



AGENDA FOR ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, 24th September 2019

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to clause 7 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice that the Ordinary Council Meeting of Walgett Shire Council will be held at the **Walgett Shire Council Chambers** on **24th September 2019** commencing at **10:00am** to discuss the items listed in the Agenda.

Please Note: Naturalisation Ceremony to take place prior to the Council Meeting.

Greg Ingham
GENERAL MANAGER

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

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

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

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

Remoteness

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

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

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

Relatives, Partners

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

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

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

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

No Interest in the Matter

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

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

Disclosure and participation in meetings

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

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

Non-Pecuniary Interest – Must be disclosed in meetings.

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

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

Disclosure to be Recorded (S453 Act)

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

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## **Local Government Act 1993**

### **Chapter 3 section 8A**

#### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR COUNCILS**

##### **(1) Exercise of functions generally**

*The following general principles apply to the exercise of functions by councils:*

- (a) Councils should provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning and decision-making.*
- (b) Councils should carry out functions in a way that provides the best possible value for residents and ratepayers.*
- (c) Councils should plan strategically, using the integrated planning and reporting framework, for the provision of effective and efficient services and regulation to meet the diverse needs of the local community.*
- (d) Councils should apply the integrated planning and reporting framework in carrying out their functions so as to achieve desired outcomes and continuous improvements.*
- (e) Councils should work co-operatively with other councils and the State government to achieve desired outcomes for the local community.*
- (f) Councils should manage lands and other assets so that current and future local community needs can be met in an affordable way.*
- (g) Councils should work with others to secure appropriate services for local community needs.*
- (h) Councils should act fairly, ethically and without bias in the interests of the local community.*
- (i) Councils should be responsible employers and provide a consultative and supportive working environment for staff.*

##### **(2) Decision-making**

*The following principles apply to decision-making by councils (subject to any other applicable law):*

- (a) Councils should recognise diverse local community needs and interests.*
- (b) Councils should consider social justice principles.*
- (c) Councils should consider the long term and cumulative effects of actions on future generations.*
- (d) Councils should consider the principles of ecologically sustainable development.*
- (e) Council decision-making should be transparent and decision-makers are to be accountable for decisions and omissions.*

##### **(3) Community participation**

*Councils should actively engage with their local communities, through the use of the integrated planning and reporting framework and other measures.*

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## **1. PUBLIC FORUM PRESENTATIONS**

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

*Public forums may also be held prior to Extraordinary Council Meetings and meetings of committees of the Council. Public forums are to be chaired by the mayor or their nominee.*

*The General Manager or their delegate may refuse to allow such material to be presented. A person may apply to speak on no more than 2 items of business on the agenda of the Council Meeting.*

*The General Manager or their delegate may refuse an application to speak at a public forum. No more than three (3) speakers are to be permitted to speak 'for' or 'against' each item of business on the agenda for the Council Meeting. If more than the permitted number of speakers apply to speak 'for' or 'against' any item of business, the General Manager or their delegate may, in consultation with the mayor or the mayor's nominated chairperson, increase the number of speakers permitted to speak on an item of business, where they are satisfied that it is necessary to do so to allow the council to hear a fuller range of views on the relevant item of business.*

*Each speaker will be allowed five (5) minutes to address the Council. This time is to be strictly enforced by the Chairperson. The Chairperson of the meeting can grant one extension of up to a maximum of three (3) minutes, should further information, be considered to be important to the Council. This is solely at the discretion of the Chair.*

*Speakers at public forums must not digress from their nominated item on the agenda. If a speaker digresses to irrelevant matters, the Chairperson is to direct the speaker not to do so. If a speaker fails to observe a direction from the chairperson, the speaker will not be further heard.*

*A councillor (including the chairperson) may, through the chairperson, ask questions of a speaker following their address at a Public Forum. Questions put to a speaker must be direct, succinct and without argument. Debate will not be permitted by the speaker, Councillors or staff. Speakers are under no obligation to answer a question. Answers by the speaker, to each question are to be limited to three (3) minutes. Speakers at public forums cannot ask questions of the Council, Councillors or Council staff.*

*The general manager or their nominee may, with the concurrence of the chairperson, address the council for up 5 minutes in response to an address to the council at a public forum after the address and any subsequent questions and answers have been finalised.*

| SPEAKER                     | TOPIC                                     |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>1.1 PATRICK FLETCHER</b> | Funding Proposal – Australian Opal Centre |
| <b>1.2 PAUL DUNCAN</b>      | Funding Proposal – Australian Opal Centre |
| <b>1.3 DAVID LANE</b>       | Funding Proposal – Australian Opal Centre |
| <b>1.4 COL HUNDY</b>        | Funding Proposal – Australian Opal Centre |

## 2. OPENING OF MEETING

*Proceedings of the meeting commenced at \_\_\_\_\_am*

## 3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

*I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the lands within the Walgett Shire and I would also like to acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who now reside within this Shire.*

## 4. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

| Leave of Absence                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That the leave of absence received from _____ is/are accepted and leave of absence granted.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b></p> <p><b>Seconded:</b></p> |



## 5. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY/NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS

*Councillors and senior staff are reminded of their obligation to declare their interest in any matters listed before them.*

*In considering your interest you are reminded to include pecuniary, non-pecuniary and conflicts of interest as well as any other interest you perceive or may be perceived of you.*

*Councillors may declare an interest at the commencement of the meeting, or alternatively at any time during the meeting should any issue progress or arise that would warrant a declaration.*

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

| Councillor | Item No. | Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary | Reason |
|------------|----------|-------------------------|--------|
|            |          |                         |        |
|            |          |                         |        |
|            |          |                         |        |
|            |          |                         |        |
|            |          |                         |        |
|            |          |                         |        |

## **6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING**

### **6.1 MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 27 AUGUST 2019**

| <b>Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 27 August 2019</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That the minutes of the ordinary Council meeting held 27 August 2019, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings on the meeting.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b></p> <p><b>Seconded:</b></p> |

**Attachment**

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held 27 August 2019.



## **MINUTES FOR ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

Michael Urquhart  
**ACTING GENERAL MANAGER**

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 27 AUGUST 2019 AT 10:20AM**
**OPEN FORUM****Public Presentations:**

Mr John Knight addressed Council in relation to the Burranbaa Road proposal. He was the spokesperson for a group of 13 landholders including the Australia Post mail contractor and the school bus proprietor. Focus was placed on the following;

- Farming families and residents of the area welcome the proposal; construction of a bitumen road from Lightning Ridge to Collarenebri via the Burranbaa Road.
- It is imperative that the Burranbaa Road be upgraded to meet forward contract with grain, wool and livestock. The area is highly productive and continually expanding; livestock, feed lots, wool production and grain growing.
- Currently the Burranbaa Road is impassable after small amounts of rain which affects the school bus run, emergency and medical services and the mail run. With long spells of drought the road conditions become increasingly hazardous.
- The road has been a designated school bus and mail route since 1995.
- This is the first major road project that has been recognised in the North of Lightning Ridge to support landholders and agricultural enterprises.
- It is paramount that the upgrade the Burranbaa Road to bitumen be a priority for Council, no alternative.

*The Mayor declared the meeting open at 10:20am*

**PRESENT**

Cllr Manuel Martinez (Mayor)  
 Cllr Ian Woodcock (Deputy Mayor)  
 Cllr Bill Murray  
 Cllr Tanya Cameron  
 Cllr Lawrence Walford  
 Cllr Kelly Smith  
 Cllr Robert Turnbull  
 Michael Urquhart (Acting General Manager)  
 Jessica McDonald (Director Environmental Services)  
 Raju Ranjit (Director Engineering/Technical Services)  
 Rebecca Wilson (Minute Secretary)  
 Bronte Kerr (Minute Secretary)

**ABSENT**

Greg Ingham  
 Cllr Jane Keir  
 Cllr Michael Taylor

**7/2019/1 Leave of Absence**
**Resolved:**

That the leave of absence received from Cllr Jane Keir and Cllr Michael Taylor are accepted and a leave of absence is granted.

**Moved:** Cllr Smith  
**Seconded:** Cllr Murray  
**CARRIED**

**Declaration of Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary Interests**

| Councillor   | Item No. | Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary | Reason                  |
|--------------|----------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Clr Martinez | 11.3.2   | Pecuniary               | Family Business Related |
| Clr Martinez | 13.2     | Pecuniary               | Family Business Related |
| Clr Turnbull | 11.3.2   | Pecuniary               | Family Business Related |
| Clr Turnbull | 13.2     | Pecuniary               | Family Business Related |

**7/2019/2 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 30 July 2019****Resolved:**

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held 30 July 2019, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting and amendment by Councillor Cameron endorsed.

**Moved:** Clr Murray  
**Seconded:** Clr Cameron  
**CARRIED**

**7/2019/3 Mayoral Report****Resolved:**

That the Council receive and note the verbal Mayoral Report.

**Moved:** Clr Walford  
**Seconded:** Clr Smith  
**CARRIED**

**7/2019/4 Council's Decision Action Report****Resolved:**

That the Resolution Register as at July 2019 be received and noted.

**Moved:** Clr Murray  
**Seconded:** Clr Woodcock  
**CARRIED**

**7/2019/5 Circulars Received from the NSW Office of Local Government****Resolved:**

That the information contained in the following Departmental circulars 19-16 to 19-17 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

**Moved:** Clr Cameron  
**Seconded:** Clr Turnbull  
**CARRIED**

**7/2019/6 Important Dates for Councillors - Upcoming Meetings and Events****Resolved:**

That Council receive and note the list of upcoming meetings and events.

**Moved:** Clr Murray  
**Seconded:** Clr Cameron  
**CARRIED**

**7/2019/7 General Manager Activities/Meeting June to July 2019****Resolved:**

That the General Manager Activity report for June-July 2019 be received.

**Moved:** Clr Smith  
**Seconded:** Clr Cameron  
**CARRIED**

**7/2019/8 Monthly Outstanding Rates Report****Resolved:**

That the outstanding rates report be received and noted.

**Moved:** Clr Murray  
**Seconded:** Clr Smith  
**CARRIED**

**7/2019/9 Cash and Investment Report as at 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019****Resolved:**

That the Investment report as at 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019 be received and noted.

**Moved:** Clr Walford  
**Seconded:** Clr Cameron  
**CARRIED**

**7/2019/10 Policy Review – Financial Management & control, Conditions of Employment, Equal Employment Opportunity, CCTV Workplace Surveillance and Email and Internet****Resolved:**

1. That the report be received
2. That Council adopts the revised policies as presented
  - a) Financial Management and Control
  - b) Conditions of Employment
  - c) Equal Employment Opportunity
  - d) CCTV Workplace Surveillance
  - e) Email and Internet

**Moved:** Cllr Smith  
**Seconded:** Cllr Woodcock  
**CARRIED**

*The meeting adjourned for Morning Tea at 10.37am.  
 The meeting resumed at 10.59am.*

**7/2019/11 2019/2020 Fees and Charges – Correction**

**Resolved:**

1. That Council place the new fees and charges on display for a period of 28 days calling for public comment.
2. Council note the amendment in the report in relation to the Walgett Showground Pavilion Bond refundable from \$320.00 to \$330.00.

**Moved:** Cllr Murray  
**Seconded:** Cllr Turnbull  
**CARRIED**

**7/2019/12 Section 356 Sponsorship Rotary Club of Dubbo South Toyota Tour de OROC Sponsorship**

**Resolved:**

1. Council nominate to become a silver sponsor (\$2000) for the Toyota Tour de OROC which is run by the Rotary Club of Dubbo to raise funds for the Macquarie Home Stay.
2. Council adjust the Section 356 budget allocation accordingly to accommodate the Sponsorship.

**Moved:** Cllr Woodcock  
**Seconded:** Cllr Murray  
**CARRIED**

**7/2019/13 Fourth Quarter Operational Plan and Year End Delivery Program 2018/2019**

**Resolved:**

That the content of the report be noted and Council accept the progress made on the 18/19 operational plan and delivery program as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

**Moved:** Cllr Turnbull  
**Seconded:** Cllr Woodcock  
**CARRIED**

*Cllr Walford left the meeting room at 11:18am*



**7/2019/14 Community Assistance Scheme Donations 2019/2020 – Round 1 Applications****Resolved:**

That Council donate to below funds to the respective organisations for the applied community projects;

1. Lightning Ridge Community Garden – For improvements to community garden - \$0 (Does not meet the guidelines for funding)
2. Collarenebri Watersports Club – For the Carp Muster and Cod Classic Event, and purchase of fingerlings - \$1000
3. Walgett School of Distance Education - Swimming Clinic - \$2495
4. Walgett Jockey Club – Covering the cost of entertainment at the race meet - \$500
5. Walgett Bushman's Carnival – Covering the cost of entertainment at the race meet - \$500
6. Lightning Ridge District Bowling Club – Sponsorship for the Peter Williams Black Opal Bowls Classic - \$500
7. Let's Dance Carinda – David Bowie Event assistance with concert - \$3000
8. Country Education Foundation of Walgett – Fundraising/support for students and scholarship workshops and grant sourcing for Walgett branch - \$2970

**Moved:** Cllr Turnbull

**Seconded:** Cllr Murray

**CARRIED**

*Cllr Murray declared a non-pecuniary interest in report 11.2.8 as he is a member of the Walgett Jockey Club.*

*Cllr Walford returned to the meeting at 11.36am*

**7/2019/15 Walgett Showground Watering System Contribution****Resolved:**

That Council make a contribution of \$25,000 towards the installation of an automatic water system at the Walgett Showground including the pavilion, stable and arena areas of the complex.

**Moved:** Cllr Cameron

**Seconded:** Cllr Woodcock

**CARRIED**

**7/2019/16 Quarterly Budget Review Statement 2018/2019****Resolved:**

That Council adopt the attached Quarterly Budget Review Statement for 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019 as tabled, noting the transfer to and from reserves for 2018/19.

**Moved:** Cllr Walford

**Seconded:** Cllr Turnbull

**CARRIED**



**7/2019/17 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information Only – From Chief Financial Officer**
**Resolved:**

That Council Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information Only – From Chief Financial Officer in the following areas: property matters, finance and administration and community services be received.

**Moved:** Cllr Smith  
**Seconded:** Cllr Turnbull  
**CARRIED**

*Mayor Martinez and Cllr Turnbull declared a pecuniary interest and left the room at 12:04pm. Deputy Mayor Woodcock assumed the chair.*

**7/2019/18 Monthly Maintenance Grading Report – August 2019**
**Resolved:**

That Council receive and note the monthly maintenance grading works report for August 2019.

**Moved:** Cllr Murray  
**Seconded:** Cllr Smith  
**CARRIED**

*Mayor Martinez and Cllr Turnbull returned to the meeting at 12.14pm and Mayor Martinez resumed the chair.*

**7/2019/19 Monthly Service Progress Report – August 2019**
**Resolved:**

That Council receive and note the Engineering Services monthly works progress report for August 2019.

**Moved:** Cllr Walford  
**Seconded:** Cllr Turnbull  
**CARRIED**

**7/2019/20 Ned's Dam**
**Resolved:**

That Council note and approve the request to provide five (5) mega litres to half fill Ned's Dam in Grawin as per Council's fees and chargers subject to the Office of Water approval.

**Moved:** Cllr Turnbull  
**Seconded:** Cllr Walford  
**CARRIED**

**7/2019/21 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information Only from Director Engineering Technical Services**
**Resolved:**

That the matters generally for brief mention or information only from the Director Engineering/Technical Services be received and noted.

**Moved:** Cllr Turnbull

**Seconded:** Cllr Walford

**CARRIED**

*Cllr Murray left the meeting room at 12:30pm*

*Cllr Murray returned to the meeting room at 12:33pm*

**7/2019/22 Alcohol Free Zone Continuation**
**Resolved:**

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Keep the alcohol free zones in Walgett, Collarenebri and Lightning Ridge for four years over the same areas as the existing zones.
2. Undertaken notification that alcohol free zones have been established in Walgett, Collarenebri and Lightning Ridge for four years, over the same areas as the existing zones via;
  - (a) Public Notice in the Walgett Spectator and
  - (b) Public notice on the Walgett Shire Council website and Facebook page
3. Update alcohol free zone signage in Walgett, Collarenebri and Lightning Ridge in accordance with the relevant legislations.

**Moved:** Cllr Cameron

**Seconded:** Cllr Woodcock

**CARRIED**

**7/2019/23 Request for Planning Proposal – George Mulder**
**Resolved:**

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

Write to Mr Mulder and advise that he should engage the appropriately qualified person/s to prepare a planning proposal for the rezoning of the affected land for submission to Department of Planning and Environment.

**Moved:** Cllr Woodcock

**Seconded:** Cllr Walford

**CARRIED**

**7/2019/24 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information Only from Director Environmental Services**
**Resolved:**

Receive and note the report by the Director of Environmental Services of matters for brief mention or information only.

**Moved:** Cllr Turnbull

**Seconded:** Cllr Walford

**CARRIED**

*The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:27pm*

*The meeting resumed at 1:05pm*

**7/2019/25 Move into Closed Session**

**Time:** 1:05pm

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

- (a) Personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors)
- (c) That information that would, if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting business (or proposed to conduct business)
- (d) That the matter and information is commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

**Moved:** Cllr Murray

**Seconded:** Cllr Cameron

**CARRIED**

**7/2019/26 Discharge of Mortgage – Carinda Golf Club**
**Resolved:**

That Council commence legal action to extinguish the mortgage held over Lot 3 DP 751556 with the cost being met by the Carinda Golf Club Committee.

**Moved:** Cllr Woodcock

**Seconded:** Cllr Cameron

**CARRIED**

**7/2019/27 Electric Line Interface Agreement between Walgett Shire Council and Walgett Solar Farm – Report deferred till next Council Meeting**
**Resolved:**

That Council defer the report till next Council Meeting for consideration.

**Moved:** Cllr Murray

**Seconded:** Cllr Walford

**CARRIED**

Mayor Martinez and Cllr Turnbull declared a pecuniary interest and left the room at 1.23pm. Deputy Mayor Woodcock assumed the chair.

**7/2019/28 RFQ 19/024 Reconstruction and Sealing of 5km of RR457 Gundabloui Road**

**Resolved:**

That Council accepts the tender for Reconstruction and Sealing of 5km of RR103 Gundabloui Road RFT 19/024 from Country Wide Asphalt in the sum of \$1,166,000.00 including GST.

**Moved:** Cllr Walford  
**Seconded:** Cllr Smith  
**CARRIED**

Mayor Martinez and Cllr Turnbull returned to the meeting at 1.33pm and Mayor Martinez resumed the chair.

**7/2019/29 Walgett Levee Stage 4 – Non Compliance Rectification Works – RFT 10024531**

**Resolved:**

1. That the tender submitted by Countrywide Asphalt P/L be passed over as late and
2. The tender submitted by Batterline Earthmoving P/L, in the recommendation Tender Amount \$363,630 (including GST) be accepted for Contract No. RFT 10024531 for Walgett Levee Stage 4- Non Compliance Rectification Works subject to funding approval.

**Moved:** Cllr Woodcock  
**Seconded:** Cllr Smith  
**CARRIED**

**7/2019/30 Return to Open Session**

**Resolved:**

That Council return to open session.

**Moved:** Cllr Woodcock  
**Seconded:** Cllr Walford  
**CARRIED**

**5/2019/31 Adoption of closed session reports**

**Recommendation:**

That Council adopt the recommendations of the Closed Committee Reports.

**Moved:** Cllr Smith  
**Seconded:** Cllr Cameron  
**CARRIED**

**Questions for Next Meeting**

**Clr Turnbull**

Q1: Can a table and bench be installed at Opal Park in Light Ridge on the Southern side?

Q2: Can the street sweeper, clean up all truck stop areas?

**Clr Woodcock**

Q1: Can Council advertise the breakdown of funds for the Lightning Ridge Swimming Pool Complex into the respective infrastructure i.e. Olympic Pool, Theme Park, Indoor Sports Centre and Diving complex?

Q2: Can Council present a report on the Lightning Ridge Water Fund?

Q3: Can Council arrange for Dot Thompson to be listed as an Honorary Ranger of Lightning Ridge and paid an honorary fee?

**Mayor Martinez**

Q1: Can the overflow water from Collarenebri water treatment plant be put back into the unfiltered water system?

**Close of Meeting**

The meeting closed at 1:56pm.

To be confirmed at the next meeting of Council.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Acting General Manager

## **6.2 MINUTES OF EXTRA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 10 SEPTEMBER 2019**

| <b>Minutes of Extra Ordinary Council Meeting – 10 September 2019</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Council meeting held 10 September 2019, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings on the meeting.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b><br/><b>Seconded:</b></p> |

**Attachment**

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held 10 September 2019.



**MINUTES FOR EXTRA  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

Greg Ingham  
**GENERAL MANAGER**



**MINUTES OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD AT WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON  
TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 2:00pm**
**OPEN FORUM****Public Presentations:**

*Mr Peter Rufford addressed Council in relation to the latest published report by PEECE Pty Ltd dated 02/09/2019. This report is a supplementary report to the previous report prepared by PEECE on the feasibility of upgrading the back road between Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri to a sealed standard.*

*The report addresses the issues raised at a community forum organised by Council. The report also provides a policy framework to adopt the Burranbaa Road route as the preferred route and to proceed with an application for funding from the NSW Fixing Country Roads program. In addition it recommends a number of initiatives Council could take to develop the road network in the study area.*

*The Deputy Mayor declared the meeting open at 2:02pm*

**PRESENT**

Cllr Ian Woodcock (Deputy Mayor)  
 Cllr Bill Murray  
 Cllr Lawrence Walford  
 Cllr Kelly Smith  
 Cllr Jane Keir  
 Cllr Michael Taylor  
 Greg Ingham (General Manager)  
 Michael Urquhart (Chief Financial Officer)  
 Jessica McDonald (Director Environmental Services)  
 Raju Ranjit (Director Engineering/Technical Services)  
 Bronte Kerr (Minute Secretary)

**ABSENT**

Cllr Manuel Martinez (Mayor)  
 Cllr Robert Turnbull  
 Cllr Tanya Cameron

*(Cllr Martinez and Cllr Turnbull advised the General Manager prior to the meeting of their pecuniary interest related to the agenda and hence were not in attendance).*

**8/2019/1 Leave of Absence**
**Resolved:**

That the leave of absence received from Cllr Cameron is accepted and leave of absence is granted.

**Moved:** Cllr Keir  
**Seconded:** Cllr Taylor  
**CARRIED**

**Declaration of Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary Interests - Nil**



**8/2019/2 Sealing the back road between Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri – Implementation strategy****Resolved:**

Council confirm the implementation strategy of upgrading sections of the road at both ends of the road between Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri, commencing at the Collarenebri end, sealing north.

**Moved:** Cllr Taylor

**Seconded:** Cllr Smith

**CARRIED**

**8/2019/3 Sealing the back road between Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri – Rational/Route/Initiatives****Resolved:**

That Council:

1. Adopt the following three objectives for the evaluation of the road project and confirm that they are of equal value.

- a. Improve the transport productivity of farming activity in the study area,
- b. Provide a sealed road between Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri for inter-town and tourist traffic, and
- c. Improve access for farming families to town services offered by Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri, including medical, schools, off-farm employment and entertainment.

2. Confirm Route D (Burranbaa Road route) as the preferred route for a funding application to seal the back road between Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri as this route is low risk for Council and makes the greatest contribution to the objectives of the project.

3. Proceed with an application for funding from the NSW Fixing Country Roads program for sealing the preferred route using the Business Case prepared with the original feasibility study.

4. Proceed with an application for funding from the Commonwealth Bridges Renewal Program for the replacement of the Big Warrambool Bridge on Angledool Road.

5. Apply the implementation strategy of upgrading sections of the road at both ends of the road in alternate years. This would involve:

- a. Commencing at the Collarenebri end, progressively extending the seal north.
- b. Then Lightning Ridge end, due to the unresolved issues with the owners of Neirbo Plains, adopting as the first priority, sealing the Burranbaa Road from Angledool Road back towards Lightning Ridge to the boundary with Neirbo Plains.

6. At a future appropriate time, enter negotiations with the owners of Neirbo Plains to decide how best to address the impact on the koala colony on their property near the existing road reserve. Consideration could be given to realigning the road reserve along their boundary with Rugby and Burranbaa at that time.

7. Make a submission to the RMS to reclassify the road between Burren Junction and Angledool Station as a State Road for funding under the State Road Program. This route could be extended to Pilliga and Coonabarabran if supported by Narrabri and Warrumbungle

Councils. This submission will increase the chances of funding for the lower Ridge Road and Angledool Road from the Crossroads to Burranbaa Road.

8. Consider developing a road access program to improve the access to those properties wanting to offer attractions for tourists. This would complement the promotion of Lightning Ridge as a national tourist attraction. Considering the impact of the drought on farmers, this type of program could well gain the support of the State and even the Commonwealth Government as it would provide an opportunity for farmers to diversify their income.

9. Provide signposting in Lightning Ridge to define a heavy vehicle route, particularly for road trains, bypassing the main street for those vehicles that want to access the Castlereagh Highway via Lightning Ridge.

**Moved:** Cllr Smith  
**Seconded:** Cllr Walford  
**CARRIED**

**Close of Meeting**

The meeting closed at 3:21pm.  
To be confirmed at the next meeting of Council.

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Deputy Mayor

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General Manager

## 7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES/DELEGATES

### 7.1 MINUTES OF THE LOCAL AREA TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 1<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2019

#### Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 01/08/2019

**Recommendation:**

That the minutes of the Local Area Traffic Committee Meeting held 1<sup>st</sup> August 2019, having been circulated be received and noted and the recommendations contained therein are adopted as resolutions of Council.

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**Attachment**

Minutes of Meeting below

## MINUTES – Local Area Traffic Committee 01/08/2019

|                 |                                                                   |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| David Vant      | (Road Safety & Traffic, Western Region, RMS NSW)                  |
| Raju Ranjit     | (Director Engineering/Technical Services - Walgett Shire Council) |
| Trent Swinton   | (NSW Police) SGT                                                  |
| Ben Tuckett     | (NSW Police)                                                      |
| Manuel Martinez | (Mayor – Walgett Shire Council)                                   |
| Alana Copelin   | (Senior Visitor Information Officer – Walgett Shire)              |
| Julie McKeown   | (Human Resources Manager – Walgett Shire Council)                 |

### 1. APOLOGIES

#### Apologies – 1<sup>st</sup> August 2019

**Recommendation:**

Greg Ingham (General Manager - Walgett Shire Council)  
Ian Woodcock (Deputy Mayor – Walgett Shire Council)  
Kelly Smith (Councillor – Walgett Shire Council)  
Sharon Girling (Administration Service Coordinator – Engineering/Technical Services)

**Absent without notice:** Snr Con. Ben Paul (NSW Police)

**Absent without notice:** SGT Ben Tuckett (NSW Police)

**Moved:** David Vant

**Seconded:** Manual Martinez

### 2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY/NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS: Nil

### 3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**Minutes of Local Area Traffic Committee Meeting – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

**Resolved**

1. That the minutes of the Local Area Traffic Committee meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019, have been circulated, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

**Moved: David Vant**

**Seconded: Manual Martinez**

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

**George Sands Way**

David Vant urgently requires quotes for 5 x 50klms signs for George Sands Way.

Placement of signs has been marked by David.

Action: Raju to follow up with Sharon Girling

**T intersection Merrywinebone/ Kamilaroi Highway**

Due to change of staff there has been no progress on quotation of rumble strips on approaches to the T intersection Merrywinebone/ Kamilaroi Highway.

Action: David to send Raju information on rumble strip design to quote on.

**Intersection of Lorne Road and Fred Reece way**

David Vant enquired about the update of the intersection matter.

Raju informed that data had been received but was in a different language. The data has been sent to Metro Count Supplier for correction.

**5. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**T intersection Fox Street**

No stopping sign(s) are required to be placed at the T intersection from Fox street into Neilly Street (between Elders and Wong's fish and chips shop).

Discussion if Neilly Street is a one way street is signage necessary?

Action: David Vant to investigate after meeting and report back.

**Signage Wee Waa Street**

The signage in Wee Waa Street (Post Office, police station & Court house side) has been removed due to the pavement works and require to be replaced as well as a close off signage. Currently any vehicles parking there are doing so illegally.

Action: Raju advised that the work will be commenced soon.

**Pedestrian Cross Wilson Street Collarenebri**

Request for a pedestrian crossing in front of Khans Supermarket in Collarenebri.

This being on a main highway not likely to occur, has to satisfy certain criteria.

**Line Marking**

Line marking for centerline at the intersection of Agate and Pandora Street required to be completed.

**Gundablouie Signage**

Signage design for Gundablouie Road has it been received?

Action: Raju to follow up

**Active Transport Plan**

Raju confirmed that the Active Transport Plan had been received

It was noted that for future meeting it would be of assistance to include with the agenda any additional photos, maps or diagrams that can inform the committee of issues raised.

**CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING**

**3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019**

**CLOSE OF BUSINESS**

**11.24am**

## 8. MAYORAL MINUTES

Report to be tabled

| Mayoral Report                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That Council receive and note the Mayoral report.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b></p> <p><b>Seconded:</b></p> |

## **9. MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN - Nil**

## **10. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS**

### **10.1 GENERAL MANAGER**

#### **10.1.1 COUNCIL'S DECISION ACTION REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2019**

|                           |                                      |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>REPORTING SECTION:</b> | <b>Executive</b>                     |
| <b>AUTHOR:</b>            | <b>Greg Ingham - General Manager</b> |
| <b>FILE NUMBER:</b>       | <b>18/260</b>                        |

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##### **Summary:**

This schedule summarises the current position of action taken in respect of matters considered at the previous meetings of Council when the outcomes have not been finalised.

##### **Background:**

Attached is the Resolution Register which summaries outstanding action in respect of all resolutions which required action and are still outstanding. The exception is for the last meeting where items that have been completed are included. Councillors are reminded that any queries should be raised with the General Manager prior to the meeting.

##### **Current Position:**

Details of actions taken/being taken are flagged for each motion. Over time the register has grown in size because, whilst resolutions are actioned after the meeting, it is not always possible to resolve issues quickly especially if other government agencies are involved or Council's own in-house resources are stretched. Council has to prioritise work commitments.

In these circumstances the register becomes the simple tool of keeping track of matters awaiting attention.

Again, Councillors are reminded that any queries should be raised with the General Manager prior to the meeting as this would streamline the meeting process and also resolve minor issues more expediently.

##### **Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:**

Resolution Register

##### **Governance issues:**

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

##### **Environmental issues:**

Nil

##### **Stakeholders:**

Council and Manex Team

##### **Alternative Solutions/Options:**

Nil

##### **Conclusion:**

That the resolutions register be received and noted. It is requested that any queries be raised with the General Manager prior to meeting day to facilitate proceedings at the meeting.



|                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Council's Decision Action Report</b>                                                                                                         |
| <b>Recommendation:</b><br><br>That the Resolution Register as at September 2019 be received and noted.<br><br><b>Moved:</b><br><b>Seconded:</b> |

**Attachment:**

Action Resolution Register

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA – 24 SEPTEMBER 2019 – ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

|          |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
|----------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 28.04.17 | 3/2017/22  | <p>That Council considers realigning the 35km section of Ridge Road from Shermans Way and Burranbaa Road intersection to Angeldool Road intersection - Option 4 (Realignment across Big Warrambool).</p> <p>That Council consult with affected landholders with regards to Option 4.</p> <p>This option includes a bridge across Big Warrambool and land acquisition. Social, environmental impacts should be assessed before this option is implemented. In addition, geotechnical, hydrologic studies must be conducted for this option. Topographical survey and designs must also be completed prior to implementation.</p> | DETS | <p>9.8.17 Surveyor engaged</p> <p>22.8.17 Report to Council to resolve for compulsory acquisition.</p> <p>5.9.17 GM and DETS held talks with Brian Lees, Al Lees and Norman Lees of Tipperary and Ringwood regarding alignment next to their property. They will sketch their preferred alignment and send to Council.</p> <p>21.11.17 DETS held talks with Peter Scoles. He has indicated no objection.</p> <p>7.12.17 Consulting held with Brian, Sue and Nathan Lees of Tipperary. Three options selected. DETS to cost options and hold further consultation with Lees's.</p> <p>12.04.18 DETS meets Lees's and all agree on Option 2.</p> <p>16.08.18 Additional survey ongoing</p> <p>16.0619 Community Consultation has been organised on 18.06.19 by PEECE Pty Ltd</p> <p>9.09.2019 work in progress</p> |  |
| 28.04.17 | 3/2017/25  | <p>That Council using the "Open Tendering" method call Tenders for the restoration of the Colless Grandstand at the Walgett Showground.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | CFO  | <p>27.6.17 In Progress – Request for Engineers Report</p> <p>13.12.17 Engineers report required</p> <p>5.2.18 waiting on information from structural engineer</p> <p>18.4.18 Engineer inspected facility, costing and report underway</p> <p>21.8.18 Costing for refurbishment underway</p> <p>12.12.18 Report to December Council Meeting</p> <p>17.04.19 March 2019 Council approved funding, RFT underway</p> <p>20.08.19 RFT to be advertised</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
| 23.5.17  | 4/2017/34  | <p>Lightning Ridge Bore Baths</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Council receive the CFO report</li> <li>2. Council make provision of \$100,000 in the 2017/18 budget for renewal of the Lightning Ridge Bore Bath between Nov 17 and April 18</li> <li>3. Recommendations of the structural assessment be implemented</li> <li>4. The General Manager arrange for a design and cost of the bore bath renewal and submit this to Council for consideration</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                | CFO  | <p>27.6.17 Quotation for design &amp; construction to be called in coming months. Work to be carried out during November 17 to March 18</p> <p>18.9.17 CFO in discussions with firm for engineers design</p> <p>18.10.17 CFO Issued purchase order for design of new tank</p> <p>22.11.17 Draft plan Received -RFQ to be issued</p> <p>13.12.17 Waiting on new specifications &amp; plan</p> <p>18.4.18 Project postponed until November 2018.</p> <p>18.4.18 RFQ to be issued and contractor engaged prior to October 2018</p> <p>17.4.19 RFT Underway for October March 19/20</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
| 26.09.17 | 9/2017/25  | <p>That Council resolve to acquire Mr.and Mrs Raymond Pike's land within which the current Council-maintained section of O'Neils Road runs, then surrender the Council-Controlled section of corridor to Mr And Mrs Raymond Pike.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | DETS | <p>8.9.17 DETS hold talks with Mr Raymond Pike and his wife. They verbally agreed to the swap.</p> <p>5.11.17 Quotes received for cadastral survey</p> <p>30.03.18 Cadastral survey completed</p> <p>16.06.19 Work in Progress</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |
| 26.09.17 | 9/2017/26  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That Council resolves to authorise acquisition by compulsory process, of the Walgett Levee corridor through Lot 7024 DP1021106, Lot 7012 DP1021112, Lot 7301 DP1155276, Lot 7013 DP1030416, Lot 7300 DP1155957, Lot 702 DP1051575, Lot 7001 DP1051908, Lot 3 DP1123824, Lot 703 DP1056310, Lot 7031 DP1055946 and Lot 7009 DP1055947.</li> <li>2. That Council resolves to make an application to the Minister to approve the compulsory acquisition process.</li> </ol>                                                                                                              | DETS | <p>5.11.17 Quote received for cadastral survey</p> <p>10.1.18 Quote accepted</p> <p>16.08.18 Survey ongoing</p> <p>16.06.19 Work in progress</p> <p>9.09.2019 work in progress</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |
| 26.09.17 | 9/2017/27  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That Council engage a consultant for the investigation of the alternatives to improve pre-treatment and prepare a concept design &amp; business case for funding for the Collarenebri Water Supply.</li> <li>2. That Council proceeds with the compulsory acquisition of additional land for the construction of recommended pre-treatment.</li> <li>3. Lodge an expression of interest (EOI) for the safe and secure water programme.</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                     | DETS | <p>8.10.17 Council lodges EOI under SSWP</p> <p>9.1.18 Council invited for detailed application</p> <p>26/02/2018 Detailed application submitted.</p> <p>12.12.18 Funding received – development of RFQ for study underway</p> <p>16.06.19 Work in progress</p> <p>20.08.19 RFQ for sludge study has been closed</p> <p>9.09.2019 RFQ assessment is in process.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
| 19.12.17 | 12/2017/25 | <p>Collarenebri Sportsgrounds amenities building – the Council endorse the actions of the CFO in advising Murdi Paaki Regional Rugby League Council that the Council accept the new amenities building asset for the Collarenebri Sports Ground as per concept proposal and the Council shall accept liability for ongoing future maintenance</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | CFO  | <p>5.2.18 Proposal in the planning phase</p> <p>17.4.19 Kiosk and amenities building under construction</p> <p>Construction of shed complete, quotations are to be sought for lining and fit out of kiosk and toilets.</p> <p>20.08.19 Building erected and fit out to be completed in coming months</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA – 24 SEPTEMBER 2019 – ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

|          |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |
|----------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 8.02.18  | 1/2018/2   | <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Defer any Special Rate Variation Application to IPART to fund the upgrade of the strategic rural road network until such time as there is majority support for such a proposal.</li> <li>2. Continue to work with the community to achieve a greater level of understanding of the cost and level of services and facilities it provides.</li> <li>3. Lobby relevant state agencies to address an adequate level of maintenance of the road infrastructure network on the opal fields</li> <li>4. Concentrate on providing a consistently high quality water supply to all towns within the Shire.</li> <li>5. Arrange for an independent community satisfaction survey to be undertaken within the next six months.</li> <li>6. Investigate the re-establishment of precinct committees.</li> <li>7. Lobby the State Government to open Opal Prospecting Area (OPA) 4.</li> </ol> | GM   | <p>19.03.18 ongoing</p> <p>17.06.2019 Crown Lands Commissioner visited LR in early June 2019 to complete report on various matters including road network management and future land zoning.</p>                                                                                                                                                                |  |
| 13.02.18 | 2/2018/33  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That Council rejects the request for water connection to the property on Lot 100 DP 1076808 since it is located in a non-urban residential zone, and current relevant policy does not permit such connections.</li> <li>2. The Director of Environmental Services to provide a report to the March Council meeting in relation to the illegal water connections in each town after researching previous reports presented to Council.</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | DES  | <p>15.02.18 Applicant advised of resolution</p> <p>12.12.18 Refer to resolution 14/2018/17</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
| 27.03.18 | 3/2018/25  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That Council receives and notes the report.</li> <li>2. Council make approaches to Resource and Energy Department through the Member for Barwon to identify possible voids from former mining operations under key streets in the Lightning Ridge Township.</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | DETS | 12.12.18 Not yet commenced                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |
| 01.05.18 | 5/2018/28  | It would be appropriate for Council to enter into negotiations with the DoL as the agency responsible for Western Land Leases/Crown Land to undertake maintenance of the private roads on which the “car door tours” operate or alternatively take the necessary steps to dedicate them as public roads.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | GM   | <p>19.03.19 Significant issues to be considered &amp; investigated. Higher priorities at this stage.</p> <p>17.06.2019 see 1/2018/2 Above</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
| 26.06.18 | 10/2018/22 | That Council finances the fencing project from a transfer from the Lightning Ridge toilet upgrade reserve in 18/19, and the \$20,000 be placed into the Len Cram park fence reserve at the 30th June 2018.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | CFO  | 17.4.19 CFO to arrange RFQ<br>Property Officer and CFO developing an RFQ                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
| 26.06.18 | 10/2018/30 | <p>That Council (a) Conduct a broad community consultation meeting with local community and showground user groups to determine if users would like the grandstand replaced, and if community support is for a new grandstand Councils proceeds with (b) (c) and (d),</p> <p>(b) Council call for quotations to demolish the existing Colless grandstand</p> <p>(c) Council acquire quotations for the construction of 3 X 5 Tier X 6 m wide prefabricated grandstand system to be erected on the site of the old Colless grandstand.</p> <p>(d) The new structure be called the “Colless Grandstand”.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | CFO  | <p>21.8.18 A second community meeting to be arranged for late September 2018</p> <p>12.12.18 Report to December Council Meeting</p> <p>17.4.19 RFT under development. Tenders for work to be called.</p> <p>Tender to be advertised w/e 7<sup>th</sup> June 2019.</p> <p>20.08.19 Tender to be advertised</p>                                                   |  |
| 25.9.18  | 14/2018/17 | That Council note the current investigations in relation to the Lightning ridge water supply and unmetered services and a workshop to discuss the issues involved be held in the near future                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | GM   | 17.06.19 Initial investigations complete. Complex issues. On the ‘to do’ list                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
|          | 18/2018/11 | That Council re-visit the matter of developing a council wide policy in relation to provision of seating in CBD at Walgett, Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri and a further report be submitted to the February 2019 Committee meeting.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | GM   | 17.06.19 Higher priorities at this stage. Policy will be developed later in 2019                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |
| 30.10.18 |            | <p>That Council consider and, if appropriate, endorse projects to be applied for under the Extension of Drought Communities Programme or seek nominations of projects from community for consideration at the November meeting</p> <p>Council endorses the following projects (in no particular order)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fencing of the Burren Junction landfill - \$80,000</li> <li>• Extension of the Town Beautification Projects: Walgett – Wee Waa Street and Lightning Ridge – Opal Street - \$350,000 each project</li> <li>• Replacement of the boat ramp at Collarenebri - \$150,000</li> <li>• Drainage improvements at Rowena - \$60,000</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | DETS | <p>19.03.19 Wee Waa St, Walgett &amp; Opal St L.R - Tender report on 26 March agenda</p> <p>19.03.19 Boat Ramp – in progress</p> <p>16.06.19 Boat Ramp completed, Opal Street completed under this funding, drainage improvement will be completed by end of June 2019.</p> <p>9.09.2019 drainage work in Rowena and Opal street footpath works - completed</p> |  |
| 18.03.19 | 1/2019/11  | <p>That Council</p> <p>(a) name the Park in Opal Street, Lightning Ridge, “Opal Park”</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | CFO  | 17.419 Council have approved name change. Application to be submitted.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA – 24 SEPTEMBER 2019 – ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

|          |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
|----------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
|          |           | (b) Application be made to the Geographical Names Board for registration of the parks name, "Opal Park"                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
| 18.03.19 | 1/2019/18 | That Council<br>(a) Receive and note the Lightning Ridge Feasibility Study<br>(b) That Council consider its options, for adoption at the March 2019 meeting                                                                                                                                                                     | DETS | 16.06.19 The PEECE Pty Ltd is holding a Community consultation on 19.06.19 in Lightning Ridge Bowling Club<br>20.08.19 Report for the other option in progress<br>9.09.2019 work in progress                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
| 18.03.19 | 1/2019/23 | That Council;<br>1. Endorse the Weir raising project in accordance with the approved Safe and Secure funding project<br>2. Continues to investigate options for providing improved water supply security for Walgett.                                                                                                           | DETS | 19.03.2019 Tender document preparation being finalised<br>16.06.19 Tenders have been evaluated and waiting for an additional funding for \$543,000 as the bidder amount is higher than allocated budget<br>11.7.2019 negotiation for contractual qualification is in progress and will be finalised by 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2019.<br>9.09.2019 An additional funding application has been lodged.        |  |
| 18.03.19 | 1/2019/25 | That Council adopt the alternative solution 4, as outlined in the report.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | DETS | 19.03.2019 Further report will be submitted for council Consideration.<br>16.06.19 Report to build the bridge on an alignment just downstream from the existing bridge will be submitted on 25 June 2019 Council meeting,<br>11.7.19 Council is planning to carry out second community consultation<br>20.08.19 Deed agreement is in progress<br>9.09.2019 Physical works will be commenced from Jan 2020 |  |
| 03.04.19 | 2/2019/20 | That Council note and adopt Option 2 (following the existing Burrumbaa Road (SR55) from Sherman's Way to Angledool Road (SR102). Follow the Angledool Road (SR102 the Ridge Road (RR426) to Collarenebri).                                                                                                                      | DETS | 16.06.19 Community Consultation in progress<br>11.07.2019 Documentation for second community consultation is in progress<br>20.08.19 Revised report in progress<br>9.09.2019 extra ordinary council meeting regarding the road project will be held on 10/09/2019                                                                                                                                         |  |
| 03.04.19 | 2/2019/22 | That the Council resolve to not proceed with this subdivision, based on the report and amend the Rural Strategy as not to include this category 1 area.                                                                                                                                                                         | DES  | 24.3.19 DES to notify DoPE formally<br>09.07.2019 DES has a formal discussion with DoPE 9.7.19 regarding this matter.<br>Formal notification to DoPE to follow by end of July 2019.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |
| 03.04.19 | 2/2019/23 | That Council determines to make minor amendments to the Draft Walgett Shire Rural Residential Strategy that reflect "Lightning Ridge Candidate Area B" is the most appropriate site based on community consultation and the limited number of potential lots (4 stated in the strategy) for "Lightning Ridge Candidate Area C". | DES  | 24.3.19 Strategy under amendment for formal final submission                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
| 03.04.19 | 2/2019/29 | That the Council fund the refurbishment of the Colless Grandstand from Council's accumulated working capital.                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | CFO  | 19.08.19 Tender to be advertised                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |
| 30.04.19 | 3/2019/26 | That Council accept the tender submitted by the Impax Group for the amount of \$545,820 (including GST) for Contract 10021781 for Cumborah Water Supply, Design and Construction of New Great Artesian Basin Water Supply Bore at Cumborah.                                                                                     | DETS | 16.06.19 Waiting on license.<br>11.07.19 works will commence from 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2019.<br>20.08.19 Works have commenced from 1 August 2019 and will be completed by 23 August 2019<br>9.09.2019 Stage 1 as plan has been completed. Stage 2 i.e Pumping and water quality test is process.                                                                                                         |  |
| 21.05.19 | 4/2019/6  | That Council register an interest in purchasing 64 Fox Street, Walgett described as Lot 25, DP 577201 and that the General Manager be authorised to enter into negotiations with the vendors.                                                                                                                                   | GM   | 11.07.19 No progress to date                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
| 25.06.19 | 5/2019/29 | RFT 18/003 Design and Construction of Goangra Bridge                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | DETS | 11.07.19 Council resolution to construct the bridge upstream of the existing bridge. Site visited planned for 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2019<br>20.08.19 Waiting for deed agreement<br>9.09.2019 Construction will be started from Jan 2020.                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
| 30.07.19 | 6/2019/11 | That Council place the amended fees and charges, with the exemption of the Truck Wash Fee, which is to remain at \$11.00 per half hour, on display for a period of 28 days, calling for public comment.                                                                                                                         | CFO  | 19.08.19 To be advertised along with other new fees after August 2019 meeting                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |
| 30.07.19 | 6/2019/15 | That Council;                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | CFO  | 19.08.19 Underway scheduled for 24 <sup>th</sup> September Ordinary Council meeting<br>04.09.2019 Underway, advertising complete. CFO to report on submissions to September 2019 Meeting.                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA – 24 SEPTEMBER 2019 – ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

|          |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |      |                                                                                                                                  |  |
|----------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
|          |           | <p>1. Formally advertise for a period of 28 days advising if its intention to make available \$2,000,000 to the Lightning Ridge Opal Fossil Centre Inc. (trading as the Australian Opal Centre) and submission can be made to Council during the 28 day period</p> <p>2. Funding for the project be allocated as follows, \$1,425,000 from the Joint Organisation Tourism and Cultural Fund and \$575,000 from Council's consolidated working capital.</p> <p>3. The advertisement be placed in the Walgett Spectator, Daily Liberal, Council's Web page and Facebook platforms.</p>                           |      |                                                                                                                                  |  |
| 30.07.19 | 6/2019/17 | That Council note and approve the option of installation of 100mm outlet on the old town bore line with a double check valve pipe water to its processing tanks to supplement the flow from the bore baths at the LRMA's cost                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | DETS | 20.08.19 Sent approval letter<br>09.09.2019 waiting for a report on completion of the work.                                      |  |
| 30.07.19 | 6/2019/20 | <p>1. That Council note and approve a budget of \$100,00 from the Waste Management Reserve Fund to remove and dispose the asbestos material from Walgett Sewage Treatment Plant area.</p> <p>2. That Council authorise the Finance Department to create a new ledger number for this project.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | DETS | 20.08.19 works in progress<br>09.09.2019 work has been completed                                                                 |  |
| 30.07.19 | 6/2019/22 | That Walgett Shire Council resolve to;<br>Approve a new budget line for \$220,000 from the Domestic Waste Management Fund (DWMF) for inclusion in the 2019/2020 budget for the purchase of recyclables storage shed in Lightning Ridge and the installation of a recycling collection area at the Lightning Ridge Landfill.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | DES  | 13.08.19 DES to work with GM in regards to the purchase of a facility. In action                                                 |  |
| 30.07.19 | 6/2019/23 | That Walgett Shire Council resolve to;<br>Endorse the actions of the DES and elect a preference of Option 3, as per the attached report by EnviroScience for further investigations by Council and set a new budget line of \$7,000 for further testing/investigations to be carried out by Council                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | DES  | 13.08.19 DES working with Regional EnviroScience regarding options and testing                                                   |  |
| 27.08.19 | 7/2019/11 | <p>1. That Council place the new fees and charges on display for a period of 28 days calling for public comment.</p> <p>2. Council note the amendment in the report in relation to the Walgett Showground Pavilion Bond refundable from \$320.00 to \$330.00.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | CFO  | 04.09.19 To be advertised w/e 9/9/2019                                                                                           |  |
| 27.08.19 | 7/2019/12 | <p>1. Council nominate to become a silver sponsor (\$2000) for the Toyota Tour de OROC which is run by the Rotary Club of Dubbo to raise funds for the Macquarie Home Stay.</p> <p>2. Council adjust the Section 356 budget allocation accordingly to accommodate the Sponsorship.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | CFO  | 04.09.2019 Tour Organiser contacted, payment arranged and logo's sent                                                            |  |
| 27.08.19 | 7/2019/15 | That Council make a contribution of \$25,000 towards the installation of an automatic water system at the Walgett Showground including the pavilion, stable and arena areas of the complex.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | CFO  | 04.09.19 Underway. Council assessing quotations & scope of works.                                                                |  |
| 27.08.19 | 7/2019/20 | That Council note and approve the request to provide five (5) mega litres to half fill Ned's Dam in Grawin as per Council's fees and chargers subject to the Office of Water approval.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | DETS | 09.09.2019 application to Natural Resources Access Regulator   Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has been lodged. |  |
| 27.08.19 | 7/2019/22 | <p>1. Keep the alcohol free zones in Walgett, Collarenebri and Lightning Ridge for four years over the same areas as the existing zones.</p> <p>2. Undertaken notification that alcohol free zones have been established in Walgett, Collarenebri and Lightning Ridge for four years, over the same areas as the existing zones via;<br/>(a) Public Notice in the Walgett Spectator and<br/>(b) Public notice on the Walgett Shire Council website and Facebook page</p> <p>3. Update alcohol free zone signage in Walgett, Collarenebri and Lightning Ridge in accordance with the relevant legislations.</p> | DES  |                                                                                                                                  |  |
| 27.08.19 | 7/2019/23 | Write to Mr Mulder and advise that he should engage the appropriately quailed person/s to prepare a planning proposal for the rezoning of the affected land for submission to Department of Planning and Environment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | DES  |                                                                                                                                  |  |
| 27.08.19 | 7/2019/26 | That Council commence legal action to extinguish the mortgage held over Lot 3 DP 751556 with the cost being met by the Carinda Golf Club Committee.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | CFO  | 04.09.19 Council solicitor contacted to commence process                                                                         |  |
| 27.08.19 | 7/2019/28 | That Council accepts the tender for Reconstruction and Sealing of 5km of RR103 Gundabloui Road RFT 19/024 from Country Wide Asphalt in the sum of \$1,166,000.00 including GST                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | DETS | 09.09.2019 Contract has been awarded. Physical works will be commenced from 16 the September 2019.                               |  |
| 27.08.19 | 7/2019/29 | <p>1. That the tender submitted by Countrywide Asphalt P/L be passed over as late and</p> <p>2. The tender submitted by Batterline Earthmoving P/L, in the recommendation Tender Amount \$363,630 (including GST) be accepted for Contract No. RFT 10024531 for Walgett Levee Stage 4- Non Compliance Rectification Works subject to funding approval.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | DETS | 09.09.2019 an additional funding application has been lodged. Contractor has been notified.                                      |  |

## 10.1.2 CIRCULARS RECEIVED FROM THE NSW OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**REPORTING SECTION:** Executive  
**AUTHOR:** Greg Ingham - General Manager  
**FILE NUMBER:** 18/260

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### Summary:

Copies of circulars received from the Local Government Office Department of Premier and Cabinet are attached for Councillors information. Circulars are emailed to Councillors when published from LGNSW.

### Background:

The General Manager has flagged the following circulars as requiring the particular attention of Councillors:

- 19 Aug 2019 - Calendar of Compliance and Reporting Requirements 2019-20 (19-18)
- 26 Aug 2019- Resources to support implementation of the new Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW (19-19)
- 10 Sep 2019 - A new internal audit and risk management framework for local councils in NSW – release of discussion paper (19-20)

### Governance Issues:

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

### Stakeholders:

Councillors and Walgett Shire Council staff

### Financial Implications:

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

### Conclusion:

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

| Circulars Received From the NSW Office of Local Government                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That the information contained in the following Departmental circulars 19-18 to 19-20 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b><br/> <b>Seconded:</b></p> |

### Attachments:

Circulars



Office of  
Local Government

## Circular to Councils

|                             |                                                                                                |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Circular Details</b>     | Circular No 19 -18 / Date 19 August 2019 / A653004                                             |
| <b>Previous Circular</b>    | 18-21                                                                                          |
| <b>Who should read this</b> | Councillors / General Managers / All council staff                                             |
| <b>Contact</b>              | Performance Team / (02) 4428 4100 / <a href="mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au">olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</a> |
| <b>Action required</b>      | Information / Council to Implement                                                             |

### Calendar of Compliance and Reporting Requirements 2019-20

#### What's new or changing

- The Calendar of Compliance and Reporting Requirements has been updated for the 2019-20 financial year.

#### What this will mean for your council

- Councils should use the Calendar of Compliance and Reporting Requirements 2019-20 to assist in planning strategic and operational tasks throughout the year.

#### Key points

- The Calendar of Compliance and Reporting Requirements 2019-20 includes key statutory and other reporting deadlines for councils.
- Councils' statutory and other reporting deadlines are not limited to those included in the Calendar of Compliance and Reporting Requirements 2019-20.
- For new councils, some dates may have changed by Proclamation.
- The online Calendar of Compliance and Reporting, developed by the Office of Local Government (OLG), will be updated to reflect the Calendar of Compliance and Reporting Requirements 2019-20.

#### Where to go for further information

The Calendar of Compliance and Reporting Requirements 2019-20 is available on OLG's website at [www.olg.nsw.gov.au](http://www.olg.nsw.gov.au).

A 2019-20 Calendar of Compliance and Reporting Requirements for Joint Organisations was prepared in March 2019 (Circular 19-03) and can be located at:

<https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/Calendar%20of%20Compliance%20and%20Reporting%20Requirements%20-%202018-19%20-%202019-20%20Calendar%20.pdf>

**Tim Hurst**  
**Deputy Secretary**  
**Local Government, Planning and Policy**

Office of Local Government  
5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541  
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541  
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209  
E [olg@olg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au) W [www.olg.nsw.gov.au](http://www.olg.nsw.gov.au) ABN 44 913 630 046



Office of  
Local Government

## Circular to Councils

Strengthening local government

|                             |                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Circular Details</b>     | Circular No 19-19 / 27 August 2019 / A652776                                                                                  |
| <b>Previous Circular</b>    | 18-44 Commencement of the new Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW and Procedures                                  |
| <b>Who should read this</b> | Mayors / Councillors / General Managers / Joint Organisation Executive Officers / Complaints Coordinators / Conduct Reviewers |
| <b>Contact</b>              | Council Governance Team – (02) 4428 4100 / <a href="mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au">olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</a>                         |
| <b>Action required</b>      | Information                                                                                                                   |

## Resources to support implementation of the new Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW

### What's new or changing?

- Councils and joint organisations were required to adopt a code of conduct based on the *Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW* (the Model Code of Conduct) and associated Procedures based on the *Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW* (Procedures) by **14 June 2019**.
- The Office of Local Government (OLG) has prepared resources to assist councils to implement the new Model Code of Conduct which are now available on OLG's website.

### What this will mean for your council

- The following guides and resources are now available on OLG's website:
  - "at a glance" guides for elected representatives, council staff and delegates and committee members – these provide a "plain English" summary of the relevant ethical and behavioural standards that apply to each of these classes of council officials
  - a guide to completing returns of interests
  - supporting training packages for elected representatives, council staff and delegates and committee members based on the content of the "at a glance guides" – these are designed so that they can either be delivered in full, delivered in portions or adapted to suit a particular audience.
- The following resources are currently being prepared and will soon be available on OLG's website:
  - procedural guides for managing code of conduct complaints for general managers and mayors or their delegates, complaints coordinators and conduct reviewers
  - guides for complainants and respondents.

### Key points

- If councils have not adopted a new code of conduct and procedures based on the new Model Code of Conduct and Procedures, they should do so immediately. In the meantime, the provisions of the new Model Code of



Conduct and Procedures will automatically override any provisions of the council's adopted code of conduct and procedures that are inconsistent with those contained in the new Model Code of Conduct and Procedures.

- If they have not already done so, councils should review their existing panels of conduct reviewers and determine to appoint a new panel using the expression of interest process prescribed under the Procedures. Councils may appoint shared panels with other councils including through a joint organisation or another regional body associated with the councils.

**Where to go for further information**

- The code of conduct resources are available on OLG's website at [www.olg.nsw.gov.au/strengthening-local-government/conduct-and-governance/model-code-of-conduct](http://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/strengthening-local-government/conduct-and-governance/model-code-of-conduct).
- For more information, contact the Council Governance Team by telephone on 02 4428 4100 or by email at [olg@olg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au).



**Tim Hurst**  
**Deputy Secretary**  
**Local Government, Planning and Policy**

Office of Local Government  
5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541  
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541  
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209  
E [olg@olg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au) W [www.olg.nsw.gov.au](http://www.olg.nsw.gov.au) ABN 44 913 630 046



Office of  
Local Government

## Circular to Councils

|                             |                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Circular Details</b>     | Circular No 19-20 / 10 September 2019 / A627669                                                         |
| <b>Previous Circular</b>    | N/A                                                                                                     |
| <b>Who should read this</b> | Councillors / General Managers / governance staff / Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee members       |
| <b>Contact</b>              | Council Governance Team / ph: 02 4428-4100 / <a href="mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au">olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</a> |
| <b>Action required</b>      | Response to OLG                                                                                         |

### A new internal audit and risk management framework for local councils in NSW – release of discussion paper

#### What's new or changing?

- The *Local Government Act 1993* was amended in August 2016 to require each council and joint organisation in NSW to appoint an audit, risk and improvement committee (ARIC). This requirement will take effect from March 2021 at the earliest.
- The Office of Local Government (OLG) has developed a draft internal audit and risk management framework to support and inform the operations of ARICs. The proposed framework is based on international standards and the experience of Australian and NSW Government public sector agencies who have already implemented risk management and internal audit but has been adapted to reflect the unique needs and structure of NSW councils and joint organisations.
- The proposed framework has been developed in consultation with NSW Treasury, the NSW Audit Office, the then Department of Finance, Services and Innovation, the Institute of Internal Auditors and the Local Government Internal Auditors Network.
- OLG is now seeking feedback on the proposed framework from the local government sector. To this end, OLG has issued a discussion paper, "A New Risk Management and Internal Audit Framework for Local Councils in NSW" which sets out the proposed framework in detail and a "snapshot" guide that summarises its key elements.
- The discussion paper and "snapshot" guide are available on OLG's website at [www.olg.nsw.gov.au](http://www.olg.nsw.gov.au).

#### What this will mean for your council

- OLG is inviting submissions from councils and other stakeholders on the discussion paper.
- Submissions may be made by email to [olg@olg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au).
- Submissions should be labelled "Internal Audit Consultation" and marked to the attention of OLG's Council Governance Team.
- Submissions should be made before **31 December 2019**.

**Where to go for further information**

- For further information please contact the Council Governance team on 02 4428 4100.



**Tim Hurst**  
**Deputy Secretary**  
**Local Government Policy and Planning**

Office of Local Government  
5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541  
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541  
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209  
E [olg@olg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au) W [www.olg.nsw.gov.au](http://www.olg.nsw.gov.au) ABN 44 913 630 046

### 10.1.3 IMPORTANT DATES - UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

**REPORTING SECTION:** Executive  
**AUTHOR:** Greg Ingham – General Manager  
**FILE NUMBER:** 18/260

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**Summary:**

A list of upcoming meetings and events is provided for Councillors to make notes of to avoid any clashes of commitments.

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

This report allows Councillors and senior management staff to plan their activities and spread their work load having regard to upcoming commitments. It also avoids situations where some Councillors missed meetings or are not aware of when they have been scheduled. In addition, outside organisations have been requested to send meeting notice and minutes direct to Council's various representatives. Where notification is received meeting dates will be listed on the strategic tasks, events and meetings calendar and the representative(s) names flagged.

**Current Position:**

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

**Governance issues:**

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

**Environmental issues:**

Not applicable

**Stakeholders:**

Councillors and Walgett Shire Council staff

**Alternative Solutions/Options:**

Not applicable

**Conclusion:**

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

| Important Dates For Councillors - Upcoming Meetings & Events                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That Council receive and note the list of upcoming meetings and events.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b></p> <p><b>Seconded:</b></p> |

**IMPORTANT DATES - Upcoming Meetings and Events**

| DATE                                             | MEETING/FUNCTION               | LOCATION | NOTES                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2019                  | FNW Joint Organisation Meeting | Bourke   | GM, Mayor and Deputy Mayor                                            |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2019 | LG NSW Conference              | Sydney   | GM and Councillors; Martinez, Woodcock, Turnbull and Taylor to attend |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2019                    | Council Meeting                | Carinda  | Councillors, GM and Executive Staff to attend                         |

## 10.1.4 GENERAL MANAGER ACTIVITIES/MEETINGS – SEPTEMBER 2019

**REPORTING SECTION:** Executive  
**AUTHOR:** Greg Ingham – General Manager  
**FILE NUMBER:** 18/260

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### Summary:

The purpose of this report is to keep Council informed of the more pertinent General Manager activities for the previous month. This report covers activities and meetings attended by the General Manager.

- 4<sup>th</sup> September 19 – Walgett Depot Yard Meeting
- 6<sup>th</sup> September 19 – RMS Meeting with Paul Polansky and Craig Matthews
- 10<sup>th</sup> September 19 – GM Appraisal and Extra Ordinary Council Meeting
- 12<sup>th</sup> September 19 – Lightning Ridge Depot Yard Meeting
- 20<sup>th</sup> September 19 – Union Picnic Day
- 23 September 19 – CMCC Ordinary Meeting
- 24<sup>th</sup> September 19 – Ordinary Council Meeting

| General Manager Activities/Meetings for September 2019                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That that General Manager Activity report for September 2019 be received.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b></p> <p><b>Seconded:</b></p> |

## 10.1.5 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETINGS – TIME, DATES AND VENUE FOR 2020

**REPORTING SECTION:** General Manager  
**AUTHOR:** Greg Ingham – General Manager  
**FILE NUMBER:** 18/260

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### **Summary:**

Council's Code of Meeting practice Clause 3.2 requires "that Council shall, by resolution set the frequency, time, date and place of its ordinary meetings". It is desirable that Council determine its meeting schedule for the whole of 2020, to facilitate forward planning.

### **Background:**

Council has previously determined that Ordinary Meetings of Council should generally be held on the fourth Tuesday of each month, except in February when the meeting will take place on the second Tuesday and in December when the meeting will be held on the third Tuesday of the month.

Under section 365 of the Act, Council are required to meet at least ten (10) times each year, each time in a different month unless the Minister for Local Government has approved a reduction in the number of times that a Council is required to meet each year under section 365A.

### **Proposed:**

The following schedule provides for Meetings in 2020 to be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month other than in February when it is proposed to be held on the second Tuesday and December, on the third Tuesday.

All Council meetings will take place in Walgett at the Council Chambers to allow for webcasting of the meetings in accordance with the Council's Code of Meeting practice clause 5.19. Council will record the meetings as of the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2019 and upload onto Council's website.

No meeting is scheduled for January. It is proposed that meetings continue to commence at 10.00am as has been the practice in the past.

11 February 2020  
24 March 2020  
28 April 2020  
26 May 2020  
23 June 2020  
28 July 2020  
25 August 2020  
22 September 2020  
27 October 2020  
24 November 2020  
15 December 2020

### **Relevant Reference Documents:**

Council's Code of Meeting Practice  
Local Government Act 1993

**Stakeholders:**

Councillors, staff and public

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Ordinary Council Meetings – Time, Dates and Venues for 2020**

**Recommendation:**

1. That Council endorse the below dates for the 2020 Ordinary Council Meetings to held at the Council Chambers in Walgett commencing at 10:00am;

11 February 2020

24 March 2020

28 April 2020

26 May 2020

23 June 2020

28 July 2020

25 August 2020

22 September 2020

27 October 2020

24 November 2020

15 December 2020

2. Council advertise in the local media and on Council's website the meeting schedule for 2020 including time, date and place, as stated above.

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**Attachments:**

Nil



## 10.1.6 CLOSEDOWN OF ADMINISTRATION OVER FESTIVE SEASON

**REPORTING SECTION:** General Manager  
**AUTHOR:** Greg Ingham – General Manager  
**FILE NUMBER:** 18/260

---

### Summary:

It is considered efficient for the majority of Council's operations to close down for the work days between Christmas and New Year's Day. It also suits the needs of the majority of staff to plan holidays during the Festive Season.

### Discussion (including issues and background):

This year Christmas Day falls on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December, Boxing Day on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> December and New Year's Day on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020. It is proposed that Council operations close down for 2 weeks – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2019 to 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020.

For the seven days of the closedown staff are required to take leave and/or to utilise accumulated flex-time. During the closedown essential service staff remain on duty in the garbage and water/sewer service areas and emergency service staff are rostered to be on call in other areas of Council operations.

In addition to the standard shutdown, a shutdown period will be put in place for all Outdoor Staff only.

It is important to set the shutdown period for the Council's administrative operations to allow staff to plan holidays during the festive season and make future arrangements.

### Relevant Reference Documents:

Public Holidays Act 2010

### Stakeholders:

Council staff and residents

### Financial Implications:

As staff will be required to take either Annual Leave or accumulative Flex Time during this three day period, the three day shutdown will be revenue neutral. Staff rostered to work during the period attracts payment of normal rates of pay and any penalties payable in accordance with the award.

### Closedown of Administration over Festive Season 2019/2020

#### Recommendation:

1. Council indoor operations close for the 2 weeks from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2019 to 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 and the General Manager make satisfactory arrangements for the maintenance of essential services and provision of emergency call out services.
2. The closedown be effectively notified to residents along with details of essential service and emergency call out arrangements.
3. Note a separate shutdown period will be put in place by the Director of Engineering for all Outdoor Staff in accordance with the award.

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**Attachments:**

Schedule of 2019-2020 Public Holidays from NSW Government Industrial Relations Website

## NSW Public Holidays 2019-2020

Holidays for NSW under the [Public Holidays Act 2010](#)

|                | 2019                   | 2020                 |
|----------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| New Year's Day |                        | Wednesday, 1 January |
| Christmas Day  | Wednesday, 25 December |                      |
| Boxing Day     | Thursday, 26 December  |                      |

## 10.2 CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

### 10.2.1 AUSTRALIAN OPAL CENTRE (AOC) FUNDING REQUEST

**REPORTING SECTION:** Corporate Services  
**AUTHOR:** Michael Urquhart – Chief Financial Officer  
**FILE NUMBER:** 00/00/00

---

**Summary:**

This report is presented to Council for consideration of the public submissions received regarding Council's approval in principal to commit \$2 million in funding to the Australian Opal Centre.

**Background:**

The Australian Opal Centre requested a contribution from Council towards the construction of the Australian Opal Centre in Lightning Ridge, and the Acting General Manager at the time reported this to the 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018 Ordinary meeting of Council.

Below is the adopted resolution from the 30<sup>th</sup> October 18 Ordinary meeting.

*CARRIED 16/2018/15 Australian Opal Centre (AOC) Funding Request Resolved:*

- 1. That Council confirm its commitment of \$50,000 per year for three years in line with the MoU between the AOC and Walgett Shire Council (Council Resolution of 25 August 2015).*
- 2. That Council note the report and reference to requirements of the Local Government Act 1993.*
- 3. That subject to further advice in relation to the Joint Organisation Tourism and Cultural Fund allocation (\$5m) Council contribute to the AOC Stage 1 project the \$1.5m available to Walgett Shire Council subject to the AOC receiving a firm commitment from other funding sources for the balance of the project funds.*
- 4. That Council confirm its intention to make available a further \$350,000 from its Economic Development budget as the project progresses (3 -4 years) again subject to the AOC receiving a firm commitment from other funding sources for the balance of the project funds. (provision of these additional funds would be in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 as detailed in the report).*
- 5. That Council initiate discussions with the AOC to explore options for a formal partnership between the AOC and Walgett Shire Council. Further, that as current applications for funding progress, the AOC be requested to keep Council informed.*
- 6. That Council acknowledge there would be a need to allocate funds to improve current and/or provide additional tourism infrastructure across the shire to take advantage of increased tourism as the AOC project comes on line. **Moved: Cllr Cameron Seconded: Cllr Taylor***

The Acting General Manager subsequently provided the Australian Opal Centre with the following letter in support of its "Building Better Regions Funding" application for the AOC Stage 1.

**Evidence of Contribution for Building Better Regions Fund application 'The Australian Opal Centre: A Nationally Significant Regional Project'**

This letter confirms Walgett Shire Council's support for LROFC Inc's application under the Building Better Regions Fund.

I am authorised to commit Walgett Shire Council as described below.

Walgett Shire Council will contribute cash to the project in the following instalments. See Conditions below for clarification. Spread across financial years may be varied in consultation with the applicant and BBRF.

- 2019-20: \$550,000.00 (\$50,000 per MoU; \$500,000 JOTCF)
- 2019-20: \$1,050,000.00 (\$50,000 per MoU; \$1,000,000 JOTCF)
- 2020-21: \$400,000.00 (\$50,000 per MoU; \$350,000 ED budget)

Conditions

Contributions will be provided under the following conditions (Council Resolution October 2018):

- 1 \$50,000 per year for three years in line with the MoU between the AOC and Walgett Shire Council (Council Resolution of 25 August 2015).
- 2 Council to note the report and reference to requirements of the Local Government Act 1993.
- 3 Council will contribute to AOC Stage 1 the \$1.5m available to Walgett Shire Council from the Joint Organisation Tourism and Cultural Fund allocation (\$5m), subject to further advice in relation to that allocation (\$5m), and subject to the AOC receiving a firm commitment from other funding sources for the balance of the project funds.
- 4 Council to make available a further \$350,000 from its Economic Development budget as the project progresses (3 - 4 years), subject to the AOC receiving a firm commitment from other funding sources for the balance of the project funds. Provision of these additional funds would be in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 as detailed in the report.
- 5 Council to initiate discussions with the AOC to explore options for a formal partnership between the AOC and Walgett Shire Council. As current applications for funding progress, the AOC is to keep Council informed.
- 6 Council acknowledge there would be a need to allocate funds to improve current and/or provide additional tourism infrastructure across the shire to take advantage of increased tourism as the AOC project comes on line.

Yours sincerely



Paul Mann, Acting General Manager

**Current Position:**

Council has agreed to the contribution in principal and at its 30<sup>th</sup> July 19 Ordinary meeting and resolved to advertise the proposal in accordance with Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993.

***The resolution was as follows:***

1. Formally advertise for a period of 28 days advising of its intention to make available \$2,000,000 to the Lightning Ridge Opal Fossil Centre Inc (trading as the Australian Opal Centre), and submissions can be made to Council during the 28 day period.
2. Funding for the project be allocated as follows, \$1,425,000 from the Joint Organisation Tourism and Cultural Fund, and \$575,000 from Council's consolidated working capital.
3. The advertisement be placed in the Walgett Spectator, Daily Liberal, Council's Web page and Facebook platforms.

At the close of the business on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September (End of display period) Council had received 659 submissions, both opposing and in favour of the funding proposal.

Because there was so many submissions the writer has separated these into a number of categories and provided an executive summary of the issues raised in the submissions.

**Opposing the proposal;**

- Petition Type 1 – See attached copy (237 Submissions)
- Petition Type 2 – See attached copy (113 Submissions)
- Petition Type 4 – See attached copy (29 Submissions)
- Individual submissions 23
  - This is inappropriate and irresponsible financial management and expenditure
  - Some Councillors voted to increase water and shire rates this year
  - Funds should go to fix the bores
  - Council should be the auspicing body for the AOC for government funding
  - No public consultation for other entities to receive funding
  - Governance issues around the AOC
  - Drought and lack of water in shire
  - Maintenance of Council roads should come first
  - The AOC is not a Council asset
  - The Walgett weir project funding shortfall
  - Failure of existing roads because of increased traffic
  - Not enough visitors over the summer period to support AOC
  - Council should maintain existing assets with the funds
  - Allocate funding to childcare services
  - Councillors have ignored the plight of the people and given themselves an increase in Councillor's fees for 2019/20,
  - Distance, from a regional centre will be an on-going issue to maintaining numbers for the AOC
  - Water issues at Cumborah and no reticulation system
  - Council should divert funds to the Walgett weir project
  - Council should fix the tourist roads first
  - Council has already contributed \$600k towards the AOC project
  - Walgett bore is not deep enough
  - Water pipes in Walgett need replacing
  - Walgett toilets and amenities need repair
  - Council not focusing on the whole shire just Lightning Ridge
  - Council's compliance with section 356 of the LG Act

- Where is the \$1million pledged from AOC supporters
- AOC's lack of adherence to Australian Charities & Not for Profit mandatory reporting
- AOC should stand alone it has secured other funding
- Ratepayers borrowing money to pay rates, a real issue
- Councillors denied AOC business case
- Very inflated numbers used in business case assumptions
- Balance sheet of AOC not very strong
- AOC has in the past had it's Not for Profit status revoked
- Great need for conditions to be placed on funding for AOC
- Funding not equitable for rest of community
- WSC water and sewer funds should not be used for any other purpose
- Council should direct these funds to upgrade infrastructure for increased tourist numbers
- Funds should be directed towards tourists that will deliver more to the tourist industry
- Where is the \$75,000 shortfall coming from
- Council's economic involvement must be at arms-length from the business
- Building a business is not what local government is about
- Council should delay decision until more information is available
- Are there other needs for the JO money
- Accountability controls must be put in place
- Money should contingent on public contribution
- AOC current loan be converted to a grant
- AOC should revisit size and scope of project
- Professional project officer should be appointed
- Should WSC contribute more funds than it already has
- Lightning Ridge Councillors should step aside from this decision and allow the other Councillors to set the amount and contribution of any WSC grant

In favour of the proposal:

- Petition Type 3 – See Attached copy (175 Submissions)
- Individual Submissions 82
  - Increased income streams for the shire with more visitors
  - Increase in hospitality
  - Walgett Shire will become a significant tourist destination
  - Increased jobs in the local area during build and after
  - Strong national education resource
  - Increased tourism visitation
  - Creation of a centre for research and studies
  - We need this project for the children of Walgett shire
  - Creating off farm employment opportunities
  - Founders have committed \$1million
  - Big help to the local economy
  - Opportunity of increased funding for Council
  - International tourism and opportunities for niche tourism
  - More secure future for the people of Walgett Shire
  - AOC is a significant project to the Shire, NSW and Country
  - AOC likened to Opera house a unique and successful attraction, it also was opposed by the public
  - Creation of a world class facility

- AOC will diversify shire economic base, extra accommodation, service activities
- Protection of heritage items that would disappear from shire
- New features to capture and hold tourists
- Project is endorsed by State and Commonwealth Governments
- Walgett shire is not an “outpost” it’s a destination.
- Walgett shire a global focus for arts and culture
- Increase in domestic and international visitors
- Securing future for Lightning ridge and surrounding towns
- Opportunity for families to settle in shire to support 3 main industries – Agriculture, Mining and Tourism
- AOC will improve quality of life for all residents
- Walgett shire to become the world hub for opal related travel, industry, commerce and knowledge

**Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:**

Local Government Act 1993

Local Government Regulation 2005

**Governance issues:**

In this instance Council has an obligation under the Local Government Act 1993 to ensure compliance and accordingly must consider the submissions and issues raised before formally resolving to make the funds available to the AOC.

**Environmental issues:**

There are no environmental issues identified in relation to this matter

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council.

Walgett Shire Community

NSW State Government

Australian Commonwealth Government

Lightning Ridge Opal Fossil Centre Inc. (trading as the Australian Opal Centre)

**Financial Implications:**

All three funding stakeholders Federal, State and Local have conducted due diligence in relation to the funding of the AOC, assessing the business case in terms of its long-term financial plan, assumptions and cost benefit analysis of the centre operations.

The Business Case has made some sound assumptions and projections based upon extensive research into tourism and know visitor data from the existing AOC and tourist records.

The long-term income streams are conservative while the expenditure estimates appear to be robust and reflect reasonable operational costs.

In the report tabled to the October 18 meeting the Joint Organisation Tourism and Cultural Fund allocation of \$1,500,000 has been revised down to \$1,425,000, therefore Council will need to allocate a further \$75,000. The revenue funding allocation will increase to \$575,000.

**Alternative Solutions/Options:**

1. Council makes available the \$1.425m Joint Organisation Tourism & Cultural Fund Grant to the AOC.
2. Council calls for expressions of interest (EOI) from interested parties for shovel ready projects that meet the guidelines of the Joint Organisation Tourism and Cultural Fund and accordingly allocates \$1.425m to the successful applicant.
3. Council allocates the \$1.425m to Council owned tourism and cultural projects that meet the guidelines of the Joint Organisation Tourism and Cultural Fund.

**Conclusion:**

The Chief Financial Officer submits the report for Council's consideration, and should Council wish to adopt the in principal proposal as outlined above, it is then suggested the recommendation should be as follows:

That Council having duly advertised the Australian Opal Centre contribution proposal in accordance with Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993, and having considered the public submissions both in favour and opposing the proposal agree to:

- a) Council commit \$50,000 per year for three years in line with the MOU between the Australian Opal Centre and Walgett Shire Council (Council Resolution of 25 August 2015) with the total of \$150,000 payable to the Australian Opal Centre upon lodgement of the private certifiers "Certificate of Occupancy" for occupation of the new opal centre. (Estimated due date August 21)
- b) Council allocate the \$1,425,000 grant from the Joint Organisation Tourism and Cultural Fund allocation (\$5m) to the Australian Opal Centre Stage 1 project subject to the Australian Opal Centre meeting the following milestones:
  - **Milestone 1.** Upon execution of the deed of agreement between the Australian Opal Centre and Walgett Shire Council, Council will pay to the Australian Opal Centre \$475,000. (Estimated due date November 19)
  - **Milestone 2.** Upon completion of the final design, Receipt of statutory approvals, Confirmation of final costs, Tenure/Access of land and building confirmed and 15% of eligible project activities are completed to Councils satisfaction, Council will pay to the Australian opal Centre \$475,000. (Estimated due date August 20) (**Milestone 1 Commonwealth Funding Deed**)
  - **Milestone 3.** When 60% of the eligible project activities are completed to the satisfaction of Council, Council will pay to the Australian Opal Centre \$475,000. (Estimated due date February 21) (**Milestone 2 Commonwealth Funding Deed**)
- c) Council make available to the Australian Opal Centre \$425,000 from its Economic Development Reserve, payable to the Australian Opal Centre upon lodgement of the private certifiers "Certificate of Occupancy" for occupation of the new opal centre. (Estimated due date August 21)



|                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Australian Opal Centre (AOC) Funding Request</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|

**Recommendation:**

That the Chief Financial Officer's report be tabled for Council consideration.

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**Attachments:**

- Attachment 1 – Type 1- Opposed
- Attachment 2 – Type 2 - Opposed
- Attachment 3 – Type 4 - Opposed
- Attachment 4 – Type 3 – In Favour

ATTACHMENT 1 – TYPE 1- OPPOSED

SUBMISSION - TYPE 1.

L

NAME: [REDACTED]

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

Re: Proposed grant of \$2 million to the Lightning Ridge Opal Fossil Centre

General Manager,  
Walgett Shire Council  
P.O. Box 31  
Walgett. NSW 2832

Dear Sir

We strongly object to the proposed grant of \$2,000,000 for the LROFC.

Walgett Shire is currently going through the worst drought ever recorded with many residents consequently suffering severe ongoing financial impacts and Councillors earlier this year could not see fit to grant a reduction in rates – but in fact increased them – and also passed an allowance increase for themselves this year.

If Council has a spare \$2 million surely some of it could be allocated to the upgrade of the Walgett Weir and the securing of the Walgett water supply as this week we have been advised that the proposed upgrade has been postponed due to the preferred tenderer's quote being above the budgeted amount and Council has to request more funding from State and/or Federal Governments before it can proceed.

If Council wishes to be involved in the development and construction of the LROFC it should purely be as an auspicing body for the Government grants that have been made available for the project and not injecting any Council (ratepayers) funds. As an auspicing body it can include the oncosts as Council's contribution towards the grant so would not cost the ratepayers.

Again, please note, we strongly object to Council providing \$2 million to the LROFC and to any further proposed ongoing funding for this project.

Yours faithfully

Signature.. [REDACTED]

Date..... [REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT 2 – TYPE 2 - OPPOSED

# SUBMISSION - TYPE 2.

NAME: [REDACTED]  
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

Re: Proposed grant of \$2 million to the Lightning Ridge Opal Fossil Centre

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

Dear Sir

We strongly object to the proposed grant of \$2,000,000 for the LROFC and more importantly \$575,000 from Council's working capital funds.

The Walgett Shire is currently experiencing the worst drought in its history & cannot afford this expenditure, our communities across the Shire require capital works and maintenance for water supplies, roads, community sporting facilities and other venues.

The LROFC is not Council owned or operated, it is not a Council asset.

Council voted to increase our shire rates this year & the majority of Councillors voted to increase their council allowance while ignoring the plight of the people of the shire who have earned significantly less during these tough drought years.

The weir project at Walgett is on hold as they require another \$550,000 from NSW Public Works to commence the project which is vital for the town, if the money is not forthcoming then will it be on hold for another 20 years?

The LROFC is an amazing project & will bring tourists to our Shire but will it ever be self sufficient & stand alone, this is a \$40 million build, to give you an idea the Crossing Theatre owned by Narrabri Shire Council cost \$8 million to build in 2003 & is still subsidised by Narrabri Shire Council.

The tyranny of distance alone is a factor & what about the supporting infrastructure & services that needs to be available at Lightning Ridge to support the visitors to the LROFC.

WSC should spend its money on some of these services & infrastructure in the Shire.

Walgett Shire Council does not want a partnership or any form of agreement with the LROFC otherwise Council will be paying the ongoing costs of the LROFC whenever there is a shortfall.

Over \$600,000 has already been given to the LROFC by Walgett Shire Council since 2004 to date, what other organisations in the Shire have been provided with ongoing funds over 15 years.

How will this money be spent & in what time frame, who will manage the funds, we need to ask these questions.

Mark Coulton, Federal MP announced on 10.3.19 that the Federal Govt would give \$9.5 million & NSW Govt announced they would give \$7.5 million, it was also announced at that time that WSC would give \$2 million & a further \$1 million would come from the LROFC Founders.

Why does WSC have to provide an added \$2 million?

Signed [REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT 3 – TYPE 4 - OPPOSED

**SUBMISSION - TYPE 4.**

NAME: [REDACTED]

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

WALGETT. NSW 2832

RECEIVED 05 SEP 2019

Re: Proposed grant of \$2 million to the Lightning Ridge Opal Fossil Centre

General Manager,  
Walgett Shire Council  
P.O. Box 31  
Walgett. NSW 2832

Dear Sir

We strongly object to the proposed grant of \$2,000,000 for the LROFC.

The Walgett Shire is currently experiencing the worst drought in its history all the communities require capitol works and maintenance on their water, roads, community sporting facilities and other venues.

This museum is privately owned and The Walgett Shire should not grant any more money to this project. They have a 20million grant from both Governments  
The \$600000 already donated in 2004 should not have been given and is enough for a one-off grant.

This is inappropriate and irresponsible financial management and expenditure for our shire.

The responsibility of the Walgett Shire is to maintain the whole shire not just focus on one town while depleting all others.

Some Councillors voted to have to increase our water and shire rates this year, give themselves the maximum increase of their council allowance while ignoring the plight of the people of the shire who have earned very little over the past years. To leave the rates at the 2018 level with the proviso that they would be increased when it rains, would have been viewed by the whole shire community as a positive gesture to them by the councillors.

The Councillors should be allocating this money to fix the bores at Walgett and Cumborah reviewing and fixing the water for Collarenebri.

The weir at Walgett is on hold as they require another \$500000 and this has not been offered.

The Shire must not continue with the inappropriate irresponsible spending at Lightning Ridge and start to Manage the whole of the Shire

I am strongly opposed to the grant of 2 million dollars to the Lightning Ridge Opal Fossil Museum

Signed [REDACTED]

Date. [REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT 4 – TYPE 3 – IN FAVOUR

# SUBMISSION - TYPE 3.

General Manager  
Walgett Shire Council  
PO Box 31  
Walgett NSW 2832

Dear Sir,

I write in response to Council's Notice of Proposal to provide \$2 million to Lightning Ridge Opal Fossil Centre Inc for construction of the Australian Opal Centre. I strongly support this investment in our future. It will benefit residents of Walgett Shire (and far beyond) in the following ways.

- Benefits to the whole of Walgett Shire through increased tourism visitation.
- Benefits of having western NSW's highest profile cultural & tourism facility in Walgett Shire.
- Overall economic benefit from business opportunities and employment from extra accommodation, tourism and service industry activities that will be required in conjunction with the AOC, fostering a thriving local economy.
- Employment and supplier opportunities during construction of the new AOC. The project manager and head contractor are required to ensure local and regional employment outcomes.
- The increase in international and domestic visitors will help secure the future of regular air services to Walgett Shire, scheduled to restart shortly, and help increase demand to levels that will support other new services that will improve the quality of life of our residents.
- We need this for the future of the children of Walgett Shire. School students throughout the Shire (Carinda, Rowena, Come-by-Chance, Walgett, Colfarenabri and Lightning Ridge) have already participated in AOC programs; and new businesses arising from the AOC will give young people more opportunities for training and employment here at home.
- The AOC will help to alleviate the worst effects of drought on residents of Walgett Shire, by creating more opportunities for diversified enterprise and off-farm employment when needed. This will also buffer against tough times in the opal industry, with more local employment available to opal mining families when times are hard.
- There will be untold benefits from Walgett Shire becoming the world hub for opal-related knowledge, training, travel, industry and commerce, increasing appreciation, demand and prices for opal. These benefits will positively impact the opal industry, with many flow-on effects.
- We must retain our natural and cultural heritage locally, rather lose it from Walgett Shire and Australia. This applies both to natural items, such as our rare fossils and gemstones, and our diverse cultural knowledge and treasures. It's true for opal-related heritage, agricultural heritage, natural heritage, and the indigenous and culturally diverse heritage of our towns, villages, lands, farms and opal fields. For decades, heritage items have been ripped out of regional communities for city-based institutions and private collection. We need to keep them here where they belong, where our communities can access them and benefit from people travelling to experience them.
- A high-profile platform from which to raise appreciation of the industries, natural and human resources that make Walgett Shire special, providing stronger argument that these should be nurtured, rather than impeded, at a government level.
- Strong community support for this project is shown by the fact that even in these hard times, individuals and businesses have collectively committed more than \$1 million of their own money, and tens of thousands of hours of volunteer time, to this project.

Yours sincerely,

..... (Signature)  
..... (Print name)  
..... (Print address) ..... (Print date)

## **10.2.2 MONTHLY OUTSTANDING RATES REPORT AS AT 31<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2019**

**REPORTING SECTION:** Corporate Services  
**AUTHOR:** Kevin Dunshea – Rates Clerk  
**FILE NUMBER:** 12/183

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### **Summary:**

Council's debt recovery policy is aimed at having outstanding rates and annual charges debts recovered in a timely manner to support Council in its objectives by providing sufficient funding to enable the continued provision of services to the local government area. The aim of this process is achieve a recovery of rates and annual charges levied in any given financial year of greater than 90%.

In 2013 financial year the Consolidated Rates Arrears percentage was reported as 13.09%. This improved in 2014 to 9.33% and again in 2015 to 9.32%, however, in 2016 the unrecovered balance increased to 11.63%, a consequence of reduced debt recovery, due to vacancies in the rating area. The audited result of 10.37% for 2016/17 was a good outcome, with a big improvement again in 2017/18 with an audited result of 9.48%. The unaudited result for 18/19 is 9.12%, which is outstanding considering the prolonged drought conditions with many ratepayers choosing an alternative payment arrangement.

### **Background:**

Council is obliged to report on a number of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) as part of their statutory reporting regime. One of these KPIs is the Rates, Annual Charges, Interest & Extra Charges Outstanding Percentage. The purpose of this KPI is "to assess the impact of uncollected rates and annual charges on Council's liquidity and the adequacy of recovery efforts."

All NSW councils are categorised into Groups. Walgett Shire Council is classified as a Group 10 Council. Each KPI is benchmarked and the benchmarks vary between Council groups. Group 10 Council's should achieve a KPI of less than 10% for the Rates, Annual Charges, interest & Extra Charges Outstanding Percentage by the end of each financial year.

### **Current Position:**

Collection of the current years levy and arrears as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019 is **29.56%** which is **5.83%** less than the previous year's collection of **35.39%**. Collections have increased in the first eight (8) days of September with a total of **35.24%** collected.

### **Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:**

Outstanding Rates Report.

### **Governance issues:**

Council is obliged to act in the community's best interest and to ensure adequate service provision is upheld through measures of sustaining, maintaining and improving long term financial sustainability. A key area is to show the ongoing effective management of outstanding rates and annual charges recovery by reducing the outstanding rates percentage to an acceptable benchmarked value each year.

### **Environmental issues:**

Nil

### **Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council community  
Walgett Shire Ratepayers  
Walgett Shire Council

**Financial Implications:**

The recovery of rates and charges is a key performance indicator that is analysed by external bodies such as Treasury Corp in conjunction with the Local Government Review Panel. Efforts to improve and lower the levels of outstanding rates and charges will strengthen Walgett Shire Council's long term financial position.

**Alternative Solutions/Options:**

There are no alternative solutions or options.

**Conclusion:**

The report recommends that Council note the outstanding rates and annual charges percentage and ongoing commitment to sustain, maintain and improve this key performance indicator.

Council revenue staff in conjunction with debt collection agencies, continue with the debt recovery program.

| Monthly Outstanding Rates Report                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation</b></p> <p>The outstanding rates report be received and noted.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b></p> <p><b>Seconded:</b></p> |

**Attachments:**

Monthly Report - Outstanding Rates Report

## Monthly Report - Outstanding Rates & Annual Charges as at 31 August 2019

### Report on Rates and Annual Charges - 31 August 2019

|                                                         | 8 September 2019      | 31 August 2019        | 31 August 2018        |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Arrears from previous year                              | 905,134.18            | 905,134.18            | 832,246.36            |
| Adjustment                                              |                       |                       |                       |
| Sub Total                                               | 905,134.18            | 905,134.18            | 832,246.36            |
| <b>Current Year Activity</b>                            |                       |                       |                       |
| Legal fees (Including write off's)                      | 9,201.00              | 3,863.00              | 4,331.80              |
| Adjusted Levy                                           | 9,651,045.73          | 9,651,045.73          | 9,368,717.99          |
| Interest (Including write off's)                        | 8,015.38              | 7,910.32              | 8,128.67              |
| Adjustments (Including Write Off's)                     | 1,199.17              | 1,189.00              | (601.27)              |
| Sub Total                                               | 9,669,461.28          | 9,664,008.05          | 9,380,577.19          |
| <b>Total Arrears and Adjusted Levy</b>                  | <b>10,574,595.46</b>  | <b>10,569,142.23</b>  | <b>10,212,823.55</b>  |
| Payments                                                | (3,539,169.25)        | (2,936,562.72)        | (3,418,865.18)        |
| Pensioner Concessions - Govt                            | (92,785.19)           | (92,785.19)           | (97,385.77)           |
| Pensioner Concessions - Council                         | (75,919.10)           | (75,919.10)           | (79,683.78)           |
| Discount                                                | 0.00                  | 0.00                  | 0.00                  |
| Special Rebate Council                                  | (18,806.00)           | (18,806.00)           | (18,357.50)           |
| Sub Total                                               | (3,726,679.54)        | (3,124,073.01)        | (3,614,292.23)        |
| <b>Total Remaining Levy</b>                             | <b>\$6,847,915.92</b> | <b>\$7,445,069.22</b> | <b>\$6,598,531.32</b> |
| Current                                                 | 5,926,015.51          | 6,513,906.74          | 5,758,834.17          |
| Arrears                                                 | 648,739.30            | 660,577.49            | 569,569.36            |
| Interest b/f from previous years                        | 99,694.12             | 101,779.13            | 88,722.75             |
| Current year interest                                   | 8,885.90              | 8,889.77              | 7,662.36              |
| Legals                                                  | 164,581.09            | 159,916.09            | 173,742.68            |
| <b>Total Remaining Levy</b>                             | <b>\$6,847,915.92</b> | <b>\$7,445,069.22</b> | <b>\$6,598,531.32</b> |
| <b>Variance</b>                                         | <b>-\$0.00</b>        | <b>-\$0.00</b>        | <b>\$0.00</b>         |
| <b>Total YTD Collected</b>                              |                       |                       |                       |
| Collected YTD % of Levy, Arrears, Interest & Legal Fees | 35.24%                | 29.56%                | 35.39%                |
| Collected YTD % of Levy                                 | 36.60%                | 30.39%                | 36.45%                |



### 11.2.3 CASH AND INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2019

**REPORTING SECTION:** Corporate Services  
**AUTHOR:** Shirley Burraston – Management Accountant &  
 Hafiz Malik – Graduate Accountant  
**FILE NUMBER:** 09/1460

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**Summary:**

This report provides a summary and analysis of Council's cash and investments for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019.

**Background:**

The investment portfolio consists of on-call bank accounts, fixed rate interest bearing deposits and variable or floating rate interest bearing deposits. The portfolio is regularly reviewed in order to maximise investment performance and minimise risk. Council's investment portfolio is not subject to share market volatility.

Comparisons are regularly made between existing investments with available products that are not part of Council's portfolio, but that meet Council's policy guidelines.

All investments at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019 are compliant with the Relevant Reference Documents and Policies listed later in this report.

**Current Position:**

Council at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019 held a total of \$33,317,366.84 in on-call and interest bearing deposits with financial institutions within Australia. All investments were held with approved deposit taking institutions with a short term rating A-2(A2)/BBB or higher. Council does not have any exposure to unrated institutions.

## Maturity Compliance

As at 31/08/2019

| Compliant | Term         | Invested        | Invested (%) | Min Limit (%) | Max Limit (%) | Available     | Investments |
|-----------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| ✓         | 0 - 365 days | 18,817,366.74   | 56.48        | 40            | 100           | 14,500,000.10 | 28          |
| ✓         | 1 - 3 years  | 11,500,000.00   | 34.52        | 0             | 60            | 8,490,420.10  | 14          |
| ✓         | 3 - 5 years  | 3,000,000.10    | 9.00         | 0             | 40            | 10,326,946.64 | 3           |
| ✓         | 5 - 10 years | 0.00            | 0.00         | 0             | 10            | 3,331,736.68  | 0           |
| ✓         | +10 years    | 0.00            | 0.00         | 0             | 0             | 0.00          | 0           |
|           | TOTALS       | \$33,317,366.84 | 100%         |               |               |               |             |

**Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:**

Local Government Act (NSW), 1993  
 Local Government (General) Regulation 2005  
 Ministerial Investment Order 5<sup>th</sup> January 2016  
 Investment Policy (Revised and adopted in May 2019)

**Governance issues:**

Council's investment portfolio must be compliant with the investment provisions of the Local Government Act, Regulations, policies and Ministers Order.

| Issuer              | Rating | Type | Interest | Purchase   | Maturity   | Rate   | Value                  | Accrued             |
|---------------------|--------|------|----------|------------|------------|--------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Westpac             | A-1+   | TD   | Maturity | 08/05/2019 | 04/09/2019 | 2.3500 | 1,000,000.00           | 7,468.49            |
| AMP Bank            | A-2    | TD   | Maturity | 05/06/2019 | 11/09/2019 | 2.3000 | 1,000,000.00           | 5,545.21            |
| AMP Bank            | A-2    | TD   | Maturity | 12/09/2018 | 18/09/2019 | 2.8000 | 1,000,000.00           | 27,156.16           |
| Westpac             | A-1+   | TD   | Maturity | 03/07/2019 | 09/10/2019 | 2.2000 | 1,000,000.00           | 3,616.44            |
| Westpac             | A-1+   | TD   | Maturity | 27/06/2019 | 16/10/2019 | 2.2000 | 1,000,000.00           | 3,978.08            |
| NAB                 | A-1+   | FRTD | Qtly     | 03/11/2016 | 04/11/2019 | 1.8786 | 1,000,000.00           | 1,338.18            |
| Westpac             | A-1+   | TD   | Maturity | 03/07/2019 | 06/11/2019 | 2.2000 | 1,000,000.00           | 3,616.44            |
| AMP Bank            | A-2    | TD   | Maturity | 17/04/2019 | 13/11/2019 | 2.7000 | 1,000,000.00           | 10,134.25           |
| Westpac             | A-1+   | TD   | Maturity | 02/08/2019 | 04/12/2019 | 2.1000 | 1,000,000.00           | 1,726.03            |
| Westpac             | A-1+   | TD   | Maturity | 14/08/2019 | 11/12/2019 | 1.9500 | 1,000,000.00           | 961.64              |
| Westpac             | A-1+   | TD   | Maturity | 27/06/2019 | 18/12/2019 | 2.2500 | 1,000,000.00           | 4,068.49            |
| Westpac             | A-1+   | TD   | Maturity | 21/08/2019 | 08/01/2020 | 1.8200 | 1,000,000.00           | 548.49              |
| BankVic             | A-2    | TD   | Maturity | 03/07/2019 | 15/01/2020 | 2.1000 | 1,000,000.00           | 3,452.05            |
| AMP Bank            | A-2    | TD   | Maturity | 27/08/2019 | 26/02/2020 | 2.0000 | 1,000,000.00           | 273.97              |
| BOQ                 | A-2    | TD   | Annual   | 17/11/2016 | 20/03/2020 | 3.3000 | 1,000,000.00           | 25,857.53           |
| IMB Bank            | A-2    | FRTD | Qtly     | 24/01/2018 | 29/07/2020 | 1.8379 | 500,000.00             | 981.89              |
| Newcastle Permanent | A-2    | FRTD | Qtly     | 30/08/2017 | 02/09/2020 | 2.4200 | 1,000,000.00           | 132.60              |
| BOQ                 | BBB+   | TD   | Annual   | 11/10/2017 | 20/10/2020 | 3.1500 | 1,000,000.00           | 28,047.95           |
| IMB Bank            | BBB    | FRTD | Qtly     | 14/02/2018 | 18/02/2021 | 1.7598 | 500,000.00             | 433.92              |
| Commonwealth Bank   | AA-    | FRTD | Qtly     | 20/01/2018 | 20/04/2021 | 2.3438 | 500,000.00             | 1,316.38            |
| BOQ                 | BBB+   | TD   | Annual   | 02/07/2018 | 07/07/2021 | 3.1500 | 1,000,000.00           | 5,264.38            |
| Commonwealth Bank   | AA-    | FRTD | Qtly     | 24/08/2016 | 23/08/2021 | 2.0642 | 500,000.00             | 169.66              |
| Commonwealth Bank   | AA-    | FRTD | Qtly     | 31/08/2016 | 31/08/2021 | 2.9191 | 500,000.00             | 79.98               |
| ING Direct          | A      | TD   | Annual   | 14/09/2017 | 14/09/2021 | 3.1200 | 500,000.00             | 15,044.38           |
| Westpac             | AA-    | FRTD | Qtly     | 16/11/2016 | 16/11/2021 | 2.1650 | 1,000,000.00           | 949.04              |
| NAB                 | AA-    | TD   | Annual   | 21/11/2018 | 22/11/2021 | 3.0000 | 1,000,000.00           | 23,342.47           |
| Newcastle Permanent | BBB    | TD   | Annual   | 11/02/2019 | 16/02/2022 | 3.0500 | 1,000,000.00           | 16,879.45           |
| Newcastle Permanent | BBB    | TD   | Qtly     | 10/04/2019 | 13/04/2022 | 2.7000 | 1,000,000.00           | 3,920.55            |
| Members Equity Bank | BBB    | TD   | Annual   | 10/05/2017 | 11/05/2022 | 3.4700 | 1,000,000.00           | 10,837.81           |
| BOQ                 | BBB+   | TD   | Annual   | 02/07/2018 | 06/07/2022 | 3.5000 | 1,000,000.00           | 5,849.32            |
| AMP Bank            | BBB+   | TD   | Annual   | 01/02/2019 | 01/02/2024 | 3.1500 | 1,000,000.00           | 18,295.89           |
| BOQ                 | BBB+   | TD   | Annual   | 13/06/2019 | 12/06/2024 | 2.5500 | 1,000,000.00           | 5,589.04            |
| AMP Bank            | BBB+   | TD   | Annual   | 07/08/2019 | 07/08/2024 | 2.0000 | 1,000,000.10           | 1,369.86            |
| Bankwest            | A-1+   | CASH | Month    | 31/08/2019 | 31/08/2019 | 1.2500 | 1,013,825.40           | 1,076.32            |
| Commonwealth Bank   | A-1+   | CASH | Month    | 31/08/2019 | 31/08/2019 | 1.2500 | 504,429.63             | 535.52              |
| Commonwealth Bank   | A-1+   | CASH | Month    | 31/08/2019 | 31/08/2019 | 0.8000 | 1,799,111.71           | 1,222.41            |
| <b>TOTALS</b>       |        |      |          |            |            |        | <b>\$33,317,366.84</b> | <b>\$241,080.30</b> |

**Environmental issues:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

As per report

**Alternative Solutions/Options:**

Nil

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council

Residents of Walgett Shire Council

Financial Institutions

**Conclusion:**

As at 31<sup>st</sup> August Walgett Shire Council's total available cash and invested funds totalled \$33,317,367.84, an increase of \$507,130.57 from 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019.

This increase in the total portfolio is attributed largely to the payment of the first instalments of rates. Council's portfolio return for the month is above original estimates, largely due to the improved investment strategy allowing for longer term investments and variation in investment products.

**Certification – Responsible Accounting Officer**

1. I hereby certify that the investments listed in the attached report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, the *Investment Order (of the Minister) 5<sup>th</sup> January 2016* and Council's Investments Policy.
2. I hereby certify that Council's cash book and ledger have been reconciled to the bank statement as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019.

Michael J Urquhart

**Chief Financial Officer – Responsible Accounting Officer**

| <b>Cash and Investment Report as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019</b>                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That the Investment Report as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2049 be received and noted.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b></p> <p><b>Seconded:</b></p> |

## 11.2.4 RATES AND CHARGES WRITTEN OFF DURING THE YEAR 2018-2019

**REPORTING SECTION:** Corporate Services  
**AUTHOR:** Michael Urquhart – Chief Financial Officer  
**FILE NUMBER:** 10/316-04

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### Summary:

The report provides Council with information for a decision regarding the formal write off of rates and charges for 2018-2019.

### Background:

Each year Council writes off rates and charges for a number of reasons, including pensioner rebates and donations. In accordance with Clause 131 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, Council needs to resolve to write-off applicable rates and charges amounts which occurred during the 2018-2019 financial year.

### Current Position:

The “Abandonments Register” as at the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019 total \$205,796.83 and the write-offs consist of the following.

### **AMOUNTS OF RATES AND CHARGES WRITTEN OFF DURING THE YEAR [2018-2019]**

|                                                                                                                      |                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Pensioner rates and charges abandoned under Section 583 of the Local Government Act 1993**                           | \$182,383.11        |
| Donations made under Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993 to Churches and Other Not-For-Profit Organisations | \$18,357.50         |
| <b>Sub Total</b>                                                                                                     | <b>\$200,740.61</b> |
| <i>Debt Write-Offs as authorised under Council Resolutions 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019</i>                            | <i>\$5, 056.22</i>  |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                         | <b>\$205,796.83</b> |

### Governance issues:

The rate write-off is made in accordance with Section 583 and 356 of the Local Government Act 1993.

### Environmental issues:

NIL

### Stakeholders:

Walgett Shire Council.  
Walgett Shire Ratepayers.

### Financial Implications:

The write-offs totalling \$200,740.61 have been processed throughout the year to the rates sub-ledger and general ledger.

### Alternative Solutions/Options:

NIL

### Conclusion:

Council is obliged to write-off rates and charges in accordance with Section 583 of the Local Government Act 1993.

|                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Rates &amp; Charges Written Off During the Year 2018-2019</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Recommendation:**

That the Council write-off \$200,740.61 as per Council's Abandonments Register as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**Attachments:**

Nil

## 11.2.5 WATER & SEWER SERVICE EQUITY AS AT 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2019

**REPORTING SECTION:** Corporate Services  
**AUTHOR:** Michael Urquhart – Chief Financial Officer  
**FILE NUMBER:** 12/14-02

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### **Summary:**

This report is presented to Council as an update on the financial position of Walgett Shire Council's water and sewer funds as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

### **Background:**

For financial and system performance reporting, Council has chosen to retain a separate general ledger structure (income, expenditure and balance sheet) for each of the water and sewer services.

### **Current Position:**

The un-audited sewer service operations for 2018/2019 after depreciation and before capital movements are as follows:

Walgett service has recorded a net surplus of \$116,789  
Lightning Ridge operating result is a surplus of \$198,322  
Collarenebri has recorded a net surplus of \$41,494

The un-audited water service operations for 2018/2019 after depreciation and before capital movements are as follows:

Walgett service has recorded a deficit of (\$103,994)  
Lightning Ridge operations have resulted in a surplus of \$33,153  
Collarenebri operating result is a deficit of (\$343,278)  
Villages operating result is a deficit (\$20,097)

The income statement indicates the river system for Walgett is experiencing high expenditure in the filtration and mains functions which is associated with the high turbidity of the river water and the ageing mains infrastructure. The cost of filtering water is expensive in terms of its operation, and on-going maintenance of the filtration plant.

The current financial position as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019 is presented in the table below.

| Water Service   | Cash and investments | Other current assets (Debtors etc) | Non-current assets (System) | Total assets      | Total liabilities | Net assets 30th June 2019 |
|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Walgett         | 1,625,611            | 261,727                            | 11,718,461                  | 13,605,799        | 0                 | 13,605,799                |
| Collarenebri    | (1,850,548)          | 115,849                            | 5,609,827                   | 3,875,128         | 0                 | 3,875,128                 |
| Lightning Ridge | 3,278,360            | 41,580                             | 9,090,894                   | 12,410,834        | 0                 | 12,410,834                |
| Villages        | (104,822)            | 13,381                             | 1,802,709                   | 1,711,268         | 0                 | 1,711,268                 |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>2,948,601</b>     | <b>432,537</b>                     | <b>28,221,891</b>           | <b>31,603,029</b> | <b>0</b>          | <b>31,603,029</b>         |
|                 |                      |                                    |                             |                   |                   |                           |
|                 |                      |                                    |                             |                   |                   |                           |
| Sewer Service   | Cash and investments | Other current assets (Debtors etc) | Non-current assets (System) | Total assets      | Total liabilities | Net assets 30th June 2019 |
| Walgett         | 3,641,187            | 64,209                             | 11,124,870                  | 14,830,266        | 0                 | 14,830,266                |
| Collarenebri    | 193,999              | 40,850                             | 1,634,990                   | 1,869,839         | 0                 | 1,869,839                 |
| Lightning       | 3,062,113            | 23,890                             | 5,974,480                   | 9,060,483         | 0                 | 9,060,483                 |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>6,897,299</b>     | <b>128,949</b>                     | <b>18,734,340</b>           | <b>25,760,588</b> | <b>0</b>          | <b>25,760,588</b>         |
|                 |                      |                                    |                             |                   |                   |                           |

**Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:**

WSC Procedures – AFM – Requests for Assistance  
 Section 356 Local Government Act 1993  
 Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

**Environmental issues:**

No environmental issues have been identified in relation to this matter.

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council  
 Walgett Shire ratepayers

**Financial Implications:**

The combined water fund working capital is \$3,416,114 as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 19 which is an average financial position given the written down value of system assets totalling \$28,346,874. The Walgett water service this financial year experienced an operating loss of (\$103,994) with the filtration plant operation and maintenance costs at a staggering \$386,384, while Collarenebri recorded a deficit of (\$343,278) its filtration costs were \$276,078. The larger systems of Walgett and Lightning Ridge are effectively underwriting the much smaller Collarenebri and Village services. Collarenebri water service has a cash deficit of (\$1,850,548) and the village services a deficit of (\$104,822).

The cost per of operation per assessment for each of the services for 18/19 is as follows:

Walgett \$1,075 (Water charges 18/19 \$982)

Collarenebri \$1,479 (Water charges 18/19 \$982)

Lightning Ridge \$543 (Water charges 18/19 \$324)

Villages \$551 (water charges 18/19 \$324)

In May 2017 in response to the growing deficit of the Collarenebri water service, the CFO in conjunction with the Engineering Department developed a comprehensive budget for the Collarenebri water service based upon the introduction of a bore as the primary water supply for the town.

The long-term budget indicated sustainable operating surpluses reducing the reliance upon the working capital of other water services, and ultimately reducing the accumulated deficit. Management should review each of the water services and develop a long-term strategy for operations to ensure security of water and long-term financial sustainability of the combined water fund.

Council should also consider implementing a pricing strategy that in the long-term will establish a standard shire wide water charge for all water services.

The combined sewer fund has an exceptional working capital account of \$6,897,299 with all services in a surplus position.

**Alternative Solutions/Options:**

Nil

**Conclusion:**

In due course Council should review/audit its water supply operations and pricing, to ensure security of water and the long-term financial sustainability of the water fund.

| <b>Water &amp; Sewer Services Equity as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019</b>                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That the Chief Financial Officers report be received and noted.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b></p> <p><b>Seconded:</b></p> |

**Attachments:**

Nil



## 11.2.6 SWIMMING POOL OPERATIONS

|                          |                                                   |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <b>REPORTING SECTION</b> | <b>Corporate Services</b>                         |
| <b>AUTHOR:</b>           | <b>Michael Urquhart – Chief Financial Officer</b> |
| <b>FILE NUMBER:</b>      | <b>12/14-02</b>                                   |

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### **Summary:**

This report is presented to Council for information purposes regarding the operational cost of managing and maintaining swimming pools in the shire.

### **Background:**

Walgett shire Council has the following pools that it owns and operates in the shire.

Swimming pools;

- Walgett
- Collarenebri
- Burren Junction

Bore baths;

- Walgett
- Burren Junction
- Lightning Ridge

In addition to the above pools, Council has for many years made an annual contribution to the Lightning Ridge Olympic Pool Association Incorporated (LROPAL) toward the operation and maintenance costs of the Lightning Ridge complex, which incorporates the Olympic pool, Water theme park, Indoor heated diving pool and Indoor sports centre. In 2000 Council made available a loan of \$200,000 (principal only) to the LROPAL for the construction of additional works at the pool complex. The loan has a repayment period of seven (7) years to run and payments are up to date.

### **Current Position:**

With no specific breakdown of operational and maintenance costs provided for each of the Lightning Ridge facilities, it is difficult to draw a comparison between this and the pools owned and managed by Walgett Shire, however, the opening hours for each of the Lightning Ridge facilities is a good measure of associated costs (wages, power & maintenance).

It's estimated the cost associated with operating the Olympic pool and Water theme park is in the order of 70% of the total cost of running the pool complex. Therefore 70% of the annual contribution has been allocated for comparative purposes and the remaining 30% of \$113,073 is assigned to the Indoor heated diving and Sports centre operations.

### **Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:**

Lease agreement for pool management.

### **Governance issues:**

Council has an obligation under various legislation for compliance of pool operations.

### **Environmental issues:**

No environmental issues have been identified in relation to this matter.

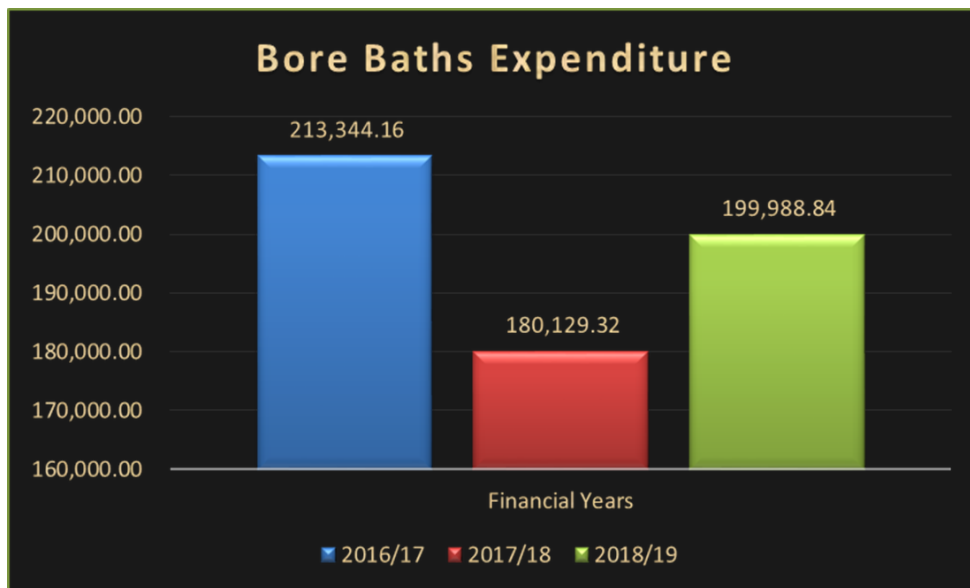
### **Stakeholders:**

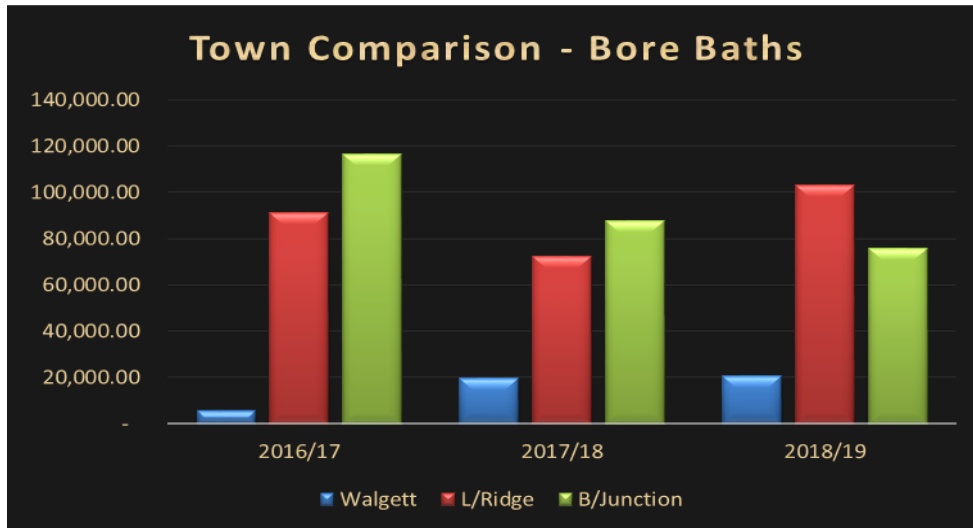
Walgett Shire Council  
Walgett Shire ratepayers

**Financial Implications:**

Provision is made in the annual operational plan for the net cost of bore bath operations. In 16/17 the expenditure for the Burren Junction bore included major upgrade works, and in 18/19 the additional expense for Lightning Ridge was associated with repair and maintenance to the amenities.

|                          | <b>Bore Baths</b>       |                         |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|                          | <b><u>2016/17FY</u></b> | <b><u>2017/18FY</u></b> | <b><u>2018/19FY</u></b> |
| <b><u>Walgett</u></b>    |                         |                         |                         |
| Expenditure              | 5,537.18                | 19,677.98               | 20,632.75               |
|                          |                         |                         |                         |
| <b><u>L/Ridge</u></b>    |                         |                         |                         |
| Expenditure              | 91,165.43               | 72,555.30               | 103,349.08              |
|                          |                         |                         |                         |
| <b><u>B/Junction</u></b> |                         |                         |                         |
| Expenditure              | 116,641.55              | 87,896.04               | 76,007.01               |
|                          |                         |                         |                         |
|                          |                         |                         |                         |
| <b>Grand Total</b>       | <b>213,344.16</b>       | <b>180,129.32</b>       | <b>199,988.84</b>       |

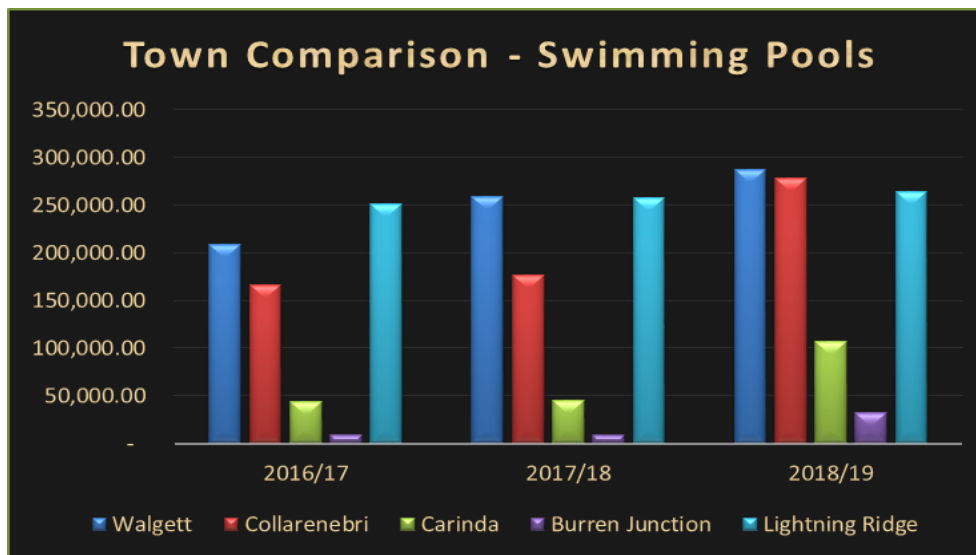
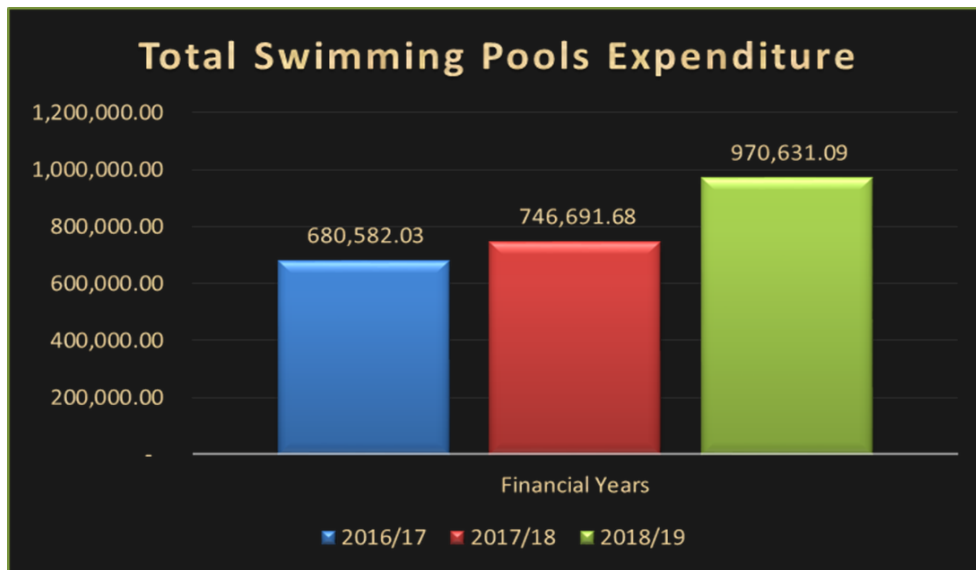




The table below shows the comparative expenditure data for each of the swimming pools including the Lightning Ridge complex. While the comparative data would indicate the Walgett pool is operating on par with the Lightning Ridge pool, this is not the case, the Walgett pool opening hours are essentially 40% more than that of Lightning Ridge. Increased costs for all four (4) Council owned pools in 18/19 related to major maintenance and improvement works.

|                          | <b>Swimming Pools</b> |                   |                   |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                          | <b>2016/17FY</b>      | <b>2017/18FY</b>  | <b>2018/19FY</b>  |
| <b>Walgett</b>           |                       |                   |                   |
| Contract - Exp           | 135,447.47            | 145,020.25        | 168,886.35        |
| Maintenance -Exp         | 73,845.14             | 113,920.18        | 118,974.93        |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b> | <b>209,292.61</b>     | <b>258,940.43</b> | <b>287,861.28</b> |
| <b>Lightning Ridge</b>   |                       |                   |                   |
| Contract - Exp           | 251,125.00            | 257,403.30        | 263,838.40        |
| Maintenance -Exp         | -                     | -                 | -                 |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b> | <b>251,125.00</b>     | <b>257,403.30</b> | <b>263,838.40</b> |
| <b>Collarenebri</b>      |                       |                   |                   |
| Contract - Exp           | 117,823.18            | 129,999.88        | 155,394.21        |
| Maintenance -Exp         | 49,058.87             | 46,326.39         | 123,425.38        |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b> | <b>166,882.05</b>     | <b>176,326.27</b> | <b>278,819.59</b> |
| <b>Burren Junction</b>   |                       |                   |                   |
| Expenditure              | 8,974.66              | 8,935.30          | 32,727.55         |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b> | <b>8,974.66</b>       | <b>8,935.30</b>   | <b>32,727.55</b>  |
| <b>Carinda</b>           |                       |                   |                   |
| Expenditure              | 44,307.71             | 45,086.38         | 107,384.27        |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b> | <b>44,307.71</b>      | <b>45,086.38</b>  | <b>107,384.27</b> |

**Note: The Lightning Ridge expense is 70% of the total annual contribution.**



The cost of operation per opening hour is as follows:

| Pool            | Cost per opening hour |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Walgett         | \$169                 |
| Collarenebri    | \$163                 |
| Lightning Ridge | \$219                 |

#### Alternative Solutions/Options:

Reduce the operation times of swimming pools to lower costs.  
Reduce the number of swimming pools in the shire.

#### Conclusion:

The two larger Council owned swimming pools of Walgett and Collarenebri have been leased out to guarantee consistent delivery of management services, operational and lifeguard practices.

A review of pool operations and leases will be undertaken in 2020 when Council considers the renewal of pool lease arrangements.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Swimming Pool Operations</b>                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Recommendation:</b><br><br>That the Chief Financial Officers report be received and noted in relation to the Swimming Pool Operations within the Shire.<br><br><b>Moved:</b><br><b>Seconded:</b> |

**Attachments:**

Nil

## 11.2.7 MATTERS GENERALLY FOR BRIEF MENTION OR INFORMATION FROM CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

REPORTING SECTION: Corporate Services  
AUTHOR: Michael Urquhart – Chief Financial Officer  
FILE NUMBER: 12/14-03

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### 1. Property Matters

- Investigation underway for commencement of a shire wide ratepayer and employee satisfaction survey.
- CFO has held preliminary discussions with a local artist for painting of the **Walgett Water Towers**. Artist is developing options for consideration.
- Investigation underway for painting of the **Burren Junction** grain silo's. Permission to be sought from owners.
- Solar firms will be presenting proposals for installation of solar systems at Councils administration centre.
- Council has been successful in obtaining a grant through the Murray Darling Basin Authority for the refurbishment of the **Collarenebri Showground facilities including the Grandstand, Dining Room, Toilet Facility and Jockey's Room**. A further report shall be tabled when more information is to hand.
- Purchase orders were issued for the **Come By Chance** hall refurbishment. Council issued a RFQ and only three contractors lodged quotations.
- **Collarenebri Sportsground Amenities shed**. The shed proposal has been completed with the lining and fitout scheduled for coming months.
- **Collarenebri Golf Club**. A purchase order has been issued for a small shed with a large verandah, being replacement of the Golf Club destroyed by fire in 2018.
- **Lightning Ridge Multi-purpose Centre**, purchase order has been issued for the following plans, Geotechnical, Civil, Structural, Electrical, Mechanical, Hydraulic and Architectural. Barnson's are currently developing a concept design for comment. The property has been surveyed and the CFO will be meeting with the Project Managers on site in September.
- **Walgett PCYC** - A further report will be tabled when more information is available.
- The consultant has provided Council with a report on the condition of the **Lightning Ridge bore bath** and the amenities building which has been reported to Council. A survey is now complete, Engineer plans were lodged with Council on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 19. A Request for Quotation (RFQ) is being prepared for issue.
- Refurbishment of the bathroom facilities at the **Administration Centre** was originally put on hold. Staff are now in negotiation with local contractors for a quotation.
- Work has commenced on the painting of the **Walgett Swimming Pool** amenities. Painting of the kiosk/entry will commence when time permits.

- Tourism signage at **Burren Junction**. Plans are underway to renew the big green Welcome to Burren Junction sign at Burren Junction along with a number of smaller signs at the bore bath. Quotations being sought.
- A new **Burren Junction Bore Bath toilet facility** is being investigated with drawings underway and discussions regarding the best treatment system continue.
- **Colless grandstand**. Following on from the CFO's December report, a "request for Tender" is being developed and will be issued shortly. The proposed grant funds have been reallocated to the Walgett Showground amenities project, and Council at its March 19 meeting resolved to fund the refurbishment from accumulated working capital.

## **2. Finance & Administration**

- Tender under development for IT Managed Services.
- Contract Asset Engineer completing the reconciliation of assets system with Authority ledgers.
- Water standpipe billing - testing complete and training of staff and issue of information brochure to be conducted before charging commences.
- FBT Policy to be developed. On hold.
- Email sent to OLG regarding special rates for water access by ratepayers outside reticulation system. Information received and a separate report to be tabled to Council.
- Development of WH & S Strategy.
- Quotations are underway for development of a new general ledger and conversion of existing data to the new ledger.
- School to work program underway and in place.
- Review of Ratepayer Hardship applications continue.

| <b>Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information Only – From Chief Financial Officer</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That the Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information Only from the Chief Financial Officer in the following areas; Property Matters, Finance &amp; Administration and Community Services be received and noted.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b></p> <p><b>Seconded:</b></p> |

## **11.3 ENGINEERING / TECHNICAL SERVICES**

### **11.3.1 MONTHLY MAINTENANCE GRADING REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2019**

**REPORTING SECTION:** Engineering Services  
**AUTHOR:** Raju Ranjit Director Engineering/Technical Services  
**FILE NUMBER:** 00/00/00

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**Summary:**

The purpose of this report is to update Council about the road maintenance programme on Shire Roads for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019.

**Background:**

The maintenance budget has been prepared based on the available funding to maintain the unsealed Local and Regional Roads to provide acceptable level of service. The budget will be used to maintain the road as per demand and Road best practice manual.

**Current Position:**

Council is continuing to check the moisture situation on local roads and carrying out maintenance grading works on an ongoing basis. Details of maintenance grading locations are detailed in the attached report.

**Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:**

Council's approved 2019/2020 Shire Roads Maintenance Grading Works schedule

**Environmental issues:**

Nil

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council  
Walgett Residents  
Tourists

**Financial Implications:**

As of 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019, \$164,692 has been expended from a total of \$1,294,669.00.

**Conclusion:**

Council has established a system to monitor progress continually to keep within the approved budget.

| <b>Monthly Maintenance Grading Report from Director Technical / Engineering Services</b>                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That Council receive and note the monthly maintenance grading works report for September 2019.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b><br/><b>Seconded:</b></p> |

**Attachments:**

Maintenance works progress summary.



| Road Name                    | Total Length of Road | Budget Required for Entire Road | Road Category | Status In August 2019 |
|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Zone 1</b>                |                      |                                 |               |                       |
| Bowra Road SR34              | 3.95                 | \$ 4,278.00                     | F             |                       |
| Wanourie Road SR38           | 6.5                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | E             |                       |
| Green and Branders Road SR41 | 11.3                 | \$ 7,006.00                     | F             | completed             |
| Regans Road SR58             | 3.2                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | F             |                       |
| Marra Creek Road SR60        | 17.5                 | \$ 10,850.00                    | E             |                       |
| Lochlomond Road SR74         | 8.4                  | \$ 5,208.00                     | E             |                       |
| Maroubra Road SR76           | 8.3                  | \$ 5,146.00                     | E             |                       |
| Nedgara Road SR77            | 10.7                 | \$ 6,634.00                     | F             |                       |
| Mac Masman Road SR81         | 8                    | \$ 4,960.00                     | E             |                       |
| Binghi Road SR113            | 20.1                 | \$ 12,462.00                    | E             |                       |
| Aberfoyle Road SR115         | 26.2                 | \$ 16,244.00                    | D             |                       |
| Gungalman Road SR31          | 43.7                 | \$ 27,094.00                    | D             | completed             |
| Gilwarny Road SR32           | 7.9                  | \$ 4,898.00                     | F             |                       |
| Teranyan Road SR33           | 13.7                 | \$ 8,494.00                     | D             |                       |
| Bogewong Road SR114          | 48.7                 | \$ 30,194.00                    | D             |                       |
| Billybingbone Road RR7516    | 18.67                | \$ 11,532.00                    | C             | completed             |
| Ginghet Road SR40            | 47.6                 | \$ 29,512.00                    | D             |                       |
| Bushs Road SR43              | 8.7                  | \$ 5,394.00                     | D             |                       |
| Miralwyn Road SR73           | 17.9                 | \$ 11,098.00                    | D             |                       |
| Brewon Road SR112            | 54.7                 | \$ 33,914.00                    | C             |                       |
| Merri Merri Road RR202       | 6.57                 | \$ 7,166.00                     | C             |                       |
| <b>Subtotal Zone 1</b>       | <b>392.29</b>        | <b>\$ 250,640.00</b>            |               |                       |

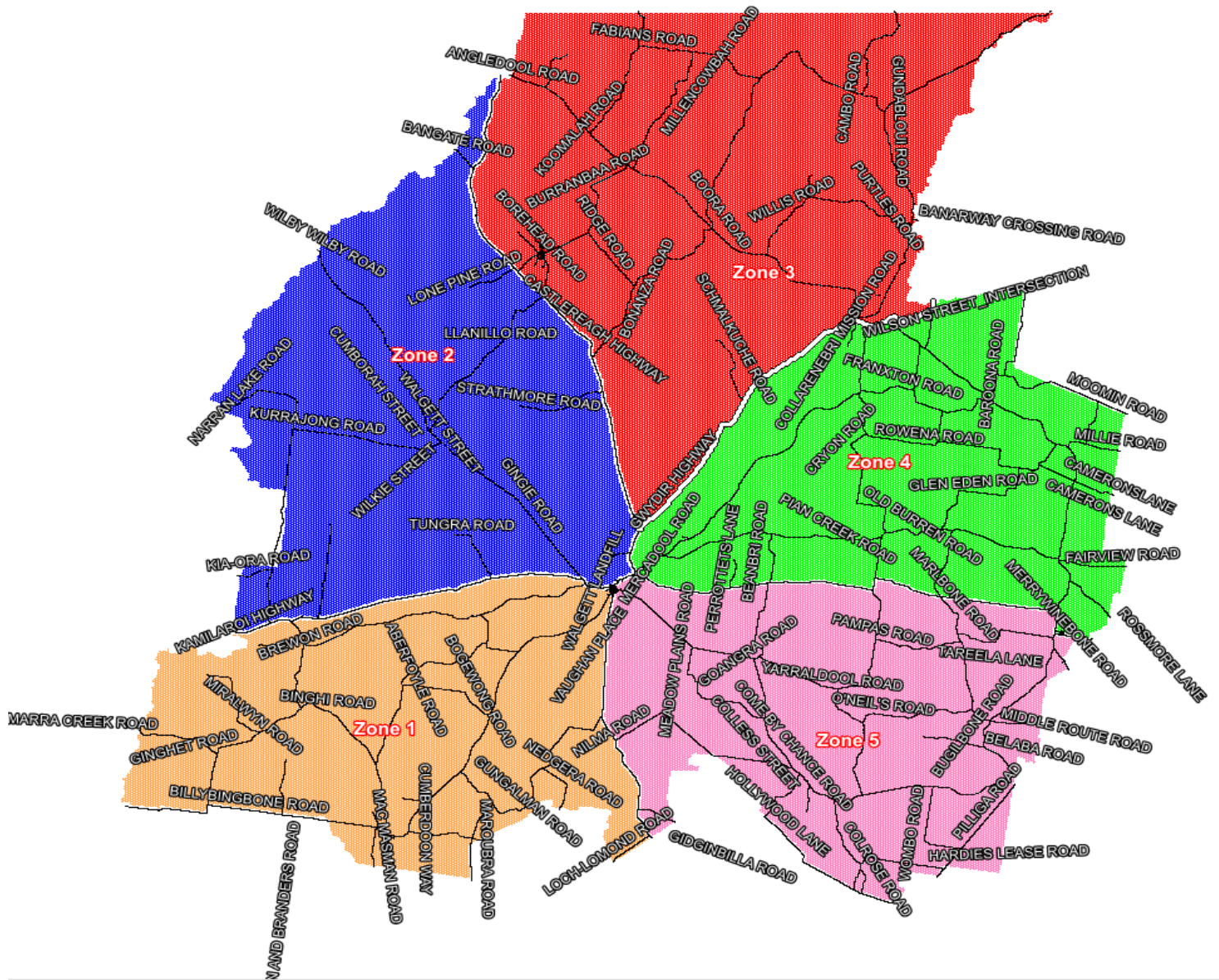
| Road Name                | Total Length of Road | Budget Required for Entire Road | Road Category | Status in August 2019 |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Zone 2</b>            |                      |                                 |               |                       |
| Boorooma Creek Road SR48 | 19.1                 | \$ 11,842.00                    | E             |                       |
| Wimbledon Road SR64      | 3.4                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | E             |                       |
| Tungra Road SR85         | 12.7                 | \$ 7,874.00                     | F             |                       |
| Strathmore Road SR92     | 16.42                | \$ 11,904.00                    | E             |                       |
| Narran Lake Road SR111   | 61                   | \$ 37,820.00                    | D             |                       |
| Lone Pine Road SR70      | 9.6                  | \$ 5,952.00                     | D             |                       |
| Kurrajong Road SR110     | 27.8                 | \$ 17,236.00                    | D             |                       |
| Wilby Wilby Road SR101   | 28.7                 | \$ 17,794.00                    | D             |                       |
| Cumborah Town Roads      |                      |                                 | E             |                       |
| <b>Subtotal Zone 2</b>   | <b>178.72</b>        | <b>\$ 114,700.00</b>            |               |                       |

| Road Name               | Total Length of Road | Budget Required for Entire Road | Road Category | Status in August 2019 |
|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Zone 3</b>           |                      |                                 |               |                       |
| Springs Road SR19       | 2.7                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | E             |                       |
| Bonanza Road SR46       | 16.9                 | \$ 10,478.00                    | E             |                       |
| Schmalkuche Road SR47   | 14.4                 | \$ 8,928.00                     | E             |                       |
| Millencowbah Road SR51  | 27.7                 | \$ 17,174.00                    | E             |                       |
| Willis Road SR52        | 14.5                 | \$ 8,990.00                     | F             |                       |
| Koomalah Road SR53      | 28.4                 | \$ 17,608.00                    | E             |                       |
| Burrabaa Road SR55      | 18.1                 | \$ 11,222.00                    | E             |                       |
| Cambo Road SR61         | 21.1                 | \$ 13,082.00                    | E             |                       |
| Woolaroo Road SR69      | 1                    | \$ 4,278.00                     | E             |                       |
| Kia-Ora Road SR86       | 6.8                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | F             |                       |
| Fabians Road SR88       | 24.8                 | \$ 15,376.00                    | E             |                       |
| Three Mile Road SR91    | 0.2                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | E             |                       |
| Banarway Road SR95      | 1.2                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | D             |                       |
| Purtle Road SR126       | 26.8                 | \$ 16,616.00                    | E             |                       |
| Boora Road SR127        | 63.8                 | \$ 39,556.00                    | D             |                       |
| Bore Head Road SR45     | 5.1                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | D             |                       |
| Lorne Road SR98         | 6.9                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | D             |                       |
| Angledool Road SR102    | 49.3                 | \$ 30,566.00                    | C             |                       |
| Ridge/Sherman Way RR426 | 70.1                 | \$ 68,275.00                    | C             |                       |
| Gundabloui Road RR457   | 40.9                 | \$ 32,798.00                    | C             |                       |
| <b>Subtotal Zone 3</b>  | <b>440.7</b>         | <b>\$ 320,615.00</b>            |               |                       |

| Road Name                      | Total Length of Road | Budget Required for Entire Road | Road Category | Status in August 2019 |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Zone 4</b>                  |                      |                                 |               |                       |
| Franxton Road SR1              | 19                   | \$ 11,780.00                    | E             |                       |
| Bellara Road SR2               | 21.4                 | \$ 13,268.00                    | D             |                       |
| Clarkes Road SR3               | 6                    | \$ 4,278.00                     | E             |                       |
| Cryon Road SR5                 | 56.75                | \$ 35,185.00                    | C             |                       |
| Woodvale Road SR13             | 8.96                 | \$ 8,556.00                     | E             |                       |
| Baroona Road SR14              | 11.1                 | \$ 6,882.00                     | E             |                       |
| Pokataroo Road SR15            | 8.1                  | \$ 5,022.00                     | E             |                       |
| Perrottets Road SR66           | 5.9                  | \$ 3,658.00                     | F             |                       |
| Pagan Creek Road SR79          | 1.3                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | F             |                       |
| Fairview Road SR90             | 12.6                 | \$ 7,812.00                     | F             |                       |
| Dundee Road SR124              | 13.9                 | \$ 8,618.00                     | F             |                       |
| Glen Eden Road SR125           | 24.6                 | \$ 15,252.00                    | E             |                       |
| Millie Road SR12               | 9.1                  | \$ 5,642.00                     | C             |                       |
| Rossmore Road SR71             | 10.7                 | \$ 6,634.00                     | C             |                       |
| Rowena Road SR123              | 34.5                 | \$ 21,390.00                    | E             |                       |
| Camerons Road SR128            | 15.2                 | \$ 9,424.00                     | D             |                       |
| Mercadool Road SR16            | 57.7                 | \$ 35,774.00                    | C             |                       |
| Moomin Road SR59               | 31                   | \$ 19,220.00                    | D             |                       |
| Beanbri Road SR117             | 4.9                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | C             |                       |
| Pian Creek Road SR121          | 41.7                 | \$ 25,854.00                    | C             |                       |
| Old Burren Road SR122          | 33.9                 | \$ 21,018.00                    | D             |                       |
| Collarenebri Mission Road SR67 | 4.6                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | C             |                       |
| Rowena Town Roads              |                      | \$ 4,278.00                     | D             |                       |
| <b>Subtotal Zone 4</b>         | <b>432.91</b>        | <b>\$ 282,379.00</b>            |               |                       |

| Road Name                  | Total Length of Road | Budget Required for Entire Road | Road Category | Status in August 2019 |
|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Zone 5</b>              |                      |                                 |               |                       |
| Pampas Road SR7            | 16.3                 | \$ 10,106.00                    | E             |                       |
| Wombo Road SR25            | 17.7                 | \$ 10,974.00                    | E             |                       |
| Hardys Lease Road SR26     | 16                   | \$ 9,920.00                     | E             |                       |
| Colrose Road SR27          | 20.6                 | \$ 12,772.00                    | E             |                       |
| Wingadee Road SR28         | 11.8                 | \$ 7,316.00                     | E             |                       |
| Epping Road SR57           | 15.4                 | \$ 9,548.00                     | E             |                       |
| Middle Route Road SR72     | 9.6                  | \$ 5,952.00                     | E             |                       |
| Gidginbilla Road SR75      | 7.4                  | \$ 4,588.00                     | E             |                       |
| Proctors Road SR82         | 4.4                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | F             |                       |
| Drilldool Road SR83        | 5.1                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | F             | completed             |
| Belaba Road SR89           | 11.2                 | \$ 6,944.00                     | F             |                       |
| Hollywood Lane SR119       | 29.9                 | \$ 18,538.00                    | E             |                       |
| O'Niels Road SR131         | 31.1                 | \$ 19,282.00                    | D             |                       |
| Tareela Road SR17          | 19.4                 | \$ 12,028.00                    | D             |                       |
| Meadow Plains Road SR21    | 23.9                 | \$ 14,818.00                    | D             |                       |
| Marlbone Road SR24         | 28.4                 | \$ 17,608.00                    | D             | completed             |
| Nilma Road SR30            | 37.8                 | \$ 23,436.00                    | D             |                       |
| Bugilbone Road SR103       | 28.7                 | \$ 32,725.00                    | C             |                       |
| Goangra Road SR116         | 16.4                 | \$ 10,168.00                    | D             |                       |
| Yarraldool Road SR118      | 41.3                 | \$ 25,606.00                    | C             |                       |
| Haynes Hut SR68            | 4.5                  |                                 | E             |                       |
| Come By Chance Road RR7716 | 60.9                 | \$ 65,450.00                    | C             | completed             |
| <b>Subtotal Zone 5</b>     | <b>457.8</b>         | <b>326335</b>                   |               |                       |
| <b>TOTAL</b>               | <b>1,902.42</b>      | <b>1,294,669.00</b>             |               |                       |

| Road Category | No. of Grades/Year |
|---------------|--------------------|
| C             | 4                  |
| D             | 2                  |
| E             | 1                  |
| F             | Occasional         |





**11.3.2 MONTHLY WORKS PROGRESS REPORT- SEPTEMBER 2019**

**REPORTING SECTION:** Engineering / Technical Services  
**AUTHOR:** Raju Ranjit – Director Engineering / Technical Services  
**FILE NUMBER:** 11/211

**Summary:**

The purpose of this report is to update Council with regards to Engineering Services works progress up to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019.

**Background:**

A budget of \$29,372,376 has been allocated to the Engineering and Technical Service Department for capital & maintenance works, quarry management, fleet management, water works, parks & gardens and lastly engineering administration for 2019/2020.

The breakdown of the budget is as follows;

| Items                               | Budget            | Expenditure up to 31 <sup>st</sup> July 2019 | Percentage (%) |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Transportation including RMCC Works | 22,625,899        | 3,406,402                                    | 15.06          |
| Water Works (Maintenance)           | 3,233,508         | 452,733                                      | 14.00          |
| Water Works (Capital)               | 2,170,972         | 504,059                                      | 23.22          |
| Sewer Works (Maintenance)           | 832,997           | 87,033                                       | 10.45          |
| Sewer Works (Capital)               | 509,000           | 5818                                         | 1.14           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                        | <b>29,372,376</b> | <b>4,456,045</b>                             | <b>15.17</b>   |

**Current Position:**

The status of work progress is as follows;

| Items                                                                                                             | Status              | Remarks                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Footpath in Walgett Street in Collarenebri                                                                        | In progress         |                                              |
| Drop box in Collarenebri                                                                                          | In progress         |                                              |
| Concrete slab at the Airport in Collarenebri                                                                      | In progress         |                                              |
| Gundabloui Road                                                                                                   | In progress         | Sealing on 1.7 km completed                  |
| Gundabloui Road - tender for 5 km                                                                                 | Contract awarded    |                                              |
| Bugilbone Road ( SR103)                                                                                           | In progress         |                                              |
| Drainage project in Rowena                                                                                        | 1st stage completed |                                              |
| K & G - Shakespeare between Colin Street and Wilga Street and footpath in front of visitor information in Carinda | Completed           |                                              |
| Trevallion Park                                                                                                   | In progress         |                                              |
| Extension of Pandora street                                                                                       | In progress         | Land acquisition is required and in progress |
| Gungalam Road                                                                                                     | Completed           |                                              |
| 600m section located 42 km from Collarenebri on Gundabloui Road - Reconstruction and sealing                      | In progress         |                                              |
| Reconstruction and sealing work in Sun Flash Drive                                                                | Completed           |                                              |
| Dust drop near Collarenebri on Gundabloui Road                                                                    | Completed           |                                              |

| Water Works | Items         | Comments    |
|-------------|---------------|-------------|
|             | Various works | In Progress |

| Sewer Works | Items                                                 | Comments    |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
|             | Installation of Flow meter in Walgett treatment plant | In Progress |

**Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:**

2019/20 Operational Plan and Budget

**Governance issues:**

Due processes are followed on a routine basis i.e. procurement and tendering.

**Environmental issues:**

Various environmental issues are assessed on a project by project basis to ensure any environmental legislation is complied with.

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council

Walgett Shire Residents and Rate Payers

**Financial Implications:**

As of 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019, \$4,456 million has been spent from a total amount of \$29,372 million allocated for the 2019/2020 budget.

**Alternative Solutions/Options:**

Nil

**Conclusion:**

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

| Monthly Progress Report – September 2019                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That Council receive and note the Engineering Services monthly works progress report for September 2019.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b></p> <p><b>Seconded:</b></p> |

**Attachment:**

Nil

### **11.3.3 PROPOSED ROAD DISPOSAL AT GUNGALMAN NORTH AND DAHOMEY - DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY - LANDS & WATER**

**REPORTING SECTION:** Engineering / Technical Services  
**AUTHOR:** Raju Ranjit – Director Engineering / Technical Services  
**FILE NUMBER:** 11/211

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**Summary:**

The report provides Council with information for a decision regarding the proposed road disposal at Gungalman North and Dahomey that is located within Coonamble Shire Council and Walgett.

**Background:**

The Department of Industry – Lands & Water Business Centre, have written to Council requesting comment on the proposed road closure listed below and as identified by black and orange hatching and/or plain orange fill on the attached diagram.

*Crown road at Gungalman and Walgett: being those within and/or adjoining the property “Dahomey at 6611 Castlereagh Highway and the unnamed property adjoining north of “Dahomey”; within and/or adjoining the property “Loch-Lomond” at 843 Loch-Lomond Road and adjoining east of “Nedgera” at 2090 Nedgera road.*

The Minister for Lands and Forestry proposes to consider the proposed sale of the roads identified by black and orange hatching and/or plain orange fill on the attached diagram. It is noted that roads are intended to be sold in accordance with section 152B of the Roads Act 1993. If sale of road proceeds the road will cease to be a public road upon transfer of the road to freehold land in accordance with section 152H of the Roads Act 1993.

**Current Position:**

The department has advertised the proposal in the Daily Liberal on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

**Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:**

Information provided by the Department of Industry- Lands & Water Business Centre including map.

**Governance issues:**

All interested persons are hereby invited to make submissions concerning the proposal to Department of Industry - Lands & Water

**Environmental issues:**

Nil

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Residents and Rate Payers  
Coonamble Shire Residents and Rate Payers

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Alternative Solutions/Options:**

The department will assume that you have no objection to the proposal if you do not respond by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019.



**Conclusion:**

It has been revealed that the landholders within the adjoining properties still require legal access to their properties and the Loch-Lomand Road is being used frequently by users and hence it is recommended Council objection the proposed road disposal.

**Proposed Road Disposal at Gungahman North and Dahomey - Department Of Industry - Lands & Water**

**Recommendation:**

That Council note and refuse the proposed road disposal by making a submissions to Department of Industry - Lands & Water.

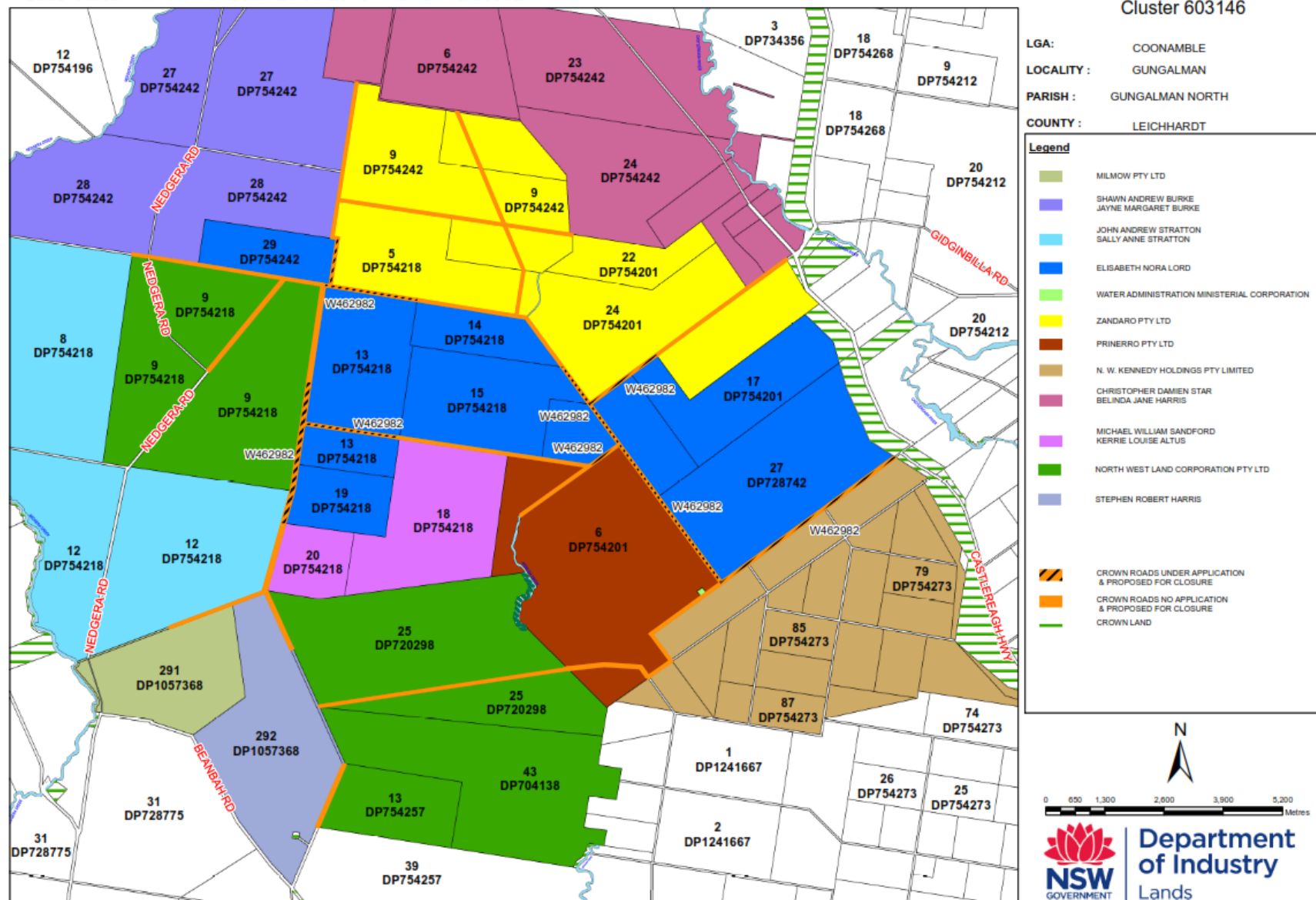
**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**Attachment:**

Map – Proposed Closure of Public Roads Cluster 603146.

**LGA:** COONAMBLE  
**LOCALITY :** GUNGALMAN  
**PARISH :** GUNGALMAN NORTH  
**COUNTY :** LEICHHARDT



Disclaimer: The information contained in this map has been provided in good faith. Whilst all effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and completeness of this information, the data providers take no responsibility for errors or omissions nor any loss or damage that may result from the use of this information.

### **11.3.4 MATTERS FOR BRIEF MENTION OR INFORMATION ONLY FROM DIRECTOR ENGINEERING/TECHNICAL SERVICES**

**REPORTING SECTION:** Engineering/Technical Services  
**AUTHOR:** Raju Ranjit - Director Engineering Technical Services  
**FILE NUMBER:** 00/00/00

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#### **1. Walgett**

##### Bore bath

Scope of works was changed for the beautification and enhancement works as per agreement - Fence was removed and repaired, currently seeking quotes of repairs and painting of the inside of the toilets. The Mural quote has been obtained and now awaiting upgrading of the interior of toilet block. Furniture needs ordering depending on suitability. Waiting for quotation for footpath to meet existing footpath.

##### Trevallion Park

Big rocks have been delivered on site and placed. Access between Pitt Street and Castlereagh Highway is in progress to close off.

##### Cemetery

Work in progress.

##### Euroka Street

Kerb & gutter in Euroka Street (South bound) between Namoi and Pitt Street has been completed 08/09/2019. Road works is in progress.

##### Cumborah Bore

Pump and water test are in progress. Discussion with hydrologist regarding further drilling in relation to the pressurised water is also in progress.

##### Walgett Levee

Additional funding for \$170k has been lodged.

##### Brewon Road:

Two sections have been scheduled for widening the road in 2019/2020;

- (a) Widening with gravel on the Brewon Road (SR 112) starts from 0+950 km to 1+954 km measured from the intersection of Kamilaroi Highway is in progress. Existing width of the gravel road is 5m and will be extended to 9m gravel width.
- (b) Widening and gravelling the road starts from 2+106 km to 3+106 km measured from the intersection of Kamilaroi Highway and will be commenced following the completion section (a). Chainage between 1+954 km and 2+106 km is a sealed section including the concrete bridge.

##### Desalination Plant in Walgett town

Site visit by Water Group- Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE), EPA, The Public Works Advisory and Council was done on 3rd September 2019. Report will be submitted to Council in October.

#### **2. Rowena village**

- Contract for flood study has been awarded. Site meeting at Rowena with the consultant took place on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

- Table drain on both side of the Rowena Road and pipe culvert is in progress. Discussion with John Holland re: railway pipe culvert is also in progress.

### **3. Collarenebri**

- Contract for Walli sewer pump station (SPS) replacement has been awarded.
- Footpath works (103m) in Walgett Street south bound is completed and works northbound is in progress.
- Sealing work in drop dust area is completed ( Ref. Photo 1)
- Earl Park - fencing around the play equipment is in progress
- Pothole repairs are in progress
- RFQ for sludge study closed on 12/8/2019. Evaluation are now in progress.
- Storm water pit (drop box) in Walgett Street near the truck stop has been completed.
- Concrete slabs for new benches have been completed.

#### Gundabloui Road (RR457)

Preparation of subgrade for 1.7 km is completed. Contract for 5km reconstruction and sealing work on Gundabloui Road has been awarded. Agreement documents have been received. Works will be commence from 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019.



**Dust drop in Gundabloui Road (Photo 1)**

#### Bridge approach on Cryon Road

Work in progress.

#### Merrywinebone Road (RR329)

Potholes repairs are in progress

### **4. Lightning Ridge**

- Quotation for 3 phase power system installation and drip system for Pandora Street have been invited again from parties.
- Pandora Road extension – documents for land acquisition is in progress.

- Lions Park Lightning Ridge - Shade sail to be ordered and picnic table to be painted – work to be carried out by Council staff.
- Design work is in progress for the Lightning Ridge Chlorination/Aeration tower
- Sealing on Sunflash Road has been completed.
- Concrete footpath in front of Westpac Bank has been completed (ref photo 2).
- Line marking in the intersection of Agate Street and Pandora Street has completed.



**Concrete footpath in front of Westpac Bank has been completed (Photo 2)**

#### Vandalism

It has been reported that on Friday evening on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2019 windows and tyres of three plants have been damaged by unknown people in Lightning Ridge Depot. Out of the three plants, two were hired roller and one is Council owned New Holland Tractor. The total estimated cost to repair the damages is \$ 10,000 including parts and labour charges. In order to secure the depot, Council has set up a mobile CCTV in the Depot.

#### **5. Burren Junction**

Burren Park - BBQ, seating and bike path have been completed, signage to be installed.

#### Bugilbone Road (SR103)

16 km completed (Ref. photo 3). Subgrade preparation for remaining works is in progress. Heavy patch works on 4 sections completed to match the new section.



**Bugilbone Road 16km (Photo3)**



## 6. Carinda

Concrete floor in front of visitor centre and kerb & guttering in Shakespeare Street between Colin and Wilga Street was completed on 26/8/2019 (Ref. Photo 4 and Photo 5).



**Concrete works in front of visitor information centre (Photo 4)**



**Kerb and gutter work in Shakespeare Street between Colin & Wilga Street (Photo 5)**

- Bush's bridge widening project: Level 3 Investigation (structural investigation) is in progress.
- Gravel on side track near the bridge over Castlereagh River on Gungahman Road is in progress.
- Level 3 bridge inspection on the Bridge over the Castlereagh River in Gungahman Road (SR31) is in progress.

### **Matters Generally For Brief Mention or Information Only by Director of Engineering/Technical Services – September 2019**

#### **Recommendation:**

That the Matters Generally for Brief mention or Information only from the Director engineering/ Technical Services be received and noted.

#### **Moved:**

#### **Seconded:**

## 10.4 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

### 10.4.1 NOTIFICATION OF SUCCESSFUL GRANT APPLICATIONS – WALGETT LANDFILL AND LIGHTNING RIDGE LANDFILL

|                           |                                                 |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>REPORTING SECTION:</b> | <b>Environmental Services</b>                   |
| <b>AUTHOR:</b>            | <b>Jessica McDonald, Environmental Services</b> |
| <b>FILE NUMBER:</b>       | <b>00/00/00</b>                                 |

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#### **Summary:**

This report discusses the recent notification to Council from The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) and the Environmental Trust regarding successful grant applications for Walgett & Lightning Ridge.

#### **Background:**

Council staff have previously conducted full compliance audits of the two sites and identified areas for improvement. Many of these matters are managed under Council's new contracts for the Management and Operations of the landfills, other matters were listed under an action plan or DES action.

When the opportunity arose for Council to access important funding for these matters to be improved, Council's DES prepared applications and submitted these applications in March 2019.

Council was also previously successful for \$200,000 for the Lightning Ridge Landfill Partial Closure.

In early September 2019 Council received the following notification:

*The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) and the Environmental Trust is pleased to announce the successful applicants for Round 4 of the Landfill Consolidation and Environmental Improvement grants. Waste Programs look forward to working with successful councils in delivering these projects.*

*A total of \$3,381,539 million has been awarded to Councils under the program. The Environmental Trust has recommended funding for 13 projects from Stream 1 (for \$2,233,033) and 14 projects from Stream 2 (for \$1,148,506). This program is funded by the Environmental Trust and delivered in partnership with DPIE as part of the Waste Less, Recycle More Local Government Waste and Resource Recovery Program.*

Council was successful for its three applications as outlined below:

#### **Walgett Shire Council**

##### Lightning Ridge landfill environmental improvements – \$13,644

The Lightning Ridge landfill is undergoing a transformation with part of the site being closed from 1 July 2019. This part closure will use stockpiles of inert waste in combination with incoming general waste to achieve the desired result. The capped area will be rehabilitated. This project will deliver improved signage, safe storage of household wastes and litter fencing to improve environmental performance.

**Walgett Shire Council**

Recycling aggregation center – \$137,500

Council currently provides little in the way of household recycling. This project will establish a recycling aggregation center at the Walgett waste facility to receive recyclables from residents and businesses. These recyclables will be segregated and stored for transportation to the materials recovery facility at Narrabri and Return and Earn bulk receivable depot at Lightning Ridge. Walgett residents have expressed their desire for household recycling opportunities through their Council representatives.

**Walgett Shire Council**

Walgett waste facility environmental improvements – \$123,920

Walgett Shire Council has embarked on a plan to improve the operations of its Walgett waste facility. Council has identified companion improvements that should deliver elevated environmental performance in the operation of its waste facility. These measures include upgrading the existing 'basic' transfer station, providing litter fencing to combat windblown litter, upgrading/renewing signage and installing CCTV to aid site security.

**Current position:**

It is expected Council will receive formal contract documents shortly to be actioned by the DES. DES is currently working on a project plan for each project including but not limited to procurements matters, design details and project timelines and will report these to Council in due course. These matters will also need to take into consideration contract requirements from DPIE. DES and team look forward to seeing these projects completed successfully in due course.

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

N/A

**Governance issues:**

Council's charter: - Section 8 of the Local Government Act 1993 establishes Council's charter.

**Environmental issues:**

Significant environmental improvements expected as part of the projects carried out under the grants.

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council

DPIE

NetWaste

Landfill contractors

Community

**Financial implications:**

Council has put aside monies in the 2019/2020 budget, where required for in-kind contributions to these projects and where additional in-kind contributions are required DES to table additional reports for these funds to be added to the budget now that funding has been confirmed.

**Alternative solutions/options:**

Council not support the grants and in-kind contributions required. This option is not recommended as the environmental improvements gained as a result of the completed works offer substantial compliant improvements at the landfills and ensure EPA compliance.



**Notification of Successful Grant Applications – Walgett Landfill and Lightning Ridge Landfill**

**Recommendation:**

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to note the above information and endorse the actions of the Director of Environmental Services.

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

## **10.4.2 ADDITIONAL BUDGET ITEMS FOR IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS TO NSW ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST GRANTS (DPIE)**

**REPORTING SECTION:** Environmental Services  
**AUTHOR:** Director Environmental Services, Jessica McDonald  
**FILE NUMBER:** 00/00/00

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### **Summary:**

This report discusses the successful grant from the NSW Environmental Trust and the need to ensure in-kind Council contributions are provided as per the grant agreement.

### **Background:**

Council staff have previously conducted full compliance audits of the two sites and identified areas for improvement. Many of these matters are managed under Council's new contracts for the Management and Operations of the landfills, other matters were listed under an action plan or DES action. When the opportunity arose for Council to access important funding for these matters to be improved, Council's DES prepared applications and submitted these applications in March 2019.

The grants are extremely generous however require in-kind contributions from Council. These are outlined below.

### **Current position:**

In early September 2019 Council received the following notification:

The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) and the Environmental Trust is pleased to announce the successful applicants for Round 4 of the Landfill Consolidation and Environmental Improvement grants. Waste Programs look forward to working with successful councils in delivering these projects.

A total of \$3,381,539 million has been awarded to Councils under the program. The Environmental Trust has recommended funding for 13 projects from Stream 1 (for \$2,233,033) and 14 projects from Stream 2 (for \$1,148,506).

This program is funded by the Environmental Trust and delivered in partnership with DPIE as part of the Waste Less, Recycle More Local Government Waste and Resource Recovery Program.

Council was successful for its three applications. Council already has monies aside for the Walgett recycling shed project in the current budget, however, in-kind contributions need to be put aside to ensure the successful completion of the following two grants:

#### Lightning Ridge landfill environmental improvements – \$13,644

The Lightning Ridge landfill is undergoing a transformation with part of the site being closed from 1 July 2019. This part closure will use stockpiles of inert waste in combination with incoming general waste to achieve the desired result. The capped area will be rehabilitated. This project will deliver improved signage, safe storage of household wastes and litter fencing to improve environmental performance.

**A total in-kind contribution of \$6,880.00 is required.**

**Total Project Budget \$20,524.00**

Walgett waste facility environmental improvements – \$123,920

Walgett Shire Council has embarked on a plan to improve the operations of its Walgett waste facility. Council has identified companion improvements that should deliver elevated environmental performance in the operation of its waste facility. These measures include upgrading the existing 'basic' transfer station, providing litter fencing to combat windblown litter, upgrading/renewing signage and installing CCTV to aid site security.

**A total in-kind contribution of \$48,288.00 is required.**

**Total Project Budget \$172,208.00**

Project planning is already underway for all grant projects and an update of the projects will be provided regularly to Council as they progress.

**Relevant reference documents/policies:**

All works must be carried out in accordance with the Deed of Agreements as signed by DPIE & Council.

**Governance issues:**

Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 197, Landfill Guidelines, EPA Guidelines, POEO Act

**Environmental issues:**

Introduction of recycling into the shire means a reduction of resources being landfilled;  
Potential to increase landfill life;  
Council must ensure appropriate storage of recyclables and ensure all planning matters are considered.

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council, Landfill Contractors, Community, DPIE, Contractors

**Financial Implications:**

\$6,880.00 for the Lightning Ridge Landfill Improvements Grant and \$48,288.00 for the Walgett Landfill Improvements, totalling \$55,168 from the Domestic Waste Management Fund.

**Alternative solutions/options:**

Do Nothing: This is not recommended as the environmental improvements offered under the grants provide significant enhancements to the landfill facilities.

| <b>Additional Budget Items for In-Kind Contributions to NSW Environmental Trust Grants (DPIE)</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Recommendation:**

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to approve two new budget lines; one for the contribution to the Lightning Ridge Landfill Environmental Improvements totalling \$6,880.00 and one for the contribution to the Walgett Waste Facility Environmental Improvements totalling \$48,288.00 from the Domestic Waste Management Fund (DWMF) for inclusion in the 2019/2020 budget.

**Moved:****Seconded:**

**10.4.3 WALGETT SHIRE LOCAL HERITAGE FUND GRANTS 2019-2020**

**REPORTING SECTION:** Planning and Regulatory Services  
**AUTHOR:** Tanya Cullen, Heritage Advisor and Glenn Petersen, Town Planner  
**FILE NUMBER:** 19/63/0077

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**Summary:**

Applications for Council's annual Local Heritage Grants closed on Friday 30 August 2019, following Council's written notification of the funding program to the owners of all heritage listed properties. Five applications were received and have been assessed by Council's Heritage Advisor and Town Planner. This report details the applications received and recommends that grants be allocated from the fund in accordance with recommendations provided by Council's Heritage Advisor.

The NSW Office of Environment and Heritage has advised Council that a Heritage Strategy is required to be adopted by Council as part of OEH's funding of the heritage program. A draft interim Heritage Strategy is attached for Council to consider as a base for further work on a more comprehensive and tailored Strategy.

**Background:**

Council has agreed a budget of \$16077.00 for the 2019-20 Local Heritage Grants program. Owners of properties that are included in Schedule 5 of the Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2013 were advised of the current heritage grant program in a Council letter dated 10 July 2019. (Private owners only were notified; public authorities are not eligible for the grants).

This program is run under the auspices of the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) which contributes a proportion of funding (Up to \$5,500 ex GST for 2019-2020) to Council for the program and which sets broad guidelines for its operation that Councils adopt. Eligible projects must generally be:

- Aimed at maintaining, preserving or restoring the heritage values of a place;
- Approved on a dollar-for-dollar basis. Contributions in the form of labour and/or materials can be considered;
- Subject to an upper funding limit by Council of \$5000. This can be varied depending on the number of applications received;
- Not used for improvements like new kitchens or bathrooms; and
- Not available to public organisations like Council or State Government agencies.

Property owners were advised of these guidelines in the letter Council sent. Applications for grant funding closed on Friday 30 August 2019. Five applications were received and are detailed below.

OEH also requires Council to adopt a Heritage Strategy to secure its offered financial assistance for the years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

**Current position:**Applications for funding under the Local Government Heritage Grant program

Walgett Shire Council's Heritage Advisor evaluated the received applications and has recommended that the grants be dispersed as shown in the table below.

| Applicant                            | Address                                                                                       | Proposed works                                                                      | Cost of Works     | Requested         | Recommended Grant |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Lightning Ridge Opal & Fossil Centre | Bodel's Hut, 3 Mile Opal Field, Lightning Ridge                                               | Repair/replacement of roof, backfilling shafts, installing hoist over an old shaft. | \$3000            | \$2000            | \$2000            |
| Darius Smith                         | 'Epping', 552 Epping Road, Pilliga                                                            | Re-stumping of the shearing shed.                                                   | \$12000           | \$5000            | \$7000            |
| Lightning Ridge Historical Society   | 7 Morilla Street, Lightning Ridge                                                             | Installation and monitoring of termite control & baiting system                     | \$1686            | \$1686            | \$1686            |
| Glen Bloink                          | Presbyterian Church (former) and Presbyterian Manse (former), 43 Herbert Street, Collarenebri | Replace existing roof, install new guttering & downpipes                            | \$19226.97        | \$9613.73         | \$5391            |
| TOTAL                                |                                                                                               |                                                                                     | <b>\$35913.47</b> | <b>\$18299.73</b> | <b>\$16077.00</b> |

The total of funds sought (\$18299.73) exceeds the budgeted amount (\$16077) by \$2222.73. In assessing the applications, Council's Heritage Advisor and Town Planner have noted a number of applications that require consideration under the fund's guidelines (as outlined above). The matters go to the nominated maximum of \$5000 and the dollar-for dollar requirement from participants.

It is worth noting that Council has, in the past, approved funding of more than \$5000 to an individual property owner (in years where the program was under-subscribed) and allowed 'in-lieu' labour contributions (particularly from community or not-for-profit groups).

- The proposal to re-stump the shearing shed at 'Epping' seeks a \$5000 contribution from the fund. A site inspection of the shed shows that, like so many stations in the area, the drought is having a real impact on both the heritage item and the operation of the property. The dry soils are likely to have contributed to the evident movement of the building, while the station is being de-stocked and remaining stock being manually fed. The shearing shed on Epping is 100 years old and still operating is a rare example of its type, being a small, almost residential design and scale. It is worthy of preservation for its rarity as well as for its ongoing use and its owners should be congratulated for investing in the shed's future in the current drought-based economic conditions. In the circumstances it is considered reasonable to provide additional funds to the maintenance of the shearing shed and an amount of \$7000 is recommended to be provided to the owners.
- The project to replace roofing and install guttering on the former Presbyterian Church and Manse at Collarenebri has sought a total of \$9613.73. An external inspection of the buildings indicates that, while neither has any guttering, the roof panelling and the visible roof battens were in reasonable condition. Both buildings, however, have structural issues with slipped, or collapsed stumping. The church building also has broken windows and missing cladding that would allow wind, dirt and water to enter the building – and thereby potentially working against a benefit that a new roof would provide. That said, the installation of guttering alone on the buildings would be of benefit and would work to keep stormwater away from the stumps. It is therefore recommended that both projects be supported but to a lesser amount (noting the discussion in relation to Epping Station above). It is recommended that the applicant be provided with a total of \$5391, an amount still above the nominated maximum grant, and that the owner be encouraged to apply for funding in future years to consider re-stumping of the buildings;
- The Lightning Ridge Historical Society has offered labour in lieu of a financial contribution to an amount of \$1800. That labour does not specifically relate to the

termite control project, however, but rather the ongoing manning of the museum during the five months of the year it is open. The applicant has indicated that the termite problems on the site have substantially increased after Council's installation of the automatic drip system on the street verge near the property (although this is not verified in any way).

The museum is run by a volunteer organisation and provides a key tourism activity for Lightning Ridge. Ongoing termite activity would jeopardise the structural stability of the buildings on the site and the operation of the museum and on that basis, the project is considered worthy of support to the amount requested.

- The application for Bodel's Hut at Lightning Ridge is offering a one-third contribution (\$1000) rather than a dollar-for-dollar contribution, and is seeking \$2000 from the fund. That \$1000 contribution is to be supplied in volunteer labour to carry out the proposed works. Bodel's Hut provides is emblematic of early 20<sup>th</sup> century life on the fields. It is also a key tourist attraction that is run by a not-for-profit operation. Given the importance of the site to Lightning Ridge, the requested amount.

The Heritage Advisor's full assessment is included at Attachment A to this Report.

#### Heritage Strategy

The NSW OEH has advised Council that it needs to adopt a Heritage Strategy as a condition of the OEH's funding of the Local Government Heritage Grants program.

Council adopted a two-year Heritage Strategy in 2012. Much of that strategy has been fully implemented, however other elements that required significant investment have not been completed. That earlier strategy has been used as a base to draft an interim Heritage Strategy for Council to consider, with further consultation with Council's Heritage Advisor and key Council staff to ensure an integrated approach to Council's activities in the community.

The draft Interim Strategy focusses on community education to increase understanding of heritage and its value, while projecting towards some new projects that could be adopted in a final strategy. It is anticipated that a final strategy will seek input from key community groups, including the Local Aboriginal Land Council, historical societies, economic development and tourism operators and staff and will be presented to Council prior to the expiration of the Interim Strategy in 2021. A copy of the draft Interim Heritage Strategy is at Attachment B to this Report.

#### **Relevant Reference Documents:**

Heritage schedule in the Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2013.

Heritage Strategy 2012-2014

#### **Governance issues:**

Section 8 of the Local Government Act 1993 establishes Council's charter.

#### **Environmental issues:**

Grants from the Local Heritage Fund are one of the most significant methods by which Council facilitates the retention and conservation of local heritage items.

#### **Stakeholders:**

Public, affected land owners, Walgett Shire, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.

#### **Financial implications:**

Council has agreed \$16077.00 for local heritage grant projects in 2019-20, \$5,500 of which is funding received from the NSW Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH) under its Local

Heritage programs. A claim for funds from the OEH is made by Council at the end of the 2019-20 financial year and on successful completion of the agreed projects. A requirement of the OEH funding is that the fund be dispersed with regard for the recommendations of Council's Heritage Advisor.

**Alternative solutions/options:**

Decline to offer grants: - Council could decline to offer local heritage fund grants. This has not been recommended as owners of heritage items and people concerned about heritage would probably perceive this as an adverse outcome.

Vary the grant amounts: - Council could increase or decrease the amount of local heritage fund grants. In this context it is relevant to note that:

- There is a limited amount of funding available to Council from OEH.
- The amounts have been recommended by Council's Heritage Advisor with regard for the heritage merits of the respective applications;
- Variations have been proposed where considered appropriate.

Vary the *Interim Heritage Strategy Plan*: - Council could vary the Heritage Strategy Plan. The current plan has been recommended with input from Council's heritage advisor as it is seen to be achievable and will better guide future strategies.

**Conclusion:**

Local Heritage Fund grants are an important mechanism for Council to facilitate the maintenance of local heritage items by landowners.

**Grants from the Walgett Shire Local Heritage Fund**

**Recommendation:**

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Disperse \$16077 from the Walgett Shire Council Local Heritage Fund 2019-2020 in the following manner:
  - (a) \$2000 to Lightning Ridge Opal and Fossil Centre for works at Bodel's Hut, Lightning Ridge;
  - (b) \$7000 to Darius Smith for the re-stumping of the shearing shed on 'Epping' at 552 Epping Road, Pilliga;
  - (c) \$1686 to the Lightning Ridge Historical Society for the installation of a termite protection system and its monitoring at 7 Morilla Street, Lightning Ridge;
  - (d) a total of \$5391.00 to Glen Bloink for the replacement of the roof and installation of guttering at the (former) Presbyterian Church and (former) Presbyterian Manse at 43 Herbert Street, Collarenebri.
2. Adopt the draft *Walgett Shire Council Interim Heritage Strategy 2019-2021*.

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**Attachments:**

1. Draft Walgett Shire Council Interim Heritage Strategic Plan 2019-2021.
2. Heritage Advisor's assessment of the Local Government Heritage Grant applications for 2019-2020

## **1. WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL DRAFT INTERIM HERITAGE STRATEGIC PLAN 2019-21**

### **VISION**

That the Shire's heritage be identified, recorded, conserved and appreciated.

### **STRATEGIES**

#### **1. Identify items of local and state significance.**

##### **Actions**

- Continue to identify and record heritage items within the shire.
- Identify items from the existing Schedule 5 to the Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2013 and broader inventory that may be eligible for State listing and work with owners and relevant bodies to progress their listing.
- Review the 2008 Community-Based Heritage Study to review items and develop more robust statements of significance.
- Investigate options, including liaison with the Local Aboriginal Land Council, for an Indigenous Heritage study.

#### **2. Promote the appreciation of the Shire's heritage.**

##### **Actions**

- Continue ongoing liaison with local communities and community representatives regarding heritage matters.
- Heritage Advisor to brief the Council on heritage and local government.
- Conduct public programs such as information events, public talks, displays at libraries and community spaces, or 'heritage place of the month' style promotions to encourage community engagement with heritage.
- Liaise with local media, schools and tourism organisations, providing material as relevant.
- Consider interpretive and heritage trail programs.

#### **3. Encourage conservation of the Shire's heritage.**

##### **Actions**

- Inform owners of the services that Council's Heritage Adviser can provide in relation to managing, developing, restoring or owning heritage items.
- Actively promote adaptive re-use of heritage items through the Walgett LEP, development applications, through Council's broader policy program and in Council-owned assets.
- Use the Local Heritage Fund judiciously to ensure and encourage heritage conservation.
- Assist owners in obtaining other funding that may be available.
- Consider establishing a regional network of owners of historic homesteads and woolsheds.

#### **4. Protect the Shire's heritage.**

##### **Actions**

- Actively seek heritage funding opportunities through the broadest range of State and Commonwealth grant programs. This could be in relation to Council-owned premises or working with community organisations or heritage item owners.
- Follow procedures for assessing Development Applications with heritage implications.
- Assist applicants submitting Development Application affecting heritage items.
- Implement appropriate measures to protect Aboriginal, natural and moveable items not best protected through the Local Environmental Plan.

#### **5. Council to lead by example in implementing strategies 1-4.**

##### **Actions**

- Prepare and gradually implement Conservation Management Strategies for heritage items owned by Walgett Shire Council.



**To:** Jessica McDonald, Director Planning and Regulatory Services

**From:** Tanya Cullen, Heritage Advisor

**Re:** 2019-20 Local Heritage Fund – assessment of grant applications

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Following is an assessment of Local Heritage Fund applications received, following my visit to Walgett Shire on 12 and 13 September 2019.

• **Bodel's Hut – Three Mile Opal Fieles, Lightning Ridge**

Applicant – Lightning Ridge Opal and Fossil Centre Inc.

Amount requested: \$2000

Application: To replace iron roofing panels; to backfill nearby disused shafts and level area surrounding the hut for public safety reasons; to install a 'display' hoist and bucket over a shaft.

An inspection of the site shows that a number of existing roof panels on the site are loose and being held down with rocks and other heavy materials. A number of disused shafts sit some 15 metres from the hut that are currently surrounded by ad-hoc materials and covers to provide a level of safety for the public.

The applicant states that second hand materials will be used to replace roof panels to match the existing materials; this is entirely appropriate for a hut that was constructed of rock and re-used materials. While the Hut draws heritage value from the broader mining landscape, it is considered that the backfilling of the shafts closest to the hut will not significantly diminish that value and that public safety is a key matter for the owners to manage in the context.

**Recommendation:** That the grant for \$2000 be approved, subject to the conditions below.

Conditions:

- Second hand roofing materials are to be used.
- The applicant shall show proof that the shafts to be backfilled are part of a claim owned by them.
- Appropriate Work Health and Safety standards shall be in place, particularly for the use of machinery and the backfilling of the disused shafts.



- **Former Presbyterian Church and Manse, 43 Herbert Street, Collarenebri**

Applicant: Glen Bloink

Amount requested: \$4788.45 and \$4825.28 to a total of \$9613.73

Application: Replacement of the battens and roof sheeting on both the former church and former manse and installation of guttering.

A site inspection showed that both buildings have rusted roofing panels and no guttering or downpipes, however there is no clear evidence of holes in the roofs and the panels appear complete and structurally sound. The stumps of both buildings have slipped – like as a result of poor stormwater drainage and moving soils over the years – and both have some broader structural issues to address as a result. In particular, the church building has broken windows and missing cladding. Both of those issues would allow penetration of wind, dust and water that are likely to degrade the building at a faster rate and may work to lessen the impact of new roof panels. The replacement of the roofing panels on the church does not appear to be immediately necessary; the rust appears to be surface and there are no obvious holes in the roof that would be allowing water to enter the building. The former manse building is in the same condition: the roof panels appear rusted, but are whole and do not

appear to have penetrations that allow water to enter. While I did not enter the building, a brief discussion with the tenant indicated that there were no areas inside the building that had been affected by water ingress. The verandah has some 'springy' spots and weaknesses in the timber boards that are likely the result of slipped or otherwise deteriorated stumps.

While it is likely that the roof panels could be treated and painted, there is clear value in providing guttering to the buildings to prevent further deterioration from improved stormwater management. The applicant has also provided a quote from a builder that indicates the panels and supporting battens require replacing.

**Recommendation:** That funding be approved to the value of \$5391 be provided. The following conditions should apply to any approved grant:

- The replacement roof shall be of a silver colour (Zincalume or the like).
- New guttering is to direct stormwater to a location at least 3 metres from the building. This may be to rubble pits or the street, consistent with relevant Council policies.





- **Bush Nurse Association Cottage (Museum), 7 Morilla Street, Lightning Ridge).**

Applicant: Lightning Ridge Historical Society

Amount requested: \$1686

Application: Augmentation and regular inspection of the termite protection and baiting system installed at the museum.

The museum installed a termite protection and baiting system a few years ago, with the assistance of Council through the Local Government Heritage grant program. When installed, the volunteers were monitoring and managing the system. The applicant states that since the installation of the automatic drip system on the Morilla Street verge, that termite activity has increased substantially at the museum. The installed system now needs augmenting and regular, active management by the system installer and the requested amount of money would achieve that for 2019-20. The Lightning Ridge Historical Society have indicated they are contributing \$1800 by providing volunteer labour, maintenance and management of the premises over the year and manning the museum when it is open in tourism season. The museum site contains two unique buildings and is heritage listed, and provides a strong tourism focus for the town. The project is considered worth funding to ensure the ongoing survival of these buildings.

**Recommendation:** That the amount of \$1686 be provided to the applicant, with the following condition:

- That Council be provided with a copy of the inspection reports for acquittal of the funds.



- **Shearing shed at 'Epping', 552 Epping Road, Pilllga**

Applicant: Darius Smith(Jeff Marks).

Amount requested: \$5000

Application: To re-stump the shearing shed.

The shearing shed is still a working shed and is in reasonable condition given its age and ongoing use. The southern side of the shed has had its original timber stumps replaced with steel stumps at an earlier stage and the local heritage fund has contributed to repairs to the windows of the shed. Inside the shed, the floor dips in a number of locations as a result of the deterioration of the original stumps, with a supporting roof beam bowed and cracking from the building's movement. The stumps to be replaced are in the south-western corner of the building where the pens are located and in this area it is clear that the floor has moved (although the photos do not show it clearly). The replacement stumps are proposed as steel which is considered acceptable, given the soil conditions and the desired longevity of the building, however the grating will be replaced with timber. It is admirable that the owners are prepared to invest in the shed, even though the drought has forced de-stocking and ongoing manual feeding of remaining stock. The shed has value for its rarity as a small, finely detailed Federation Style shearing shed and its ongoing use should be supported.

**Recommendation:** That an amount of \$7000 be provided from the fund for the project. No particular conditions apply.



#### 11.4.4 MATTERS FOR BRIEF MENTION OR INFORMATION ONLY FROM DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

**REPORTING SECTION:** Environmental Services  
**AUTHOR:** Jess McDonald – Director Environmental Services  
**FILE NUMBER:** 00/00/00

This report provides notes on items for brief mention, or information only, on more significant matters recently arising in the Planning & Regulatory Services Division.

- **Pilliga to Coonamble Road – Tyre Clean-Up:**  
 In September 2019 Council engaged Back Track Youth Works to carry out the clean-up of the illegally dumped tyres along the Pilliga to Coonamble Road. The clean-up took about 2 days and Council is seeking to work with Back Track on similar on-foot projects in the shire shortly, including the clean-up of the Walgett Tip Road.
- **Purchase of potential Recycling Storage Shed – Lightning Ridge**  
 Council staff have commenced thorough investigations into a premises on 26 Nobby Road, located directly next to Ian Scott's return & earn facility, Lightning Ridge for the purpose of storage of recyclable resources. Council's DES would like to commence negotiations with the property owner in relation to the potential purchase of this property.

| Matters for Brief Mention of Information Only from Director Environmental Services                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That Walgett Shire Council resolve to receive and note the report by the Director of Environmental Services on matter for brief mention, or information only.</li> <li>2. Council agree that the Director of Environmental Services may commence negotiations with the property owner of 26 Nobby Road Lightning Ridge, Lot 5 DP 263351.</li> </ol> <p><b>Moved:</b><br/> <b>Seconded:</b></p> |



**Attachments:**

Nil



## **AGENDA FOR CLOSED COUNCIL MEETING**

**24<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** pursuant to clause 7 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice that the Closed Council Meeting of Walgett Shire Council will be held at Walgett Shire Council Chambers on **24<sup>th</sup> September 2019** to discuss the items listed in the Agenda.

Greg Ingham  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

## Agenda

### 12. MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

#### MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

**Time:** .....

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

- (a) Personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors)
- (c) That information that would, if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting business (or proposed to conduct business)
- (d) That the matter and information is commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

### 13. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS/CLOSED COUNCIL MEETING

#### 13.1 DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING/TECHNICAL SERVICES

##### 13.1.1 Electric Line Agreement between Walgett Shire Council and Walgett Solar Pty Ltd





## 16. RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

### Clr Turnbull

*Q1: Can a table and bench be installed at Opal Park in Light Ridge on the Southern side?*

*Ans. Work in progress*

*Q2: Can the street sweeper, clean up all truck stop areas?*

*Ans. The truck stop areas within the Shire have now been added to the sweeper truck work program and will be swept on a regular cycle, or as needs basis in future.*

### Clr Woodcock

*Q1: Can Council advertise the breakdown of funds for the Lightning Ridge Swimming Pool Complex into the respective infrastructure i.e. Olympic Pool, Theme Park, Indoor Sports Centre and Diving complex?*

*Ans. CFO to arrange breakup for next year's budget.*

*Q2: Can Council present a report on the Lightning Ridge Water Fund?*

*Ans: CFO to present a report to the September 19 meeting.*

*Q3: Can Council arrange for Dot Thompson to be listed as an Honorary Ranger of Lightning Ridge and paid an honorary fee?*

*Ans. Council admires the hard work and dedication that Dorothy Thompson has shown her community. Council would need to consider a detailed report in relation to this matter and make any resolution as to how to proceed.*

### Mayor Martinez

*Q1: Can the overflow water from Collarenebri water treatment plant be put back into the unfiltered water system?*

*Ans. Work in progress.*

## **17. QUESTIONS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

*Please complete the form: Questions for the Next Meeting and return the forms to the Executive Assistant.*

## 18. CLOSE OF MEETING

Time: .....