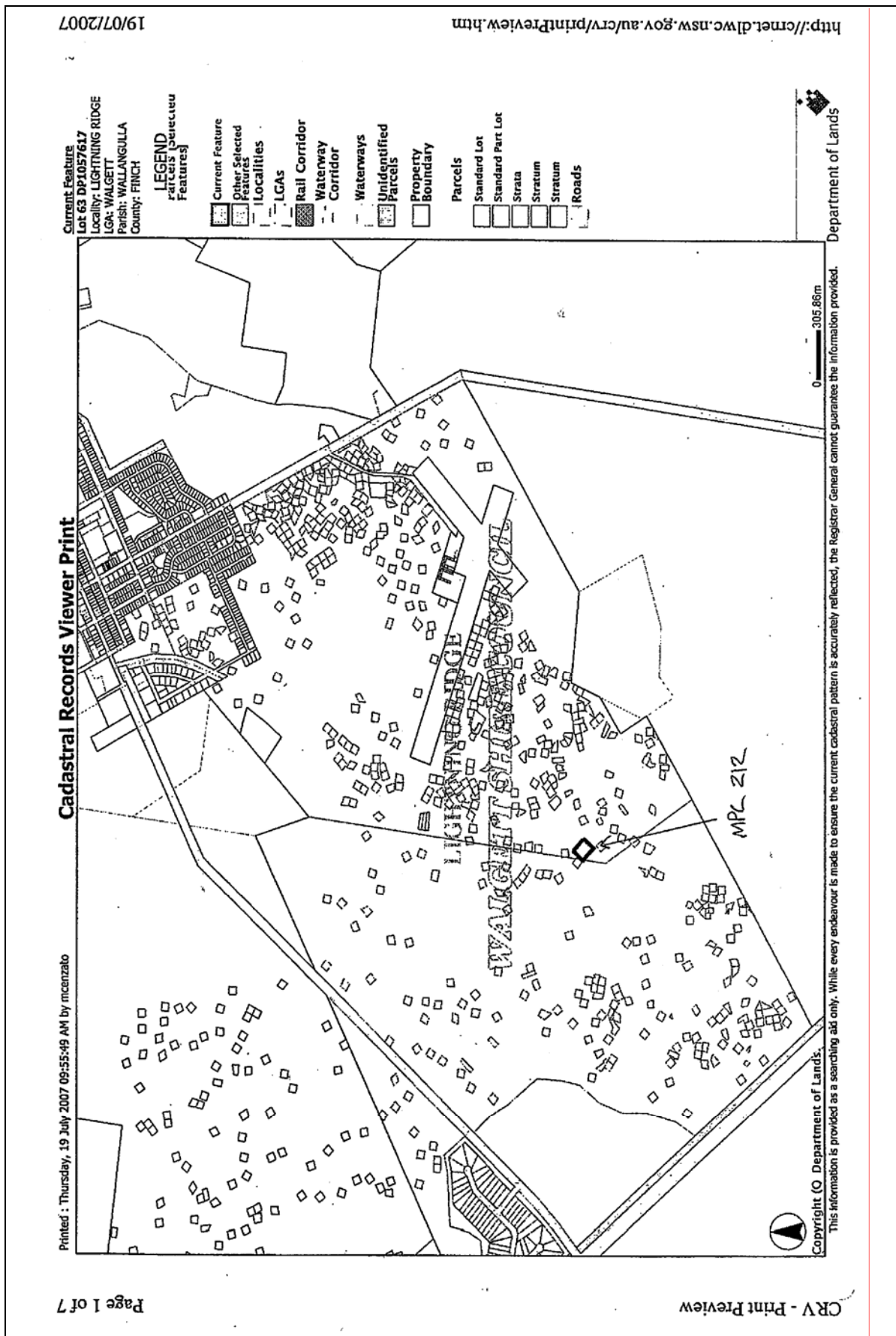
**Walgett Shire  
Council  
RECD**

23 JUL 2007

FILE: 180/09/19/00

LETTER No: 6109.

REFER: MPA.  

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Letter dated 19 July 2007 from Western Region, Crown Lands Division, Department of Lands.
- Walgett Shire Growth Management Study and Draft Strategy prepared by Edge Land Planning, dated July 2007.

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Department of Lands
- Department of Primary Industries
- Knud Nexø

**Financial Implications:**

Nil.

**Recommendations:**

**That Council resolve to:**

**Write to the Department of Lands and state that Walgett Shire Council supports the granting of a Western Lands Lease over the area of Mining Purposes Lease 212 for “Business Purposes – Engineering”, provided that:**

- a) Development consent is obtained for the business prior to the grant of the lease.**
- b) The lease is granted for an area no larger than about 1.62 hectares.**

<b>MANAGER PLANNING AND REGULATION'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 32

**Subject:** Report on Local Development Performance Monitoring 2005-2006

**Author:** Matthew Goodwin – Manager Planning and Regulation

**File No:** 315/01/00/00

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**Summary:**

In July 2007 the Department of Planning publicly released a report titled Local Development Performance Monitoring 2005-2006. It is recommended that Council note issues arising from publication of that report.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

In September 2006 Walgett Shire Council completed a detailed survey on Development Application and Complying Development Certificate application processing for the Department of Planning. This data was used by the Department to prepare a report titled Local Development Performance Monitoring 2005-2006 (published in July 2007).

A media release from the Minister for Planning subsequently reflected adversely on Walgett Shire Council by stating that it was *“taking more than 100 days (mean gross determination time) to process development applications worth less than \$100,000”* with a mean of 133 days. This was cited as the second slowest processing time in the state for that category of development.

Shortly afterwards the Minister for Planning sought a detailed explanation on two matters, as dealt with below.

**Gross determination times for Development Applications**

Walgett Shire Council was listed in Table 3.3 amongst those Councils with the slowest mean gross determination times for Development Applications valued at less than \$100,000.

A review has shown that the mean gross determination time data submitted by Council for this category of development was wrong. In reality that category of development had:

- A gross mean determination time of 58.2 days (34 applications processed in a total of 1,978 days).
- A net mean, after deducting “stop the clock” days where Council had asked applicants to supply information required to support an application, was 25.8 days (34 applications processed in a total of 878 days). This figure is a more accurate indication of the time taken by Council to process a Development Application.

**Development Applications determined by councillors**

Walgett Shire Council was listed in Table 5.2 amongst those Councils with the highest proportion of Development Applications determined by Councillors. The actual figure was 12 applications, which represented 24% of the total processed.

Types of applications determined by Council were all those where:

- Council was the applicant.
- A subdivision was involved.
- A SEPP1 (State Environmental Planning Policy 1 – Development Standards) objection had been lodged by the applicant.
- An objection to the proposal had been received.
- Council staff recommended refusal of the application (other than those applications with inadequate supporting documentation).

Since January 2007 subdivisions have no longer been determined by Council unless they are also of another type listed above. This change was made prior to the release of the report specifically to reduce the proportion of applications being referred to council, as well as accelerating the development consent process.

**Comment on Complying Development**

Walgett Shire Council is amongst the top five Councils in the State with the highest proportion of Complying Development Certificate (CDC) applications (51%) relative to Development Applications (49%). State wide the proportion of CDC applications is 11%. The high proportion of CDC applications shows that, where appropriate, Council has been active in ensuring that applicants avoid the greater complexity and expense of Development Application and Construction Certificate processes.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Report on Local Development Performance Monitoring 2005-2006 as published by the Department of Planning in July 2007.
- Letter dated 18 Jul 2007 to Walgett Shire Council from the Minister for Planning.

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Department of Planning

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Recommendations:**

**That Walgett Shire Council resolve to note that:-**

- (1) An error in reporting Development Application statistics for 2005-2006 to the Department of Planning resulted in Walgett Shire Council being publicised as “taking more than 100 days (mean gross determination time) to process development applications worth less than \$100,000”, with a mean of 133 days.**
- (2) Only Development Applications of the following types are currently being forwarded to Council for determination:**
  - Council is the applicant.**
  - A State Environmental Planning Policy 1 – Development Standards objection had been lodged by the applicant.**
  - Any objection to the proposal had been received.**
  - Council staff recommended refusal of the application (other than those applications with inadequate supporting documentation).**



<b>MANAGER PLANNING AND REGULATION'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
---

**Item No:** 33

**Subject:** Local Development & Complying Development Certificate Applications

**Author:** Matthew Goodwin – Manager Planning and Regulation

**File No:** 315/01/00/00

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**Summary:**

This report provides a summary of the Development and Complying Development Certificate applications recently dealt with under delegated authority.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

The table following this report provides details of Development Applications (DA) and Complying Development Certificate (CDC) applications dealt with under delegated authority by the Manager Planning and Regulation and General Manager during July 2007.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Respective Development Application and Complying Development Certificate files.

**Stakeholders:**

Applicants.

**Financial Implications:**

Nil.

**Recommendation:**

**That Walgett Shire Council resolve to note the Development and Complying Development Certificate applications dealt with under delegated authority by the Manager Planning and Regulation and General Manager during July 2007.**

AUTHORITY		Determined Applications			
08/10/2007		Parameters:	Date Range: Y Start Date: 1/07/2007 End Date: 1/08/2007 As At Date:	Document Type: 2 Officer: ALL Number of Days: 0 Stop The Clock: Yes	Page: 1
Document	Applicant Name / Address	Development Type	Property Address	Determination	Received
Title	Owner				
Document Type: 20					
<b>Stop the Clock</b>					
Total Elapsed Calendar Days: 148					
Calendar Stop Days: 129					
Adjusted Calendar Days: 19					
020/2007/000000021/001	110 Class 9a - Healthcare Building	Approved - Staff Delegation	27/07/2007	02/03/2007	
	33 Wee Waa ST WALGETT				
	LOT: 1 DP: 1010106				
<b>Stop the Clock</b>					
Total Elapsed Calendar Days: 37					
Calendar Stop Days: 0					
Adjusted Calendar Days: 37					
020/2007/000000026/001	150 Class 10b - Fence/Antenna/Swimming Pool	Approved - Staff Delegation	25/07/2007	19/06/2007	
	11 Morilla ST LIGHTNING RIDGE				
	LOT: 15 SEC: 9 DP: 758612				
Officer: Ms J R Babic					
Number of Applications: 2					
Total Elapsed Calendar Days: 28.00					
Average Calendar Stop Days: 64.50					
Average Adjusted Calendar Days: 28.00					
Total Elapsed Calendar Days: 33					
Calendar Stop Days: 0					
Adjusted Calendar Days: 33					
020/2007/000000023/001	10 Class 1a - Single Dwelling/Dual Occupancy	Approved - Staff Delegation	02/07/2007	31/05/2007	
	66 Morilla ST LIGHTNING RIDGE				
	LOT: 7 SEC: 13 DP: 758612				
AUTHORITY					

AUTHORITY

Determined Applications

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08/10/2007

Parameters:

Date Range:Y

Start Date:1/07/2007

End Date:1/08/2007

As At Date:

Document Type: 2

Officer:ALL

Number of Days:0

Stop The Clock:Yes

Page:2

Document	Applicant Name / Address	Development Type	Determination	Determined	Received
	Property Address	Title	Owner		
Document Type: 20					

<b>MANAGER PLANNING AND REGULATION'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 34

**Subject:** Application for irrigation works

**Author:** Matthew Goodwin – Manager Planning and Regulation

**File No:** 007/02/04/55

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**Summary:**

The Department of Water and Energy has sought Council's comments on an application to establish irrigation related channels, drains and levees. Council objected to the proposal in 1999, and it is recommended that Council continue to object.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

In a letter dated 12 July 2007, the Department of Water and Energy (DWE) has sought Council's comments on Controlled Work Application 90CW800203 lodged by Robert Ernest Williams and Elaine Joyce Williams. The application proposes the establishment of "*Irrigation supply channels, drains and levees for the prevention of inundation of land by floodwater and irrigation development*". The letter and a plan which accompanied the letter are reproduced below.

As noted in the letter from DWE, the application was originally advertised in the 16 December 1998 edition of the Walgett Spectator. Council objected to the proposal in letters dated 8 January 1999 and 15 February 1999 (letter is reproduced below) on the basis that the development could have an adverse impact on flooding. Such impacts could be expected given that:

- The site is located on a flood plain immediately adjoining the Namoi River.
- A similar development is located on the opposite side of the river, which may contribute to the channelling of flood waters in the Namoi River between the two sites.
- Anecdotal evidence suggests that similar developments elsewhere in the Shire have altered the floodwater flow regimes.

No information has been provided which indicates what impacts the proposed development is likely to have on the flow of floodwater.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Letter dated 8 January 1999 from Council to Dept. of Land and Water Conservation.
- Letter dated 15 February 1999 from Council to Dept. of Land and Water Conservation.
- Letter dated 12 July 2007 from Department of Water and Energy to Council.



NSW Government  
Department of Water & Energy

**COPY**

Contact: Geoff Cameron  
Phone: (02) 67019 608  
Mobile: 0427 254 633  
Fax: (02) 67019 692  
Email: [geoff.cameron@dwe.nsw.gov.au](mailto:geoff.cameron@dwe.nsw.gov.au)

The General Manager  
Walgett Shire Council  
PO Box 31  
WALGETT NSW 2832

Our ref: 90CW800203  
File: 90CW800203.doc

12 July 2007

Dear Sir

**Subject: CONTROLLED WORK APPLICATION 90CW800203**

The subject application was lodged with the Department in 1985 and is yet to be finalised.

Details of the application are:

Applicants: Robert Earnest Williams and Elaine Joyce Williams;

Works applied for: Irrigation supply channels, drains and levees for the prevention of inundation of land by floodwater and irrigation development;

Location of works: Lot 35 DP 750311 Parish of Ulambie, County of Baradine;

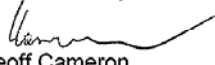
Property name: "Grassmere", Walgett.

Following notification of the application in the 16 December 1998 edition of the Walgett Spectator newspaper, Walgett Shire Council submitted an objection to the proposed development. It appears that this objection has not been resolved or withdrawn.

To assist the Department to bring this outstanding matter to finality, would you please advise whether or not Council wishes to maintain its objection.

Attached are copies of Council's correspondence in relation to this matter.

Yours sincerely

  
Geoff Cameron  
Principal Licensing Officer

**Walgett Shire  
Council  
REC'D**

18 JUL 2007

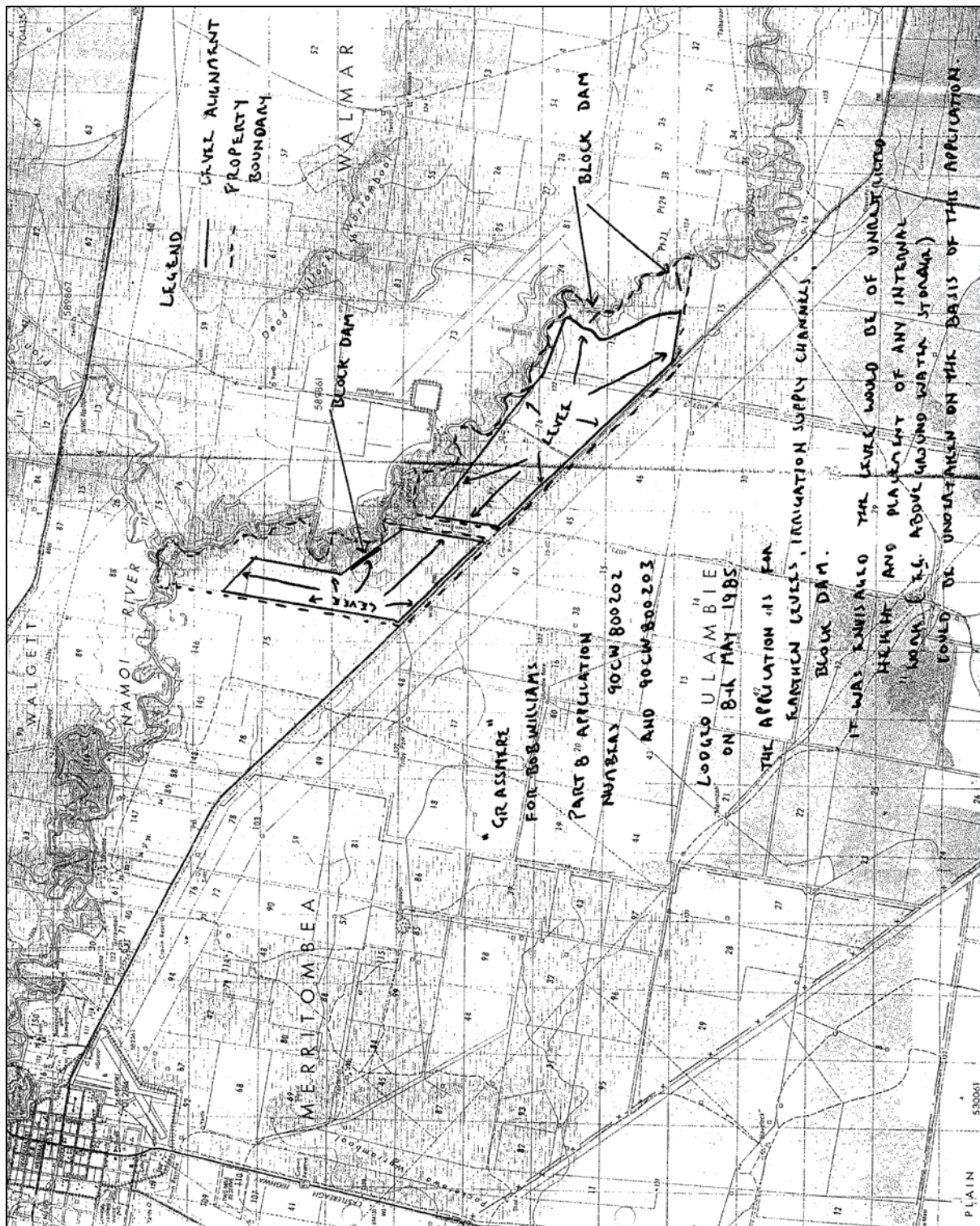
**FILE: 007/02/04/53**

**LETTER No: 6000**

**REFER: MPG**

**E-MAILED**

155-157 Marius Street Tamworth NSW 2340 PO Box 550 Tamworth NSW 2340  
Telephone (02) 67019 608 Facsimile (02) 67019 692 Website [dwe.nsw.gov.au](http://dwe.nsw.gov.au)



# The Council of the Shire of Walgett



All communication to be  
addressed to the  
General Manager,  
P.O. Box 31, Walgett 2832  
Telephone: (02) 6828 1399  
Facsimile: (02) 6828 1608  
Email: walgettshire@bigpond.com

Reference JA:PD ASS/2658 235/06/45  
Your Reference  
Contact Mr. Jeff Austin

15 February, 1999



Mr. Tony Hall  
Manager  
Water Administration  
Barwon Region  
Department of Land and Water Conservation  
P.O. Box 486  
MOREE N.S.W. 2400

Dear Mr. <sup>Tam</sup>Hall,

***Re: Part 8 Application by Mr. Robert Williams***

Please be advised that I received information on Mr. William's proposal from Mr. Peter Mahaffy and Mr. Williams on Thursday 11 February 1999.

The concept plan provided was not supported by any studies indicating the need, if required, of floodways through the proposal, nor the relationship of this development with the existing development on the opposite side of the Namoi.

The combined effect of both developments paralleling the Namoi would appear to have a channeling effect. Without the benefit of a detailed study, any increased scouring due to the channelisation or raised levels upstream, are not clear.

Owing to the sensitive nature of flood plain developments in this area, especially highlighted by the recent major flooding, Council would need to be satisfied that applications are not considered in isolation and that any studies take into account adjoining developments.

Your advice at your earliest convenience would be much appreciated.

Yours faithfully,



J.J. Austin  
Director of Engineering Services

For: General Manager

cc: Bob Williams "Grassmere" Walgett 2832  
Andy Falkenmier, DWLC, P.O. Box 550 Tamworth 2340  
Clr. C. Mitchell

① Advise Council of this advice  
② Advise applicant/consultant of  
need for study to address  
concerns of Council adequate to  
satisfy us and them

Done 



**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council  
Department of Water & Energy  
RE & EJ Williams

**Financial Implications:**

Nil.

**Recommendation:**

**That Walgett Shire Council resolve to write to the Department of Water and Energy and state that it maintains its objection to Controlled Work Application 90CW800203 lodged by Robert Ernest Williams and Elaine Joyce Williams for the establishment of *“Irrigation supply channels, drains and levees for the prevention of inundation of land by floodwater and irrigation development”*. Furthermore, the objection is made on the basis that Council believes that the development could have an adverse impact flooding regimes and no information has been provided which indicates otherwise.**

<b>MANAGER PLANNING AND REGULATIONS REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
--

**Item No:** 35

**Subject:** Development Application 2006039, Walgett Shire Council

**Author:** Janet Babic - Town Planner

**File No:** DA 2006039

---

**Summary:**

A Development Application has been lodged by Walgett Shire Council to create a public road corridor over the existing road known as Wooloroo Road at Lightning Ridge. It is recommended that the application be approved subject to appropriate conditions of development consent.

**Background:**

Development Application 200639 has been lodged by Walgett Shire Council to create a formal road corridor, of various widths, by subdividing Lot 7 in DP 1063025, Lot 73 in DP 1063047, Lot 77 in DP 1065215 and Reserve R42580 (Lightning Ridge cemetery).

The proposal involves:

1. Creating a formal Public Road corridor over an existing road which has been in use for more than twenty years. The road is used for access to the cemetery, golf course, waste depot, the “Wooloroo” property, a gun club, various opal mining fields and mining camps.

The land is located immediately to the north of the Lightning Ridge urban area and will be a continuation of Gem Street as shown in Figure 1 below



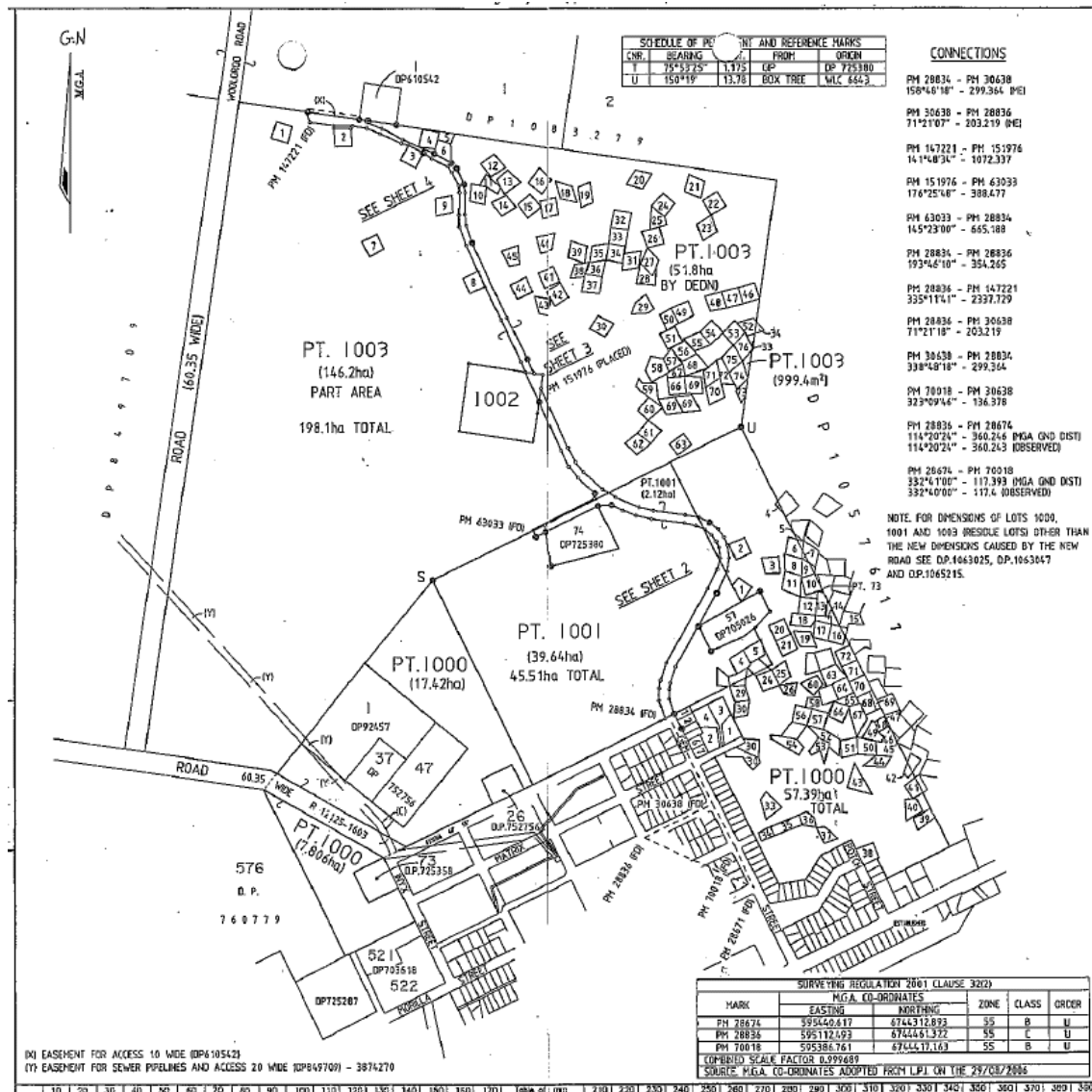


Figure 2 – Road reserve proposed to be created through new lots 1001, 1002, 1003.

**Statutory matters for consideration:**

- 79C (1)(a)(i) Provisions of any environmental planning instrument.**
- The only relevant environmental planning instrument is the Interim Development Order No. 1 – Shire Of Walgett 1968 (IDO). Under that order the land is located within “1(a) Non-Urban”, “2. Village or Township” and “6(a) Recreation Existing” zones. Clause 11 of the IDO imposes certain restrictions on subdivision, but they do not apply to land under the management and control of the Western Lands Commissioner. In that context the proposed public road is permissible with development consent.
- 79C (1)(a)(ii) Provisions of any draft environmental planning instrument that is or has been placed on public exhibition.**
- Not applicable.
- 79C (1)(a)(iii) Any development control plan.**
- Walgett Shire Council does not have any relevant Development Control Plans (DCPs). Under the I.D.O. the land is zoned “1(a) Non-Urban, 1(b). Non-Urban and 2. Village or Township and predominant land uses in the surrounding area are opal mining, residential mineral claims and recreation.
- 79C(1)(a)(iiia) Any planning agreement that has been entered into under section 93F, or any draft planning agreement that a developer has offered to enter into under section 93F**
- Not applicable.
- 79C(1)(a)(iv) The Regulations.**
- Section 92 and 92A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 prescribe additional matters for consideration (see comments below).
- 79C (1)(b) Likely impacts of the development, including environmental impacts on both the natural and built environments, and social and economic impacts in the locality.**
- Current land uses on surrounding lots are: substantially opal mining and residential mineral claims to the north, east and south-east, vacant land and recreation to the west, north-west and south- west. No change of land uses are proposed. Subdivision of the land is unlikely to have significant impacts on the natural or built environments.
- 79C (1)(c) Suitability of the site for the development.**
- The land is part of an established road which serves a significant number of private and public purposes in the area. There are no apparent factors that make the site unsuitable for establishing a public road corridor.
- 79C (1)(d) Submissions made in accordance with the Act or the Regulation.**
- Not applicable. Under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 the proposal is local development with no opportunity for submissions under the act or Regulation (as opposed to designated or advertised development).
- 79C (1)(e) The public interest.**
- No objections were received from notified persons at the time of completing this report (14 Aug 2007).

## **SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA**

The following matters must also be considered by Council in accordance with Sections 92 and 92A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 when making a decision on any Development Application.

92 (1) (a) Coastal areas.

Not Applicable.

92 (1) (b) Demolition.

Not Applicable, no demolition work is proposed.

92A Preliminary planning.

Not applicable.

### **Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Development Application file 2006039
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.
- Interim Development Order No. 1 – Shire of Walgett 1968.

### **Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Department of Lands

### **Recommendation:**

**That Development Application 2006039 be approved subject to the following conditions of consent:**

### **PRESCRIBED CONDITIONS OF DEVELOPMENT CONSENT**

As no 'work' is to be undertaken there are no prescribed conditions of development consent under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000.

### **CONDITIONS IMPOSED BY COUNCIL**

1. The following development consent conditions are imposed by Council.

#### **GENERAL**

##### **Gen 010.**

2. It is possible that a covenant may affect the land, which is subject to this consent. The granting of this consent does not necessarily override any covenant. You should seek legal advice regarding the effect of any covenants that may affect the land.

Reason: To avoid breaching the requirements of any covenant.

**Gen 020.**

3. Any future development on the subject site or use of the subject land in a manner inconsistent with this development consent (approval) will require separate development consent to be obtained from council in writing prior to the commencement of any work.

Reason: To ensure compliance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

**SUBDIVISION**

**Sub 020.**

4. A surveyor's plan must be submitted to Walgett Shire Council prior to the expiry date of this development consent so that the subdivision certificate on the plan can be signed by an authorised officer.

Reason: The subdivision cannot be registered with the Land Titles Office, and be finalised, until the subdivision certificate on the surveyors plan is signed by an authorised officer of Walgett Shire Council.

**Sub 060.**

5. The subdivision certificate will not be released until development consent conditions under this section (titled "subdivision") have been complied with.

REASON: To ensure compliance with the terms of the development consent.

**APPROVED PLANS**

**Pln 010.**

6. The development shall be implemented in accordance with:
  - (a) All documentation and correspondence submitted by the applicant, or their agents, in support of the Development Application,
  - (b) the details set out on the plans approved and stamped by authorised officers of Council,
7. except as amended by the conditions of this development consent.

Reason: To ensure that the development proceeds in the manner proposed by the applicant and approved by Council.

**OPAL MINING DISTURBANCE**

**Min 010.**

8. Opal mining and prospecting operations may have been previously carried out on, or below, the land, which is the subject of this consent, or on adjoining lands. The developer should make their own enquiries to determine whether the land being developed might be adversely affected by such activities, prior to proceeding with the development.

Reason: There are no official records of the extent of opal mining workings within the Lightning Ridge area. It is in the interest of the developer to ensure that there is no evidence that the land is detrimentally affected by mining activity.

<b>MANAGER PLANNING AND REGULATIONS REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
--

**Item No:** 36

**Subject:** Development Application 2007031, Walgett Shire Council

**Author:** Janet Babic - Town Planner

**File No:** DA 2007031

---

**Summary:**

A Development Application has been lodged to consolidate seven lots on the corner of Fox and Euroka Streets, Walgett that are owned by Walgett Shire Council. It is recommended that the application be approved subject to appropriate development consent conditions.

**Background:**

Development Application 2007031 has been lodged by Walgett Shire Council to consolidate seven lots into a single lot. The land is located on the south western corner of Fox and Euroka Streets, Walgett (as shown in Figure 1) below.

The proposal involves:

1. Consolidating Lots A, B and C in DP 161095, Lot 27 and 28 in DP 612034, Lot 1 in DP 323840 and Lot A in DP 395921 into one lot (as shown in Figure 2).
2. No change of land use has been proposed as part of the Development Application.

The lots are owned by Walgett Shire Council under a freehold title. Under the Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2006 – Classification and Reclassification of Public Land which was gazetted on 16 February 2006, the land is classified as “operational” for the purposes of the Local Government Act 1993. That Local Environmental Plan also extinguished all rights of way which previously affected some of the lots.





Figure 1 – Lots proposed to be consolidated (shaded).



Figure 2– Lot proposed to be created (shaded).

**Statutory matters for consideration:**

**79C (1)(a)(i) Provisions of any environmental planning instrument.**

The only relevant environmental planning instrument is the Interim Development Order No. 1 – Shire Of Walgett 1968 (IDO). Under that order the land is located within the “2. Village or Township” zone.

Development consent is required in accordance with the IDO Column III, (Development that may only be carried out with consent of Council) *Development other than that prohibited by column V*

**79C (1)(a)(ii) Provisions of any draft environmental planning instrument that is or has been placed on public exhibition.**

Not applicable.

**79C (1)(a)(iii) Any development control plan.**

No relevant Development Control Plans (DCPs), however Walgett Shire Council does have a “Land Subdivision Code for Urban Areas” adopted on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1991 which is expected to be used as a basis for any future DCP requirements addressing subdivision matters.

The proposal complies with the minimum lot size requirements specified by that code (1,000m<sup>2</sup>).

**79C(1)(a)(iiia) Any planning agreement that has been entered into under section 93F, or any draft planning agreement that a developer has offered to enter into under section 93F**

Not applicable.

**79C(1)(a)(iv) The Regulations.**

Section 92 and 92A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 prescribe additional matters for consideration (see comments below).

**79C (1)(b) Likely impacts of the development, including environmental impacts on both the natural and built environments, and social and economic impacts in the locality.**

Current land uses on surrounding lots are commercial to the north and east and residential to the west and south. No change to existing land use proposed on the site.

There is a Council sewer main that traverses Lot 27 in DP 612034 and Lots B & C in DP 161095. Council’s engineering staff have recommended that a 3 metre wide easement be established over the main to protect it from inappropriate development. In that context this report recommends that a development consent condition be imposed requiring the establishment of such an easement (Sub 040).

**79C (1)(c) Suitability of the site for the development.**

There are no apparent factors that make the site unsuitable for the proposed lot consolidation.

**79C (1)(d) Submissions made in accordance with the Act or the Regulation.**

Not applicable. Under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 the proposal is local development with no opportunity for submissions under the act or Regulation (as opposed to designated or advertised development).

## SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

### 79C (1)(e) The public interest.

No objections were received from notified persons at the time of completing this report (14 Aug 2007).

The following matters must also be considered by Council in accordance with Sections 92 and 92A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 when making a decision on any Development Application.

### 92 (1) (a) Coastal areas.

Not Applicable.

### 92 (1) (b) Demolition.

Not Applicable, no demolition work is proposed.

### 92A Preliminary planning.

Not applicable.

## Relevant Reference Documents:

- Development Application file 2007031
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.
- Interim Development Order No. 1 – Shire of Walgett 1968.
- Walgett Shire Council, Land Subdivision Code – Urban Areas

## Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council

## Recommendation:

That Development Application 2007031 be approved subject to the following conditions of consent:

## PRESCRIBED CONDITIONS OF DEVELOPMENT CONSENT

As no “work” is to be undertaken there are no prescribed conditions of development consent under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000.

## CONDITIONS IMPOSED BY COUNCIL

The following development consent conditions are imposed by Council.

## SUBDIVISION

### Sub 010.

1. That one lot is created by the consolidation of Lots A, B & C in DP 161095, Lots 27 & 28 in DP 612034, Lot 1 in DP 323840 and Lot A in DP 395921. Total area of the new Lot being about 3,310.9 square metres.

Reason: To ensure that the development proceeds in the manner proposed by the applicant and approved by Council.

**Sub 020.**

2. A surveyor's plan must be submitted to Walgett Shire Council prior to the expiry date of this development consent so that the subdivision certificate on the plan can be signed by an authorised officer.

Reason: The subdivision cannot be registered with the Land Titles Office, and be finalised, until the subdivision certificate on the surveyors plan is signed by an authorised officer of Walgett Shire Council.

**Sub 040.**

3. An easement in favour of Council shall be obtained over the area that is traversed by Council's sewer main. The requirements of the easement are as follows:

- (a) The easement width shall be a minimum of 3.0m.
- (b) The easement shall be registered on the title of the relevant lot and lodged with the Land Titles Office.

*The easement plan is to be approved by Council prior to lodgement at the Land Titles Office.*

REASON: Council's sewer main will be protected from inappropriate development by the easement.

**Sub 060.**

4. The subdivision certificate will not be released until development consent conditions under this section (titled "subdivision") have been complied with.

REASON: To ensure compliance with the terms of the development consent.

**APPROVED PLANS**

**Pln 010.**

5. The development shall be implemented in accordance with:
  - (a) All documentation and correspondence submitted by the applicant, or their agents, in support of the Development Application,
  - (b) the details set out on the plans approved and stamped by authorised officers of Council,
6. except as amended by the conditions of this development consent.

Reason: To ensure that the development proceeds in the manner proposed by the applicant and approved by Council.

<b>MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 37

**Subject:** Rest Area Naming

**Author:** Alan Nelson- Manager Engineering

**File No:** 315/01/06/00

---

**Summary:**

This report recommends that Council submits the name 'Monty Morgan Rest Area' to the Geographical Names Board of New South Wales, for consideration as the name for the rest area on the banks of the Barwon River near the Dangar Bridge west of Walgett.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

In December 2006 Council indicated that it was willing to recommend to the Geographical Names Board of New South Wales that the rest area in the vicinity of the Dangar Bridge be named in honour of the late Eric (Monty) Morgan. His family has now indicated their concurrence with this course of action.

Local advertising has been undertaken by Council and apart from support for this name, support has also been received from several quarters for the name 'Barwon Inn Rest Area'. The Walgett and District Tourism Association had supported the name 'Barwon Inn' when the matter was first raised late last year. A letter from the Association to the Roads and Traffic Authority is attached. The Roads and Traffic Authority indicated last year no objection to the name 'Eric (Monty) Morgan Rest Area'. It is considered that they would also not oppose an alternative name put forward by Council.

Council should note the comments from the Geographical Names Board of NSW, which suggest the name Eric (Monty) Morgan is too long and should be shortened to Monty Morgan.

Whilst there is considerable merit in the naming suggestion 'Barwon Inn Rest Area', it is considered that Council's previous determination to seek the naming in honour of the late Eric (Monty) Morgan should remain. However, in light of advice from the Geographical Names Board, it is suggested that Council seek the name 'Monty Morgan Rest Area'.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Naming Submissions
- Council Resolution No 357/06 – December 2006
- Email from Geographical Names Board of NSW

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Geographical Names Board of NSW
- Walgett and District Residents
- Submission Authors

**Financial Implications:**

Minor costs would be involved.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council submits the name ‘Monty Morgan Rest Area’ to the Geographical Names Board of New South Wales, for consideration as the name for the rest area on the banks of the Barwon River near the Dangar Bridge west of Walgett.**

SHIRE OF WALGETT - AGENDA

FROM : A. H. DUNCAN & CO

FAX NO. : 0268282910

Jan. 10 2007 03:05PM P1

**COPY**

006/05/01/27

Rn: 15221

*Walgett & District Tourism Association Inc*  
ABN 39897442773

President:  
Daniel Gale

Hon Secretary  
Megan Duncan

Craigmore  
WALGETT NSW 2832

10<sup>th</sup> January, 2007

Administrator  
Mr Vic Smith  
Walgett Shire Council  
Fox Street  
WALGETT NSW 2832

Dear Mr Smith

**Rest Area - Kamilaroi Highway west of Walgett  
Barwon Inn locality**

Further to letter dated 6<sup>th</sup> December and Council's reply dated 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2006 I wish to advise of this Association's strong objections to naming the abovementioned Rest Area the Eric Monty Morgan Rest Area.

Reasons for retaining the name of the locality as the *Barwon Inn* were stated in previous letter. Two photo copies of the Barwon Inn Hotel have been delivered to Council (today) from which it can be seen that the Hotel was a significant building. This is an important part of the history of Walgett.

Members of this Association have suggested that a more fitting item to honour the late Eric Monty Morgan would be one of the weirs. It is noted that during a flood that Eric Morgan did rescue a person from the Namoi River. It is felt that the name Eric Monty Morgan has greater affinity with the Namoi River due to this act of bravery. A small cleared area in the vicinity of one of the weirs with a plaque noting Mr Morgan's act of bravery would make a really nice place for reflection. It could become a point of interest for visitors to Walgett who wish to see the river.

Yours faithfully

*Megan Duncan*

Megan Duncan  
Hon Secretary

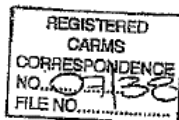
cc General Manager  
Manager Engineering

Contact:

Megan Duncan, Hon Secretary Phone: 02 6828 1544 Facsimile: 02 6828 2940  
Email: [mmduncan@bigpond.com](mailto:mmduncan@bigpond.com)

*Walgett & District Tourism Association Inc*  
ABN 39897442773

President:  
Daniel Gale



P.T.A.	
PAPKES	
11 JAN 2007	
1	LL
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Hon Secretary  
Megan Duncan

Craigmore  
WALGETT NSW 2832

9<sup>th</sup> January, 2007

Mr L Laing  
Regional Manager  
Roads & Traffic Authority  
PO Box 334  
PARKES NSW 2870

Dear Sir -

Re: Naming of Rest Area near the Barwon River West of Walgett

Members of this Association were most concerned to learn that Walgett Shire Council is considering naming the Rest area in the vicinity of the Dangar Bridge over the Barwon River west of Walgett the *Eric Monty Morgan Rest Area*.

This locality is already known as the Barwon Inn as it was the site of a Hotel that was burned down in the 1920's. Steamers use to travel up the Barwon River to this point to unload stores for Walgett. The steamers did not regularly go further upstream. This site has been a favoured crossing place for locals since before the first Dangar Bridge was built in the 1870's and a small boat was kept by the owners of the Inn for this purpose. Stock could be swum across. The first hotel was built in 1867. The Weate family were the Licensee for much of the 60 years that the Hotel was in operation. Members of the Weate family still live in Walgett. A very good photo of this Hotel is held by the Walgett & District Historical Society. It was really quite a substantial building.

The Barwon Inn is an important part of our local history and its significance should be acknowledged.

It is noted that your Board recommends that unduly long names and names of two words or more should not be used. The name *Eric (Monty) Morgan* is long and cumbersome.

This Association requests that the recommendation from Council be rejected as the name *Barwon Inn* is a significant reference to our local history.

Yours faithfully  
*Megan Duncan*  
Megan Duncan  
Hon Secretary

Contact:

Megan Duncan, Hon Secretary

Phone: 02 6828 1544

Facsimile: 02 6828 2910

Email: [mmduncan@bigpond.com](mailto:mmduncan@bigpond.com)



# Walgett District Historical Society Inc

P O Box 242, Walgett. 2832

**President:** Mrs Margaret Weber  
**Secretary:** Mrs N Dunn  
**Treasurer:** Mrs E Duncan

The General Manager  
Walgett Shire Council  
P O Box 31  
WALGETT NSW 2832

Dear Mr McLean

## ***Dangar Bridge Rest Area Naming "Barwon Inn Rest Area"***

Thank you for the opportunity of submitting a name for this area.

The Barwon Inn Pub rest area is historically significant in the pioneering history of the Walgett District. Mr William Ralph Weate, became the publican of the riverside Barwon Inn around 1880. Mr Weate's predecessor may have used this name.

It is significant that members of Mr Weate's family still reside in Walgett.

The Barwon Inn served as a resting place for both the paddle steamer passengers and people travelling the dirt roads by horse, or horse and buggy to and from Walgett. Many families came up river, as far as the Barwon Inn, where they stayed overnight and travelled onto town next day.

Two previous Barwon River Bridges adjacent this site, were known as the Barwon Inn Bridges because of their proximity to the Pub.

Consequently, we would like to recommend "The Barwon Inn Rest Area" as a suitable and appropriate name.

Yours faithfully



M Weber  
President

19 June 2007

**Walgett Shire  
Council**

REC'D

21 JUN 2007

FILE: 315/01/06/00

LETTER No: 5086

REFER: AEN

**COPY:**

Walgett Shire Council  
General Manager

Greg Morgan  
83 Cedar St  
Walgett NSW  
2832

Dear Sir,

The Morgan Family along  
with the extended family and friends,  
would like to request the name

Eric Monty Morgan, for consideration  
when it comes time to name the Rest Area  
5km West of Walgett.

We ask that you reflect on Eric  
history which can be found in the re:  
Naming of Bridge over the Barwon,

We think these papers are  
significant to our request, they tell  
of Eric's aboriginal background, his working  
history with the Walgett Shire Council.

RECD

We thank you and look forward  
in hearing from you

G.R.D. No. ....

Service Rendered .....

Order No: .....

Prices reasonable .....  
or as quoted

Calcs Checked .....

Thanks

Greg Morgan



ph: 0427829560

19-6-07

# WALGETT COMMUNITY PROMOTIONS

006/05/03/44  
5088

19th June 2007

Euroka Street  
Walgett 2832

The General Manager  
Walgett Shire Council  
P O Box 31  
Walgett 2832

Dear Sir

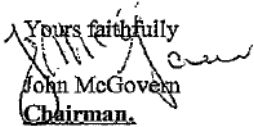
Re - Naming of Rest Area near Dangar Bridge, Walgett.

The members of Walgett Community Promotions would like to see this area named "The Barwon Inn Rest Area "

Historically this area, has, as a whole been called The Barwon Inn as long as anyone can recall and it is believed it would be appropriate to preserve this part of the district's history permanently.

Trusting Council will view this suggestion favourably.

Yours faithfully

  
John McGovern  
Chairman.

006/05/03/44  
Rn 50886

55 Euroka Street,  
WALGETT 2832.

18/06/2007

The General Manager,  
Walgett Shire Council,  
Box 31 PO  
WALGETT 2832

Dear Sir,

Re: Naming Rest Area Near Dangar Bridge.

The rest area near the Dangar Bridge has much significance to the Weate Family. My grandfather, William Ralph Weate owned the Barwon Inn from 1870 to his death in 1905, when his wife Louisa Mathilda Weate took over the license. The Barwon Inn was situated near the site of the rest area. My father Stan Weate owned "Running Brook" until his death in 1972 and we as kids often went for walks around the site of the Barwon Inn after rain looking for coins. Not that we ever found any.

Over the years so many people still refer to this site as the Barwon Inn, although the Inn was destroyed by fire in 1926.. Please consider calling the rest area Barwon Inn Rest Area. A photo of the Barwon Inn is attached.

Yours faithfully,



**Alan Nelson**

---

**From:** Jill Williams [Jill.Williams@lands.nsw.gov.au]  
**Sent:** Friday, 25 May 2007 4:26 PM  
**To:** Alan Nelson  
**Subject:** RE: attn: Mr Allan Nelson

Hi Alan,

GNB has named rest areas (designation Reserve) in the past even if it is located wholly within the road reserve. If you think this is going to be contentious, a good idea might be for council to resolve to conduct its own public consultation to gauge public feeling through its Council Notices section in the local newspaper. Council would then consider the resulting submissions and then forward the chosen name to GNB. The name Eric (Monty) Morgan Rest Area probably wouldn't get up with the GNB because the name is too long. Monty Morgan Rest Area or Monty Morgan Reserve would be better and maybe a plaque erected within the reserve about Monty Morgan. By the way, is Monty Morgan deceased?

Re: Len Cram Park, I will send you the submissions received early next week for council's comment.

Regards,

*Jill Williams*  
Statutory Officer  
Geographical Names Board of NSW  
Ph 02 6332 8218  
Fax 02 6332 8217

---

**From:** Alan Nelson [mailto:ANelson@walgett.nsw.gov.au]  
**Sent:** Friday, 25 May 2007 2:41 PM  
**To:** Jill Williams  
**Subject:** RE: attn: Mr Allan Nelson

Jill, we received, sometime ago, a request to rename the Dangar Bridge (which crosses the Barwon River near Walgett) the Eric (Monty) Morgan Bridge. Council is not proceeding down this path, however it may be acceptable to name the roadside rest area near the bridge the Eric (Monty) Morgan Rest Area. The RTA has indicated no objection to this. Is naming the rest area something which Council needs to work through the Geographical Names Board with? It may be a little contentious as I know the local Tourism Association would prefer the rest area to be named otherwise. Kind Regards - Alan

**SHIRE OF WALGETT – MINUTES**

**357/06 – Bridge Naming**

**RESOLUTION: -**

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that:

1. In view of the lack of support from the Roads and Traffic Authority, Council abandon efforts to rename the bridge over the Barwon River, located west of Walgett on the Kamilaroi Highway.
2. Council pursue the naming of the Rest Area, recently constructed downstream of the Dangar Bridge, in honour of the late Eric (Monty) Morgan.
3. Council's decision, relative to the Rest Area, be conveyed to the family of the late Eric (Monty) Morgan, for their concurrence.
4. Subject to notification of the Geographical Names Board of New South Wales agreement to the naming of the Rest Area, Council arranges for an official naming ceremony for the Rest Area.

Carried.

**358/06 – Engineering Internship**

**RESOLUTION: -**

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that Council note that efforts to recruit a senior engineering intern for the six month period from January 2007 have been unsuccessful.

Carried.

**359/06 – Carinda Waste Management – Waste Transfer Station**

**RESOLUTION: -**

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that Council proceed with the design and construction of a suitable Waste Transfer Station on the site of the existing Carinda Landfill (Lot 2, DP 751556).

Carried.

**360/06 – Local Area Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes**

**RESOLUTION: -**

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that the Local Area Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes of 14 December 2006 be received and noted.

Carried.

<b>MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 38

**Subject:** Burren Junction Bore Baths

**Author:** Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

**File No:** 005/03/02/00

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**Summary:**

This report briefs Council on recent developments relating to the Burren Junction Bore Baths.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Burren Junction Bore Baths have now been open in Stage One form for about two months and the satisfaction level of users appears to be generally very good. However, to achieve a pool temperature that users are satisfied with has only been maintained by utilising a greater flow through the pool than originally envisaged. This will create a situation later this year when it will be necessary to either significantly reduce the inflow or duplicate the evaporation basin.

At a meeting with members of the Burren and Drilool Bore Trusts, a proposal was put forward that, subject to financial assistance from State and/or Commonwealth Governments, water from the evaporation basin would be treated and then supplied into their water supply networks. This proposal was rejected, however it is understood that representatives of the State agency which manages the 'Cap and Pipe the Bores Scheme' in NSW will be approaching them again to urge a reconsideration of their position. Subject to satisfactory funding arrangements being agreed to, this would represent a good outcome for Council, baths users and the environment.

An application has been made to the Commonwealth, for a tourism related grant which, if successful, would allow for further development of the bore baths. The funding round for this programme has been restricted to areas which have Exceptional Circumstances classification, which Burren Junction has. It is envisaged that the outcome of this grant application will be known in about three months time.

An invitation has been sent to Ian McNamara, to broadcast his very popular ABC Radio show "Australia All Over" from the Burren Junction Bore Baths at a convenient time to him. It is understood that he is interested in accepting this invitation and a broadcast, perhaps in October, is a possibility. The assistance of the Member for Barwon, Kevin Humphries MP, is acknowledged in this regard.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Grant Application – Australian Tourism Development Programme (not attached)

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Burren Junction Bore Baths Users
- Commonwealth Government
- New South Wales Government
- Burren Bore Trust
- Drildool Bore Trust

**Financial Implications:**

Council's 2007/08 budget contains sufficient funds to match the grant sought from the Australian Tourism Development Programme.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council notes the current situation with respect to the Burren Junction Bore Baths.**



<b>MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 39

**Subject:** Proposed Removal of Payphones

**Author:** Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

**File No:** 310/04/00/00

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**Summary:**

This report briefs Council on a proposal of Telstra to remove a number of payphones in Walgett and Lightning Ridge. It suggests that, until there is evidence of sustainable community opposition to any of the proposals, no submission from Council be sent to Telstra on this subject. It also recommends that the local media be used to ensure that the communities of Walgett and Lightning Ridge are aware of the proposal of Telstra.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Telstra has forwarded a list of payphones which they are considering removing on the basis that they are under-utilised. Four sites are involved (see attachment), however one site sees a proposal to remove two payphones.

Outside the Lightning Ridge Post Office are four payphones and it is proposed that two be removed, leaving two in place. Outside the Walgett Post Office are three payphones and it is proposed to remove one. The other two sites are in Lightning Ridge, in Opal Street outside the Laundromat and in Morilla Street near Onyx Street.

Telstra indicate that, where a payphone is proposed for removal, a prominent notice shall be placed at the site for at least three months, advising of the intention to remove the facility and inviting comment from users and community members. This notice is not displayed when at least one payphone remains at the site after the proposed removal of other payphone(s).

Council has been invited to make a submission, however it is suggested that no submission be considered at least until such time that there is evidence of any sustainable community objection to any of the proposals. Given the fact that the rationalisation of payphones outside both Lightning Ridge and Walgett Post Offices is being considered, and this will not be accompanied by a public notice indicating such proposal, it is suggested that Council draw attention to this proposal by way of media release and through its weekly newspaper advertisement.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Letter from Telstra

**Stakeholders:**

- Telstra
- Walgett Shire Council
- Communities of Walgett and Lightning Ridge

**Financial Implications:**

Not Applicable

**Recommendations:**

1. That Council note the proposal from Telstra to remove payphones in Walgett and Lightning Ridge.
2. That Council issue a media release to inform the public of the proposal to reduce the number of payphones outside Walgett and Lightning Ridge Post Offices.
3. That Council use its weekly newspaper column to draw public attention to the proposal to remove payphones in Walgett and Lightning Ridge.



**Walgett Shire  
Council  
REC'D**

30 July 2007

1 AUG 2007

**FILE:**

310/04/00/00

**LETTER No:**

6356

**REFER:**

BAM

**COPY:**

Walgett Shire Council,  
The General Manager  
PO Box 31  
Walgett NSW 2832

Telstra Consumer Marketing & Channels  
Payphone Solutions  
13/400 George St  
Sydney NSW 1100  
Australia  
Postal Address:  
Locked Bag 6549  
Sydney NSW 2000  
Telephone 02 82553662  
Facsimile 02 92390397

Dear Sir/Madam

We wrote to you last year regarding our intention to review the number of under-utilised payphones in your council area. This review is an ongoing process and has been underway for a number of years. Telstra is currently considering the removal of single and multiple Telstra operated payphones in your Council area.

The enclosed list provides the payphone identification numbers and site addresses of the payphones we are considering for removal.

Site Code	St No	Address	Street Type	Add Info	Site Location	State	Post Code
02682909X2	0	MORILLA	ST	OS POST OFFICE	LIGHTNING RIDGE	NSW	2834
02682915X2	0	MORILLA	ST	OS POST OFFICE	LIGHTNING RIDGE	NSW	2834
02682910Z2	0	OPAL	ST	OS LAUNDROMAT	LIGHTNING RIDGE	NSW	2834
02682904Z2	0	MORILLA	ST	NR ONYX ST	LIGHTNING RIDGE	NSW	2834
02682811X2	61	WEE WAA	ST	OS POST OFFICE	WALGETT	NSW	2832

We acknowledge our responsibility, under the Universal Service Obligation (USO), to ensure that all people in Australia have reasonable access, on an equitable basis, to payphones. However, the payphones identified for removal have not been supplied in fulfilment of the USO. In addition, they have been identified for removal based on low use over a prolonged period. We attribute this to the widespread availability of mobile telephone services.

A prominent notice will be placed on each of the single payphones sites, for at least three months, advising of the proposed removal of the payphone and inviting comment from the payphone users and members of the community. We will evaluate all comments prior to making a final decision. Where at least one payphone will remain at the site, we are not required to place a notice on the payphones selected for removal or provide three months' notice.

We invite submissions, addressing relevant local factors, from you on the proposed payphone removals. This might include evidence of the need for a payphone service in this location, the social-demography of the communities in which these payphones are

Telstra Corporation Limited  
ABN 33 051 775 556

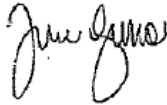
located and evidence of groups in the community that rely on payphones in these locations.

In addition, you may wish to relay this request for feedback to your Social Planning and/or Social Work areas and to relevant interest groups within the community. Please include their input into your submissions to us. Your comments will be taken into account as part of the final decision process.

More information regarding the siting criteria for public payphones can be found at <http://www.telstra.com.au/payphoneservices/index.htm>.

Please contact me if you require further information in relation to the proposed removal of the payphone(s). If you wish to make a submission, your comments must be forwarded to the address on this letter within the three month removal notification period.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'June Gasson', written in a cursive style.

June Gasson  
National Customer Relations Manager  
Payphones

<b>MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 40

**Subject:** Fees and Charges – Use of Halls

**Author:** Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

**File No:** 145/03/02/00

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**Summary:**

This report recommends that the General Manager is given the authority to waive the requirement for the lodgement of a \$250 refundable bond for use of any of Council's halls where circumstances dictate the request for a bond to be unreasonable or unnecessary.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Council's Management Plan for the period 2007/08 to 2011/12 provides for a \$250 refundable bond to be submitted by all hirers of halls at Collarenebri, Carinda, Burren Junction and Rowena. The intent of this bond is to provide some protection for Council in the event that a function leaves Council with expenses for cleaning and/or repairs to the hall.

However, there are clearly situations, such as brief meetings etc, where the potential for damage or subsequent cleaning is very low, yet the requirement to lodge a bond may discourage potential users and creates additional administrative work for Council for no real purpose. Given the expense to Council in providing these facilities, Council should be encouraging their use for meetings, however the requirement to lodge a bond in all instances does represent a disincentive. There is no suggestion that this requirement would be waived for functions such as parties and other social occasions.

If the General Manager was given a discretion to waive the requirement for a bond in what are considered to be very low risk situations, it is considered that Council will be assisting local groups to utilise public facilities which have been provided for their benefit.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- 2007/08 – 2011/12 Management Plan (not attached)

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Users of Shire Halls

**Financial Implications:**

Considered to be minimal – the situations where absence of a bond would lead to additional Council expenditure are considered to be absolutely minimal.

**Recommendation:**

**That the General Manager be given a discretionary authority to waive the requirement for a \$250 bond to be provided by hirers of halls at Collarenebri, Carinda, Burren Junction and Rowena where it is considered the absence of a bond does not expose Council to significant risk.**

<b>MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 41

**Subject:** REPAIR Programme

**Author:** Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

**File No:** 195/04/00/00

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**Summary:**

This report advises Council of the outcome of applications made for funding under the 2007/08 REPAIR Programme for regional roads. One of the three applications which Council submitted has been successful with \$350,000 being allocated to Regional Road No 333. The other two applications were unsuccessful, a result which was anticipated.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Council submitted three projects for consideration under the 2007/08 REPAIR Programme, a State Government programme which assists Council in the rehabilitation or development of its regional roads network. Funding is allocated based upon total funds available and the points awarded to the submitted projects by the committee given the responsibility of prioritising applications.

In 2007/08 projects which were awarded 26 points or more have been funded. The three projects which Council submitted were :

- Regional Road No 329 – Collarenebri to Burren Junction  
Awarded 21 points and allocated nothing
- Regional Road No 333 – Walgett to Carinda  
Awarded 26 points and allocated \$350,000
- Regional Road No 457 – Collarenebri to Mungindi  
Awarded 19 points and allocated nothing

Council must match, dollar for dollar, funds made available under the REPAIR Programme. Normally, this would be done from the Block Grant, however in this instance it can be matched from funding received under the Strategic Regional Programme. Council's Five Year Road Plan, which was prepared on an assumption of a \$300,000 REPAIR Programme allocation to Regional Road No 333, has been amended accordingly.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Council File No 195/04/00/00 (not attached)
- Advice from Roads and Traffic Authority re REPAIR Programme Allocations

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Roads and Traffic Authority
- NSW Government

**Financial Implications:**

The allocation made for Regional Road No 333 will greatly assist Council in meeting its share of funding required under the Strategic Regional Programme. This will take some pressure off the Block Grant as the funding source for Council's contribution to the Strategic Regional Programme.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council note the outcome of applications for funding under the 2007/08 REPAIR Programme.**



COUNCIL	ROAD NO	DESCRIPTION	NATURE OF PROJECT	FINAL POINTS	TOTAL PROJECT COST (\$)	COUNCIL SHARE IN 07/08 (\$)	FUNDS SOUGHT FROM RTA IN 07/08 (\$)	RTA'S CONTRIBUTION BASED ON AVAILABLE FUNDS (\$)
Mid Western Regional	MR208	MR208 shoulder widen and rehab existing pavement from 0 to 5.71km from George Campbell Drive towards Ulan	Rehabilitation	28	\$500,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000
Mid Western Regional	MR216	MR216 reconstruct and initial seal for 1km from 1.8 to 2.8km from Triamble Road towards Hill End	Development	27	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Mid Western Regional	MR215	MR215 Widen shoulders and seal from 0 km to 1.0 km from Luc Road towards Rystone	Rehabilitation	21	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0
Moree	MR232	MR232 widen, strengthen and upgrade from single to two lanes from 3 to 6.1km from HW18 Castlereagh Highway towards Boomil	Development	36	\$596,000	\$298,000	\$298,000	\$298,000
Narrabri	MR133	MR133 reconstruct and seal to 7m wide from 23.35 to 27.85km from Intersection of HW17 towards Bingara	Development	30	\$700,000	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$350,000
Narranline	MR572	MR572 widen shoulders and overlay from 19.8 to 20.6km and 21.9 to 24.1km from Mitchell Highway intersection towards Eumungarte	Rehabilitation	27	\$700,000	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$350,000
Oberon	MR256	MR256 Widen and reconstruct existing formation and seal from 18.3 to 20.6km from MR253 Intersection towards Goulburn	Rehabilitation	30	\$400,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000
Oberon	MR256	MR256 Provide 100mm sub-base and 100mm base and initial seal and install guardrails from 57.5km to 60.0 km from MR253 Intersection towards Goulburn	Development	26	\$300,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0
Parkes	MR348	MR348 Improve alignment and initial seal from 29.4 to 38.2km from Tullamore towards Peak Hill	Development	26	\$300,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Parkes	MR354	MR354 Realign, reconstruct and initial seal from 28.6km to 30.6km from MR57 Intersection at Tullamore towards Narranline	Development	26	\$400,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0
Walgett	MR333	MR333 Reconstruct and initial seal for 5km from 23.3 to 28.3km from Walgett towards Carinda	Development	26	\$700,000	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$350,000
Walgett	MR329	MR329 Reconstruct and initial seal from 55 km to 50 km from Collarenebri towards Burra Junction	Development	21	\$600,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0
Walgett	MR457	MR457 Reconstruct and initial seal from 6 km to 10km from Collarenebri towards Mungindi	Development	19	\$600,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0
Warren	MR333	MR333 widen shoulders to 8.4m formation and overlay from 141 to 144.7km from Oxley Highway intersection towards Carinda	Rehabilitation	27	\$552,000	\$276,000	\$276,000	\$276,000

10/7/2007

Page 3 of 4

FINAL 2007-2008 REPAIR PROJECTS - IN COUNCIL ORDER.xls

<b>MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 42

**Subject:** Angledool Cemetery

**Author:** Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

**File No:** 175/07/06/00

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**Summary:**

This report recommends that Council undertakes basic restoration of the access road into Angledool Cemetery and includes the road in its schedule for future routine inspection and maintenance.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

A request has been received from a resident of the Angledool district, that Council undertake repairs to the access road leading into the Angledool Cemetery.

The access road to the Angledool Cemetery is currently unserviceable, having been damaged by local storms at an unknown time. This road is not on the list of roads, for which Council undertakes a regular schedule of inspection and maintenance. A check with the Department of Lands does reveal the presence of a public road reserve, upon which the unserviceable access to the cemetery is currently located. Enquiries indicate that the cemetery has not been maintained by Council in recent years and current staff were not even aware of its presence until the request was received.

An inspection revealed that three days work with Council plant, at an estimated cost of \$8,000, would be required to return the access to a minimal trafficable standard. This cost is inflated because of the remote location of the Angledool Cemetery. However, the road would still be subject to storm damage. Nevertheless, if the road does become subject to regular inspection and maintenance, at the time other roads in the area are also maintained, the cost of future work should be reduced considerably. The cost of improving the road, to a standard where it would be able to withstand significant storm events, would be prohibitive.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Nil

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Residents of Angledool and District

**Financial Implications:**

The cost of restoring this road to provide a basic level of service can be funded from the current rural roads maintenance budget.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council undertakes basic restoration of the access road into Angledool Cemetery, at an estimated cost of \$8,000, and includes the road in its schedule for future routine inspection and maintenance.**

<b>MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 43

**Subject:** Staff Housing – 24 Euroka Street, Walgett

**Author:** Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

**File No:** 145/09/03/00

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**Summary:**

This report recommends that Council uses the provisions of Section 166(c) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 when inviting tenders for the construction of a staff dwelling at 24 Euroka Street, Walgett.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Council's Health Surveyor is well advanced with the preparation of plans and specifications for the construction of a three bedroom dwelling at 24 Euroka Street, to replace the building which was destroyed by fire last year. When completed, it is envisaged this dwelling would be available for staff accommodation.

The cost of the project will be in excess of the mandatory tendering threshold of \$150,000. Section 166 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 gives Council the option of either an open or selective tendering method. It is highly unlikely that advertising of the project in the Sydney Morning Herald will result in any interest in the project from Sydney based builders, meaning that such advertising would essentially be a waste of money. However, if Council elects to utilise the tendering method described in Section 166(c), advertising in the Sydney Morning Herald would not be necessary to comply with legislative requirements.

Essentially, a two stage process would apply. In the first stage, Council would compile a list of recognised contractors who would be invited to tender for the project. This would be prepared as a result of both local advertising and/or the advice of Council's Health Surveyor. This same list could be re-used later this year when further dwelling construction is planned. In the second stage, Council would invite listed contractors to tender for the project. Tenders received would then be referred to Council for decision.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Section 166 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Local Building Contractors

**Financial Implications:**

- Council's budget for 2007/08 provides \$220,000 for this project.

**Recommendations:**

1. That Council use the provisions of Section 166(c) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 when inviting tenders for the construction of a new three bedroom dwelling at 24 Euroka Street, Walgett.
2. That a list be prepared of contractors known to Council's Health Surveyor, and/or considered to possess the necessary experience and expertise to complete this project.
3. That contractors on this list be invited to tender for the project and tenders received be brought back to the October 2007 meeting of Council for consideration.

**Local Government (General) Regulation 2005**

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**166 Council to decide whether tenders are to be by open tendering or selective tendering**

Whenever a council is required by section 55 of the Act to invite tenders before entering into a contract, the council must decide which of the following tendering methods is to be used:

- (a) the open tendering method by which tenders for the proposed contract are invited by public advertisement,
- (b) the selective tendering method by which invitations to tender for a particular proposed contract are made following a public advertisement asking for expressions of interest,
- (c) the selective tendering method by which recognised contractors selected from a list prepared or adopted by the council are invited to tender for proposed contracts of a particular kind.

<b>MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 44

**Subject:** Collarenebri to Mungindi Road – Auslink Funding

**Author:** Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

**File No:** 028/05/02/01

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**Summary:**

This report recommends the completion of a funding agreement between the Commonwealth and Council, relating to Auslink funding made available for the Collarenebri to Mungindi Road.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Duplicate copies of the funding agreement, between the Commonwealth of Australia and Walgett Shire Council and relating to the provision of Auslink funding for the Collarenebri to Mungindi Road, have been received. The funding agreement requires completion by Council including the affixation of the Common Seal of Council to the document.

A resolution of Council, authorising the use of the Common Seal on this document is required. The funding agreement is a standard document and provides for \$2,100,000 of Commonwealth funding, to be matched with a further \$900,000 from Council's own sources, to allow the reconstruction and sealing of 25 kilometres of this road commencing at the State Border near Mungindi.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Funding Agreement (not attached)

**Stakeholders:**

- Commonwealth of Australia
- Walgett Shire Council

**Financial Implications:**

Council's Five Year Road Plan provides for this expenditure.

**Recommendation:**

**That the General Manager and Administrator be authorised to affix the Common Seal of Council to the funding agreement between the Commonwealth of Australia and Walgett Shire Council relating to the Collarenebri to Mungindi Road.**



<b>MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 45

**Subject:** Remote Aerodrome Safety Programme

**Author:** Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

**File No:** 195/04/00/00

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**Summary:**

This report notifies Council that guidelines have been released and applications are being invited for eligible projects under the “Remote Aerodrome Safety Programme”. This programme might fund security fencing at aerodromes at Walgett, Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri to counter the kangaroo threat to aircraft.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

At its July 2007 meeting, Council was advised of a decision taken by the Royal Flying Doctor Service that it would only service aerodromes in this area at night for life threatening cases, unless Council took steps to clear kangaroos from landing areas prior to their arrival. In the same report, Council was advised of a Commonwealth programme “Safer Runways in Remote Australia”, for which guidelines were expected shortly.

Guidelines have now been released and applications under the “Remote Aerodrome Safety Programme” will be accepted until 28 September 2007. Aerodromes in Walgett Shire appear to qualify for funding, however a local contribution of 50% of the cost is mandatory. The local contribution can include a contribution from the State Government, if this can be obtained.

Manproof fencing has been installed around part of the perimeter of both Walgett and Lightning Ridge Aerodromes, funded from the Commonwealth programme “Securing our Regional Skies”. A quote has been sought to complete this fencing around both aerodrome perimeters, however there is clearly some doubt as to the capacity of Council to fund the local contribution in the event that a grant application under the “Remote Aerodrome Safety Programme” was successful. A similar situation will exist in Collarenebri, where a lower standard fence to exclude kangaroos would be considered. The Royal Flying Doctor Service has indicated a willingness to submit a letter of support to Council, which would significantly improve the likelihood of a successful application.

A further report will be presented to Council's September 2007 meeting, before any decision is taken to submit an application for funding under the “Remote Aerodrome Safety Programme”.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Remote Aerodrome Safety Programme – Guidelines and Application Form (not attached)

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Commonwealth Government
- Royal Flying Doctor Service

**Financial Implications:**

Financial implications are likely to be significant, in the event that a successful grant application is submitted. Accordingly, a further report to Council's September 2007 meeting will be presented.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council note the calling for applications for eligible projects under the "Remote Aerodrome Safety Programme" and further consideration be given at the September 2007 meeting of Council as to the submission of an application.**

<b>MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 46

**Subject:** Timber Bridge Partnership Programme

**Author:** Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

**File No:** 190/02/04/01

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**Summary:**

This report briefs Council on the funding of a replacement bridge over Pian Creek on Regional Road No 329 from the State Government's Timber Bridge Partnership Programme. This programme requires a 50% contribution from Council.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Council has been advised of an allocation of \$290,000 from the 2007/08 Timber Bridge Partnership Programme. This allocation is to fund 50% of the cost of replacement of a timber bridge over Pian Creek on Regional Road No 329 north of Burren Junction. Council is required to fund the remaining 50%.

Council's half of the project cost would normally be drawn from its Block Grant, which for 2007/08 is approximately \$1.7 million. This grant is provided by the State Government, through the Roads and Traffic Authority, for maintenance and upgrading works on Council's network of regional roads. There appears to be sufficient funds in this grant, having regard to Council's other works, to fund the 50% contribution that Council is required to provide. The Five Year Road Plan, which is being considered by Council separately at this meeting, has been drafted accordingly.

It is envisaged that this project will be delivered by way of a single contract to design and construct a replacement structure on the same road alignment as the present timber bridge. As the timber bridge is load limited, a heavy vehicle sidetrack is in place and this can be used throughout the construction period by all traffic. However there is some risk that, in the event of a high flow in the creek during the construction process, the road may be cut for a period to all traffic. Accordingly, considerable weighting will need to be given to a relatively short construction period.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Correspondence from RTA (not attached)

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Roads and Traffic Authority

**Financial Implications:**

A variation to the Council Five Year Road Plan (2007/08 only) is required to accommodate this project. It is considered that Council's Block Grant for 2007/08 has the capacity to fund the local contribution to this project.

**Recommendations:**

- 1. That Council note the allocation of \$290,000 from the Timber Bridge Partnership Programme for the replacement of the bridge over Pian Creek on Regional Road No 329 north of Burren Junction.**
- 2. That Council fund its proportion of the project from the 2007/08 Block Grant.**
- 3. That Council invite tenders at an appropriate time, using the open tendering method, for the design and construction of a replacement structure.**

<b>MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 47

**Subject:** Beanbri Silo

**Author:** Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

**File No:** 175/07/06/00

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**Summary:**

This report recommends that Council accepts a proposal from AWB Limited to contribute \$250,000 in three instalments over two years to enable the sealing of the public access road to their Beanbri Silo from the Kamilaroi Highway.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

At its July 2007 meeting, Council resolved to seal the access road from the Kamilaroi Highway to the Beanbri Silo entrance, subject to the silo operator, AWB Limited, agreeing to meet 50% of the estimated cost of \$700,000. Subsequent to this, AWB Limited indicated they could not justify this level of expenditure, given the financial performance of the site since they acquired it several years ago.

Construction costs have been re-examined and a revised estimate of \$500,000 has been indicated to AWB Limited, based upon the use of a geotextile reinforced seal over the existing formation, rather than the construction of a gravel pavement and a conventional bitumen seal. Given the fact that this road is only subject to concentrated traffic for a few weeks each year, it is considered that a lower cost construction will prove adequate.

AWB Limited have indicated they are prepared to meet 50% of this cost, providing their contribution can be made in three equal payments, these to be made in October 2007, October 2008 and October 2009. They also indicate that their contribution would be conditional on Council accepting full maintenance responsibility for the road thereafter. As the road is a public road, this last condition is not considered to be a problem.

As previously reported to Council, the present condition of this road will mean a recurring problem of road maintenance prior to, and during each harvest period, the magnitude of the problem being related to the anticipated size of the grain harvest. All people carting grain to the silo are Walgett ratepayers, accordingly the benefits of sealing the road extend beyond the silo operator. In these circumstances, it is considered to be worthwhile to accept the offer of AWB Limited, that they meet their 50% contribution in three equal instalments as described above.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Letter from AWB Limited
- Council Resolution No 199/07 – July 2007

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- AWB Limited

**Financial Implications:**

Council had previously agreed to contribute \$350,000 to this project by deferring replacement of a bridge over Michome Creek on Shire Road No 120 from 2007/08 to 2008/09. With a lower overall cost and a reduced contribution from AWB Limited in 2007/08, the cost to Council in 2007/08 will increase from \$350,000 to \$415,000. The additional \$65,000 can be obtained by reducing funds allocated to Shire Roads reforming.

**Recommendations:**

1. That Council accepts a proposal from AWB Limited to contribute \$250,000 in three instalments payable in October 2007, October 2008 and October 2009 to enable the sealing of the access road to their Beanbri Silo from the Kamilaroi Highway, subject to the signing of a letter of agreement suitable to both parties.
2. That the work be completed in advance of the 2007 grain harvest period.
3. That the work be funded by deferring replacement of the bridge over Michome Creek on Shire Road No 120 from 2007/08 to 2008/09 and reducing funding allocated for Shire Roads reforming from \$538,000 to \$473,000.



AWB GRAINFLOW PTY LIMITED ABN 62 088 928 858  
380 La Trobe Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000, Australia  
GPO Box 4562, Melbourne, Victoria 3001, Australia

Telephone 03 9209 2000  
Facsimile 03 9670 0117  
www.awb.com.au

Manager Engineering  
Walgett Shire Council  
PO Box 31  
77 Fox Street  
Walgett  
NSW 2832

3<sup>rd</sup> August 2007

Att. Mr Alan Nelson

Dear Alan,

**Re. SHIRE ROAD 20**

Thank you for your letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> July 2007.

AWB Grainflow is prepared to contribute up to \$250,000 towards the cost of reconstructing and sealing Shire Road 20 from its intersection with the Kamileroi Highway to our Grain Centre, if this could be made in 3 equal payments, one each in October 2007, October 2008 and October 2009.

This offer is conditional on Council taking full responsibility for the upkeep of the road thereafter, with no further contributions required of AWB.

We look forward to your response.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Hale", written over a horizontal line.

John Hale  
Engineering Manager

## SHIRE OF WALGETT – AGENDA

### SHIRE OF WALGETT - MINUTES

#### 199/07 – Beanbri Silo

##### RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that Council

1. That Council agree to the sealing of Shire Road No 117, from the Kamilaroi Highway to the Beanbri Silo entrance, subject to AWB Limited meeting 50% of the estimated cost of \$700,000.
2. That, in the event that AWB Limited agrees to meet its share of the cost and the work proceeds in the current financial year, Council meets its share of the cost by deferring replacement of the bridge over Michome Creek on Shire Road No 120 to 2008/09.

Carried.



<b>MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 48

**Subject:** Melbourne – Brisbane Rail Link

**Author:** Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

**File No:** 006/05/03/44

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**Summary:**

This report recommends that Council express in principle support for the inland route option for the proposed Melbourne to Brisbane rail corridor and allow a petition, supporting the early commencement of this project, to be placed in Council's Office, Libraries and Collarenebri Agency.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

A request has been received from a resident of Dubbo, as a member of the NSW Transport Authorities Retired Employees Association, seeking Council's support in promoting a petition relating to the implementation of a Melbourne to Brisbane rail corridor via the inland route option.

This inland route option would not pass through Walgett Shire but, passing through Coonamble and Narrabri, it is reasonable to anticipate that the route would be of some benefit to Walgett Shire. The matter has been discussed at meetings of the Orana Regional Organisation of Councils and other local forums and appears to have widespread support amongst Councils and other stakeholder organisations in the area.

It would be reasonable for Council to formally recognise the project and provide in principle support. If in principle support is provided, it would also be reasonable to allow the attached petition to be placed in Council's Office, Libraries and Collarenebri Agency, as requested by the organiser of the petition.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Petition and Covering Letter

**Stakeholders:**

- Orana Regional Organisation of Councils
- NSW Government
- Commonwealth Government
- NSW Transport Authorities Retired Employees Association

**Financial Implications:**

- Not Applicable

**Recommendations:**

1. That Council indicate in principle support for the inland route option of the proposed Melbourne to Brisbane rail corridor.
2. That Council agree to a request from the NSW Transport Authorities Retired Employees Association to have their petition, supporting an early commencement of this project, placed in Council's Office, Libraries and Collarenebri Agency, available for those wishing to support the project to sign.

10 Sterling Street  
Dubbo NSW 2830

SIR.  
Dear ~~CWA Secretary~~

I write this letter as a member of the NSW Transport Authorities Retired Employees Association and as a very frequent and concerned road user. It is my belief, and that of my fellow members, that it is imperative that the Federal Government commit to an early commencement of the Melbourne-Brisbane Rail project. The accompanying petition will give the citizens of your town an opportunity to influence them towards this end.

It is the opinion of our group that the vast number of heavy freight hauliers now using the Newell Highway has now exceeded a reasonable safety limit. While most of the drivers of these mammoth vehicles may be good safe drivers, the vast numbers of them present a terrifying disincentive to the average car driver. This driving ordeal will be hugely increased when, as proposed, the authorities permit the use of B-Tripples on the Newell Highway. I consider myself a good and confident driver but I am terrified at the prospect of having to share the highway with these super monsters.

If you are prepared to assist us in our attempts to commit the government to moving most of this freight off the Newell highway and onto an upgraded Melbourne-Brisbane Railway, we would ask that you copy and circulate as many of the enclosed petitions as possible.

With my very best wishes I remain,

Garry Braithwaite  
Dubbo 26-7-07

*G. Braithwaite*

**Walgett Shire  
Council**  
REC'D

27 JUL 2007

FILE: 006/05/03/44

LETTER No: 6230

REFER: AEN

COPY:

## Melbourne-Brisbane Rail Project

- To the Honorable Speaker of the House and Members of the House assembled in Parliament.

The petition of certain citizens of Australia request that the Australian Government, as an alternative to procrastinating feasibility studies, give serious consideration to setting a date for the commencement of this project. The most recent feasibility study, commissioned by John Anderson in 2004, recommends the Western Route, through Parkes, Narromine, Dubbo, Gilgandra, Coonamble, Narrabri and Moree as the shortest and most economical.

**The petitioners therefore ask the house, for bipartisan agreement amongst all members, to ensure an early commencement of this project**

---

**Sign the Petition and help force action on this nationally important Project.**

Name (please print)	Signature	Address
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

**This Petition is organized by Garry Braithwaite on behalf of the Dubbo Branch of the NSW Transport Authorities Retired Employees Association.**

**Contact Garry 0402 117 549 Return petitions to "Petitions" 10 Sterling St Dubbo**

<b>MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 49

**Subject:** Waste Collection - Cumborah

**Author:** Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

**File No:** 185/01/00/00

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**Summary:**

This report briefs Council on changes which have been made to the collection of waste (non kerbside) from Cumborah, together with further change proposed for October 2007.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Residents of the village of Cumborah have a weekly kerbside waste collection service. In addition to this, two skips have been placed on the village boundary for the convenience of others in the area, as Cumborah does not have a landfill in the area. The closest Council landfills are at Walgett and Lightning Ridge, both about 50 kilometres away. The GGSMA (Glengarry Grawin Sheepyard Miners Association Inc) operate landfills within those opal mining areas.

The two skips at the Cumborah village boundary have been serviced to date by Council, using the rear loading garbage compactor which was, until the acquisition of the current side loading compactor, the only waste collection vehicle operated by Council. However, the mechanical condition of this vehicle has deteriorated significantly and a decision to not use it outside of Walgett has been taken to preserve the operating life of the vehicle. At the present time, the vehicle is used in Walgett for commercial waste collections.

An arrangement has been entered into, with a Lightning Ridge based contractor, to undertake the servicing of Cumborah that has, to date, been undertaken by Council using the rear loading compactor. Despite the Contractor's price being very reasonable, it is not sustainable in the longer term on the basis of a weekly collection. Accordingly, a commitment for two months only has been entered into, with a view to establishing an alternate means of servicing after this period.

It is proposed, after this two month period, to place four 360 litre MGB (mobile garbage bins) on the concrete pad which has been provided for the two skips referred to above, and have these serviced at the same time as the weekly kerbside collection. Council's side loading compactor was acquired with a capability of collecting both the standard 240 litre MGB and the larger 360 litre MGB. The risk of this proposal is vandalism to the MGB as these are far more susceptible to damage than the steel skip which they will replace. If vandalism becomes a significant problem, discontinuation of this service may need to be considered.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Nil

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Mick Canfell Waste (Lightning Ridge)
- Residents of Cumborah District

**Financial Implications:**

The 2007/08 budget can accommodate the two month engagement of the contractor and the proposed arrangement, after this time, should actually result in a cost saving to Council.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council note the change, both implemented and proposed, for the collection of waste from Cumborah.**

<b>MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 50

**Subject:** Five Year Road Plan

**Author:** Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

**File No:** 250/12/00/00

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**Summary:**

This report recommends that Council adopts a Five Year Road Plan from 2007/08 to 2011/12, with the same content as was adopted in draft form at the July 2007 meeting.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

Council adopted in draft form a Five Year Road Plan for the period 2007/08 to 2011/12 at its July 2007 meeting and resolved that it be subject to public consultation and the results of this consultation be brought back to this meeting.

No feedback from the public has been received in relation to the plan in draft format, accordingly it would be appropriate for Council to now formally adopt the plan. However, if a separate report to this meeting of Council is adopted, relating to the access road to the Beanbri Silo, some further adjustment will be required. This adjustment will be relatively minor, consisting of deferral of Epping Bridge construction from 2007/08 to 2008/09 and a reduction in the extent of Shire Roads reforming in 2008/09 to accommodate the Epping Bridge in this year of the plan. Further consultation with the public, regarding these changes, should not be necessary at this stage.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Five Year Road Plan – 2007/08 to 2011/12
- Council Resolution No 197/07 – July 2007

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- NSW Government
- Commonwealth Government

**Financial Implications:**

Nil. The Five Year Road Plan is based on Council expenditure of grant funding only.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council adopt a Five Year Road Plan, for the period 2007/08 to 2011/12, with the same content as was adopted in draft form at the July 2007 meeting.**

SHIRE OF WALGETT - MINUTES

197/07 – Five Year Road Plan

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator:-

1. That Council adopt the Five Year Road Plan attached to this report in draft form and seek public comments on its contents.
2. That the results of public consultation be brought back to the next meeting of Council.

Carried.

### FIVE YEAR ROAD PLAN

Funding for road projects comes from a number of sources. Five main sources are included in this road plan and, whilst there may be opportunities to access funds from other sources from time to time, it would be unrealistic to incorporate projects into this plan on the basis of utilising funds from sources that are unlikely to eventuate. These main sources are as follows ;

**Block Grant** – an annual lump sum made available by the State Government through the RTA for Council to undertake works (maintenance and development) on regional roads. The total available funds shown below is not equal to the Block Grant as much of this allocation needs to be retained for routine maintenance activities, such as grading, patching, resealing etc, which are not included in this plan.

**REPAIR Programme** – a dollar for dollar programme made available by the State Government through the RTA for Council to undertake works (development or rehabilitation) on regional roads. Council is not assured of gaining funds from this programme, however, on the basis of past performance it has been included as the prospects are at least reasonable. There is an upper limit of \$350,000 to be granted and matching funds are normally taken from the Block Grant.

**Timber Bridge Replacement Programme** – this state programme has been reintroduced by the State Government, however there is no information available at present which would allow the programme to be included in this plan with confidence. The plan will need to be reviewed, if and when an approved project from this programme becomes known.

**FAG (Road Component) Grant** – is made available annually by the Commonwealth Government for expenditure on local roads. The size of the grant is determined by a formula and, like the Block Grant, the total available funds is not equal to the grant, as it too must take into account routine maintenance activities.

**Roads to Recovery Grant (2)** – this is a four year programme which commenced last year. It is made available by the Commonwealth Government for expenditure on roads of any category, however the Commonwealth would prefer to see it spent on local roads.

**Strategic Regional Programme** – Council has received an allocation of \$2.1 million for Regional Road No 457, which must be matched with \$900,000 from Council's own funds. Subsequent to this advice, Council has also received \$2.8 million for both Regional Road No 329 and Regional Road No 333. In each case, these funds need to be matched with \$1.2 million from Council's own funds. The grant funds have already been made available to Council, however the plan has been prepared as if the funding is made available at the time it is spent.



### **Year One – 2007/08**

Assumed Available Road Funds - \$3,838,000

Comprising

Block Grant - \$790,000

REPAIR Programme - \$350,000

Timber Bridge Partnership Programme - \$290,000

FAG (Road Component) Grant - \$200,000

Roads to Recovery Grant - \$838,000

Strategic Regional Programme - \$1,950,000

#### **Projects**

1. Regional Road No 333 (seal Monkey Scrub towards Carinda) - \$1,300,000 (includes \$350,000 from REPAIR Programme)
2. Regional Road No 457 (south of Little Weir) - \$1,500,000
3. Shire Roads (reforming of selected road lengths) - \$538,000
4. Sealing of village streets in Burren Junction - \$200,000
5. Shire Road No 120 – Construction of new bridge over Milchome Creek (Epping Bridge) - \$300,000
6. Regional Road No 329 – Construction of new bridge over Pian Creek - \$580,000 (includes \$290,000 from Timber Bridge Partnership Programme)

### **Year Two – 2008/09**

Assumed Available Road Funds - \$6,138,000

Comprising

Block Grant - \$1,000,000

REPAIR Programme - \$300,000

FAG (Road Component) Grant - \$300,000

Roads to Recovery Grant - \$838,000

Strategic Regional Programme - \$3,700,000

#### **Projects**

1. Regional Road No 333 (seal Monkey Scrub to Castlereagh River) - \$1,300,000 (assumes \$300,000 from REPAIR Programme)
2. Regional Road No 329 (seal unsealed length between Rowena and Burren Junction) - \$4,000,000
3. Shire Road No 103 (Selected lengths from Burren Junction towards Pilliga – seal for dust suppression) - \$250,000
4. Shire Road No 120 - Construction of new bridge over unnamed watercourse (1<sup>st</sup> Epping Bridge) - \$200,000
5. Shire Roads (reforming of selected lengths) - \$388,000

### **Year Three – 2009/10**

Assumed Available Road Funds - \$4,388,000

Comprising

Block Grant - \$800,000

REPAIR Programme - \$300,000

FAG (Road Component) Grant - \$300,000

Roads to Recovery Grant - \$838,000

Strategic Regional Programme - \$2,150,000

#### **Projects**

1. Regional Road No 333 (seal Castlereagh River to Shire Road No 38) - \$1,400,000 (assumes \$300,000 from REPAIR Programme)
2. Sealing of village streets in Cumborah - \$200,000
3. Regional Road No 202 (gravel resheeting of selected lengths) - \$150,000
4. Shire Road No 101 (gravel sheeting of selected lengths) - \$150,000
5. Shire Roads (reforming of selected lengths) - \$638,000
6. Regional Road No 7716 (gravel sheeting of selected lengths – Pilliga end) - \$350,000
7. Regional Road No 457 (seal Little Weir to State Border) - \$1,500,000

### **Year Four - 2010/11**

Assumed Available Road Funds - \$1,388,000

Comprising

Block Grant - \$350,000

FAG (Road Component) Grant - \$200,000

Roads to Recovery Grant - \$838,000

#### **Projects**

1. Shire Roads (reforming of selected lengths) - \$388,000
2. Regional Road No 426 (gravel sheeting of selected lengths) - \$350,000
3. Sealing of village streets in Carinda - \$200,000
4. Shire Road No 79 - replace timber deck at bridge over Pagan Creek - \$200,000
5. Shire Road No 103 (Selected lengths from Burren Junction towards Pilliga – seal for dust suppression) - \$250,000

## **Year Five - 2011/12**

**Assumed Available Road Funds - \$1,588,000**

**Comprising**

**Block Grant - \$550,000**

**FAG (Road Component) Grant - \$200,000**

**Roads to Recovery Grant - \$838,000**

### **Projects**

- 1. Shire Roads (reforming of selected lengths) - \$438,000**
- 2. Shire Road No 112 - Construction of new bridge over Wanourie Creek - \$400,000**
- 3. Regional Road No 426 (gravel sheeting of selected lengths) - \$350,000**
- 4. Regional Road No 457 (Selected length from Collarenebri towards Mungindi - seal for dust suppression) - \$200,000**
- 5. Shire Road No 103 (Selected lengths from Burren Junction towards Pilliga – seal for dust suppression) - \$200,000**

<b>MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:** 51

**Subject:** Walgett Saleyards

**Author:** Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

**File No:** 255/06/01/00

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**Summary:**

This report recommends the construction of a selling ring and rostrum to facilitate the conduct of a regular bull sale at Walgett.

**Comments (including issues and background):**

A request has been received from the Walgett Associated Agents, who conduct regular stock sales at the Walgett Saleyards, that Council construct facilities to allow for a regular bull sale at the saleyards. A sale, which was previously held in another centre in western Queensland, will be transferred to Walgett if a suitable selling facility can be provided.

It is considered that the addition of this facility at the Walgett Saleyards will provide for increased economic viability of the saleyards, which in turn will assist the economic development of the town and district in a modest fashion. This additional facility would cater for both bull and horse sales.

Two quotes for the construction of the selling ring and associated facilities have been received. The cheaper quote is \$14,760 including GST. The 2007/08 budget does not provide for this expenditure, however savings have been identified in the Economic Development expenditure area of the budget. There is a strong connection between economic development and the construction of this selling facility at the Walgett Saleyards, accordingly it is considered reasonable to fund this facility from anticipated savings in this area of Council's budget.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

- Quotes (two) for construction of a selling ring at Walgett Saleyards (not attached)

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Walgett Associated Agents

**Financial Implications:**

The cost of this construction has not been included in Management Plan 2007/2008 – 2011/2012. It is recommended that the total cost of \$13,420 be transferred from Expenditure – Economic Development – Salaries and Wages to Expenditure – Recreation & Community Capital Projects - Saleyard Capital Projects.

**Recommendation:**

1. That construction of a selling ring and associated facilities at the Walgett Saleyards proceed.
2. An amount of \$13,420 be transferred from Expenditure – Economic Development – Salaries and Wages to Expenditure – Recreation and Community Capital Projects - Saleyard Capital Projects to cover the costs to construct the selling ring at the Walgett Saleyards.

## COMMITTEE MINUTES TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007

**Item No:** 52

**Subject:** Walgett Shire Council Consultative Committee Minutes – 4 July 2007

**Author:** Walgett Shire Council Consultative Committee

**File No:** 145/04/07/00

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

FILE: 145/04/07

The following are minutes of the Walgett Shire Council Consultative Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> July 2007 in the Walgett Council Chambers, commencing at 3.05pm.

#### 1. PRESENT

Ian Taylor	Chairperson (LGEA Representative)
Janet Babic	Deputy Chairperson (Management Representative)
Bronwyn Newton	Secretary
Roy White	Management Representative
Stephen McLean	Management Representative
John Radman	Committee Member
Andrew Bostock	Committee Member (United Services Union)

**Observer:** Terry Dray      United Services Union

#### 2. APOLOGIES

Len Smyth      Committee Member (DEPA Representative)

#### 3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Consultative Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2007 were confirmed, with no amendments required.

#### 4. BUSINESS ARISING

##### Drug & Alcohol Policy

Mrs Bronwyn Newton, Secretary confirmed the Drug & Alcohol policy tabled was the final copy received for endorsement. Discussion was held regarding the tolerance level of Zero (0).

Concerns regarding the practicability of having a zero tolerance considering 0.05 is the legal limit to drive a motor vehicle. It was raised that Alcohol affects people differently and it would be hard to ascertain if someone was fully capable of carrying out their duties with an alcohol reading even if it was under 0.05.

The committee also took into account that heavy plant/machinery have a different tolerance level than that of a motor vehicle (car). It was also noted that Council's quarries are classified as mines and the tolerance level for a mine is zero.

Concerns were also raised about the number of readings that are going to minimal that will get caught with a zero tolerance.

Stephen McLean (Management Representative) asked Terry Dray (United Services Union) what other Council's have for their tolerance level. Terry advised that Cobar had a

zero tolerance as they deemed themselves working in a mine however this was under review.

Terry Dray (United Services Union) to send a copy of Gloucester City Council's Drug & Alcohol Policy.

The following amendments were suggested:-

Page 6

Testing Procedures - Add "Coordinator Human Resources" – Sentence should read  
*"Results are to be recorded and will be maintained confidential between the Employee, Manager, General Manager and Coordinator Human Resources."*

Remove "Random Testing" – Sentence should read

*"Testing will be undertaken if an employee;"*

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**It was recommended that the Consultative Committee request Management to plan a draft implementation and education procedure for the Drugs and Alcohol Policy and submit the plan to the Consultative Committee for considering.**

**It was recommended that the Consultative Committee endorse the following amendments to the Drugs & Alcohol Policy:**

Page 6

**Testing Procedures:-**

**Add "Coordinator Human Resources" – Sentence should read**

*"Results are to be recorded and will be maintained confidential between the Employee, Manager, General Manager and Coordinator Human Resources."*

**Remove "Random Testing" – Sentence should read**

*"Testing will be undertaken if an employee;"*

**Higher Duties Policy**

Discussion was held on the difference between the Higher Duties Policy and the Payment for Relief Duties Policy.

It was discussed why the Higher Duties Policy could not abolish the Payment for Relief Duties Policy as they both have their purposes.

The following amendments were suggested:-

Page 1

**Application – add paragraph**

*"Manager's may establish standing approvals as they deem necessary for the smooth function of their Department".*

Page 1

**Remuneration – add "and in consultation with the Coordinator Human Resources"**

**Paragraph should read-**

*"The rate of pay shall be at least the entry level in Council's salary system for the position being relieved in. Subject to the relevant Manager's prior approval and in consultation with the Coordinator Human Resources, a higher Grade/Step may be paid in recognition of the individual's skills required to be applied."*

Page 1

Remuneration – add “or an Award Holiday”

Paragraph should read-

*“The remuneration shall be for the actual hours worked. Overtime and other allowances shall be paid as relevant. Employees should not be paid Higher Duties when on Leave or an Award Holiday.”*

Note: -

Terry Dray (United Services Union) departed the meeting 4.20pm

Stephen McLean (Management Representative) departed the meeting 4.20pm

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It was recommended that the Consultative Committee recommend management adopt the proposed Higher Duties Policy with the following amendments:-

Page 1

Application – add paragraph

*“Manager’s may establish standing approvals as they deem necessary for the smooth function of their Department”.*

Page 1

Remuneration – add “and in consultation with the Coordinator Human Resources”

Paragraph should read-

*“The rate of pay shall be at least the entry level in Council’s salary system for the position being relieved in. Subject to the relevant Manager’s prior approval and in consultation with the Coordinator Human Resources, a higher Grade/Step may be paid in recognition of the individual’s skills required to be applied.”*

Page 1

Remuneration – add “or an Award Holiday”

Paragraph should read-

*“The remuneration shall be for the actual hours worked. Overtime and other allowances shall be paid as relevant. Employees should not be paid Higher Duties when on Leave or an Award Holiday.”*

**5. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Customer Service Officer (Records)**

Coordinator Human Resources, Mrs Bronwyn Newton advised the committee for informational purposes only that the Customer Service Officer (Records) incumbent has had a Flexible Work Practice (Flexible hours arrangement) approved by her manager to work from 7.45am to 4.00pm with a half hour lunch on Friday’s. This arrangement does not affect her 9 day fortnight.

The consultative Committee noted the Customer Service Officer (Records) Flexible Work Practice (Flexible hour’s arrangement).

**Meeting Time**

A verbal request was received from Terry Dray (United Service Union) to alter the meeting time to 2pm to accommodate his travel arrangements.


The request was noted however it requires an amendment to the constitution. The Consultative Committee will await notice in writing by a committee member to request the meeting time be altered and the constitution be amended accordingly.



**There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.44pm**

**Next Meeting of the Consultative Committee Meeting will be held on  
1<sup>st</sup> August 2007 at 3.00pm at the Council Chambers Meeting Room.**

I advise that in accordance with my delegated authority, the determinations of the Consultative Committee contained in this report are approved.

Signed:  \_\_\_\_\_ Mr Stephen McLean, General Manager

<b>REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS TO COUNCIL MEETING 21 AUGUST 2007</b>
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**Item No:**

**Subject:**

**Author:**

**File No:**

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No reports submitted